

BBC

PLASTIC FREE

Monty reveals the steps he's taking to cut out plastics

AUTUMN COLOUR

Discover the science behind the season, with **Carol's** guide

POPPY APPEAL

To remember and to enjoy - there's a poppy for you, says **Alan**

November 2018

THE UK'S NO.1 GARDENING MAGAZINE

Gardeners' World

Fruit pruning

Follow our step-by-step guide to get a better harvest

WILDLIFE WATCHING

5 signs of hibernation to spot in your garden

Bin or burn?

Join the debate on autumn's tidy-up

Instant colour
to revamp your pots

Awards Special

GARDENS of the YEAR

Discover city plots • Tropical drama
• Country charm • Patios and more

£4.99



November issue on sale 25 Oct-21 Nov

gardenersworld.com



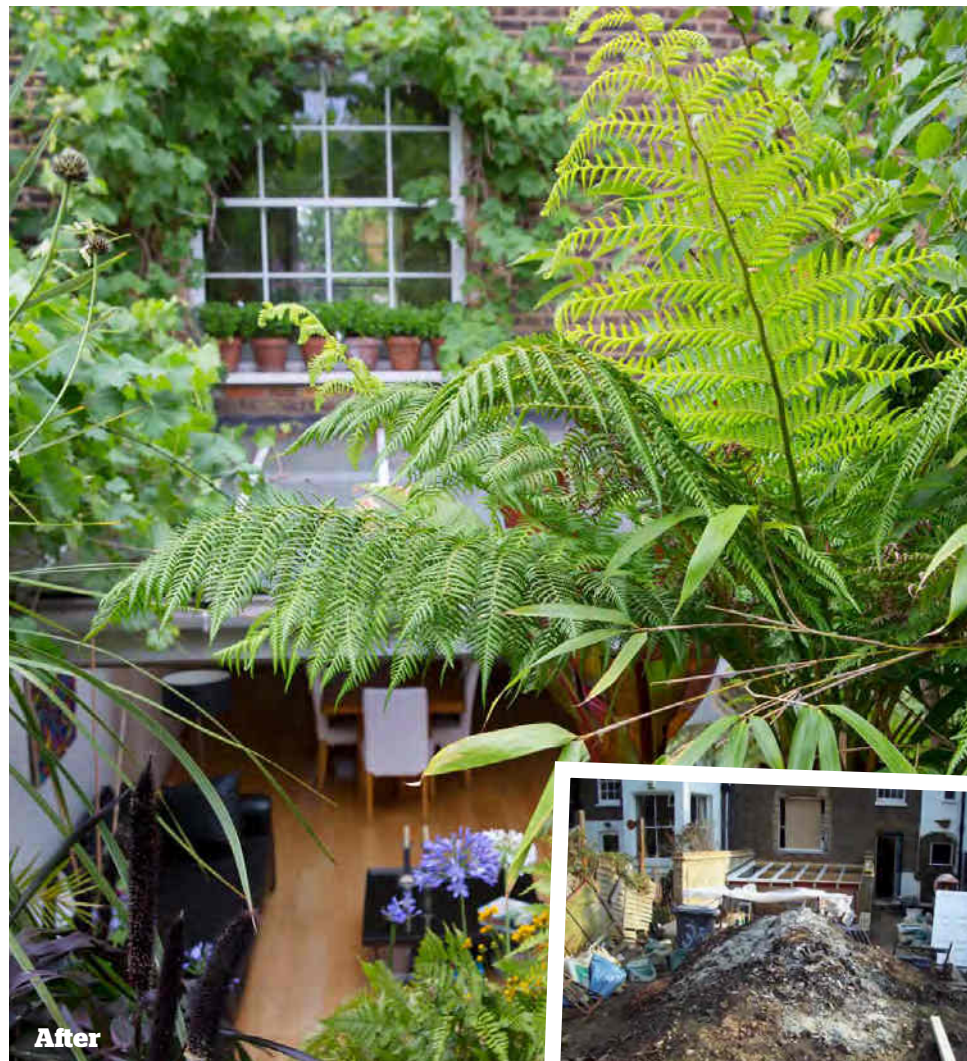
A high-impact slice of Jamaica in the city

Wayne Amiel London **Garden size** 6.5m x 13.5m



A north-facing site, full of builders' rubble, on a different level to the ground-floor of the house, is what faced Wayne Amiel when he moved into his home in south London, eight years ago. Undeterred by the scale of the challenge, he was determined to create a little slice of his Jamaican childhood in the narrow garden. As if that wasn't difficult enough, buying the house meant there was little money left to spend on the garden, so the whole thing was done on a shoe-string budget, when funds allowed.

- 1 Enormous leaves and bold foliage create a cleverly-crafted jungle feel – it's all about plants
- 2 Painted chairs provide an intimate seating area that also acts as a stylish focal point
- 3 Dots of colour add highlights of interest – Wayne uses these throughout the tiny garden



After

Builders' rubble makes way for lush planting

Before

gardens of the year



“A brave and exuberant garden – it's amazing! Imagine finding this in the middle of London”

Alan Titchmarsh



November 2018

November 2018

gardenersworld.com

53

What have you done to make the garden?

