

# Cheviot Centre Secret Garden Transformation

Grow & Tell





# The story so far...

- Began as an unused yard behind the Cheviot Centre.
- Reimagined by a small group of u3a members into a garden.
- The much appreciated and most regular volunteer gardener, is now too frail to continue looking after it





# The Garden Today





# Initial Ideas

- Pergola looking scruffy, no shade
- Create more 'rooms' for different uses
- Make it usable as an event space
- Not enough signage
- More planting space
- Increase the 'sensory' theme
- Bikes look a bit lost
- Compost bins & tyres looking scruffy
- Add a trail or something more appealing to children





# Solutions



- Some of the smaller tyres are being removed, incl. ones around pergola
- All Furniture and ground jetwashed, linseed oiled or repainted. Compost bins tidied.
- New raised bed will be built at a right-angle to the existing raised beds & earmarked for edible plants
- Bikes will be cleaned up, propped up on stands & flower baskets added
- New signpost at rear entrance. Updated sign at library entrance
- Gravel area becomes new screen or bamboo surrounded seating area with nostalgia, creativity nook - think 'Chelsea concept garden' - Family, memories, link to the past...



# The Easy Fixes



**New signpost  
at rear  
entrance**



**Repainting all the furniture**



**Moving the furniture to  
create separate 'rooms'**



# The Bigger Plans!

**Build an L-shape raised bed  
to fill with pick-your-own-edible plants**



**Create a new creativity  
seating and sensory area  
with existing iron table,  
inspired by nostalgia &  
memories**



# The Creativity 'Room': A Garden of Memories





# Sensory Garden & the Flower Trail



13 willow flowers will be installed in the the garden, creating the 'flower trail'.

- **SMELL:** lavender, mint, cotton lavender, sweet pea, fennel
- **TOUCH:** sedum, lamb's ear, engraved clay tiles, pebbles, Allium Christophii
- **SIGHT:** yellow daffodils, red tulips, suncatchers, wall mural
- **SOUND:** water fountain, birdfeeders, tall grasses
- **TASTE:** strawberries, sorrel, redcurrant





# The Mini Story Garden, the bikes & the pergola



A raised bed, curated once a year by young people - telling the story of their year

The pergola can be used a 'stage' or 'room'. We'll repaint the back wall, move the big table onto it, clean the decking, add decorations & more climbing plants



The new look for the Northumberland bikes

