



30 WESTWOOD DRIVE – PLANTING PALETTE

Planting proposals
chosen for their successional seasonal interest



TREES

Perhaps consider a tree to replace your cherry





Amelanchier grandiflora “Robin Hill” Dense upright small tree which bursts into life end of March with small white/pink starry flowers. Has eye-catching red berries in June followed by rich red and orange Autumnal foliage. The *A.Lamarkii* is also a splendid tree for a small garden with year round interest. I think you could definitely consider replacing the old cherry with a specimen tree such as this one



1



2



3



Ornamental flowering cherry trees

Living in Chorleywood & Chalfont you can't help seeing the popularity of these trees but with good reason. They offer up a spread of blossom from winter through to late Spring and provide a vivid Autumnal display as their leaves die back. I propose the following varieties:

1. *Prunus subhirtella autumnalis* 'Rosea' – November to March flowers, an attractive serrated summer leaf and then a dazzling orange and red Autumnal display. A tree for all seasons!
2. *Prunus incisa* *Kojo-No-Mai* – A small tree often confused as a bushy shrub which has a spectacular show of small white flowers early Spring to mid April
3. *Prunus triloba* *multiplex* – In the same group but in fact a flowering almond! I have to scour the Country for this one but have found it in Cornwall! Flowers in April/May





1. I'm not a huge lover of the tulip magnolia (*grandiflora*) in small gardens as they tend to swamp any design subtlety but this one is really a star hence *Magnolia Stellata*. You have an ideal aspect for this small tree which can be grown in pots as well as open ground. Lovely white foil to March/April/early May planting.

2. *Malus Evereste* is a flowering crabapple which is a huge pollinator for other fruit bearing trees and popular with bees. Attractive crop of small red/orange apples cover the tree in Autumn.



SHRUBS



Abelia grandiflora

Reliable compact bushy shrub

Fragrant arching white flowers

SEMI EVERGREEN

Flowering July-September





1. *Hamamelis x intermedia* 'Diane' provides some respite from the drab grey days of mid-winter and when clustered in a group of 3-5 is a real feature plant. This witchhazel prefers neutral to acid soil and is quite happy if kept topped up with organic matter. You could try this in the bed nearest the patio so you can see it from the snug of your drawing room!

2 & 3. Lilacs are just good value and herald in May with a mass of colour and scent. Such a range here but the deep purple and whites are my favourite. Happy growing in full sun so perfect for your garden. The ones featured here are *Syringa vulgaris* Primrose and *S. vulgaris* Katharine Havemeyer.







Hydrangeas – mophead, lacecap or paniculata

Many varieties here but they need space and growing up to 3 meters high they do tend to dwarf surrounding perennials with more floral interest. The blue ‘types’ only remain blue in an acidic soil or one which has been complimented by adding aluminium sulphate . They do not like full sun preferring part shade so careful positioning is a must. Perhaps consider them somewhere!

1. *H. Annabelle* – excellent for underplanting tree standards
2. *H. macrophylla* Merveille
3. *H. macrophylla* General V. de Vibraye





Architectural shrubs

I tend to incorporate a few of these to take the eye away from hard landscaped corners, house right angles etc. They also perform as well at the back of borders. All are happy in part shade but perform well in full sun. Perhaps consider some of these

1. *Sambuca nigra* 'Black Lace' The black elderflower is an excellent counterpoint for most perennials as its colour and habit give style and structure to the less formal perennials
2. *Melianthus major* Wonderful companion plant with an extraordinarily powerful chocolate smell!
3. *Euphorbia amygdaloides* Beware of the sap should you cut it (requires little to no pruning) but is an excellent shape and form to offset foliage of other plants
4. *Syneilesis aconitifolia* Attractive showy plant



Viburnum tinus 'French white' – reliable evergreen, scented, flowers Feb-March.



1. *Philadelphus Coronarius*
(Mock Orange)



An absolute must in your garden as the scent is wonderful and shape and structure within this plant are remarkable. Flowering June and July this 'Mock Orange' eclipses most shrubs with its powerful scent.





Choisyia

1. *Choisyia ternata* Aztec Pearl

This accompanies the 'mock orange' with its powerful orange.

The mexican orange is an evergreen that flowers in Spring and Autumn.



I know you had one of these but *Buddleia davidii* with its evocative smell and languorous habit is definitely worth it just to attract the butterflies. I propose 'Dark Knight' as a dramatic deep purple.



Escallonia 'Donard Seedling'

EVERGREEN

Vigorous compact evergreen with dark glossy
leaves and rose red flowers

Flowering: June





Sarcocca hookeriana var *digna*

'Sweet Box' amazing scent in the depth of winter.

Pretty white flowers

Flowering: December

Perhaps include in bed close to steps



Wonderful true blue *Hibiscus syriacus* “Oiseau Bleu”
Bright blue flowers arrive in late Spring and last through to the end of August. You need to be patient as this plant is slow to develop, but what a show once it does!



