ARMED WITH ONLY SECRET NIGHT RAID

A TROWEL AND SOME BEDDING PLANTS, I JOIN A TO LIVEN UP A BARREN CONCRETE JUNGLE

GOING TO GROUND
Richard and Julie at work
Pictures by JAMES VELLACOTT

THE council was bizarre when the £35 annual maintenance charge looked at the plant. As a result, itells are received a 100 refund. That's why the old beds were kept in line to the council's gripe.

Planting is expensive but points to the yakuza plant, donated by a neighbour, because it grows too big for the corner of her flat. There's the lavender bought with a £5 donation from an American man who emailed: I used to live in England and loved the smell of lavender. Please plant some for me.

The ivy was from his mum's garden in Plymouth. The tulips and foliage were bought at wholesale price from New Covent Garden as a present from his squad, he says. "It's just the right amount of money for a bunch of flowers."

I'm not sure how much they love it. Enough that they're happy to work.

Richard keeps the flowers in the large flower bed near the bar and says they're getting on. He picks up six pots and empty bottles, spools dead heads off lilies and within seconds transplants a wild-looking box hedge into a perfect shape.

"There's so much public and that can be enjoyed by everyone."

He whispers: "Are you the guerrilla gardener? Wow! Mate, great work I'm going to be planting tulips around Oxford this weekend."

He shakes Richard's hand, and walks off with a big grin on his face.

Another man, who drinks in the garden, blinks and looks confused as he asks Richard tagging a hole. "Am I losing someone?" he asks, then staggers off.

It's past midnight and the time Richard down tools and calls it a night. As he walks back into the dawn of dawn, a neighbour thanks him for re-potting one of his indoor plants.

"Remember it's not about money, but an old other and the flowers are a charity shop and I use that as a way of giving back to the community."

And with that, it's time for the guerrilla to hit his own bed.

NATIONWIDE PLOTS...

SHEFFIELD An anonymous Sheffield steel worker has planted memorial flowers in his lunch break.

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"I dug in a sack of mixed daffodils in 20 days and made the scoops and a memorial to Milly."

42 MEDIUM, Words Denby thought that the new roundabout embankments of the M42 were dull and she brightened them by planting daffodils 

OLD STANDING RAILWAY LINE, STANDISH, Lancs David cleared the railway line and planted shrubs from his own garden.

St Saviour's, Torre, Devon Margaret (left) admired her garden with her secateurs, it covers up the cemetery.

She recruited more people, and now it will be open for an English Heritage green ribbon.

Health centre, Shetland Without asking permission, Susan cleared the weeds and shrubs from the garden in the health centre with a tiring array of lupins and trees.

GUERRILLA GARDENERS

"I'm nearly out of flowers," he says. "It's just the weather that can be enjoyed by everyone."

"I just like nice gardens and want to be left alone to garden peacefully. I think it looks a lot more than a paved-over front garden."

"I was angry at the council's decision to remove all the flowers and I was thinking about the council's next move."

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