

The GARDEN HOUSE



Newsletter

Buckland Monachorum, Yelverton, Devon, PL20 7LQ
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Plant Sales in May

Highlights this month include:

- ***Cornus controversa* 'Variegata'** Glorious tiered branches highlighted by finely white-variegated leaves. For the patient gardener but worth the wait!
- ***Matteucia struthiopteris* AGM** Aptly named, the Shuttlecock Fern for its structure, this is a remarkably tolerant plant, even of dry shade when established!
- ***Pittosporum tenuifolium* 'County Park Dwarf'** Sought after dwarf form with purple foliage—like a very much improved 'Tom Thumb'!

~ The Garden in May ~

By Head Gardener Matt Bishop

Welcome to The Garden House. May is surely the month of all months where gardeners really feel the need for cloning technology to have leapt just a little bit further. Ditto that! The serious season for planting is upon us. Behind the scenes we have steadily been amassing huge numbers of new plants to grace the gaps within the garden. So, over the next few weeks the newly dug bed boarding the walled garden and drive will be planted, as will the flanking beds of the Ovals Garden, and gaps in the sunken garden.

Planting is already well under way in The Quarry Garden where the beds were re-sculpted during the winter. Already in, and a feature of the bed planted last year, are numerous *Pulsatilla vulgaris* Heiler Hybrids* in

Volunteers

Could you spare a few hours each week to help in Plant Sales or the Garden? Join our friendly team and enjoy a free lunch and discounted plants. Phone 01822 854769 for more details

shades of violet through to deep reds. In this type of planting it would be easy for such things to be nudged out of existence by more thuggish neighbours like Alpine Phlox and Rock Roses, so they are surrounded by buffers of Creeping Thyme, also useful for colour later on.

Look out this month for several plants which earn their space for bridging the gap between Spring and early Summer. Foremost among these are numerous forms of the native *Aquilegia vulgaris**, the focus of gardeners attention for generations who have selected different colour forms with single and even tightly double flowers. In another variant, seen plentifully along The Long Walk, the flowers lack the spurs which jut backwards, and have adopted a form resembling a *Clematis*, grouped under var. *stellata*. Our plants descend from seedlings selected for their varied colours from a gardening friend in Shropshire.

Friends of The Garden House

This year, those joining or renewing their Friends of The Garden House membership will receive free admission to the garden throughout the season, a complimentary colour guide book, regular newsletters, special events for Friends and the opportunity to have a say. In addition there will be a £4 voucher to spend in the tearooms or at plant sales. Full details are in the The Garden House leaflet—please ask at the entrance.

Photographic Competition

Photographs must be taken during published opening hours in 2009 at The Garden House. Various categories.

Full details at Reception

Coming up next month

Cultivars of *Kalmia latifolia*, *Philadelphus* and *Deutzia*. Come and see how the new plantings are progressing and savour the colour from our enormous range of summer flowers. Poppies should be out in The Cottage Garden and South African Garden!

Diary Dates...

Garden Tours

Thursdays, 7, 14, 21 & 28 May
and throughout the season
Meet on the lawn at 2.00pm

'The Garden in the House'
Botanical Photographic Exhibition
By

Maureen Douglas-Green
22 May to 26 July

Watercolour Painting Workshop

Tue, 26 May, 10.30-4.00pm
Painting Village Views
(booking essential)

A Lost Garden of the Tamar

Thursday, 4 June, 2.30pm
(booking essential)

Basket Making Workshop

Sat, 13 June, 10am-5pm
(booking essential)

For full details see our
Events Programme

Plants marked * are available at Plant Sales