The first thing I had to do was get rid of the mound of rubble, and level the main area of the garden. New steps were added, from the back doors up to the garden, as being on a hill means the garden is on a different level to the house. These steps are now covered in pots of colourful plants and I call it my 'theatre of plants'.

I added a patio area towards the back of the garden as, being north facing, that's the only area that gets any real sun. Because I had such a limited budget, I initially covered most of the garden with turf, so that the garden could evolve as funds permitted. Some of the first plants I put in the garden were some small trees as, in a small garden, I think it's really important to add height. I've also made use of vertical spaces with climbing plants.

There's a wide range of plants in the garden, but I've also tried to create cohesion, by repeating certain plants, like the Hydrangea 'Annabelle'. I've also had lighting installed, so I can spend more time enjoying the garden in the evenings, when I get home from work.

How have you stretched your budget?

I started skip diving, hoping to find containers and other things I might be able to reuse around the garden, and was astonished to find people throwing plants out. I've found all sorts, including a gorgeous purple lilac and a tree fern! I've also grown lots of plants from seeds and cuttings.

What have been the biggest challenges?

Making a garden on a limited budget and wanting a north-facing garden to remind me of my Jamaican childhood. And, for reasons that I've not been able to solve, areas of my garden are waterlogged. I've overcome this by planting bog plants, such as ferns, gunnera, ligularia and arum lilies.

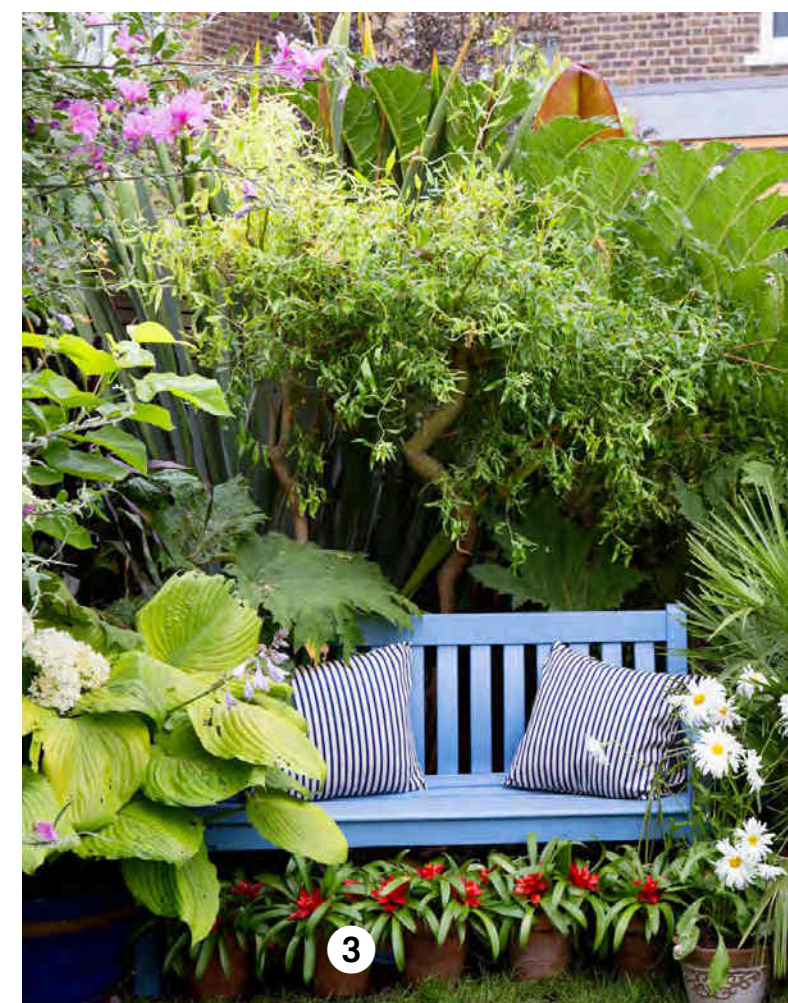
What do you love most about your garden?

I love the exuberant drama of my garden, and the total disregard for anything that could be deemed fashionable! I call it Clapham meets Jamaica, where bamboos, tree ferns and fire-bright plants, bed down happily amid the traditional cottage garden plants.



“Wow! This is a man with lots of vision - it's a busy garden but he's got the balance just right. I love it”

Kate Gould



- 1 Large pots filled with exotics and vibrant blooms are displayed on Wayne's steep steps to create a wall of plants
- 2 Obelisks are used to provide vertical accents and support for myriad climbing plants
- 3 Potted bromeliads nestled under a bench make the most of a tricky spot and create a talking point at ground level
- 4 Even windowsills don't escape the plants! Here the boundary between inside and out is blurred to join house and garden

PHOTOS: SARAH CUTTLE