

# eNewsletter

Spring 2011



## Welcome

What a fantastic start we have had to this spring! Buds are bursting the cherry trees are covered in fluffy blossom and tulips are opening.

After the long cold winter many plants have succumbed to the extremely low temperatures – particularly Cordylines (Torbay Palms) and Pittosporums so there are many spaces to fill. Sadly in some gardens some rather large plants have failed which leave big gaps, so we can help, with the Instant Impact plants that we have available. (See later in this newsletter)

We have a nursery bursting at the seams with beautiful top quality homegrown plants just waiting for you to buy them and take them home to your garden! So call in soon and see what you can find.

There is a great deal going on at Cleeve this season with workshops, special visits and competitions so we hope you will enjoy the new season with us!

Happy Gardening from the Team at Cleeve Nursery.

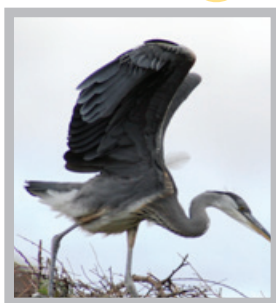
Alan and Felicity

## Read on!

### Heron Cam

Live action from the private heronry behind the nursery.

The camera is in place over a heron's nest and you can view the action from the television monitor in our barn shop. Having tidied up their nest, the herons have hatched three chicks! You will be able to see the adult herons flying around above the oak trees as they fly to and fro to gather sticks or fish from neighbouring ponds. Pop in regularly, you will be amazed how quickly they grow.



Most are evergreen too and so provide attractive foliage and wildlife habitats while screening you from your neighbours. Choose from a range of great home grown plants including Osmanthus, Photinia Red Robin and Pittosporum tenuifolium.

### Sugar Substitute – the Stevia herb

The species *Stevia rebaudiana*, commonly known as **sweetleaf**, **sweet leaf**, **sugarleaf**, or simply **stevia**,



is now available from us for you to grow at home on your window sill. The Stevia herb is an easy to grow seed to provide your own natural sweetener to pick straight from the plant! Use the fresh picked leaves for sweetening drinks, baking or cooking.

It can be planted outside in warm conditions but is best grown in large pots where the plant can spread and continue to produce leaves. For the best flavour pick the leaves in the morning. For its most basic use simply drop a Stevia leaf into your tea or coffee for an instant natural sweetener with *zero calories*. Seeds are available now £2.75 for packs of 18 seeds.

### Instant Impact Plants

After the really harsh winter, many plants have succumbed to the freezing temperatures and are showing signs of stress or have died completely. In some cases these are large plants which may have been screening you from your neighbours or masking a building. If so we have the answer to your problems! Instant impact plants are large plants of easy to grow varieties that are ready to plant straight away and will fill in a large gap.



**We have an exciting range of events planned for this season with something for all tastes. We hope you will be able to join us!**

## Discount Shopping Evening

**Thursday 7th April 6 – 8pm**

15% discount plus loyalty stamps!

Start the spring season off with the best selection of the crops at Cleeve Nursery! Take advantage of this special discount evening and enjoy a complimentary glass of wine!

We will have masses of our fantastic home grown perennials and top quality shrubs ready for you to buy as well as a vast selection of vegetables, fruit trees and bushes, ornamental trees, seeds, compost and patio pots. As always there's free parking and lots of helpful advice.

## Easter Weekend 22nd to 25th April

Cleeve Nursery will be open every day over Easter weekend!

Good Friday 22nd April 10am-5pm . Easter Saturday 23rd April 9am-6pm . Easter Day 24th April 10am-5pm

Bank Holiday Monday 25th April 10am -5pm

Easter Chicks will be hatching on Easter Day so call in to the nursery between 10am and 5pm on Easter Day and Easter Monday and watch this amazing event. There will be 100 eggs hatching and turning into fluffy chicks right in front of your eyes! It's a fascinating experience that keeps all ages spellbound. This has been a special annual event that has become part of the Easter tradition at Cleeve Nursery for the last four years!



