THE WEATHER STILL DOESN’T SEEM TO KNOW WHAT IT IS DOING, BUT PLANTS JUST GET ON WITH GROWING AND LIFTING OUR SPIRITS WHEN THERE ISN’T MUCH ELSE TO BE CHEERFUL ABOUT.

OUR GARDEN IS MAINLY A SPRING GARDEN, AND WITH THE VERY DRY WEATHER, FLOWERS ARE BEGINNING TO SLOW DOWN A BIT. HAVING SAID THAT, ROSES ARE JUST ABOUT TO START AND ALREADY SOME OF THE CLIMBING ROSES ARE SPREADING THEIR SCENT OVER OUR BACK GARDEN AND OF COURSE IRISSES ARE LOOKING STUNNING AT THE MOMENT IF THE WIND DOESN’T BLOW THEM OVER.

OTHER PEOPLE’S GARDENS ARE STILL GOING STRONG AND THIS WEEK WE HAVE SOME LOVELY PICTURES FROM CHRISTINE WELLS AND SOME MORE FROM JILL MORRIS WHOSE GARDEN IS IN CONSTRUCTION AFTER SHE MOVED IN A YEAR OR SO AGO.

I HAVE ALSO INCLUDED SOME PICTURES OF SOME WILD FLOWERS TOO FOLLOWING A WALK WE DID ON SUNDAY MORNING

JEREMY
I’m starting off with some more pictures of Christine Well’s garden on top of the cliff. The plants alongside the steps going down the cliff are ‘Hottentot Figs’ (*Carobrotus edulis*) they can be very invasive but cascading down the cliffs they look spectacular. The plant shown below Christine calls the jelly bean plant, its leaves are just like little green jelly beans. It is in fact a *Drosanthemum* I think.

Continuing with *Mesembryanthemum* relatives, this brilliant red plant is very happy on the corner of our drive, sadly I don’t know its name, any ideas anybody?
MORE FROM CHRISTINE’S GARDEN AT MARTELLO PLACE
WITH THE LOCKDOWN, THEY NO LONGER HAVE A GARDENER LOOKING AFTER THINGS, SO CHRISTINE AND HER FRIEND NICKY ARE DOING IT THEMSELVES, WHY DO THEY NEED GARDENERS I WONDER?
SOME MORE EXOTICS FROM MY GREENHOUSE

A FRIEND GAVE ME THIS CACTUS YEARS AGO, THE PLANT IS ONLY ABOUT AN INCH IN DIAMETER, BUT GETS COVERED IN FLOWERS EVERY YEAR.

MY CACTI ARE PUTTING ON A VERY GOOD SHOW AT THE MOMENT, THE REBUTIA ON THE RIGHT I GREW FROM SEED SOWN 3 YEARS AGO—VERY SATISFYING THAT IT HAS FLOWERED SO QUICKLY.
BACK TO OUR GARDEN

I bought some new show begonias in the spring and the first one is already looking spectacular—what a shame the show won’t happen this year, still we are having a virtual show.

As I mentioned earlier. The roses are now starting. This one is a floribunda type called Korresia. It ticks all the boxes for me—fabulous clear colour, incredible scent, very neat bud, fresh green foliage and a good shape when open.
THE NEXT FEW IMAGES ARE FROM JILL MORRIS’ NEW GARDEN
BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER HER GREENHOUSE (OR KENNEL) WAS CONSTRUCTED

AS YOU CAN SEE, HER AGED PATTERDALE DOG THOUGHT IT HAD BEEN BUILT ESPECIALLY FOR HIM
MORE FROM JILL’S GARDEN, ALLIUM CHRISTOPHII, NELLY MOSER CLEMATIS A FABULOUS PAEONY AND HER FIG WITH VIBRANT NASTERTIUMS.

AFTER SHE STARTED TAKING OUT A LEYLANDII HEDGE A HUGE CROP OF ECHIUMS APPEARED NEXT YEAR THEY WILL BE SUPERB
I CAN’T RESIST SHOWING A FEW MORE IRIS

THE IRIS ABOVE SMELLS STRONGLY OF CHOCOLATE!
THE ONE ON THE RIGHT IS CALLED LIQUORICE STICK IT REALLY IS NEARLY BLACK.

CLEARLY NOT AN IRIS
THESE ARUM LILIES CAME FROM DIANA HAROLD’S GARDEN AT ONE OF THE OFCA FAIRS.
ABSOLUTELY PRISTINE WHITE
NOW FOR SOME ODDITIES

THIS BELIEVE IT OR NOT IS AN ALSTROEMERIA WE HAVE SEEN IT GROWING IN THE WILD NEAR THE MAGELLAN STRAITS IN PATAGONIA SOUTHERN CHILE, IT’S TINY ONLY ABOUT 1cm ACROSS AND 5cm TALL

THESE ARE CLOSELY RELATED TO GLADIOLI, FROM SOUTH AFRICA, THEY ARE BABIANAS, OR BABOON ROOTS
WE WENT FOR A WALK IN NACTON ON SUNDAY MORNING TO THE WATER MEADOWS - IT USED TO BE A REGULAR WALK FOR US WHEN WE LIVED THERE TO SEE THE ORCHIDS, AND THEY ARE STILL DOING VERY WELL TOGETHER WITH RAGGED ROBIN AND LOTS OF OTHER TREASURES GROWING IN MEADOWS THAT HAVE NEVER BEEN PLOUGHED OR GIVEN ANY ARTIFICIAL FERTILISER OR HERBICIDE

SOUTHERN MARSH ORCHIDS

RAGGED ROBIN