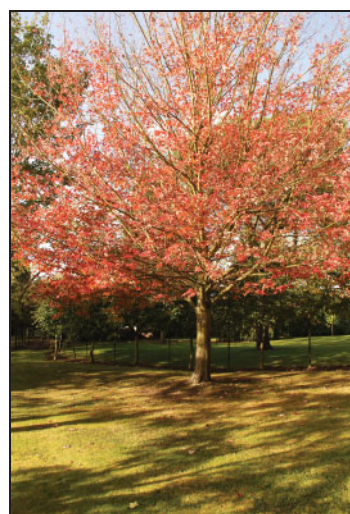


GARDEN NOTES - AUTUMN 2011

We seem to be falling very slowly into autumn this year with no frosts as yet and little wind of any note. Most of the trees are holding on to their autumn colour. I say most because a few trees have shed their leaves quickly due to the continuing drought that the south east of the country is still in the grip of.

This year, both gardeners (Andrew Swales & Paul Baynes) have been watering heavily two days a week.



Predominantly the new plantings on our top field being a small collection of rare Quercus (Oaks) and our duplicate collection of Taxodiums (Bald Cypress). Even some of our mature trees have needed copious amounts of water to help them survive.█



Quercus Rubra and Quercus Coccinea Splendens. The Scarlet Oak, leading the line for the oaks.

For me personally, the ones to watch for are an Oak, Quercus Texana (Nutans Oak), a new planting on our top field with stunning red leaves and an old favourite, the Parrotia Persica (Persian Ironwood), native to the East Caucasus, North Iran – truly a kaleidoscope of autumn colour.



Our autumn Open Day in aid of the National Gardens Scheme raised some £550 for the charity and 157 visitors enjoyed a guided tour around the Beale Arboretum. We have now been opening the Arboretum for over 30 years.

A new additional overflow car park for our visitors proved very useful on the Open Day and has room for over 40 vehicles around the helipad on the driest part of the top field.

If you are interested in planting a commemorative tree in the grounds during this summer or autumn, perhaps to celebrate the life of a loved one, or for a special occasion, please contact myself on

grantcook@bealeshotels.co.uk or 07973 538254

If you are interested in putting together a group for a guided tour of the Beale Arboretum, please contact Beverley Doidge or Marcia Brimson on headoffice@bealeshotels.co.uk or 0208 216 3904. Tours are free of charge midweek and £2.50 per person at the weekend.