



News from the RHS Lindley Library

Historia naturalis palmarum

One of the greatest works in the history of botany has finally been published in facsimile. The **Historia naturalis palmarum**, by Carl Friedrich Philipp von Martius (1794-1868), was originally published in parts between 1831 and 1850. It eventually filled three massive folio volumes with 350 pages of text (not included in the facsimile) and 245 lithographic plates, mostly coloured.

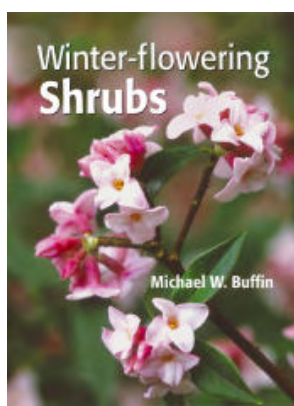
Martius's work covered classification and descriptions of genera, geographical distribution and fossil botany; it included the most complicated floral diagrams ever published, diagrams of cellular anatomy, and paintings by Martius himself depicting palms he had seen on an expedition to Brazil.

The original work is held in Lindley Library, London. The new facsimile (published by Taschen, 2010), will be available at both London and Wisley Science Library, and will be made available to researchers to preserve the original work. BE



RE-DESIGN your garden

WINTER GARDENS



Winter is a season I can only plan for when it's here. To strip the garden bare at its June peak or conjure up the stark stillness of an ice-cold December day in August, has proved a leap of imagination I don't want to make. But now it's here I see, and smell, the plants I could have planted to make the garden joyous instead of bleak.

One quietly awe-inspiring way to spend the short days of a winter break is visiting gardens where this

season has been fully anticipated, and making plans to accommodate it in our own gardens ready for next year. To help you choose where to go, the **Yellow Book 2010** includes, under each county, a month by month list of open gardens up to February 2011, while in **Winter-flowering shrubs** (see below) Michael Buffin recommends his favourite winter gardens. All the RHS gardens include planting for winter impact and this year Harlow Carr has devised a Winter Walk planting plan www.rhs.org.uk/Gardens/RHS-garden-planting-plans/Harlow-Carr-planting-plan to help you create your own scheme. Consult the following books to encourage you to experiment with the possibilities:

The Royal Horticultural Society encyclopedia of plants and flowers Editor-in-chief Christopher Brickell

"Expert guidance on choosing plants for colour, form, texture, and seasonal interest...for every part of your garden."

Winter-flowering shrubs by Michael Buffin

"Tips on combining winter-flowering shrubs, using winter sunlight to backlight choice specimens, and getting the right balance of plants that offer different characteristics..."

The plantfinder's guide to early bulbs by Rod Leeds

"...includes many tried-and-tested favourites as well as more challenging and rare bulbs...All are highly valued for the colour and interest they bring to a garden in late winter and early spring"

Fragrant gardening by Steve & Val Bradley

Includes "Designing a fragrant garden" and "The fragrant garden in winter"

For more books on this subject search the catalogue:
<http://www.rhs.org.uk/libraries>

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MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR
to all our readers

RHS Lindley Library Winter 2010

London

80 Vincent Square
London SW1P 2PE
T: 020 7821 3050
E: library.london@rhs.org.uk
Open 10am-5pm Mon-Fri

Christmas

Closed 23 Dec - 1 Jan 2011 inclusive
Re-opens 10am 4 Jan 2011

Wisley

RHS Garden Wisley
Surrey GU23 6QB
T: 01483 212428
E: library.wisley@rhs.org.uk
Open 11am-4pm daily

Christmas

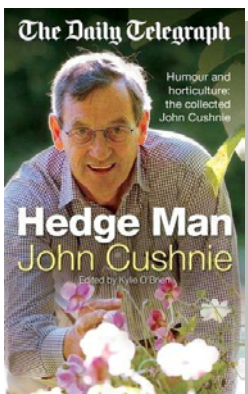
Closed 18 Dec - 3 Jan 2011 inclusive
Re-opens 11am 4 Jan 2011

Garden libraries also at Harlow Carr,
Hyde Hall and Rosemoor - check our
website for opening times

Fireside Gardening

For all of us whose good gardening intentions at this time of year pave the way to warmer displacement activities, relax, there's a lot of reading to be done!

Diana Ross' **Gardeners: encounters with exceptional people** (920 Ros) is a thought provoking book exploring the unique importance plants and gardening have come to assume in twenty diverse and intriguing lives. Ross interviews well known horticulturists (including Thomas Pakenham and Dan Pearson) and people from other walks of life (such as Penelope Lively) who reveal their connections to gardening and the wider world.



Continuing the subject of exceptional people, a new anthology, **Dear Christo** (920 LLO Cha), by friends, family and colleagues of the late Christopher Lloyd, sparkles with love and wit. Christo's guests remember the excitement and anticipation of their first visit, and wise trepidation when encountering the beloved dachshunds of Great Dixter on subsequent ones. Warm reminiscences evoke the magic charm of the place intertwined with the character and accomplishments of its owner.

Another sadly missed gardening personality is recalled in **Hedge man - humour and horticulture: the collected John Cushnie** (950 Cus). Garnered from ten years' writing for the Daily Telegraph's gardening supplement, such practical advice delivered in his entertaining style is enough to encourage you to get up and tackle something – soon...

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