

EAST DEVON COAST & COUNTRY

visits

THE LOOKOUT

at Lymestone



If, like myself, you enjoy wandering around gardens, The Lookout at Lymestone will provide you with a real visual feast.

Owner Jackie Michelmores opens her garden annually to participate in the National Garden Scheme which helps raise money for charities including Macmillan Nurses, Marie Currie and Hospice Care.

The Lookout was originally the site of a mussel purification station which the Ministry of Health developed in 1923, with a view to helping local shell fishermen deal with the estuary pollution. Following a chequered history, Jackie and Will Michelmores purchased the site in 2000 which was in a very sad state, with most of the original limestone sea wall missing and progressive land erosion being evident.

Reinstating the sea defenses was a massive and very necessary task which took over a year and 1000 lorry loads in order to achieve stabilisation. Only once this was achieved, could work on the house and garden begin. This blank canvas provided a major challenge for Jackie, not least because the salt laden winds that would undoubtedly take a harsh toll on plant life.

The results speak for themselves, when I visited in mid May, I was struck by the sheer beauty of the situation, with unhindered





views directly across the estuary. The whole development of both house and gardens was totally harmonious with the coastal situation. It has a very laid-back, Robinson Crusoe feel which I found delightful.

Once you've recovered from the beautiful views and amble around the garden, you begin to appreciate the attention to detail in planting and design. I have to take my hat off to Jackie, she's achieved a real garden triumph. Don't miss the opportunity to view The Lookout this summer - see right.

Nigel Jones (Editor)

NGS Open Garden
THE LOOKOUT

Friday 17th June 2-5pm
Sunday 19th June 2-6pm

Will & Jackie Michelmore open their garden at Sowden Lane, Lympstone.

Cream teas, plant sale, photographic display.
£3.50, children free, sorry no dogs.

If you wish to contact Jackie at Lookout Landscapes, you can email: jm@lookoutlandscapes.co.uk

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