

Wrights Lane garden *takes on a new shape*



If you go down to the garden today...yes, there's a new element of surprise.

Astrolix, the installation by Penguin Sculpture Bursary winner Kevin Osmond, now looms against the far side of the walled-in area, adding colour and interest to an all-but-forgotten corner of the Wright's Lane premises.

The five curvy, organic elements that comprise *Astrolix* were put up against the brick-red panels on 15 and 16 June, attracting plenty of inquisitive stares from the windows around!

Staff at Wrights Lane were invited to join the artist and his friends for a chat and a lunch-time drink on Tuesday the 20th. Kevin, who has just completed his graduate course at the Royal College of Art, seemed delighted with the outcome of his work and eagerly discussed it with Penguins.

Many staff were curious to know whether he was indeed happy with the final position of *Astrolix*. "Well, I actually chose to have it up against that wall," he answered. "I saw it as a challenge, breathing life into this outside area and creating interest on such a stark, huge wall-space."



Kevin talks to Joanna Prior, Cecily Engle and Alex

The five gleaming shapes are moulded fibre-glass, coated with acrylic metallic paint. From what Kevin told us, the creation of *Astrolix* required plenty of time and dedication "I carved the original shapes from poly-styrene, working very intuitively to obtain the organic curves and bulges. From there, it's an eight-step moulding process to complete the sculptures..."

And what do the shapes represent, we asked Kevin. "The shapes embody dynamism, the ever-changing nature of organic life, while simultaneously drawing elements from the industrial world...their symbol-like feel and metallic shimmer somehow give the impression that they



were created by computer, a sort of simulated language of movement"

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