

TRANSFORMING MY GARDEN



Chloe Haf Cowles

My Garden



Exploring My Garden



As I was turning my overgrown garden into a colourful, inviting area, I came across a fascinating variety of wildlife.

Wildlife in My Garden

Among the thriving weeds, I observed:

- Hardworking bees pollinating flowers
- Colourful butterflies
- Little ladybirds and woodlice
- Earthworms enriching the soil
- Spiders and their webs
- Beetles scurrying
- Centipedes wriggling
- Robin red breasts



I made sure my garden remained a safe sanctuary for these important insects by maintaining a balanced ecology.

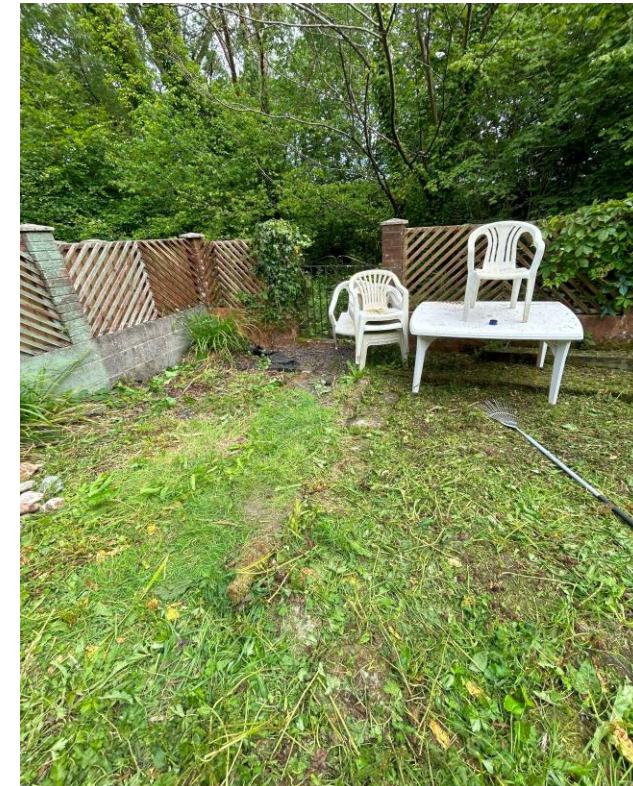
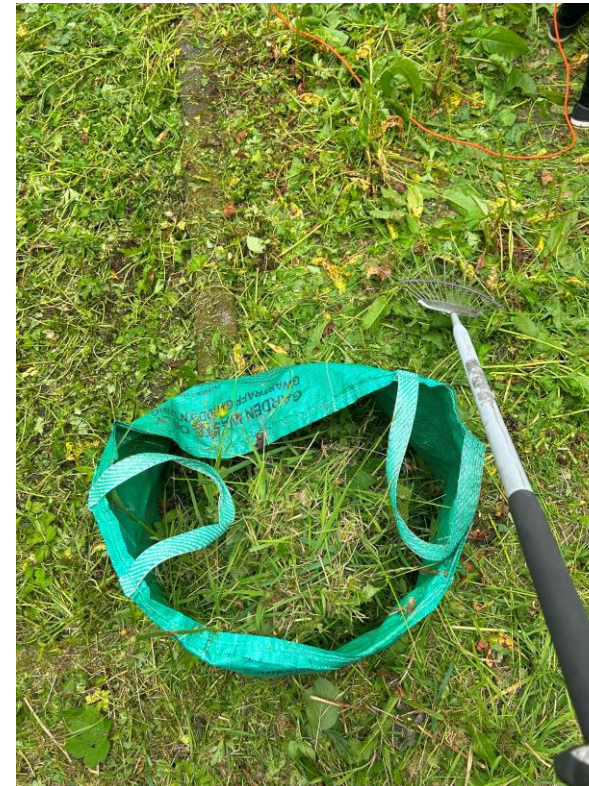


I switched to organic gardening methods to preserve these helpful creatures, staying away from artificial pesticides and using natural ones instead. I also established insect friendly habitats which will be shown further along in my scrap book.

The Task: Beginning the Transformation of my garden

I wanted to make sure that I kept mature trees, reeds and shrubs as they provide habitats for a variety of wildlife, so I did not disrupt them.

I concentrated on improving the area and getting rid of invasive plants, while also adding local plants to the area which will be shown later on.



