

SPRING INTO SUMMER NEWS

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WALLED GARDENS

APRIL 2010

MAKING THE MOST OF EVERY MOMENT



After a tough winter, the Spring is very welcome. At this time of year, the most exciting part of the gardens is the meadows. Cowslips are scattered across the terraces and the bulbs are beautiful in the cedar meadow. Under the trees the hyacinths, dicentra and aquilegia are at their peak. Tulips in the cottage garden are looking good. I hope you can make it to one of our events or for a quieter visit during the week. We look forward to seeing you.

With best wishes

Ursula Cholmeley



PLANT FAIR MAY 2ND AND 3RD 11.00—4.00 P.M.

Our annual plant fair is on May 2nd and 3rd and will include the best stalls from around our region. 12 acres of gardens, 15 stalls and this year, we are delighted that **Paolo Arrigo will be visiting and signing his Italian recipe book 'From Seed to Plate.'** Paolo, who runs the Franchi seed range in this country, describes the name of this **beautiful book as 'not just the name of our new cookbook, but our philosophy.'** Paolo will be available to answer questions on everything from raising seedlings to celebrity recipe tips. Book signings: Sunday afternoon and Monday morning.

If you want to increase your knowledge of vegetable growing and cooking, we are also offering you the chance to join Paolo for a masterclass on how to sow, harvest and cook vegetables and salads for this summer. This will be a fascinating evening of inspirational tips. The class lasts a good hour and is an opportunity to meet Paolo properly. Refreshments, a chance to enjoy the gardens in the evening and 10% off seeds are all included in the price. £20. Sunday 2nd May 5.00 pm. Places are limited to 30 so please call landy on 01476 530 063 to book.



GARDENS DEVELOPMENTS



Colin, Stephen, Tim and Nick in front of the newly planted walk.

Over the last couple of months we have been planting a new evergreen walk on the site of the old vinehouse. Now, as you look down from the tearoom you can see green, gold and blue conifers. The area outside the tearoom and history room has also had a facelift. The scrubby grass has gone to be replaced with Cotswold coloured tiles. As we approach 10 years (next year) since we began restoring the gardens it is exciting to achieve large scale plantings. The roses in the kitchen garden are now in, with their supports, and the fountain garden is next. Channel 4 is following our efforts. The show is due to be aired next spring.

OPENING TIMES: UNTIL THE END OF OCTOBER 2010. WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, SUNDAYS AND BANK HOLIDAY MONDAYS. 11.00 AM-4.00 PM

GOOD GARDENS • GOOD SHOP • GOOD FOOD

SWEET PEA WEEK DAILY JUNE 27TH-4TH JULY



The essence of summer is sweet peas, roses, swallows and cream teas. We are offering you all four during sweet pea week. Over 50 varieties of sweet peas, our new David Austin Rose planting covering an acre of the old kitchen garden, the swallows diving in and out of the potting sheds and of course, scones and cream in the tearoom. We are working with well known local designer Ian McBain to produce an indoor courtyard garden so even if it rains you will be able to appreciate the scent and colour of these beautiful flowers. At the end of your visit you can pick your own bunch to take home.



You can sow sweet peas right up until the end of May so if you haven't bought yours yet, it's not too late. We have around 30 varieties for sale and can send some to you if you call Landy. Seeds are £2.00 a packet plus postage at cost. David Austin Roses and good value herbaceous plants and herbs are now available in the courtyard .

Join photographic expert, teacher and plantsman Pete Murray for a series of seasonal photography workshops available on April 14, May 12, June 9, August 25, September 8 2010. To book call us or Pete on 01780 410 078 for more information. Price £35 per afternoon.

Lucy's June vegetable growing courses cover winter crops, complementary planting, crop rotation and some ideas for using and storing your harvest. At only £5.00 per session and the courses are available on June 16th, June 23rd 11.00am – 1.00pm. For more information please call Lucy on 01778 591 220.



DOG DAYS SUNDAYS IN AUGUST 4.00pm –6.00pm

Last year we ran late evenings on Sundays in August for dog walkers. It was a great success so we will repeat it again this year. (We tried a test run with dogs all year but it resulted in a dog fight and a man having to go to A and E so we have given up allowing dogs generally!) Join us for a cream tea or slice of cake with your dog, non dog owners also welcome!



For Friends of Easton Walled Gardens: Last year lots of our friends were able to take advantage of a free visit to Grimsthorpe Castle Gardens. We are offering a free visit again this year. Simply present your Friends of Easton Walled Gardens card at the entrance.