

COMPLETELY LONDON

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THE SECRETS ISSUE



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SECRETS OF THE
CAPITAL UNLOCKED



KFH plans to open **3** offices in Crystal Palace, Finchley and Haringay in 2010



GUERRILLA GARDENING

Richard Reynolds, guerrilla gardener. By day he works in advertising, by night he transforms neglected roundabouts and verges into tiny city gardens. He's responsible for sunflowers all over the city. You can see them in Elephant and Castle, Denmark Hill and Blackfriars Bridge Road. But his favourite secret garden is on the central island of the dual carriageway of Westminster Bridge Road, where he illicitly planted a field of lavender three years ago, 'Last year it was attacked by beetles, so we removed some of the plants and replaced them with cabbage, mangetout and pretty pink argyranthemum. It's matured beautifully and we'll be harvesting soon.'

'Being illicit doesn't mean it's antisocial. I garden at night because that's when I'm free, and contractors aren't around to ask questions. A bit of discretion helps, but guerrilla gardening is a secret to be shared,' says Richard.

If you want to get your hands dirty too, plant bulbs now. Daffodils will brighten up your neighbourhood no end in spring. Richard will be gardening and talking at the School of Life in Bloomsbury (020 7833 1010) on 24 November.

guerrillagardening.org
www.theschooloflife.com

PSST...

According to The London Sustainable Development Commission, the Capital has seen a 31 per cent increase in common bird populations since 2005, more than in surrounding counties. This reflects the positive changes in the health and diversity of their natural environment – London!