Working hard to transform our unruly and overgrown garden. I began by carrying out research to better my understanding of plant life and wildlife. Then moving on to tackling our garden.

The Task: Beginning the Transformation of my garden



I laid down black membrane as a foundation for our new garden.



LAYING A NEW FOUNDATION FOR THE GARDEN



I decided this would be the most sustainable option for our garden since it suppresses weeds efficiently, and therefore I effectively avoided chemical herbicides during my project.



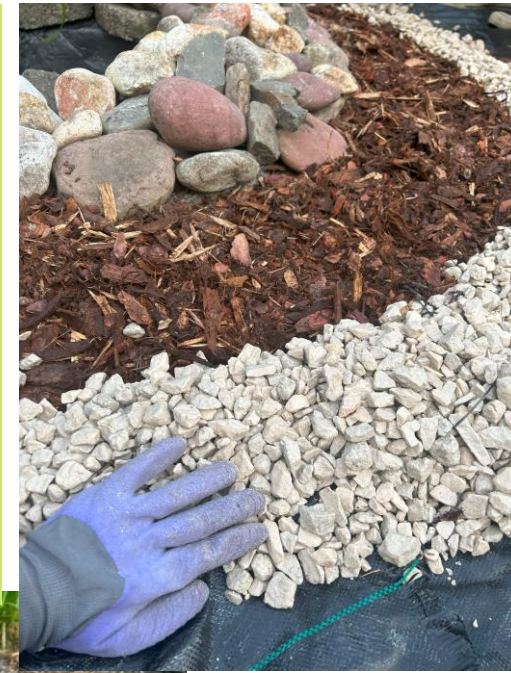
**BUILDING A POND
THE FIRST STEP:
COLLECTING
STONES
AND
CREATING
A BASE**



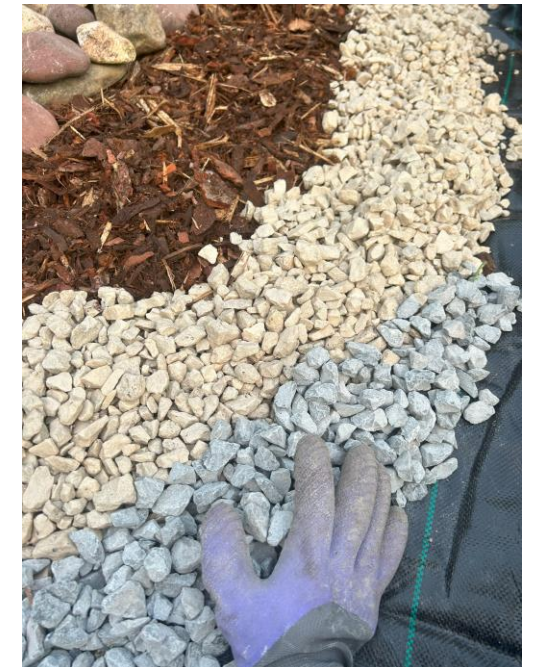


Firstly I filled in around the pond foundations with bark and soil.

I then used the stones that I collected and recycled from an old wall at my grandfathers house, to decoration the foundation of the pond, and give the area a more natural look.



Next I used white chippings to edge the bark around the pond, followed with grey chippings to create an eye catching pattern