Deutzia x Hybrida Mont Rose

Hardy and fragrant

Flowering: June





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Lavandula 'Hidcote' is my preferred lavender as it has a neat compact form, the deepest tone of flowers and a powerful scent. Avoid giving these plants too much 'tlc' as being of truly Mediterranean origin they like to struggle a bit in full sun. I have lost many to soils which have been too heavily fertilised/composted.

To line the path from the arch up to the deck providing wonderful purple flowers with superb scent



Syringa Madama Lemoine

Pure white fragrant flowers flowers from yellowish buds

Bushy medium sized lilac

Flowering: May



Pieris japonica Mountain Fire

A popular Victorian plant offering up colour in February and March and if it survives the Frost provides a further display in Summer.

Slow growing and prefers a partly shady spot so potentially in the bed next to the steps



ROSES



Rosa Iceberg (climber)

Sweet smelling small repeat flowering rose which I have successfully planted against walls and over arches so you might consider it on yours!

Flowering: June/July to September



Rosa Felicia

Sweet smelling and repeat flowering rose
which looks stunning behind Lavender

Flowering: June/July to September

Maybe plant on the opposite side of the lavender hedge



Rosa Generous Gardener

Highly fragrant and repeat flowering this musk rose is hardy and reliable.

The leaves remain on the plant well into the winter.

Requires little pruning if trained on your arch





CLIMBERS





Trachelospermum jasminoides

EVERGREEN

My favourite evergreen climber and perfect to cover 3 trellis's on your rear fence with a sturdy trellis.

This confederate or Star jasmine has delicate white flowers that produce a heady perfume. They perform extremely well in full sun and flower from June to September.





So many Clematis to choose from but good to get a spread of colour throughout the season.
I would propose you consider Polish Spirit to compliment your white jasmine on the rear fence

1. *Clematis* General Sikorski – early summer & early autumn flowering
2. *Clematis* The President – May/June flowering
3. *Clematis viticella* Etoile Violette – mid to late summer flowering
4. *Clematis viticella* Polish Spirit – mid summer to late Autumn flowering





Honeysuckle

Lonicera henryana. Evergreen non- scented variety flowering in mid Summer

Lonicera halliana, Evergreen large leaved, highly scented in mid summer

Lonicera perichlymenum Graham Thomas Deciduous highly scented, longest flowering variety

It would be a shame not to include these around your deck area too



PERENNIALS

We have spoken about minimising perennials but maybe you'll be a little tempted by some of these...



1



2



Flowering July/August Agapanthus adore full sun and like to struggle i.e. they do not want to have loads of fertilizer. By planting in pots we can arrange them within a border or have them on your deck?

1. *Agapanthus* 'Purple Cloud'
2. *Agapanthus* 'Midnight Blue'





Aquilegia

Although considered by many to be too diminutive the *Aquilegia* has 2 important attributes. It has a wide range of colour across the species and it flowers at what many gardeners describe as ‘the awkward time’! This is at the end of Spring and at the start of summer but before the real show-offs take over! Although they tend to be considered as semi-wild flowers there is always a space for them in a garden whose aspect is not in full sun all day i.e they relish dappled shade

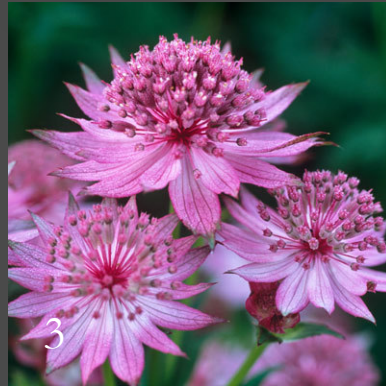
1. *Aquilegia* Blue Barlow
2. *Aquilegia* Origami Rose
3. *Aquilegia* Melba Higgins



1



2



3



Astrantia

These are hardy front/middle of border plants which have a 2 flowering Periods May/June and August/September and are therefore one of my favourites.

The key is not to plant different varieties close to each other otherwise they hybridise!

