

# Studio Elwes

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## The Garden Dispatch

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*Creating a greenprint*

Welcome back to the Garden Dispatch — our regular glimpse behind the scenes here at Studio Elwes.

This month we have launched our ‘Landscape Consultation’ package. This 5-step process is designed to help homeowners take that first step towards improving their garden and making the most of the space they have. The process begins with prospective clients providing us with an outline brief of what they want from their garden and what's holding them back from

achieving this. Additionally, clients are encouraged to provide any photos, mood boards or plans that they may have. Step 2 is a follow up call to further understand the client's needs. At step 3 we carry out some desktop research based on what we know so far. Then, at step 4, we make a site visit. This is the opportunity to discuss the garden and for clients to fully utilise our experience and connections. Finally, step 5 is a follow up document that covers everything we talked about, with the intention that the clients have a full roadmap to take their garden project forward.

This consultancy is designed for everyone whether you have acres of land or a postage stamp, we hope to use our knowledge to set you on the right path to getting your dream garden. For more information take a look at our website.



### ***Late-Season Stars***

This month we wanted to profile those early late summer perennials that burst into life, just when you think the garden is on the wane. Once the

roses have had their day and the geranium have returned to a mound of green, these late comers bring new life to the garden, often staying with us throughout August and into September.

1. **Perovskia atriciplifolia** – heavily scented and abundant with blue flowers, this upright sub-shrub, often referred to as Russian sage, is a constant in our planting schemes. Beloved of pollinators, it will flower for the next three months before turning bone-white and skeletal through winter.
2. **Rudbeckia subtomentosa 'Henry Eilers'** – much like the more commonly known black-eyed Susans, 'Henry Eilers' is a sunshine burst of yellow, standing tall above the other perennials. However, unlike its more commonly known cousins, this corolla has narrow petals reminiscent of the eyelashes on a raggedy Ann doll. One thing to be wary of, however, is that they tend to revert to the typical flat-petaled form of the species in year 2, so enjoy it while it lasts!
3. **Solidago rugosa 'Fireworks'** – An aptly named perennial that springs to life in August. Solidago or 'Goldenrod' gives your borders a real show as well as perfectly complimenting Perovskia.
4. **Hydrangea paniculata 'Vanille Fraise'** – 'Vanille Fraise' is a stunning, hardy shrub prized for its large, conical flower clusters that transition from creamy white to soft pink and deep strawberry red. Unlike its sterile cousins the mophead Hydrangeas, these panicle Hydrangeas are great for the bees.
5. **Verbena hastata** – blue vervain is a wonderful and abundant, upright perennial with tall spikes of vibrant purple-blue flowers. A great plant for those on a tight budget as you only need to plant one because the following year it'll pop up everywhere.

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