



**APRIL 2004**

## **AUSTRALIA HAS DESIGNS ON CHELSEA SUCCESS**

The first Australian show garden will compete with the world's best at the famous Chelsea Flower Show in the UK during May 25 - 28.

The garden, known as ***Fleming's Nurseries Australian Inspiration*** is a collaboration between **Fleming's Nurseries**, landscape designer **Jim Fogarty** and **Semken Landscaping**.

The garden is an adaptation of Jim Fogarty's multi-award-winning design, judged 'Best In Show' at the 2003 Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show.

The emphasis is on the exotic, inspired by a wealth of Australian influences. Firewood stack walls, rammed earth retaining walls, rusted steel, oiled slabs of River Red Gum and natural stone combine with exotic foliage. A mini-orb feature wall and rusted steel back wall give the feeling of 'the bush'. And what would an Aussie garden be without a BBQ?

The result is a perfect extension of living space for a small backyard, a useable 'outdoor room', that reflects the feel of an Australian garden - perfect for relaxing, cooking, eating, entertaining and working.

Director of Fleming's Nurseries, Wes Fleming says taking part in the Chelsea Flower Show will help lift the profile of landscape and horticulture in Australia and communicate the skill, vision and quality of the Australian industry to rest of the world.

"We have world champions across many sporting endeavours and Australia is a leader in many industries. The Chelsea Flower Show provides another platform for Australians to show how good we are on the biggest stage of all.

"*Australian Inspiration* is the most significant development to take place in Australian horticulture. Being accepted to take part in Chelsea with an all-Australian team is a massive result for the local industry."

*Fleming's Nurseries Australian Inspiration* has provided a logistical challenge. All the materials, other than the plants, are being shipped from Australia. This includes tools used in the construction of the garden – including wheelbarrows made by a local Melbourne manufacturer!

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“Visitors to Chelsea will be left in no doubt about the source of our display. Even the rammed earth retaining wall will be made by an Australian craftsman, who’ll fly to the UK to build the wall from English ‘Ironstone’ in a traditional Australian manner,” Wes Fleming said.

The entire construction crew is an all-Australian line-up and team members leave Melbourne in late April and early May to prepare for the Chelsea Flower Show, which opens on May 25.

[www.australianinspiration.com.au](http://www.australianinspiration.com.au)

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