

Chelwood Star Plants

Molinia caerulea subsp. caerulea 'Edith Dudszus'

H. 90cm x W. 75cm

Grasses can bring movement into even the smallest garden and a sense of wilder spaces. This *molinia* is clump forming and has purple red stems bearing dense flower spikes of very dark purple, providing an attractive veil of colour through late summer and autumn. As the autumn progresses to winter the grasses gradually lose their purple colour and bleach out to a fine soft straw yellow. Cut back in spring the new growth is fresh and springlike.



Hedera helix "English Ivy"

(Existing)

H. 8-12m x W. 2.5-4m

It takes 25 years for an ivy to flower so this mature, existing plant is precious and a particularly important source of late season nectar, flowering as it does from October to November. *H. helix* is a vigorous, self-clinging climber with three-five lobed, glossy, evergreen leaves, often with pale green veins, and some reddish or bronzy colours in autumn.





Pyracantha 'Cadange' (Saphyr Yellow)

H 2.2m x W. 1.5m

There is a healthy interplay of evergreen and deciduous planting, but for the third Star plant of Chelwood I have chosen a second evergreen - *pyracantha*. The yellow berried form is a particularly good choice for a darkish corner which needs brightening. The young leaves of *pyracantha* are a vivid fresh green and shortly after they emerge the shrub is covered with dense corymbs of white flowers. In autumn the bright yellow berries are demolished by birds. When grown as a wall shrub the long growths should be cut back after flowering. Good coastal plants, they also make wonderful free standing shrubs. *P.* 'Cadange' is a new disease resistant variety. Fertile soil, any aspect including shade and wind.



ceanothus arboreus 'Trewithen Blue'

Ceanothus are mostly small leaved evergreen shrubs with intense scented blue bottlebrush flowers in May and June. Particularly because of multiple use we want to 'hardwire' as much privacy into the garden as possible. Blocking sight lines is a useful design strategy and here we want to block the sight line to the larger paved area as you walk up the curving path towards it and so have planted the *ceanothus* in a prominent position next to the path. We have allowed it to grow bulky enough to hide the view and being evergreen it fulfils this function all year round.



