

Wheelchair friendly garden with wide planting scope.

By Kari Beardsell



Hard landscape layout

Heated summerhouse
with view over knot
garden

Raised ericaceous
beds and
flowering plants

Sunny seating area and
raised beds for fruit and
vegetables

Herb bed

Mixed planting

Alpine area

Shady seating
area

All vertical surfaces:
house, fence, trellis, trees,
arch and pergola support
wall shrubs or climbers



Greenhouse

Bamboo hedge
hides compost bin,
wormery and
storage area

Wildlife pool with
beaches and bog
gardens (one acid),
margin and deep
water plants

Shady, woodland
planting

Edge surrounding the
beds is wide enough for
seating and small pots

The summerhouse in the corner, the trellis, shady patio and greenhouse
were to stay – all other areas to be furbished.

Shingle, soil and plants from the old garden was incorporated in the new.





They enjoyed their old garden but it no longer functioned.

- The husband needed a level hard surface to walk around in the garden.
- The pond had to become more wildlife friendly.

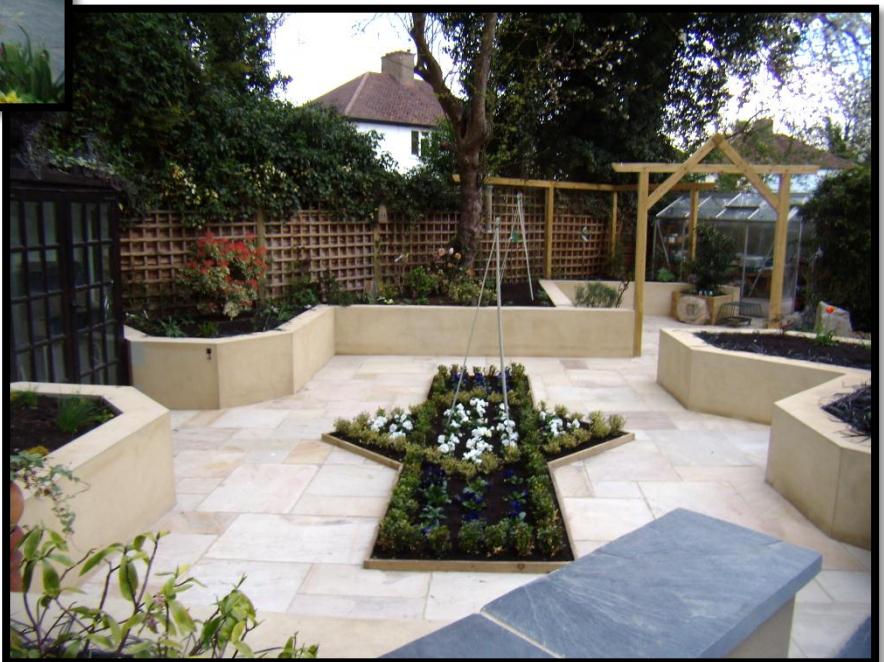
- Surrounding trees took all the moisture from the ground, giving plants minimal chance for survival and increasingly pots were used for plants. This limited the planting opportunities severely.
The client liked as wide a variety of planting as possible (a great challenge).

