

# BISHOP'S STORTFORD Observer

PART OF THE HERTS & ESSEX OBSERVER SERIES, COVERING STORTFORD, SAWBRIDGEWORTH AND VILLAGES

60p

TASTE OF SUCCESS? Designer Pat Fox with Neill Gaffan of Eco-Lutions

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## My garden's so nice you could eat it!

COMPANIES from across the **Observer** area have cultivated a unique collaboration for a kitchen garden with a difference at this year's Chelsea Flower Show.

Designer Pat Fox's Freshly Prepped garden for the show, held from May 19 to 23, consists solely of edible plants!

Pat, based in Hatfield Heath, has been "pulling out all the stops" to ensure her debut creation delivers both "a visual wow-factor" for the thousands of visitors to the high spot of the horticultural calendar and "will inspire even owners of small, outdoor spaces to embrace the concept of growing, preparing and eating food outside".

According to Pat: "The concept involves seeing the garden as an extension of the kitchen - somewhere to whip up a cocktail, a salad, a sandwich or a smoothie using the freshest ingredients picked directly from the garden."

The garden will boast a Chelsea Flower Show first - a living wall planted with edible crops grown hydroponically, using mineral nutrient solutions in rock wool rather than soil.

Raised beds will contain salad and fruit crops such as lemons, strawberries, baby leaves and runner beans.

By **Sinead Holland** CHIEF REPORTER

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lished accountancy practice in London and Bishop's Stortford; Heather Barnes Overseas Property Investment and Sales based near Saffron Walden and Attwaters Solicitors, which has offices in Loughton and Harlow.

To put the garden together she used Armstrong Jordan Ltd from Matching Green, which specialises in handmade, bespoke kitchens and cabinetry, to make spectacular outdoor kitchen cabinets with a worktop surface made from semi-precious angel Jasper, fitted by Russel Stone Work Surfaces, of White Roding.

A hardwood called Massaranduba is being supplied by Andrew Banks, of High Wych, for flooring, cabinets and a 1.8m (5ft 9in) long chopping board.

Pat's landscaper is Terrafirma, of Leaden Roding, and for her garden lighting she picked Eco-lutions based in Saffron Walden.

Technical director Neill Gaffan said: "This is a very exciting opportunity and will allow us to enhance what will already be a fabulous garden, but also showcase some of our products and design flair."