

Garden designer Tom Stuart-Smith is probably best known to EBTS members for his *Homage to Le Nôtre*, his third Gold Winner at Chelsea, 2000. (Pictured right). As Tom is always considered to be rather classic in style, I was fascinated to come across his uncompromisingly modern design at Broughton Grange, Oxfordshire. On three levels, with wide-ranging views over the landscape, the lines are clean cut with a stone lined rill on the top terrace that carries water to a pool on the second. Innovative use of topiary that particularly delighted me was the contrast between a population of neatly clipped beech pillars surmounted with balls (described by Tom as having 'an anthropomorphic presence') standing knee high in a mass of perennial plantings and grasses. The other was the abstract knot garden on the lower terrace. The pattern is satisfyingly derived from the cellular leaf structures of the oak, ash and beech that surround it. **Caroline Foley**

Broughton Grange opens this year under the National Garden Scheme June 26th, and September 11th.

*'Homage to le Notre'
Chelsea 2000*



Photos by Andrew Lawson

Winter view of clipped beech amongst perennial plantings, Broughton Grange



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