

Tutorials on gardening and flowers

[My Real Garden](#)



Ann Marie Powell is teaching from her own garden

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The best online tutorials, tours and courses to become a better gardener in lockdown

Need expert advice, want to learn new skills or go on a virtual visit? Enter a burgeoning online world that's just a click away

By Clare Coulson
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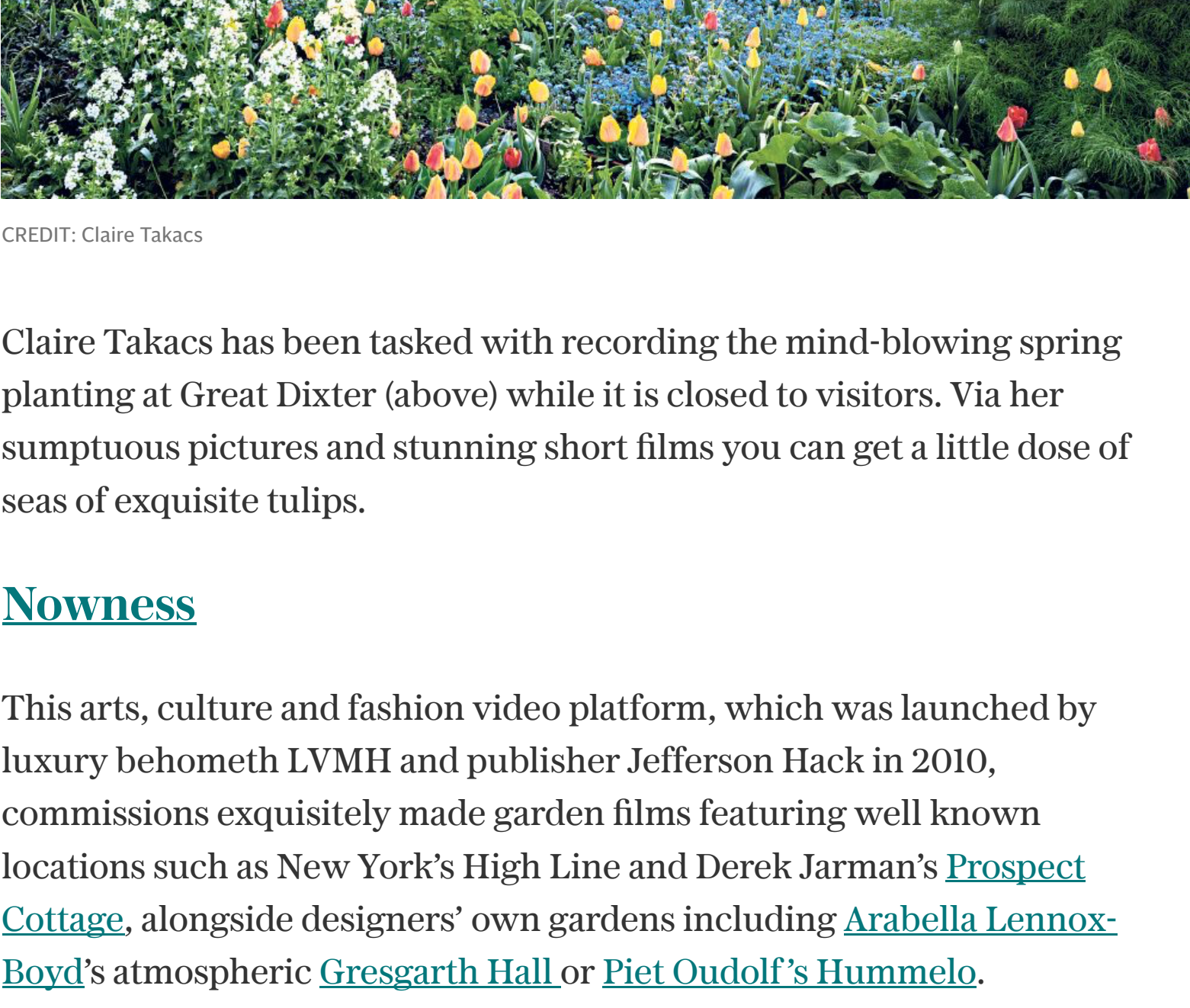
Log on, hone skills: Anna Greenland, pictured, former head gardener at Soho Farmhouse, teaches online | CREDIT: Mark Diacono

With no gardens to visit or nurseries to browse, dipping into all things horticultural online is proving to be a lifeline as we all stay at home. Whether you are starting from scratch with a veg plot, learning a new skill online or virtually visiting gardens, many growers, nurseries and gardens are responding with video tours, daily updates, special tutorials or paid-for courses to keep us all inspired.

