

club



with DAVID DOMONEY

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Swayed in Chelsea



SHOW-OFFS
 Nick ideas from top designers

WAVY GRASS
 Add movement



FANTASTIC FOXGLOVE
 Beauties best kept from kids



POSH CLEMATIS
 New Prince William



OFFER of the week

Firey RHS award-winner *Euonymus alatus* is a deciduous bush with vivid foliage in autumn. Beautiful red and purple seed pods follow that birds love.

Stems and branches have an unusual winged corky appearance, which makes for a winter novelty when not a lot else is going on.

Foliage in spring and summer is dark green with small pale green flowers. Height 2m. Pot grown plants supplied.

You can buy one for £8.99, or buy four for **HALF PRICE, £17.98.**

To order by debit/credit card call **0843 922 5000** quoting **SM33725** or send a cheque made payable to **MGN SM33725** to **Euonymus Offer (SM33725), PO Box 64, South West District Office, Manchester, M16 9HY** or visit **mirrorgardenoffers.co.uk**



Fargesia murielae Luca at the show this year. They tend to prefer a sunny location – check your own particular grass to ensure you are providing the correct growing conditions.

JACOB'S LADDER

A new cultivar at Chelsea this year named Kaleidoscope is as exciting as the name suggests, with interesting variegated foliage that becomes even more pronounced in cooler weather.

The long stems with pretty clusters of bright blue flowers make a lovely

addition to the front of your borders and generally prefer a sunny or partially shaded spot in your garden.

JAPANESE MAPLE

Often grown for wonderful autumn colour, *Acer palmatum*s continue to be a hit for smaller gardens where their slow-growing habit won't dominate.

This year, look out for the unusual *Metamorphosa* with a variegated yellow leaf that fades to a green edged in baby pink and finally white. *Acer*s even work in containers and add

sophistication to Japanese-style gardens. Young trees may need shelter from frost and will not tolerate very wet or exposed conditions.

CLEMATIS

New clematis 'Sarah Elizabeth' brings unusual bubblegum pink flowers and has been developed as a tribute to Sarah Groves, a young woman who was killed on a boat in 2013.

Thorncroft Clematis is creating its display A Royal Celebration! in honour of Prince Harry's wedding and includes

another new one, Prince William.

Clematis happily scramble up your garden trellis or pergola, especially if given full sun. Keep it in check with regular pruning.

LUPINS

Lupins are fantastic upright plants with long racemes of small, bead-like flowers. They come in lots of bright, summery colours, from elegant pinks and purples to bold reds and yellows.

The ideal soil for these striking flowers is fertile and slightly moist and they tend to prefer a sunny or partially shaded location.

FUCHSIAS

A versatile, low-maintenance plant that is perfect for any summer bedding scheme, fuchsias are enjoying a resurgence in popularity. Delicate droplet flowers are commonly a bright pink with purple interior petals.

They are great for a shady spot in your garden, although make sure they are not left too exposed to the cold.

■ **Chelsea runs Tuesday to Saturday. See rhs.org.uk/shows-events**

Meet mini eco-warriors making a splash

Cultivation Street – Britain's brightest gardening competition – is inspiring a new generation.

Youngsters at Ryhall C E Academy in Stamford, Lincs, are hoping their green garden project will catch the eye of our judges and win £2,500 for best school gardening project.

Karen Want, 48, a teaching assistant who helps run the Eco Warriors club, said: "Over several months, the Eco



Warriors removed the old pond, weeded and cleared the area, replaced and levelled the new pond, which was then filled with rainwater.

"Year One children made a mini bug hotel next to the pond. We have added frogspawn to it and now have tadpoles.

We have grown from keen young gardeners to a committed group who champion eco-work across the school."

We have £20,500 in prizes for this year's competition. Top prize in our school award – £2,500 and 100 plug plants from new sponsors Calliope – will go to the entry that has created a rich learning environment. It can be edible or ornamental, new or well-established.

Entry details at cultivationstreet.com.

GADGET



These foldaway wall planters from Burgeon and Ball are terrific for making the most of vertical space and keeping things tidy in winter.

They are ideal for hanging on fences, garage walls or even in a conservatory or greenhouse.

Made from tough material, each Verti-Plant has three pockets, with room for a total of 12 plants. The top two pouches have holes in them so water the top one and moisture will trickle down. I found them for £9.60 for two pouches at amazon.co.uk.