

THE SILVER GARDEN

Every item in this range is based on an actual tool, the originals being found in a variety of places. Some belonged to Sheila's father and date from the 30's, others belonged to Malcolm's father or grandfather, the family being involved in horticulture in Kent from the 19th century until 1954. Some were found in the shed of an elderly neighbour, others at the Rural Life Museum at Tilford, Surrey or at Ingatestone Hall, Essex.



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Sheila Holness
Designs

THE SILVER GARDEN

A collection of miniature
garden tools (1/12 scale) in
Sterling silver



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WILLOW CONE”

Hand-constructed; the uprights are set into a holding base whilst the bottom ring is woven into place, then carefully extracted for adjustments to be made before soldering. Each successive ring is woven and soldered and finally a runner bean is “grown” around the cone.



SPADE FORK

The spade and fork are both modelled on originals from a pre-war Kent orchard owned by Malcolm’s grandfather. Both are cast.



PLANT

The cast leaves are soldered individually on to a wire stem, which in turn is soldered into a cast base (this will fit neatly into the large pot), then the cast 9ct flower is soldered on to the stem, before the completed plant is polished.



WHEELBARROW

Modelled on a barrow of 1950’s vintage, the body and wheel are cast and the handles are hand made. After hallmarking, the body is polished with tripoli before the handles are soldered on. The whole is then polished, through 3 stages, and finally the wheel is riveted into place.



SHEARS

Modelled on a pair of 1930’s wooden-handled shears belonging to Sheila’s father, these are cast, polished and then riveted together so that they move.



SCYTHE

Cast, modelled on an old scythe found in a sale, now much in use in our 3/4 acre garden.



WATERING CAN

Modelled on a 1930’s galvanised original found in a neighbour’s garden shed, the watering can is cast.



HOE RAKE

The rake and hoe are cast, each of the originals dating from the 1930’s, coming from Malcolm’s father and probably, before that, from the Kent orchard.



SUSSEX RAKE £45

Cast, modelled on a traditional Sussex Rake made by Trevor Austin, who was still making them until 2002, when he was forced to stop working by ill-health. Our rake is in constant use.



TRUG

The trug is cast from an original which was constructed in silver, in the traditional manner, after watching a trug-maker at work - who was himself taught by a lady now in her 90’s. The authentic, traditional wooden trug.



HANDFORK TROWEL

Cast, again modelled from originals found among Malcolm’s father’s tools, probably from Kent.



BESOM BROOM

50 silver twigs, bound on to a sharpened handle - just as the real ones are made - and soldered into place. The handle and binding wires are polished, then the twigs are pulled into shape and trimmed, after scrubbing with pumice powder.



PLANTPOT - SMALL

Cast, modelled in silver from a clay original.



PLANTPOT - LARGE

THIS IS THE ONE WHICH FITS THE PLANT!



£25
£25

£25

£20
£20

£8
£8

£7

£8