

EYE GARDENS

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Butterfly Sanctuary Garden

Elements

Decking and Cladding

The decking and garden room cladding are all made from thermo ash. Thermo ash is natural ash hardwood baked in a kiln at temperature of around 200 degrees using steam. This is a chemical free process that bakes the wood turning it a rich dark brown colour. The process removes moisture from the wood thereby making it highly resistant to rot and mould. The benefits of heat treating the wood is that it makes it more stable and stops the wood from warping or swelling. The wood also becomes more durable. The rich colour enhances the wood's natural beauty. The whole process is chemical free and means the wood itself does not need any chemical treatment which is environmentally friendly.

The reason for using this material in the garden is because of the chemical free process. Butterflies are very sensitive to chemicals and pesticides in their environment. If we can use materials that are natural it will help to protect natural habitats.



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Water feature

Water is an essential element to all life and as much as we can harvest and reuse the better. The water feature demonstrates how water run off from the garden room can be channelled by a down pipe into a stream and then into a wildlife pond, the overflow from the wildlife pond then goes into a rain garden. A rain garden is a part of a garden that is naturally irrigated by rain water run off.

Butterflies need shallow water to drink from so there are areas where there are pebbles to land on and from which the butterflies and moths can drink.



Gabion walls

The gabion walls provide some seating and also a more secluded seating area.



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Habitats

Butterflies and moths need a variety of habitats to support their whole life cycle. In the garden there is a bug hotel with a butterfly section for the butterfly to enter and have shelter and lay eggs. There is leaf litter and log piles for shelter and overwintering. There is water to drink and nectar rich plants from which to feed. Caterpillars need host plants to feed so there are native hedging plants and also behind the garden room some nettles to feed on.

Hemp Block Wall

Part of the boundary of the garden is a hemp block wall made from hemp blocks with a lime render.

Hemp is a very eco friendly building material especially when mixed with water and lime to make hempcrete. It naturally regulates temperate, prevents mould and is carbon

negative by absorbing more carbon as it grows than it releases. Building with hemp does not require any chemicals or heat treatment.

Hemp does have limitations in that it is not as load bearing as concrete but does provide excellent insulation and wall building capabilities.

Hemp is also a very butterfly friendly crop as it is nectar rich.



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Garden Room

The garden room is 2.3m x 2.3m and is an outside garden office. It is the largest element in the garden. It has thermo ash cladding and thermo ash shingles. There is decking outside the garden room and a pond in front of that.



Butterfly Sculpture

The butterfly sculpture was made by a local wood sculpturer. It is made from a piece of ash and then the edges are burnt to define it. It is a beautiful addition to the garden and is placed so that it is just hovering over the plants.

