

LANDSCAPING YOUR GARDEN

30+

Inspiring Australian
gardens and
outdoor spaces

EXPERT TIPS
ON-CREATING A
NATIVE GARDEN

THE YEAR AHEAD

OUTDOOR TRENDS TO LOOK
FORWARD TO IN 2013

Issue No 5
A\$7.95 (inc. GST)
NZ \$7.95 (inc. GST)



ALL THE LATEST OUTDOOR TOOLS AND ACCESSORIES
10+ WAYS TO CREATE PRIVACY IN YOUR GARDEN
LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS' FAVOURITE OUTDOOR AREAS

IN AN *English country* GARDEN

MY FAVOURITE GARDEN



For Jared Volsbergs from Spruce Landscaping creating an English country garden in Victoria was a welcome change from the usual contemporary, heavily structured landscape projects.

The owners of the property are originally from England and had been living in America before their move to Australia. They loved the idea of a soft, lush green outdoor area and wanted to create a garden that reminded them of home.

To create a garden with a traditional English feel, I researched gardens of stately homes such as Chatsworth in Derbyshire, Blenheim Palace and Longleat House. Traditional English gardens are compact, full and made up of a mixture of flowers, vegetables, shrubs, herbs and grass that are all cleverly placed to create a blend of structure and order, juxtaposed with the disorder of bursting colours and textures.

Shrubs add structure and style to the garden and were cut into angular shapes. Fruit trees and orchards are also very English, but the most essential feature is the lawn. Large lawns were traditionally used for outside activities like tennis and croquet.

The whole garden area, especially the lawn, is bordered by lambs ear, which keeps the mulch/soil intact and protected from fossicking birds. Ornamental pears offer both aesthetic and practical benefit and, bordering the wall, they offer stunning blooms and privacy.

Winter roses capture the English theme, grow in shade, provide colour and are good groundcover. English box hedges offer shape and structure, while azaleas, lavender, seaside daisies, freesias, clivias, hydrangeas and wisteria add depth, colour and fragrance.

The lighting I chose mimics old English street lamps and offers a warm glow at night. The pots of shrubs add an ornamental aspect and the paved outdoor seating area with the wooden bench keeps within the theme.

The main thing I love about this garden is the free-flow, lucidity and creativity – it was wonderful to be able to create something with personality that has a timeless quality. I love the balance of structure with softness and movement. It's a carefully planned contradiction of 'organised disorder' that captures the English feel. There are many places to sit and each perspective offers different visual representations and dimensions, paired with sensory, practical and textural elements.

For more information on **Spruce Landscaping**
phone 0414 303 557 or visit
www.sprucelandscaping.com.au