Garden visits and lectures

Great Dixter

[@clairetakacs](#) and [@greatdixterofficial](#)



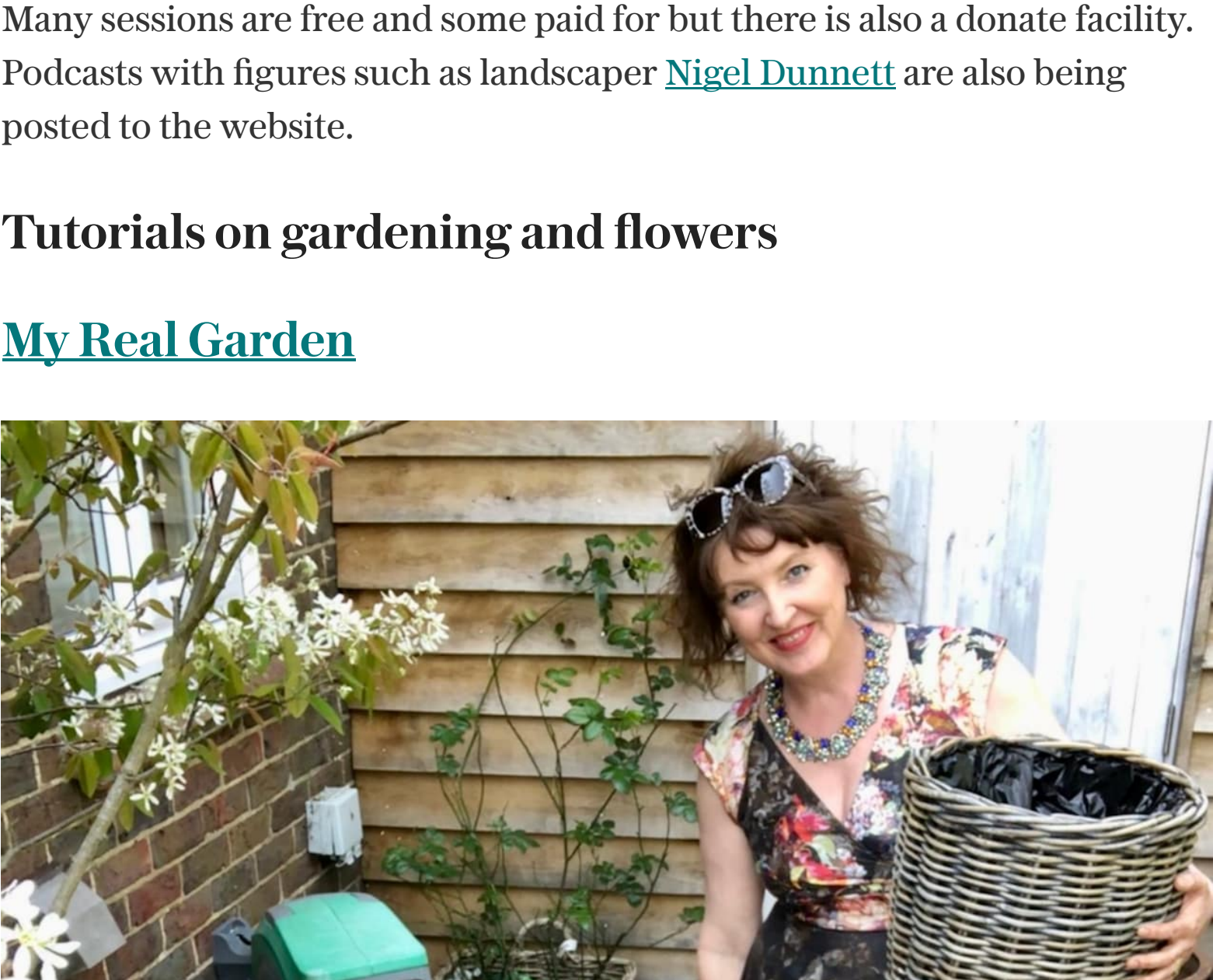
CREDIT: Claire Takacs

Claire Takacs has been tasked with recording the mind-blowing spring planting at Great Dixter (above) while it is closed to visitors. Via her sumptuous pictures and stunning short films you can get a little dose of seeds of exquisite tulips.

Nowness

This arts, culture and fashion video platform, which was launched by luxury behemoth LVMH and publisher Jefferson Hack in 2010, commissions exquisitely made garden films featuring well known locations such as New York's High Line and Derek Jarman's [Prospect Cottage](#), alongside designers' own gardens including [Arabella Lennox Boyd's](#) atmospheric [Gresgarth Hall](#) or [Piet Oudolf's Hummelo](#).