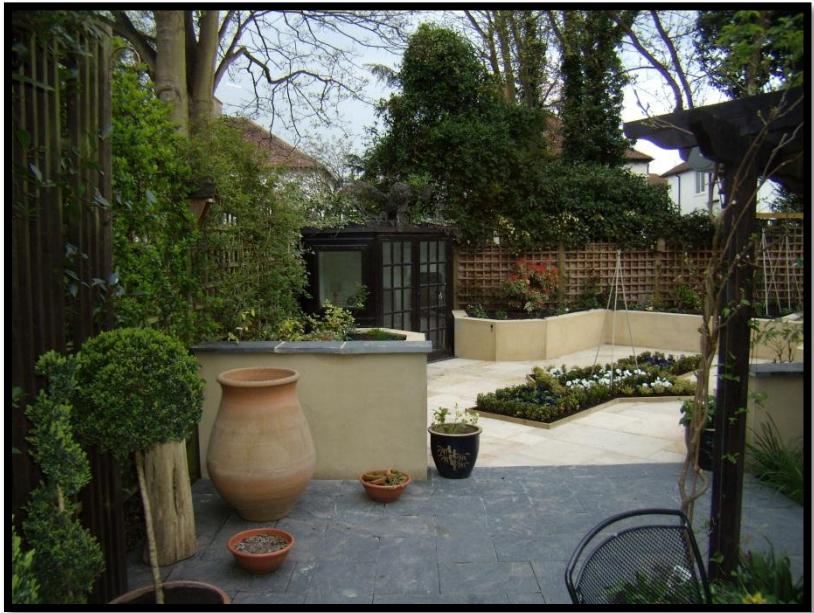




The new design creates rooms, a journey through the garden and is made to make micro climates for different plants at different levels.

Beds are here quite empty, with time planting will take over for the hard landscape adding colour, height and soften the layout.

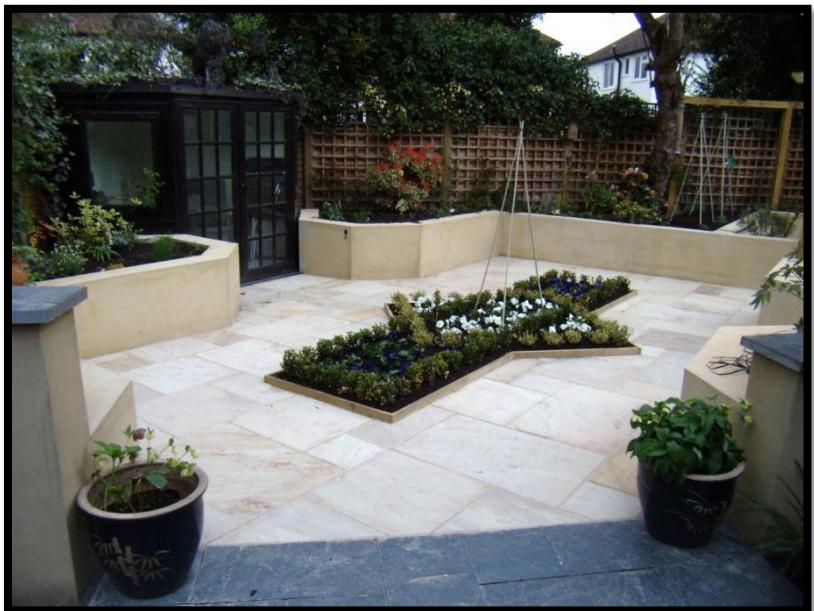




After



Before



The many small pots have gone into the raised beds and the lovely topiary pots have got a new home on the shadier area of the patio.

Further out where there is sufficient light will be alpines.



All trellis with climbers and wall shrubs got pruned, layered and tied in to give a better display.

Areas which previously were hard to plant, got raised for easy planting, deeper soil and increased moisture level.



New sunny seating area with espallier fruit trees, rhubarb, thornless blackberry and vegetable beds - ready for plants and furniture.

Roses and clematis climb up all uprights. On the entrance arch roses climb up from both sides and the centre height add to a better display of the flowering shrubs and echoes the knot garden layout.



The wildlife area, includes two bog gardens (where one is acidic soil), beaches for the wildlife to exit the water and planting to the water edge to seek shelter. Large marginal shelf surrounding the entire pool and deep water for water lilies in the centre. Logs for beetles, large bird feeder (which will in time be disguised by tall grasses) and two water-butts for watering of ericaceous beds and topping up the pond. There is also a weather station and a rock bubble fountain. Hessian covered plant behind sculpture is a tree fern, which need protection from the frost a few more weeks. More stone and planting is to be added.



Bird feeder has come much closer to the house for better viewing when looking through the windows in the winter.
A bench has been securely placed in the ground for perching to view the wildlife in the garden (already about 10 frogs and frogspawn can be seen) .

