



Garden notes

NAME Paul and Wendy Jefferies
ADDRESS Resting Laurels, 14 Chine Walk, Ferndown, Dorset BH22 8PU
SIZE OF GARDEN ¾ acre
VISITED April
ASPECT Various aspects, including south facing vegetable patch and south west facing patio
SOIL Sandy
SPECIAL FEATURES Immaculate lawns, mature trees, carefully clipped shrubs, pond, fruit trees and organic kitchen garden with spring and autumn colour



Positive energy abounds in Paul and Wendy Jefferies' tranquil Dorset garden

PAUL AND Wendy Jefferies knew their search for a new home had come to an end as soon as they set eyes on the garden at Resting Laurels. While parts of it (like the laurel boundary hedge) were a little overgrown the couple, who are both practising yoga, tai chi, massage and body work therapists, were convinced the plot contained all the elements for creating an oasis of positive energy. and calm.

"I just fell in love with the garden – I saw it as a great foundation," says Paul. And it seems their visiting clients agree. "Many of the people who now come for treatment ask if they can go and sit outside in the garden afterwards," explains Wendy. "It's a great spot to relax and regenerate."

One of the hallmarks of Resting Laurels is the

immaculate grass, which is regularly mown, dressed, edged and watered to ensure it is a picture of perfection – a far cry from the bumpy lawns that greeted the couple when they arrived five years ago. These have been replaced with hardwearing bent fescue grass, which they maintain with the

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help of a retired green keeper from the nearby Parkstone Golf Club. Amazingly, the swards show no signs

of the couple's three dogs, which have been trained to use discreet pea shingle paths in-between walks.

A key feature of the garden is the way in which many of the shrubs have been carefully clipped into gently rounded shapes, ranging from sentry-like *Viburnum tinus* either side of the patio steps, to a semi-circular box hedge in which Paul likes to practise his tai

LAWN BENEFITS

Shrubs in the garden at Resting Laurels, including several that were already there when the Jefferies moved in, have been carefully clipped over the years into neat rounded shapes. Meanwhile overhanging branches on mature trees have been pruned back to ensure the lawn benefits from plenty of light.