

Garden Brief and inspiration

Larkby is situated in Bursledon, on the hillside that drops down to the River Hamble. The sunny south sloping land is enclosed by large ancient oak trees. There is an abundance of bird life, with deer and foxes traversing the garden. The site feels very connected to its natural surroundings. The new garden is designed to embrace these existing qualities. Planted to enhance the feeling of a warm and sheltered woodland glade, into which the new house will sit, sensitively stepping down as the land drops away.

The staggered design of the house creates different aspects and enclosures. The house will appear to sit lodged in the natural landscape, with a quiet garden scheme of meadow and fruit trees. The boundary line blurred with new planting so the garden will seem to flow into the woodland beyond. A mixed native selection of hedging with evergreen trees will replace a half dead Leylandii hedge to the north. With a mix of Birch and Scots Pine adding to the existing forest edge. Deer will still be welcome into the garden. And a small nature pond will sit at the forests edge.

At its heart the house will enclose a sunny pool garden and lawn. This will be a domestic garden planted for colour with drifts of draught tolerant species. Large pots of herbs will dot the terrace. An enclosed vegetable garden with a south facing productive wall becomes a place to sit with a glass of wine, catching the evening light and watching the bats come out and dart over the pond.

Rupert Muldoon. Garden Designer

Entrance - driveway and front door



Stone door plinth



Amelanchier - summer



Self binding gravels - Hoggins drive surface



Drifts of grasses edging the gravel



Clipped domes edged with granite sets



Amelanchier - spring



Terrace garden steps



Steps through drift planting



Large sand blasted clay pots



Contemporary all weather furniture



Perovskia & Echinacea



Structural grass - Calamagrostis Karl Foerster

Draught tolerant perennial palette - for the south facing lawn flower border



Salvia nemorosa 'Caradonna'



Lychnis coronaria 'Alba'



Sisyrinchium striatum



Convolvulus cneorum



Lavendula angustifolia Hidcote



Erigeron karvinskianus



Thymus praecox 'Elfin'



Verbena bonariensis



Sedum autumn joy



Salvia officinalis 'Purpurascens'



Phlomis russelliana



Stachys byzantina



Agapanthus praecox



Persicaria affinis superba



Rosmarinus officinalis

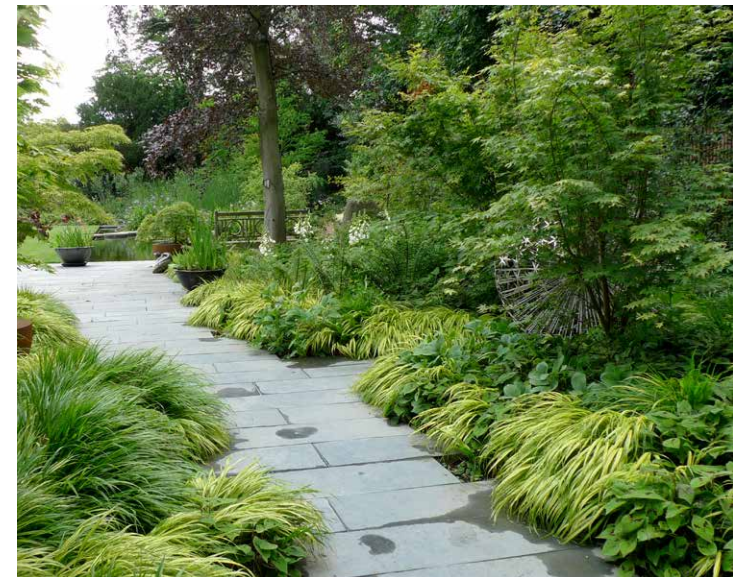
Shaded path to north side of house leading to the productive wall



Loose grey gravels



Ferns and hostas growing through large pebbels



Hakonechloa grass edge

Shade tolerant perennial palette - for the north shaded walk



Cyrtomium fortunei
(evergreen fern)



Asplenium scolopendrium
(evergreen fern)



Dryopteris erythrosora
(evergreen fern)



Euphorbia robbiae



Helleborus x nigerous



Anemanthele lessoniana



Anemone x hybrida 'Honorine
Jobert'



Iris foetidissima



Polygonatum x hybridum



Carex 'Ice Dance'



