



SMALL CHANGES MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

**Business name:**

P & S Timbrell Decorators Ltd

Location:

Dursley, Gloucestershire

P & S Timbrell
DECORATORS

Paint Green status: Signed up to Paint Green in 2023

Holders of a Royal Warrant and multi-award-winning PDA member, P & S Timbrell Decorators Ltd was among the first businesses to join the PDA's Paint Green initiative when it was announced in 2023.

Combining traditional and heritage expertise with quality workmanship and high environmental standards, the business has measured its carbon footprint via Planet Mark since 2020 as part of a long-standing commitment to integrating environmental considerations into business decision-making.

The PDA's Paint Green initiative encourages Association members to commit to reducing waste paint and paint containers and recording their efforts year-on-year.

An estimated 55 million litres of excess paint is generated each year in the UK and much of it ends up in landfill or being disposed of hazardous waste.

It's believed that only around two percent of left-over decorative paint is reused or remanufactured.

Stephen Timbrell, partner at P&S Timbrell Decorators Ltd, said: "Paint Green is a great initiative by the PDA to encourage our industry to think more about the environmental impact of painting and offer an easy way to make a real difference.

"Becoming a member of the Paint Green scheme demonstrates to our customers that we are serious about the disposal of our used tins and waste recycling. You can also use the logo to promote your business



and set yourself apart from your competition.

“I would recommend the scheme to other PDA members. It’s really easy to join, and as well as doing some good it also gives you a great feeling of satisfaction when you record and discover just how many tins you’re saving from the skip or from being buried as household waste.”

Alongside signing up to Paint Green, P & S Timbrell Decorators Ltd takes steps to minimise environmental impacts by promoting best practice and suggesting environmentally friendly materials to clients as well as maximising energy efficiency and publishing an annual report.

The company also works with all its staff to raise awareness of environmental issues and encourage them to make effective contributions to environmental improvement both in work and within the local community.

Stephen added: “It is crucially important for all businesses regardless of their size to play their part in combating climate change and reducing the impact they have on our planet.

“We all make decisions every day, whether it’s the choice of an oil-based or water-based product, or in choosing between

a recognised ‘green’ option or a ‘plastic paint’, and each time we should consider not just the price and convenience but also the environmental impact it may have. All these small changes can add up and make a big difference.

“For many years we have had a company ‘environmental policy’ and published it on our website. In doing this we have set ourselves targets and stated our intentions to try and reduce our ‘carbon footprint’ through initiatives like the Paint Green scheme.

“We have also tried out many new ideas as they’ve come on to the market, like switching to using only caulk in ‘foils’ for example and so reducing our plastic cartridge waste. Not all of these new ways of working have proved successful but we as a business are open to change.

“As a business P&S Timbrell Decorators have always I suppose been fairly ‘old school’, undertaking and specialising in traditional work like limewashing and distempering, and as such have always had an ‘environmentally friendly ethos’ maybe without even knowing it was a thing!”

With its roots in the 1960s, when Peter Timbrell launched his business as a sole painter and decorator, P & S Timbrell Decorators Ltd began trading in 1992 when Stephen joined forces with his father.

The family business welcomed Stephen's son Josh into the fold in 2018.

With five full time decorators and Carolyn Timbrell managing the office, the business has kept a sharp focus on skills including paperhanging, paint effects and broken colour work, gilding and spray work, alongside developing expertise in heritage finishes including limewash and distemper.

Since 2008, P & S Timbrell Decorators has been Highly Commended or Very Highly Commended six times at the PDA's Premier Trophy Awards as well as winning the Small Contractor category in 2009, 2010 and 2021, and winning the Decorative category in 2022.

Stephen said: "In December 2006 we were honoured to be awarded a Royal Warrant for painting and decorating to HRH The Prince of Wales in recognition of our high-quality service. We have successfully renewed this every five years since and now hold a Royal Warrant to HM The King!

"As part requirement of this we have needed to undertake wide-ranging environmental reviews and environmental impact assessments of our business practice.

"And we can then review our performance against set criteria and implement any positive initiatives.

"To aid this we have embarked on a partnership with The Planet Mark to help us measure and record our carbon footprint and identify the ways in which we can do better!"

For more about the PDA and Paint Green go to:

www.paintingdecoratingassociation.co.uk