1. *Astrantia major*
2. *Astrantia* Pink Pride
3. *Astrantia* Roma



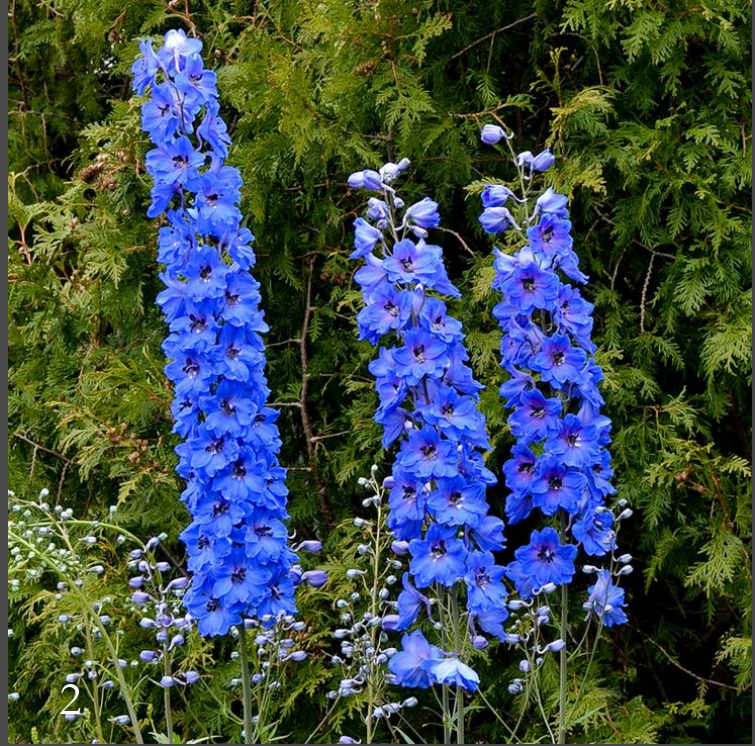


Campanula

Campanula trachelium and *Campanula persicifolia* are true blue bellflowers and *Platycodon grandiflorus* , from the same family is also a stunning blue.



1



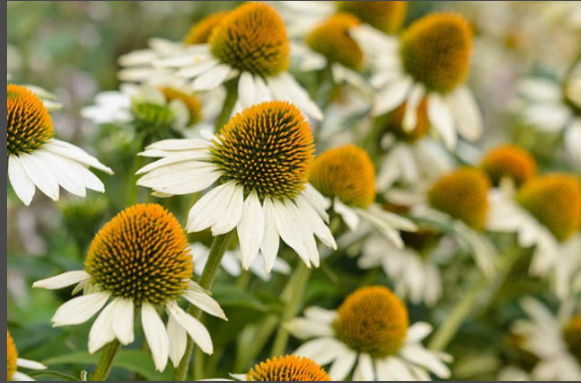
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Delphinium

Lovely to have but you need to support the stems well with sturdy metal rings and keep the aphids off with frequent spraying! Otherwise wonderful varieties. My favourites are

1. *Delphinium* Bluebird
2. *Delphinium* King Alfred





Echinacea

Wonderful clump forming coneflowers which flower from July to September and are a huge attractant for butterflies (with the *Buddleia*) They need plenty of room when planting and the rhizomes will need division every odd year. My favourites are:

1. *Echinacea purpurea* White Swan
2. *Echinacea purpurea* Magnus





Echinops & Eryngium

Both these plants when clustered are beautiful.

These are thistles with a difference so require poor soils and loads of sun..

They draw the eye to the back of the border

1. *Echinops*
2. *Echinops bannaticus*
3. *Eryngium* Picos Blue





Salvia

These can form the backbone of your perennial planting as there are so many varieties to choose from. Some flowering from May to November! The majority like a chalky soil so finally a perennial that likes our native soil. However all are very happy in pots and many people overlook their potential as moveable colour throughout the season. My favourites are:

1. *Salvia farinacea* Victoria
2. *Salvia nemorosa* East Friesland
3. *Salvia uliginosa*





Verbascum phoeniceum

The yellow verbascum pops up everywhere
but maybe consider the pink one here in the driest areas of your garden.

1. *V. phoeniceum* Violetta





Gaura lindheimeri “Snowstorm” & “Siskiyou”

Wonderful long flowering perennial that bends and sways in the wind – very relaxing! I reckon you’ll rather like this one!





Anemones.

The *Anemone x hybrida* Honerine (1) is a wonderful addition to a border because of its long flowering season from August to October. Its height and relaxed form compliment its reliability.

Anemone leveillei (2) is a hardy lower growing variety which is dramatic in swathes.





Shrubby Geraniums

I can't do without these as they are fabulous 'fillers' which in effect reduce the open ground so vulnerable to weeds! Some are 'cut and come again' so when they die back you simply need to level them to get another show. That show lasts from May to October and they grow literally anywhere that's well drained in full sun. Many varieties but my favourites are:

1. *Geranium rozanne*
2. *Geranium orion*





Lychnis coronaria

Excellent long flowering biennial. Keep dead-heading and it will last the whole summer and will deter self seeding to other areas



GRASSES

We never discussed grasses but maybe consider some near to your seating area.

Here are my favourites for your consideration.





1. *Calamagrostis* Karl Foerster. Excellent upright Feather reed grass that is happy equally in full sun and part shade. Lovely ornamental grass which moves gracefully in the wind. Maintenance just once a year - Cut down to base each winter.
2. *Equisetum hyemale*. Popular pond marginal plant but if kept well watered this Scouring rush can be used structurally. I have grown these in lines in a well watered planter as roots are invasive.
3. *Miscanthus sinensis* 'Morning Light'. Upright and graceful, a popular specimen grass for corners and backs of beds. Chop to the ground each February.
4. *Miscanthus sinensis zebrinus* Reliable and hardy variegated grass which has a good show all season even through the winter. Cut back end of February.



Polygonatum



Convallaria majalis



Erythronium japonicum

Perhaps consider
Some of these for your
'woodland garden'?



Anemone nemerosa



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