

Episode 170 show notes and advice

Episode description

The 4th of May marks a very special day at Perch Hill, particularly this year - it's 30 years since Sarah and Adam first arrived and started making history here.

Perch Hill looks so vastly different to how it began in 1994, as it's taken shape over the decades, and in this week's 'grow, cook, eat, arrange' Sarah & Adam share stories from their time here so far, the many phases that Perch Hill has seen, and how the garden in particular has developed.

In this episode, discover:

- How Sarah discovered Perch Hill, and the charming experiences that endeared Adam to it
- The state in which Sarah & Adam found the garden, and first steps towards bringing it to life in the way that we all know and love today
- Balancing abundance with structure, and chaos with tidiness through a lens of biodiversity

Sarah & Adam's discovery of Perch Hill (1:50)

When the pair first lived together it was at Sarah's house in London, a city lifestyle which Adam found particularly constraining. It was Sarah who first discovered Perch Hill, and once both saw the charm of the nearby scenery giving off the feeling of ancient countryside, it was a perfect pairing.

The state of the garden on arrival (8:05)

Sarah recalls the garden before it had seen the care of her horticultural hands - it was overwhelmingly blue with self-seeded Forget Me Nots and Bluebells in the nearby woods.

Perch Hill's next phase of getting everything in order (13:20)

Adam and Sarah see the evolution of Perch Hill in a number of phases, the latest of which Adam still believes that we're in! They desired to 'get everything in order', which for the garden is a challenge of finding a balance between abundance and structure.

Curating the plant life for biodiversity has guided our hand for a great many years now, and Adam makes special mention of the heartwarming feeling that comes from those who visit on open days, mouth agape at the wonders that have emerged from the 30 years of care so far.