WELCOME TO BLOG NUMBER 8

THE WEATHER DOESN’T SEEM TO KNOW WHAT IT’S DOING AT THE MOMENT DOES IT, ONE DAY IT IS SUNNY BUT WITH A COLD EAST WIND, THE NEXT SUNNY AND WARM, AND NOW THE FORECASTERS ARE SAYING THERE MIGHT BE FROSTS TOMORROW I WISH IT WOULD MAKE IT’S MIND UP.

I HOPE YOU HAVE ALL HAD A LOOK AT RAY’S BASKET PLANTING VIDEO, WE FOUND IT VERY INTERESTING, AND IF YOU WANT ANY OF THE EASY PLANTING PLASTIC BASKETS, YOU CAN GET THEM FROM AMAZON. WE HAVE JUST BOUGHT 4 OF THEM FOR ABOUT £27, WE ORDERED THEM YESTERDAY AND THEY ARE ON THEIR WAY, SO WE SHOULD HAVE THEM IN TIME FOR PLANTING UP NEXT WEEK. THOSE OF YOU WHO SUBSCRIBE TO FACEBOOK, DON’T FORGET TO HAVE A LOOK AT THE FELIXSTOWE GARDEN CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE, IT IS WELL WORTH LOOKING AT REGULARLY AND DO POST THINGS ON IT YOURSELVES.

JEREMY
THIS IRIS WAS GIVEN TO US BY SOME FRIENDS WHO LIVE IN TUSCANY, IT IS THE WILD IRIS WHICH GROWS ON THE HILLS AROUND FLORENCE AND AFTER WHICH FLORENCE OR FIRENZE IS NAMED. AS WITH MOST WILD SOURCED PLANTS, IT IS QUITE VIGOROUS, BUT PERHAPS NOT QUITE AS SHOWY AS SELECTIVELY BRED VARIETIES ARE.

THESE FRIENDS LIVE IN AN OLD HOUSE IN THE HILLS OF TUSCANY, AND YOU ARE ABOUT TO BE TRANSPORTED THERE WITH A FEW PICTURES OF THEIR GARDEN RATHER THAN THE COOLER GARDENS OF FELIXSTOWE.
BELOW IS A VIEW LOOKING ACROSS THE VALLEY FROM THEIR HOUSE WITH VINEYARDS IN THE BACKGROUND. THE OTHERS ARE ALL ROSES GROWING AGAINST WARM WALLS WITH NO HINT OF BLACKSPOT.

A SHROPSHIRE LAD

CONSTANCE SPRY

THESE ARE BOTH PAUL TRANSON
ONE OF THE FIRST JOBS I DID WHEN WE MOVED IN 13 YEARS AGO WAS TO CREATE A CREVICE GARDEN TO TAKE MANY OF MY ALPINES

PHLOX SEEM TO DO REALLY WELL

THIS IS ONE OF MY VERY FIRST ALPINE PLANTS, GIVEN TO ME BY A CHAP WHO CAME TO TALK TO OUR LOCAL ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY. IT IS RANUNCULUS GRAMINEUS, AND UNLIKE MANY BUTTERCUPS IS VERY WELL BEHAVED SEEDING AROUND BUT NEVER INVASIVE
WE BOUGHT THIS CLEMATIS ALPINA AT ONE OF OUR MEETINGS WHEN A NURSERY-MAN FROM NORFOLK GAVE US A TALK

CERINTHE, A BEAUTIFUL BORAGE, BUT IT DOES SEED AROUND EVERYWHERE BUT EASILY PULLED OUT IF IT ISN’T WHERE IT SHOULD BE

I’VE LOST THE NAME OF THIS PLANT, IT IS A NICE UNDERSTATED PLANT FOR A SHADY SPOT CAN ANYONE REMIND ME WHAT IT IS?

THESE WONDERFUL LEAVES ARE FROM A PODOPHYLLUM CALLED SPOTTY DOTTY. THEY DO HAVE FLOWERS, BUT THE FOLIAGE IS THE STAR OF THE SHOW
RICHARD SHAW’S GARDEN WITH CLEMATIS MONTANA, AND A SPECTACULAR CEANOTHUS

RAY MARTIN’S BACK GARDEN WITH HIS KOI POND, AND WISTERIA JUST COMING OUT
MORE PICTURES FROM RAY, UPLOADED FROM FELIXSTOWE GARDEN CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

PERFECT BLOOMS RAY.
DON’T FORGET TO HAVE A LOOK AT THE F.G.C. FACEBOOK PAGE, THERE ARE LOTS MORE PICTURES THERE

Abby's Angel
Deja Blu
Cider Cup
Foolish Pleasure
Whirlaway
SOME OF YOU MAY HAVE WONDERED WHY I REFERRED TO THE DICENTRA IN THE LAST BLOG AS “LADY IN THE BATH”, ANGELA HERE IS GIVING A DEMONSTRATION

ANOTHER GORGEOUS EPIMEDIUM NAME LOST I’M AFRAID

TWO MORE PAEONIES, SUCH A SHAME THEY DON’T LAST VERY LONG. ON THE LEFT PAEONIA MASCUŁA, AND ON THE RIGHT PAEONIA SUFFRUTICOSA ‘JOSEPH ROCK’ WITH FLOWERS ABOUT 6 INCHES ACROSS
OUR WISTERIA IS ONLY ABOUT 8 YEARS OLD BUT EVERY YEAR IT IS FANTASTIC. WE BOUGHT IT FROM ‘THE PLACE FOR PLANTS’ WHEN IT WAS ABOUT 3 FEET TALL BUT IT WAS IN FLOWER WHEN WE BOUGHT IT (ALWAYS A GOOD IDEA WHEN BUYING WISTERIA AS SOME TAKE MANY YEARS TO FLOWER.) THE RACEMES ARE HUGE, I’M HOLDING A METRE RULE BESIDE ONE!

OUR MORNING RITUAL IN THE SUMMER, COFFEE, CROSSWORD, AND SITTING IN THE GARDEN ENJOYING FLOWERS AND BIRDSONG. IT’S A GOOD LIFE