

# The GARDEN HOUSE



## Newsletter

Buckland Monachorum, Yelverton, Devon, PL20 7LQ  
Tel: 01822 854769. www.thegardenhouse.org.uk

## Plant Sales Highlights in October

- **Ceridiphyllum japonicum AGM.** Stunning specimen tree with heart-shaped leaves that turn pink/orange in autumn — giving off pleasant scent of candyfloss.
- **Aster frikartii 'Mönch' AGM.** Elegant lavender blue flower borne on very long flowering plant.
- **Acer palmatum and Acer palmatum var. dissectum.** Varieties include 'Kinshi', 'Kamagata', 'Aureum', 'Corallinum', 'Bloodgood' AGM.
- **Fasciculara bicolour.** A stunning bromeliad.

**Plant Sales is located next to visitor reception**

# ~ The Garden in October ~

### By Head Gardener Matt Bishop

A warm welcome to The Garden House! The Acers started turning early this year but the warm weather of September put things back on hold. It is tempting to look back at last year, with its similarly wet summer, and be hopeful that we will enjoy another season of amazing foliage colours this autumn. All the signs are good, so do head for the Acer Glade!

As well as the vibrant colours of the Acer Glade, don't miss the *Acer palmatum* 'Sengo-kaku' in the car park and the delightful small tree of *Prunus* 'Okame'\* in The Long Walk, turning steadily more orange. Look out for the acid yellow shades of *Orixa japonica* as you approach the Magic Circle! Just outside the Magic Circle stands a group of ghostly stemmed *Betula ermanii* 'Grayswood Hill'\* which overhang a

### 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

colony of colourful fly agaric 'mushrooms'.

October colour also comes from a diverse selection of perennials, especially on the Long Walk and the Walled Garden's Lower Terrace. They are now putting on their floral finale; none more so than our many different asters. The greatest range of colours is to be found in cultivars of *A. novi-belgii*\*. Excellent also is the powder blue-flowered hybrid 'Herfstweelde' which does not suffer from the frequent fault of having a leafless "leg" before the first flowers on the stem. I think that some of the most valuable of all Asters are the not sufficiently numerous cultivars of *A. x frickartii*\* which are have a very long flowering season. Of these, I would choose 'Flora's Delight' every time as it always starts into flower weeks ahead of the others. Asters can be somewhat prone to mildew and a good choice is therefore to be had from the mildew free *A. novae-angliae*. A great favourite of mine is the aptly named 'Violetta' for its arresting depth of colour. Asters can be seen growing around the garden and in particular, in the Cottage Garden along with the skeletal-stemmed *Verbena bonariensis*\* which has a long and late flowering season.

Closer to the house, contrasting with the unusual silver-leaved *Cyclamen hederifolium*\* are hardy hybrid nerines, the result of a 40 year breeding programme by the late Terry Jones and now continued here, to increase the available colours.

### Coming soon ~

Very shortly the earliest snowdrops will be starting to open. Don't miss this fantastic show of early spring bulbs during weekends in February!

### Friends of The Garden House

This year, all those joining or renewing their Friends of The Garden House membership will receive free admission to the garden throughout the season, a complimentary set of colourful post cards, 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. Membership is valid for a full twelve month period.

## Diary Dates...

### How to Garden

With David Miles

An 8 week course Oct/Nov

### 'Beginners and Lapsed Painting'

Tues 6 October

A Watercolour Painting Workshop

### 'Painting Snowy Scenes'

& Christmas Card Production

Tues 20 & Tues 27 October

A Watercolour Painting Workshop

### Children's Nature Trail

Thurs 29 October, 2.30pm

Be a garden detective and discover the wildlife in autumn

(no charge for accompanied children)

### For full details

Please ask at Reception  
or telephone: 01822 854769

Plant marked \* can be purchased in Plant Sales, by the Entrance