

OUR GARDEN DESIGN

Fiona took inspiration from the River Itchen in Hampshire and the River Kennet in Berkshire. The result is a garden with plants typically found around chalk streams or alkaline soils. To see how Fiona and her team rose to the challenge to create a chalk stream in a garden, visit:

wwf.org.uk/hamptoncourt

THE EARTH WALL AT THE SOURCE OF THE STREAM SHOWS THE LAYERING OF CHALK BEDS (AQUIFERS).

Water slowly seeps through aquifers which filter, clean and store it before it emerges in springs and flows into crystal clear chalk streams.

THE STONE AT THE GARDEN ENTRANCE IS FULL OF FOSSILS.

These represent the marine animals that contributed to the creation of chalk layers around 100 million years ago.

FIFTY SPHERES HOLDING DIFFERENT VOLUMES ILLUSTRATE OUR DIFFERENT USES OF WATER AND THE MANY WAYS TO SAVE IT.

And the dry zone beyond the plug represents the eventual result of taking too much water from our rivers.

OVERSIZED PLANTING INTERMINGLES WITH A GIANT PLUG AND ARTWORK.

Fiona's vision of the garden was sparked by Ian Gill's 'Embrace' sculpture. She imagined large dew drops held aloft by six-foot blades of grass. By distorting the scale, Fiona's work symbolises the overuse of water from these rivers.



Plant highlights

Aquatic plants (in stream)



Water Crowfoot: *Ranunculus aquatilis*



Common Water Starwort: *Callitriche stagnalis*

Marginal plants (stream edges)



Meadowsweet: *Filipendula ulmaria*



Greater Tussock Sedge: *Carex paniculata*

Oversized plants (among spheres)



Chinese Silver Grass: *Miscanthus sinensis* 'Malepartus'



Korean Angelica: *Angelica* 'Gigas'

Trees



Field Maple: *Acer campestre*



Cornelian Cherry: *Cornus mas*

Wild plants



Field Scabious: *Knautia arvensis*



Comfrey: *Symphytum officinalis*

Acknowledgements:

We'd like to thank Fiona Stephenson MSGD, HSBC, Verdant Design & Build, Ian Gill Sculpture (artworks - see more of Ian's work at stand LW/270), David Booth (water), Straysparks Creative Metalwork (moongate), Alan Young, Clarke & Spears International, Tendercare, Kingcombe Aquatics, Roger and Victoria Harrison, Action for the River Kennet, and Ray and Cath Timlett for their much valued support and input.