

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SI D08577 PLANTING A GARDEN FOR INTEREST IN ALL SEASONS

Tutor: SALLY GREGSON

Date: 1 DAY SATURDAY 9 MARCH

### ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This course will introduce students to the planning and planting of a garden to achieve interest throughout the year and to extend a garden's use through the seasons.

### WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD LEARN:

- The principles of planning a garden in order to make it suit the user and also to encourage people to use the garden throughout the year.
- How to use hard landscaping in the garden and to incorporate other features for interest.
- How to choose plants that will perform well in the garden.
- How to combine plants to create a good effect throughout the year.

### MAIN TOPICS COVERED:

- Planning the garden for all year use.
- Introduction to the principles of planting design.
- Structural planting.
- Seasonal planting.
- How to choose and combine plants for all year interest.

### TEACHING METHODS:

- Illustrated talks.
- Group discussions.
- Group exercises.
- Individual guided exercises.

### ADVISORY BOOKLIST:

*RHS New Encyclopaedia of Plants and Flowers*, Dorling Kindersley

(This is a thick tome and expensive, but useful for anyone who is interested in learning about different types of plants for use in the garden.)

*Perfect Plant Perfect Place* by Roy Lancaster, Dorling Kindersley

(A good book for choosing the right plants to suit your garden conditions.)

*Plants for All Seasons* by Ursula Buchan, Mitchell Beazley

*Successional Planting for Adventurous Gardeners*, Christopher Lloyd

### LEVEL: SUITABLE FOR ALL

A subject focused course that is delivered to suit any level of experience from beginner to advanced practitioner. A structured start is followed by guided independent practice.

### ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Sally has lectured widely on plants and gardens throughout the UK and abroad. She was formally trained in horticulture 30 years ago and has a 2+ acre garden that she maintains, as well as running a small nursery, Mill Cottage Plants, that specialises in Hydrangeas, Epimediums and plants for shade.

## TIMETABLE:

9–9.15am *Registration at Reception and coffee in Steward's Room Bar*

9.15–10.30am SESSION 1:

Introduction to designing a garden for all year interest:

Garden layout – planning the layout or changing an existing layout.

Hard landscaping and garden features – keeping to the same materials in the garden to create unity of design.

Structural planting – trees/hedges/evergreen shrubs to position first.

Seasonal planting – planting for winter interest in particular.

10.30–11am *Coffee*

11am–12.30pm SESSION 2:

Introduction to planting design:

The horticultural requirements of plants – soil type/pH/aspect.

Getting the spacing right/working out numbers.

Mixed, tiered planting schemes, practice some planning in groups.

Successional planting in practice.

12.45–1.30pm *Lunch*

2pm–3.30pm SESSION 3:

Plant portfolio:

Which plants to choose for structural elements – slides.

Examples of useful plants for seasonal planting schemes – evergreens to form structural elements/key seasonal plants.

3.30–4pm *Tea*

4pm–5pm FINAL SESSION:

How to combine plants to create good effect all year round:

More planning practice for all year planting schemes – quick individual plans.

## REQUIRED PREPARATION:

If you wish to learn about plants with reference to a particular planting area, it is useful, but not essential to know in advance:

1. What sort of soil – sandy, chalky, clay, peat?
2. What is the acidity or alkalinity of the soil?
3. Is the planting bed sunny or shady?
4. How much maintenance do you intend?

## MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm.

### Available from the Shop:

Plain paper or sketch book to draw on

Basic drawing equipment

Basic colouring pencils

### Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:

Scissors

## HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor will instruct students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. There are no health and safety restrictions on access to this studio/teaching space in the absence of the tutor. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.