

## **Gardeners' Question Time**

In this special edition of Gardeners' Question Time we celebrate Easter and new growth etc, etc, etc and visit a community garden which has triumphed over problems like carrots that refuse to grow. ('Why should we?' says a defiant carrot. 'You can get them in a supermarket anyway.') And blueberries that turned out to be red. ('They were strawberries stupid!').

To answer your questions we have Monty Don and his 3 dogs, Nellie, a Golden Retriever, Patti, a Yorkshire Terrier and Ned, another Golden Retriever puppy, all of whom help to keep the ratings up for 'Gardeners' World' on a Friday night now that Nigel is sadly no longer with us.

And our first question please from a Mr. Kenneth Williams:

I grew a great big marrow for the local farmers' show. I've never seen one as big as that before. It must be two foot long or even more. It's such a lovely colour, so nice and round and fat. I've never seen a marrow that grew as big as that. Is it a record?

Ignore that question. How did he get on the programme? Next question comes from a Mrs. Daisy Green:

With a notable date in the calendar coming up soon can anyone suggest something to grow to commemorate this important event?

Nellie: What important (woof) event is this?

Monty: I think she is referring to Donald Trump going to prison. I would suggest anything orange would be in keeping, marigolds, some of the poppies and there is a nice new rose out this season called 'Stormy Daniels'. That might be a lovely addition to the herbaceous bed, I mean border.

Nellie: Woof! Woof!

Thank you Monty and Nellie. And our next question please:

I am having problems with my drooping ivy. It is meant to go up but keeps going down if you see what I mean.

Will some one get him off the show NOW please. And our next question is from a Mrs. Lucrezia Borgia of Rome. Nice to hear from our international listeners:

Can you suggest any plants to grow that are colourless, odourless, tasteless, highly toxic and will thrive unnoticed in a small family garden. And I'm asking on behalf of a friend.

Monty: You could try Aconite.

Patti: Or Deadly Nightshade

Ned: Or Hemlock.

Monty: Why do you want to know this?

Mrs. Borgia: No reason. Just asking.

Next question please:

Ms. S. Daniels: 'I have a little border on one wall of the house and do not know what to plant there. Can you suggest anything for a bit on the side:

Monty: Take him to the cleaners love and squeeze him for every penny you can get.

And our next question?

Mr. Jeremy Hunt. Chancellor of the Exchequer. In these troubled times of financial hardship, fuel poverty, inflation etc, etc, etc and the b\*\*\*\*y unions never satisfied can you suggest something to grow that might help me out?

Ned: I could suggest a Money Tree but they don't apparently exist. You could try a four-leaf clover but the odds of finding one of those are 10,000 to one so you might be better concentrating on fiscal prudence and taxing the rich. Woof! Woof!

Mr. Jeremy Hunt: Oh, I can't do that, it would cost us the next election.

Nellie and Patti: Woof, woof, growl, growl. (Roughly translated this means *you've already lost it chum*. Source: Lord Starmer of Keir and Westminster.)

And a final question please from a Mr. A.Z. Whom we cannot name for legal reasons:

Can you suggest a plant that would grow in limited space on a 3 storey barge off the Dorset coast? 500 people will be living there and we will not be able to go shopping for anything like plant pots or potting compost as we are not allowed off the ship. So I need ideas for a balcony environment.

Monty: Another vote loser if you ask me. Or it might be a vote winner if you don't live on the Dorset coast.

Well I am afraid we have come to the end of this edition of GQT and.....

Could someone give me some support with my wilting clematis. It is supposed to stand up without any assistance and....