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New technologies are changing the ways natural swimming ponds can be created in the garden

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Enticing garden accessories to enthral you. Take a seat and have a look...



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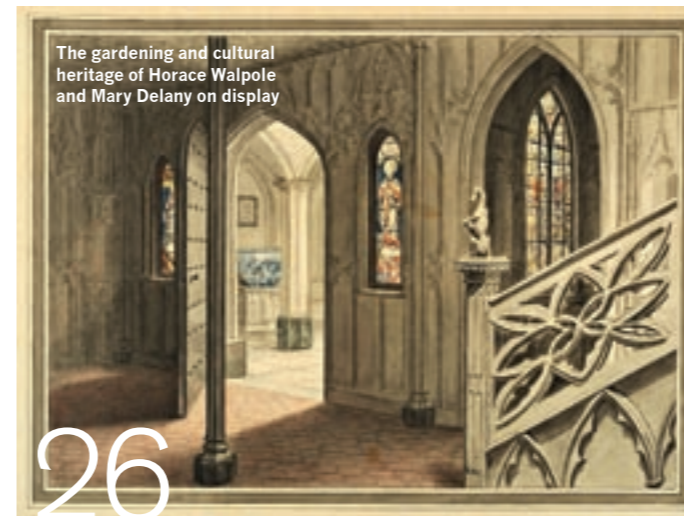
Part II of our series: Understanding the anatomy of living walls

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We talk to two fledgling garden designers about how work experience placements did or didn't help them develop their career paths

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Encouraging gardeners to introduce more wild flowers into their garden schemes can only be beneficial, argues Lauren Tyler



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welcome



THIS ISSUE HAS a (slightly) watery feel as we approach the much anticipated **SGD Conference, Splash!** on 17 April (page 39). We also have a feature looking at the new 'wave' of **natural swimming pools** (page 34), more pool than pond surprisingly – could it be that aesthetics are overriding purely environmental sentiments with our clients? It would be great to have your views on how big a part water plays in your clients' lists

of must-have features in these straightened times. And if they are coming down on the side of green ethics above all, then perhaps Lauren Tyler's plea for better marketing of 'wild' plants will strike a chord (**Outside Edge**, page 50).

As part of our 20th-Century Gardens series, we feature the garden of **Mien Ruys** (page 21), a unique example of one designer developing and realising ideas for, virtually, every decade of the century – 28 individual gardens in all – built around her parents' Netherlands nursery. An amazing legacy and a vital place to visit for anyone interested in the development of 20th-century design.

Would it be useful to have another pair of (inexperienced) hands in your design office or on site? Would this notion be even more attractive if that help were free? Two young designers offered themselves for 'work experience' and report their findings to Sarah Giles (**On Course**, page 41). Suitable candidates could be school leavers or mature returners, and join you for as little as a week, or an 'internship' of three months. It would be good to hear from other employers, students and graduates to find out more about how this could help our industry weather the recession.

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GARDEN DESIGN JOURNAL

APRIL 2010/ISSUE 93/£6
ISSN: 1356-6458

Editor: Jackie Bennett
Art Editors: Will Slater, Gary Milne
Senior Project Manager: Diana Smith
Publisher: James Pembroke
Published by: James Pembroke Publishing, 90 Walcot Street, Bath BA1 5BG Tel: 01225 337777
Ad Sales Manager: Jolyon Bird Tel: 0207 657 1834 joeb@jppublishing.co.uk

Editorial Panel: Helen Billetop, Jinny Blom, Catherine Heatherington, John Wyer, Declan Buckley, Tommaso del Buono
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jamespembroke publishing
Member of the Association of Publishing Agencies



Mien Ruys' earliest garden design from her gardens in Dedemsvaart, the Netherlands

“It is possible to see connections between Ruys' work and that of other British designers; ideas appear to have flown back and forth across the North Sea”

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The design team at Wynniatt-Husey Clarke work wonders in limited space in an urban garden in Brighton

21 20th-century design

The inspirational garden compartments of legendary Dutch designer, Mien Ruys, at Dedemsvaart

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Using water as an element of design – the SGD's Spring Conference will both inspire and inform

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Gardens of Divine Imitation, plus *Everything You Can Do In A Garden Without Actually Gardening*



“A garden is the best alternative therapy” Germaine Greer

Cover: Brighton garden designed by Wynniatt-Husey Clarke; Photo: Clive Nichols