

APRIL/MAY 1994
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GARDENS

ILLUSTRATED



VIVIAN RUSSELL RELISHES PROVENCE
SEDUCTIVE SUMMERHOUSES RESTORED
ANNA PAVORD CELEBRATES THE TULIP
GRAHAM STUART THOMAS IN PROFILE



Gardener's Notebook

NEWS, VIEWS AND INNOVATIONS

GUEST APPEARANCE

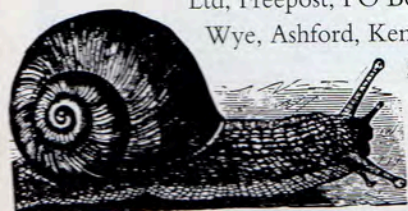
Artist Coral Guest, who painted the watercolour of *Iris germanica* below, is joining up with Ann Swan and Christine Hart-Davis for a group exhibition called 'Nature's Harvest', showing at The Kew Gallery of The Royal Botanic Gardens in Richmond, Surrey, April 15-June 5. Coral came to flower painting after she went to Japan on a travel scholarship. While there she studied calligraphy and began to paint the native flora. Her paintings, which include a picture of seeds painted in Papua New Guinea, are only on loan for this show before being exhibited in the Far East. For more details about her work you can contact her on 071 624 0647.



SLUGGING IT OUT

Notebook in Issue 5 heralded the discovery of a natural parasite, sold as 'Nemaslug', that reduces slugs to slime but sadly doesn't have the same effect on snails. Zeneca (ICI) is test marketing the product in some 50 outlets at £12.99 for a carton with instructions and reply-paid card. Send it off, filled in, and you will receive enough live nematodes to treat 20 square metres. For the same investment Nemaslug is available from Defenders Ltd, Freepost, PO Box 131, Wye, Ashford, Kent TN25

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Tel 0233
813121.



TERRACOTTA SHOW-STOPPER



Andrew Lawson

Visitors to this year's Chelsea Flower show will notice what is believed to be the first terracotta gazebo. The company that took up this challenge is Robus Pottery, known for making anything in clay from chimneypots to more than 100 four foot-high Chinese Warriors. The gazebo is 12ft high and 14ft in diameter, and comes complete with six hand-moulded columns, a beautiful glazed tile floor and Kent-peg tiled roof. The structure is supplied in kit form with instructions and a price tag of £12,000 inc VAT. More information can be had from Robus Architectural Designs, Evington Park, Hastingleigh, Ashford, Kent. Tel 0233 750330.

SHE SELLS SEA SHELLS

Blot Kerr-Wilson is a talented Welsh artist who won wide acclaim for a shell grotto bathroom she created last year. She has just finished this fountain for a client and will do similar work from £2,000; she will decorate a wall for £75 per square metre. For further details contact her on 071 639 2277.



MERITS A READ

Gardeners keen to know which varieties of the thousands of plants, including fruit and vegetables, actually perform best in the garden can now make a more informed choice than previously. *Award of Garden Merit Plants*, published at £3.30 by The Royal Horticultural Society, lists commercially available varieties that in tests at Wisley were considered the most decorative, showed the best resistance to disease and were the least trouble to grow. Plants with AGM awards will be identified as such in *The Plant Finder*. The 1994 edition of *The Plant Finder*, now published by the RHS, is in bookshops everywhere, priced at £11.99.