

THE OAKS, KIRKBY LANE, NEWBOLD VERDON LE9 9LN

My husband, Allan, purchased the above property in the 1970's when it was known as 'Grafton'. He immediately started to make changes to the bungalow by extending it. By 1988 he had turned his attention to the land and constructed a large pond, rockery and summerhouse.

I moved into the Oaks (by then re-named Sandalwood) at the beginning of 2000. By the summer Allan and I were spending every weekend trying to create our dream garden. Using Allan's skills as a landscape gardener we constructed many gravel paths edged with old granite setts to create areas for planting flowers and shrubs. We made a winding wooden pergola as an alternative entrance onto the lawn. A gazebo was built from old bricks and tiles and a large fruit and vegetable plot was formed from rail sleepers. In 2005 most of the garden was completed. We propagated laurel cuttings and planted them as a hedge stretching across the width of the land. This formed a natural barrier in order to preserve the rest of the land as a more naturalistic garden.

This final section was eventually finished in 2010 with the planting of two oak tree saplings, a thick bank of evergreen cotoneasters, rockery and wooden seating area.

For many years now, despite the constant maintenance, our garden has been a source of pure joy to us, evolving over time and changing with the seasons. The weather permitting, it has been constantly in use, for either family gatherings or drinking a well deserved pint of beer after a hard day's work!

Signed By:


Dated: 8.2.2025

SANDRA GAYTON
OWNER OF 'THE OAKS'