Disappearing London

Party time for the developers but will anything be left of the city we love?

Will Self, Iain Sinclair, JG Ballard lead the debate on what must be saved

Name: Richard Reynolds, aka The Guerrilla Gardener.

Job: City, Richard, 29, works in advertising, but by night he leads a group of 'guerrilla gardeners' who harvest much needed love and attention on the capital's neglected public spaces.

The green-fingered volunteers hand plant beds, planters, and hedging to the streets. Richard says: 'We work by night because it is when most of us are awake now we have finished work. It also allows us to avoid picking a fight with the owners of these spaces.'

Where have they struck? The latest guerrilla garden was on the Thames Embankment on October 18, where hedges groups undertook a quick strike of a deserted area near the V&A Museum, which was on display to the public.

The guerrilla garden was created in collaboration with the elephant family in the South Bank, and the pastime has been described as a 'great environmental achievement.'

Inspiration? Richard's inspiration comes from his love of nature, and his desire to make the city more beautiful.

What it is like to do? It isn't easy, Richard says. 'You have to be patient and persistent.'

My station at Hither Green is Dog Daisy heaven

Green, on the Guerrilla Gardening website, said: 'We'd like to encourage people to bring more flowers to the area, and we'll try to help out wherever we can.'

What has it achieved? Support is mounting. Over 200 people have started a petition on Richard's website in the past 50 days.

Bob Marley plaque unveiled

Thirty-four years since Marley recorded his first single, 'Kooler Than India', and was hailed as a reggae superstar, a plaque has been unveiled to mark the occasion.

The plaque was unveiled on February 6, 1982, to commemorate the first time a reggae artist was featured on the cover of a major American magazine.

The plaque reads: 'Bob Marley: The Voice of Rasta.'

The event was attended by members of the band who performed with Marley on the historic day.

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