

September Visit

A beautiful sunny morning saw us arrive at 49 New Road, Worthing. We were warmly greeted by Wendy and Ian who are justly proud of their garden which they have created over the last 2 years. Originally the garden had sloped away from the building with the end being 6ft lower than the house. It had been covered in weedy grass with a very large pittosporum occupying one corner. Now it has become a town garden with a series of rooms all on one level.

Nearest the house was a beautiful fishpond with the pump hidden in a wire cage of stones. The pond had an escape route for the resident frog! The cage was a dog crate in a previous life and that is an example of all the upcycling that has been done in the garden. This was flanked by a mixed border and the pittosporum which had been pruned into a sculpture. It is just beginning to shoot again and will be made into a cloud topiary. The veranda overlooked the pond, and the whole garden had lights strategically placed. Upcycled fencing posts were used for the path leading from this room down to the seating area towards the bottom of the garden. The path was flanked by a mixture of gravel and rounded edge glass, the latter is recycled TV screens and Ian told us it really gleams after rain.

The garden dining area has a fire pit in the middle and a pergola over the entire area was completed this year. A shed to one side needed no explanation as a sign above the opening said 'Nobody gets out sober'! The planting around the rooms was a mixture of perennials and dahlias. Grey senecio was planted at intervals and the contrast was very attractive. There were also many grasses with a beautiful pennisetum in pride of place by the pond. The frog must have had a good diet as there appeared to be no slug damage. The front garden is a work in progress with another large pond and formal planting round the pond and another gravel area. The garden was created in memory of Wendy's father and the different stages – all done by Ian and Wendy themselves – can be seen in photos in a very up market shed/room.

It would be wrong to finish without mentioning the cup of tea/coffee and delicious home made cake that we enjoyed on the veranda and dining area. This garden proved that a beautiful area can be created without a blade of grass to be seen.

Anne Hollis