

Holme News



the difference is *our expertise...*

for **GARDENS**

Summer 2010

This issue...



Artlook on show in the Orchard during PAW

Summer gardening with Holme, advice on what to plant now for a beautiful show throughout the season



Holme Pick Your Own opening for the summer in early June so come along and get your produce fresh from the fields

Strawberry Fair at Holme Join us in celebrating the summer season on Saturday 26th June



PURBECK ART WEEKS IN THE ORCHARD



Artists from across the Isle of Purbeck open their doors to the public in June for this popular two week art festival. The Orchard tea room at Holme has been chosen as a venue by Artlook, a group of 12 artists with wonderful talent.

Local artist and member of Artlook, David Cole said "Our work would find no better home than the Orchard for the Purbeck Art Weeks. The sense of light and space fit perfectly with our subject matter and we are thrilled to be able to hang our work here."



Come along to see the stunning paintings from Saturday 28th May until Sunday 13 June. Paintings can also be purchased during the exhibition.



THE ENGLISH GARDEN

See us featured in the June issue. pick up your copy on sale now in our garden shop. Following the success of the Orchard's recognition in the 2009 national Garden Retail

Awards we are delighted to have achieved national recognition in The English Garden magazine following a visit to us last year by Sue Bradley who writes for the magazine.

MARATHON MUM

She did it again! Well done Liz for completing this gruelling 26.2 mile challenge and raising over £10,000 for Marie Curie Cancer Care. Liz has faced a number of challenges over the Spring

and her training time for this year's London Marathon was very limited.

She has managed to set up and run the new Holme Farm shop, be wife and

mum to her young family, train her staff in the garden centre, bake her wonderful cakes and jams, and basically do everything that would make most normal people shudder in their shoes!





Dear Gardener,
We gardeners tend to be hardy types and put up with whatever the elements throw at us, however even we prefer a bit of warm sunshine to gladden the spirit and inspire us to get out, enjoy the garden and start planting in anticipation of spending time with friends and family in the garden during long summer days ahead.

Despite the recent cold dry weather, and thanks to hard working and enthusiastic staff, Holme looks better than it ever has. The bedding out season is now in full flow and there is a fantastic selection of seasonal plants to help put colour in your garden this summer.

In the gardens at Holme the David Austin Rose borders will be at their blooming best in late June. By then the first colour in the red hot borders we planted last year will be showing and we have added some climbing Roses and Clematis to give height. We have also planted up shrubs under the birch trees by the pond and give our thanks to Susie and Colin Vardell for their gift of snowdrops *Galanthus aitchisonii* which will give us something to look forward to in late winter. In the next few weeks we will be developing 2 new pink, silver and purple borders. Come and watch this project evolve.

So, as you can see there is plenty happening at Holme that we would love to share with you, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Simon

ALPINES



Come and choose from a wide variety of plants, with alpines available for most soil conditions. Many of them prefer poor alkaline soils with good drainage, but some such as gentians hate lime and require acid soils. If you are growing them in pots you can adapt your planting mix to suit. When choosing plants, many will be low-growing, but always check the label. Please ask for help.

Pruning Tip:
Most carpet-forming types such as Alyssum, Aubrieta, Thyme and Veronica (speedwell) respond well to a 'short top and sides' after flowering. The easiest way to achieve this is to place a dinner or tea plate, depending on the size of the plant, on top of the plant and cut back any protruding growth. Remove the plate and trim the top by approximately 25%.

BEAUTIFUL BEDDING



For instant seasonal colour, our flowering bedding plants are the answer! They are useful for filling in gaps between plants and shrubs that aren't fully grown, for using in containers or for planting up a whole bed for immediate effect. They can also be planted in hanging baskets, window boxes and troughs. They

grow fast and provide excellent value for money.

Bedding plants are ideal for all areas of the garden, most prefer sun or light shade but some such as fuchsias and busy lizzies will thrive in and brighten up even a shady area – plant them in large drifts or clumps



to create impressive splashes of colour. Please ask any member of staff for advice on the best plant for your garden needs. For the best results, bedding plants grown in flower pots, containers, hanging baskets and wall pots, should be filled with a good multi-purpose potting compost mixed with water-retentive gel and slow-release fertiliser pellets.

Please ask for help if you are unsure about anything as we want your plants to look as good as they can.



The mulches and irrigation system on the fruit farm really earn their keep in dry weather and the crops on the fruit farm are looking promising although

FEELING FRUITY



Ripe and ready for picking fresh from the fields this summer at Holme

they are a week or so behind normal years. We anticipate opening the fruit farm around the 10th of June. Keep an eye on www.holmeforgardens.co.uk

for the latest availability or sign up for 'Fruity News' our e-mail newsletter. You can do this on the website or let us know your e-mail address when you come in.