Pulmonaria opal



Bergenia purpurea



Soleirolia soleirolii
(creeping moss like plant)



Vinca minor 'Alba'



Liriope muscar



Raised beds built from oak beams



Galvanised water trough - possibly reclaimed



South facing productive wall built from brick and flint

Meadow. Open field and orchard & Small wildlife pond



Mowen path



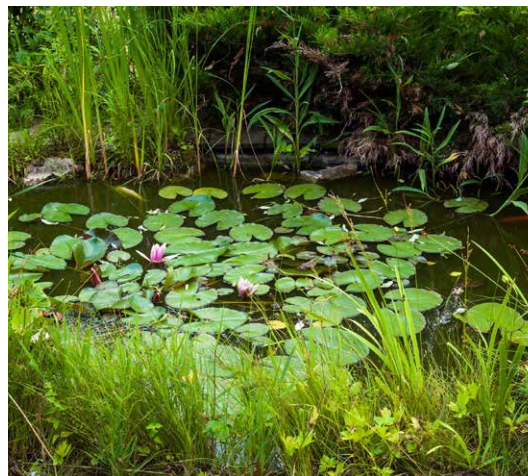
Marguerite and meadow flower mix



Orchard of small trees



Wildlife pond with deck edge



Exisiting Gunnera plant

Large shrub / small tree - flowering and with good autumn colour



Cornus kousa 'China Girl'



Amelanchier lamarckii

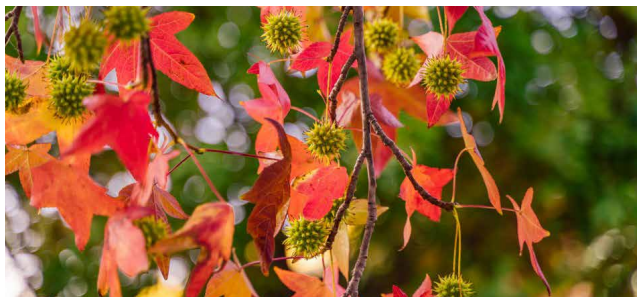


Magnolia stellata



Various Acer types for

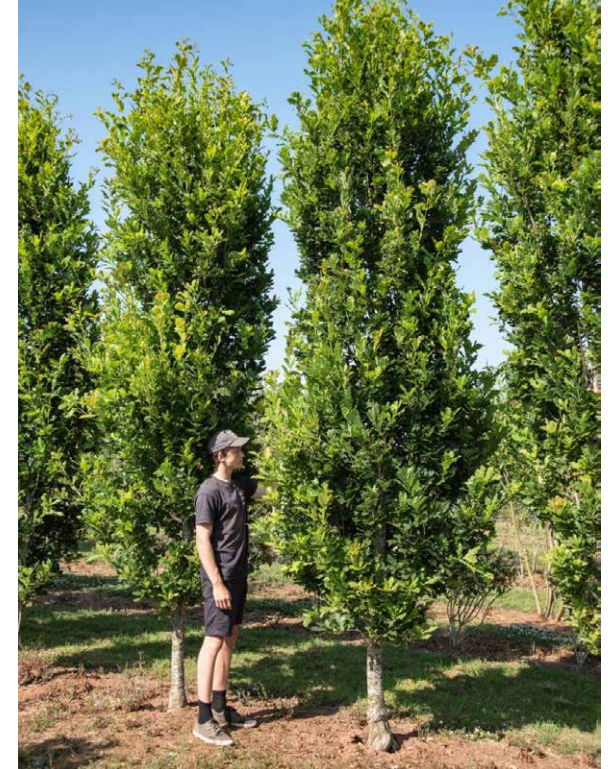
Tall specimen trees with good autumn colour



Liquidambar Styraciflua
(Liquid amber)



Betula pendula
(birch)



Quercus palustris 'Green Pillar'
(fastigate oak)

Evergreen, voluminous trees



Osmanthus burkwoodii
Small evergreen. Highly scented.
Drought tolerant



Pinus sylvestris
(scots pine)



Pinus nigra
(black pine)



Quercus ilex
(holm oak)

Evergreen, voluminous shrubs



Pittosporum Tenufolium 'Silver Sheen'



Taxus baccata
(Yew tree)



Laurus nobilis
(Bay tree)



Ilex aquifolium
(Holly)