## Plant Heritage (Formerly NCCPG)

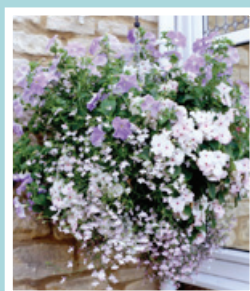
**(St George's Day) Saturday 23rd April**

There will be a stand at Cleeve Nursery to promote this worthwhile organisation that serves to protect and inform people about National Collections of plants.

## Hanging Basket Workshop

**Friday 6th May 3 – 5pm.**

Make your own summer hanging basket with Felicity Down. Prepare to get mucky, wear warm clothes and enjoy a warm drink. Pick up lots of helpful hints and tips on



filling wire, wicker or wall baskets. Find out which plants are best for which aspect. Learn about the different types of summer basket plants that with a little effort, will repay you by flowering all summer long. Tickets £5. Pay for the materials you use. You are welcome to bring your own empty basket to fill.

## Exclusive Guided Tour of the University of Bristol Botanic Gardens

**Thursday 9th June 6.30pm at The Holmes, Stoke Park Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 1JG**  
(opposite Churchill Halls of Residence)

As Corporate Sponsors of the Botanic Gardens we invite you to join us for an exclusive guided tour by the garden's curator Nick Wray. Hear of the new



developments and learn about plants of seasonal interest during this relaxed informative evening. Tickets cost just £6 including refreshments. Ticket numbers are limited, so apply today at Cleeve Nursery (01934 832134) A donation from the ticket sales will go towards supporting the gardens.

## The Most Unusual Planted Container Competition.

**Saturday 25th June**

Fill an unusual container with plants and you could win a prize - it's almost as simple as that!

Let your imagination run wild and have fun for this competition. You can use whatever container you want but you must be able to get to Cleeve Nursery for judging! So its no good filling an old bath tub with plants because it could be a bit of a problem to move it!!



Try an old pair of boots, a rusty bucket or a hat for starters. When we ran this competition a few years ago, we had a television set and even a loo filled with plants. So have a go and get planning. The entries must be at Cleeve Nursery on Friday 24th June at 5pm ready for judging on Saturday 25th June at 2pm.

## Events Continued

### Boogie in the Plants

Saturday 2nd July 8pm

Live in the Garden Centre!

Tickets £10 each. Come and dance to the band Backyard Boogie made up of professional musicians. Bar available. An exclusive evening not to be missed.



Greenfingers is a small charity which is dedicated to creating magical gardens for children's hospices around the UK. The charity is eleven years old, and during its life has created 30 special gardens. The benefits of these gardens are tremendous to children staying in hospices, and their families too.

### Scarecrow, Edible Necklace and Unusual Vegetable Competition

Saturday 17th September

Have fun making your scarecrow from recycled objects, gardening materials or just any old clothes! Edible necklaces can be made from fruit or vegetables threaded on fishing line or wire – they often look pretty enough to wear and then you can eat it! Unusual shaped vegetables are self explanatory – silly shaped carrots or potatoes!

Bring your entries along to Cleeve Nursery for judging on Saturday 17th September at 2pm. 50p per entry to Greenfingers Charity. Great prizes for all entries.



## West Country Life

Many of you say that the one reason that you buy Saturday's edition of the Weston Daily Press is to read Alan's piece in the weekend supplement called West Country Life!

Each week Alan writes a topical gardening article with hints and tips and problem sharing for the gardeners amongst us. You can now access these articles on our website so you needn't miss out on all the topical information available from Cleeve Nursery. If you have lost the paper or do not have a computer we always keep a copy of the article to read in the shop.



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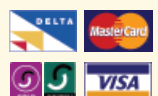
### Cleeve Nursery

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Visit Cleeve Nursery on the A370 Bristol to Weston-super-Mare road, just south of Backwell. We are happy to take orders and make deliveries. We have a large car park and a coffee shop and on all our hardy plants we give a two year guarantee. Alan, Felicity and all the staff assure you of a friendly, personal and knowledgeable service, and look forward to seeing you.