ROSE GARDEN



Do spend time in our new rose garden when you are next visiting. See our stunning range of David Austin roses, which can still be planted in tubs, pots and in the garden border now.

Our resident rose expert Krissi says: " I love the scent, the colour, the charm and the versatility of roses. Many of them have such interesting stories behind the names, which adds

greatly to their appeal as an established garden plant". She explains "We have taken great care in selecting a range of roses that are both traditional and modern, sweetly scented, and truly worthy of a place in any garden"

Companions

Roses look superb in a bed on their own, but to really complement the look, try them in a mixed border, or underplanted with catmint (nepeta), lavender or alchemilla (lady's mantle).



SEASONAL OFFERS



Wonderful offers on planting compost and summer flowering plants

Come in and see!

CLEMATIS & CLIMBERS



Clematis are much more versatile than you may at first think, they come in many different colours and flower shapes, grow in varying conditions from sun to shade, and can flower early spring, late summer and every month in between!

Our summer flowering clematis range is looking fabulous. Mix with other climbers such as Golden Hop, Jasmine, and Black Eyed Suzi, for a dramatic effect.

PATIENT PERENNIALS



Dorset gardeners are usually among the first to welcome in the warmth of summer with colourful shows of cottage garden plants and borders bursting with blooms.

Cottage garden plants such as Oriental poppies, hardy geraniums, hostas and paeonies are technically called 'herbaceous perennials' – plants that die back

in autumn and grow again the following year. They create real colour, depth and variety, most grow easily and quickly, and they won't cost the earth.

You can choose to plant your beds and borders entirely with the many types we have available or mix them with bedding plants, shrubs and bulbs.

THE ORCHARD

Many of you came along to watch Tanya Alexander's new play 'Tearoom' at the Orchard and judging from your comments on the day it was very well received. Tanya said "We were really pleased with the performance at The Orchard

Tea Room. As it was the first ever performance of this play, it was quite nerve racking! The space and atmosphere at the tearoom was really superb and added enormously to the event. And of course, the tea, coffee and cakes were of a delicious standard. All the feedback received was very positive."



'Holme' made scones, Liz's Holme fruit strawberry jam and local clotted cream for the perfect Dorset Cream Tea on a summer's day.

HOLME FARM SHOP

Holme Farm shop grows from strength to strength and now welcomes to its shelves popular Denhay Bacon and cheddar, and Dorset Gold Beer from Palmers Brewery along with scrumptious chocolates from the award winning House of Dorchester.

Our farmers and growers have had a challenging time with the weather so far this year and we are keen to do all we can at Holme to keep up their good spirits. So do come and visit our Farmer's markets over the coming months and support our Purbeck Producers. Dates for the markets this summer can be found on our website at www.holmeforgardens.co.uk



STRAWBERRY FAIR AT HOLME SATURDAY 26 JUNE



In celebration of the summer season we are planning a lovely summer day in June here at Holme. There will be a 'fruity' element to the proceedings of course, with delicious strawberries on the menu and we invite you to come along and join us in tasting a multitude of seasonal specials and celebrating the Great British summertime.

Butterfly Conservation is the UK charity taking action to save butterflies, moths and our environment. Visit Butterfly Conservation at the 'Strawberry Fair' for butterfly gardening advice and a special Butterfly Conservation membership offer for Holme for Gardens customers.



GARDEN CLIPPINGS



Our Panellists (l-r: John Bickerton of Coastal Gardens, Trish Lea, Simon and Bob Hollister)

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Our Gardeners Question Time raised over £500 for Weldmar Hospicecare Trust, thank you to all who came along for the evening and helped make it a resounding success.

BASKETS POTS AND PLANTERS

Our recent hanging basket demonstrations attracted many of you. For those who couldn't make it on the days, Jan and Trish's tips on successful basket planting included:

- Use good quality compost for example Westland multipurpose with added John Innes
- Water frequently (early morning and evening in hot weather)
- Feed and deadhead your baskets at least once a week



Hungry Birds by Simon, who took the image of these young thrushes nesting at Holme. We are pleased to report that following our Bird

Care promotion sales of Bird Care items resulted in £75.00 being donated by Holme for Gardens to the RSPB charity.

FARMER'S MARKETS

Remember to visit our Farmer's Markets – taking place on the fourth Saturday each month.



Sandford First School – A new GYO garden was opened recently by Annette

Brooke MP and we were happy to help supply the school with plants.

STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS

Nominate your favourite tea room or coffee house in the 2010 Taste of Dorset awards. The Blackmore

Vale and Stour and Avon magazine entry forms for this competition will be published on June 18th.

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Opening Times: Seven days a week 9.00am – 5.30pm for the Garden Centre, Farm Shop and Orchard Tea Room. Last orders for hot food taken at 2.30pm in the Orchard.

