



I am what I am

RICHARD REYNOLDS, 30, is a guerrilla gardener. He runs the website guerrillagardening.org and has written On Guerrilla Gardening: A Handbook for Gardening Without Boundaries. He lives in London with a friend

I started guerrilla gardening because I live in a tower block without even a windowsill, and all around me were neglected public flowerbeds. At 2am one morning, I started removing the dead shrubs, litter and weeds, replacing them with lavender, cyclamen and cordyline. I was terrified someone would catch me.

© I realised that my little action was part of something much bigger. It's such a contradiction that we neglect what little land we have.

I pick up a lot of rubbish. No matter how smart an area is, people still leave litter. They think it disappears when it is chucked into flowerbeds, but they're just making matters worse, as nobody removes it from there.

© Gardening at night minimises the number of busybodies. When the police saw my car laden with fertiliser, I became a suspected terrorist. Recently, I was nearly arrested because I didn't have permission, which you can't get on the grounds of health and safety — nobody wants to take responsibility if you break a leg. It was the most exciting evening ever.

There's evidence that gardens lift spirits. Decrepit environments drive people to crime through despair and a belief they can get away with it because nobody cares.

I would recommend starting with daffodils, tulips or sunflowers. Keep it local and keep the weeds clear. Seed bombing, or throwing a grenade-like object containing seed and soil, is ideal for inaccessible areas.

Why would I want my own garden? I'd have to pay for it.



Readers of a more sensitive nature, look away now. Scarlett Johansson's latest conquest is not a Hollywood hunk with a six-pack and a surf habit, but none other than our very own paunchy, hood-eyed, middle-aged genius Salman Rushdie.

Grabs from Johansson's latest video reveal our Salman nuzzling her neck in a lascivious manner. Well, well. Hasn't he done well? The busty star is just the latest in a long line of stunning gals to be seen swimming upstream with Salman — he recently escorted the ravishing Olivia Wilde, 24, to a White House do, shortly after he was spotted out with the disabled model Aimee Mullins. So, what's the pull? It can't be his looks — the man has the face of an outraged woodpecker. We blame middle youth, that dodgy age when certain men set out to prove there's one final squirt left in the can.

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FLIGHTS TO IBIZA

Must they all be in the wee small hours? Is this some kind of conspiracy?

THE STAG-NIGHT SEASON

At least the remote is yours for the weekend, ladies

THE NO-NAPPY MOVEMENT

As in none at all. As in movement. As in messy

OFFICE KEYBOARDS

Dirtier than loo seats. The perfect sick-note line

WAG ACCESSORIES

Ronaldo's girlfriend sports R7 earrings — talk about self-parody