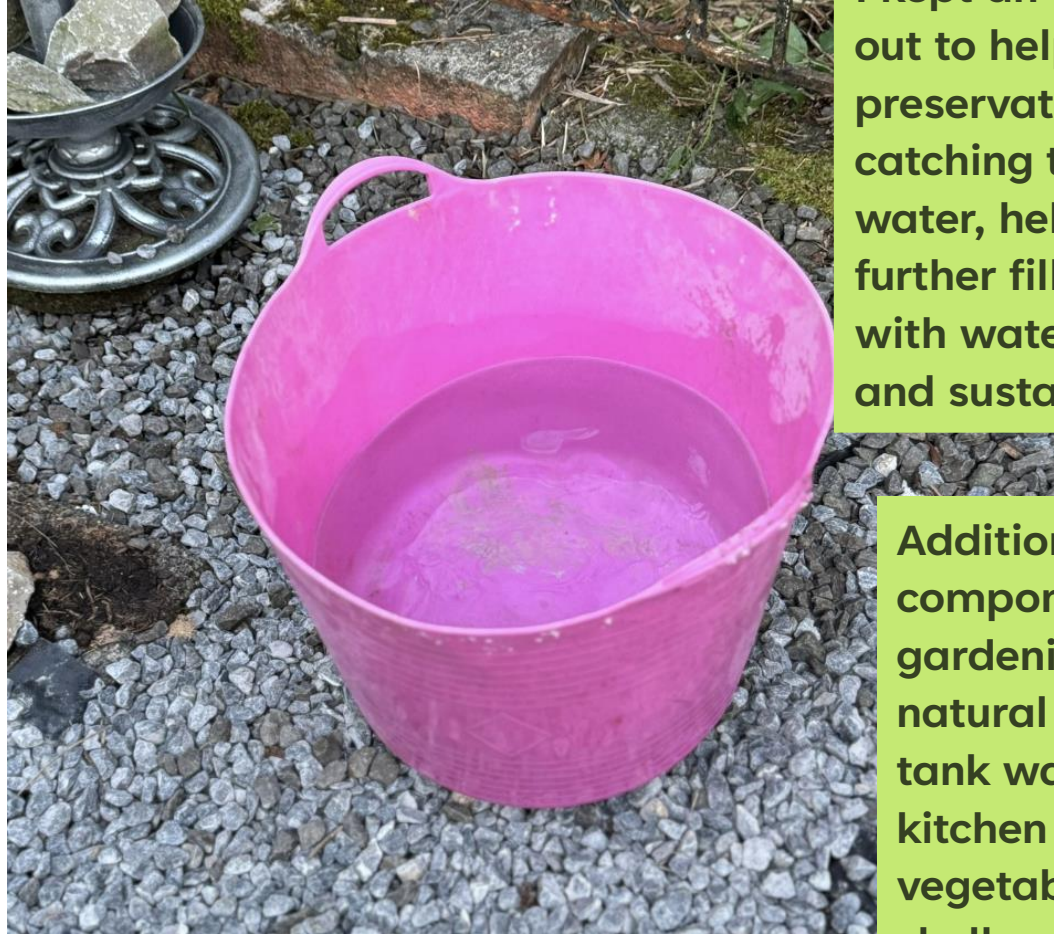


**BUILDING A POND:
DECORATING THE
AREA**

SUSTAINABILITY AND WATER PRESERVATION



BUILDING A POND



I kept an empty bucket out to help with water preservation, by catching the rain water, helping to further fill the pond with water in a natural and sustainable way.

I have also continued to use this method of water preservation by leaving this bucket fill up to use for extra water for the plants and flowers.

Additionally as another component of my sustainable gardening efforts, I have used natural fertilisers, such as fish tank water, and composted kitchen waste, such as fruit and vegetable peelings and egg shells.



BUILDING A POND



I built this small pond in my garden to accommodate aquatic plants and animals. In addition to providing a home for fish, frogs, and insects, this addition has enhanced the biological balance overall in our garden.





I chose to use Stone chippings as they require minimal ongoing use of resources, due to them being durable and do not need to be replenished regularly.

They successfully reduce weed growth, reducing the demand for chemical herbicides. Also because stone chippings require less maintenance, managing the garden takes fewer resources.

They can lessen the need for regular watering by lowering evaporation, which helps maintain soil moisture. Additionally forming a sturdy, protective layer, stone chippings may help in the prevention of soil erosion.



I also used large recycled circular stones, that I found at the bottom of my garden to create a path of stepping stones down to the bottom of our garden.

Additionally I used bark and soil to fill in two of the areas each side of the pond, to create a good area to plant local flowers and plants.



LAYING CHIPPINGS AS A BASE FOR OUR GARDEN

My aim for this project was to create a garden that would be friendly to wildlife.

Therefore I choose many locally grown plants and flowers in hope they would help to attract pollinators such as butterflies and bees. Here are some pictures of the flowers I have planted in our garden to promote this aim.

Sustainable and recycles pots :
My old wellies



CREATING A
GARDEN FRIENDLY
TO WILDLIFE

IMPORTANCE OF HORTICULTURE IN SUSTAINABILITY

IN AN EFFORT TO USE RENEWABLE SOURCES OF FRUITS AND VEGGIES IN MY FAMILY HOME, I HAVE ALSO CREATED MULTIPLE RAISED VEGETABLE BEDS USING RECYCLED WOOD AND LEARNT THE IMPORTANCE OF HORTICULTURE.



