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ENTERTAINING AL FRESCO

OUTDOOR CREATIONS

Introducing the new and reusing the old combines to transform a traditional Reigate garden into a spacious outdoor entertainment area

This award-winning scheme, designed by Acres Wild and delivered by Outdoor Creations involved the redevelopment of a large, existing garden following a major extension and remodelling of the client's home. The brief was to create a garden that seamlessly integrated with the house – better connecting the house and terrace with the lawns and the existing swimming pool – and to provide a more generous space for entertaining.

Build

The clients original garden was truncated by a beech hedge, overgrown shrub borders and a

huge Victorian greenhouse which dominated and blocked the view from the house to the wider garden. The glazing and bricks of the original greenhouse were carefully dismantled and reclaimed so that a smaller version could be incorporated into the new scheme as a feature beyond the swimming pool. A new, potager style, kitchen garden was developed, blending well with the existing orchard and sitting comfortably in an area of the garden that was previously unused.

Following the construction of the new greenhouse, a fruit cage was added, raised beds for vegetable growing, separated by neat, Brendon gravel paths and a brick-laid terrace,

dressed with large containers and pots.

Significant provision for utilities had to be made as part of the groundworks. There was significant cabling for lighting, power and Cat6 cabling to the pool house, as well as an automated irrigation system from an underground rainwater harvesting tank to the new planting areas, mains and grey water supply to numerous standpipes around the garden. A gas supply was also provided from the house to the client's new fire table that Outdoor Creations installed.

Reclaimed materials from the site were incorporated where possible, re-using Yorkstone paving and some of the client's natural stone walling. The paving was carefully lifted and re-used beneath the pergola, creating an attractive, rustic terrace providing a spot to sit and relax in a secluded area of the garden.

Planting was refreshed throughout the scheme and new planting areas now incorporate the client's love of Mediterranean style plants with clipped box lavender, Alliums, →

- 1 Sawn sandstone main terrace with sett detail
- 2 Intermediate relaxing terrace with gas fire pit
- 3 Ornamental grasses soften the terrace
- 4 Sawn sandstone mixes with natural stone walling