

*Buxus sempervirens*

Because this is a formal garden the plants which provide the year round structural framework for the garden, make the garden. Box hedging needs little explanation. It is a hungry feeder with a dense network of roots and to keep box healthy it is vital to feed it well especially after clipping. Box responds beautifully to clipping becoming neater and more dense the more often it is clipped. Ascot day is the traditional day to clip. Enjoy the fresh lime green growth of the young box and its slightly wavy look, and after clipping the tight clean lines that box is so well known for.



*Lavandula angustifolia* 'Hidcote'

*L.* 'Hidcote' has the deepest purple flower heads of all the lavenders and the scented foliage is a grey green giving good contrast to the yellow green of the box. If the flower heads are left to stand, their bleak silhouettes adds to the winter scene. Planted in a great swathe around the ancient baptismal fount that stands at the centre of this new garden, the lavender is on stage all year round.



*Lonicera periclymenum* 'Graham Thomas'

We have grown this late flowering honeysuckle as a standard pom-pom in each of the four main beds. You need to prune the honeysuckle quite hard for this to be successful, but there is a gnarled beauty of the stems twisting up its support. The woody entwined mass of the honeysuckle brings into the garden a little of the atmosphere of Sleeping Beauty and the briars that grew around the castle walls to protect and hide her.