Through making numerous bird feeders out of recycled materials and discovering a recycled birdbath at Tip Treasures in Llansamlet, my garden blossomed into a vibrant environment that is drawing in many kinds of birds and squirrels.



In order to encourage and draw other species to my garden, I also constructed and placed insect houses, bee baths, and a bird house.



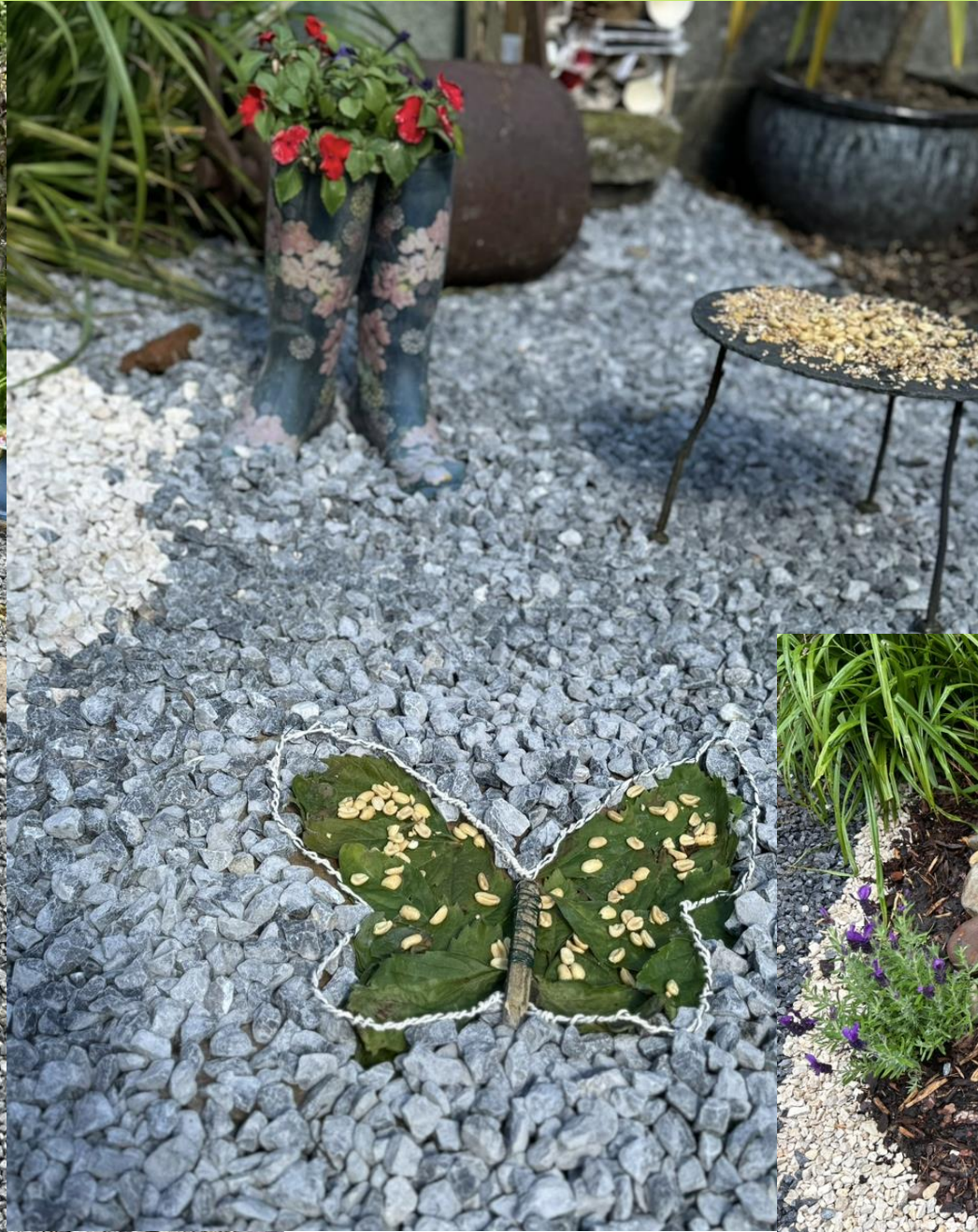
Creating a Bird House



Pictures of our old overgrown unruly garden



Pictures of our new sustainable wildlife friendly garden



Pictures of our new sustainable wildlife friendly garden



Pictures of our new sustainable wildlife friendly garden