Garden Masterclass



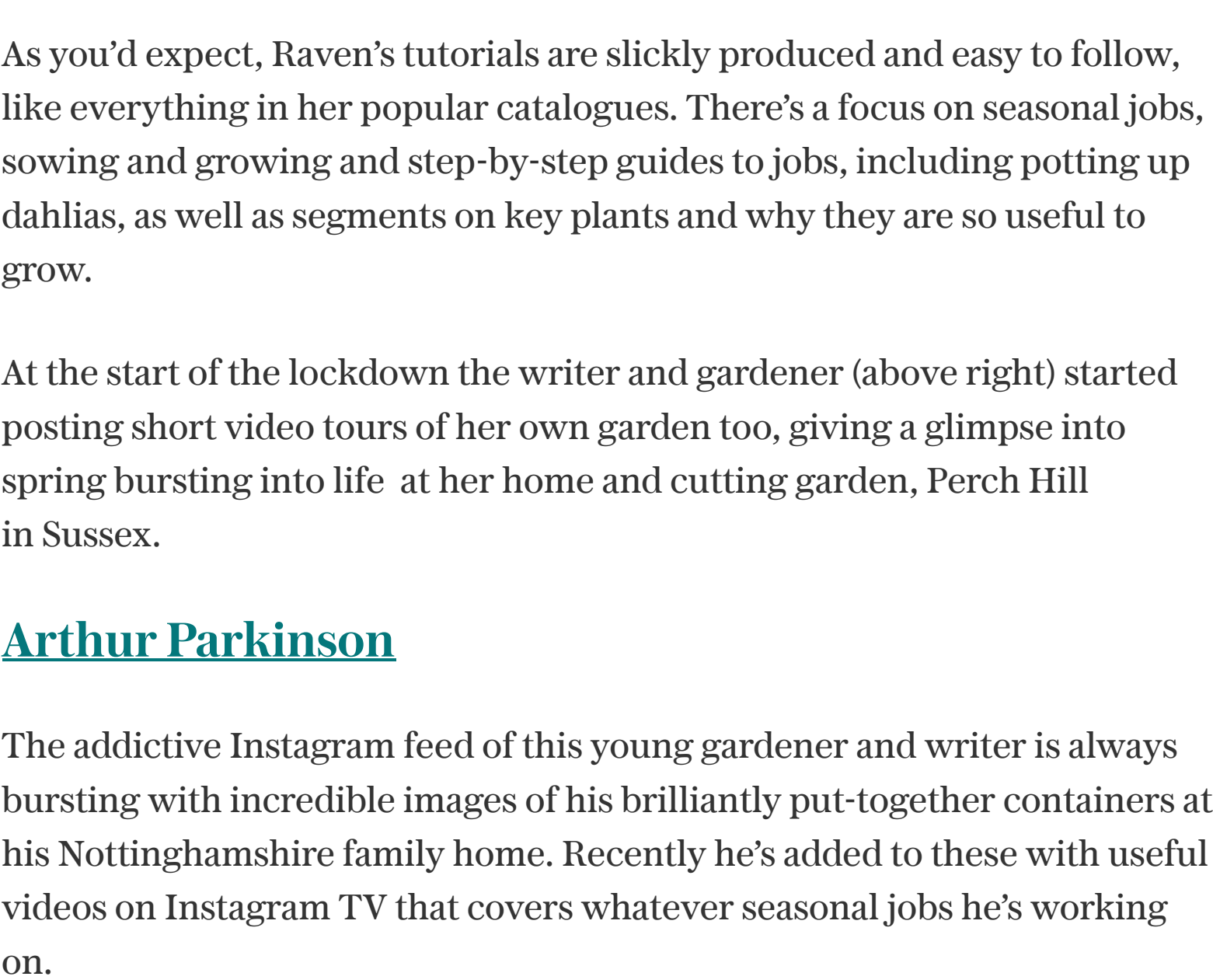
Grower and writer Mark Diacono is one of many experts that will be interviewed for Garden Masterclass | CREDIT: Jason Ingram

Annie Guilloyle and Noel Kingsbury's series of one-day masterclasses with leading landscapers and growers has gone online. Every afternoon at 4pm there is a live interview with a guest from a stellar line up of interviewees including [Tom Stuart Smith](#), [Jimi Blake](#) and grower/writer [Mark Diacono](#).

You can watch it live via Zoom or catch up afterwards via the website. Many sessions are free and some paid for but there is also a donate facility. Podcasts with figures such as landscaper [Nigel Dunnett](#) are also being posted to the website.

Tutorials on gardening and flowers

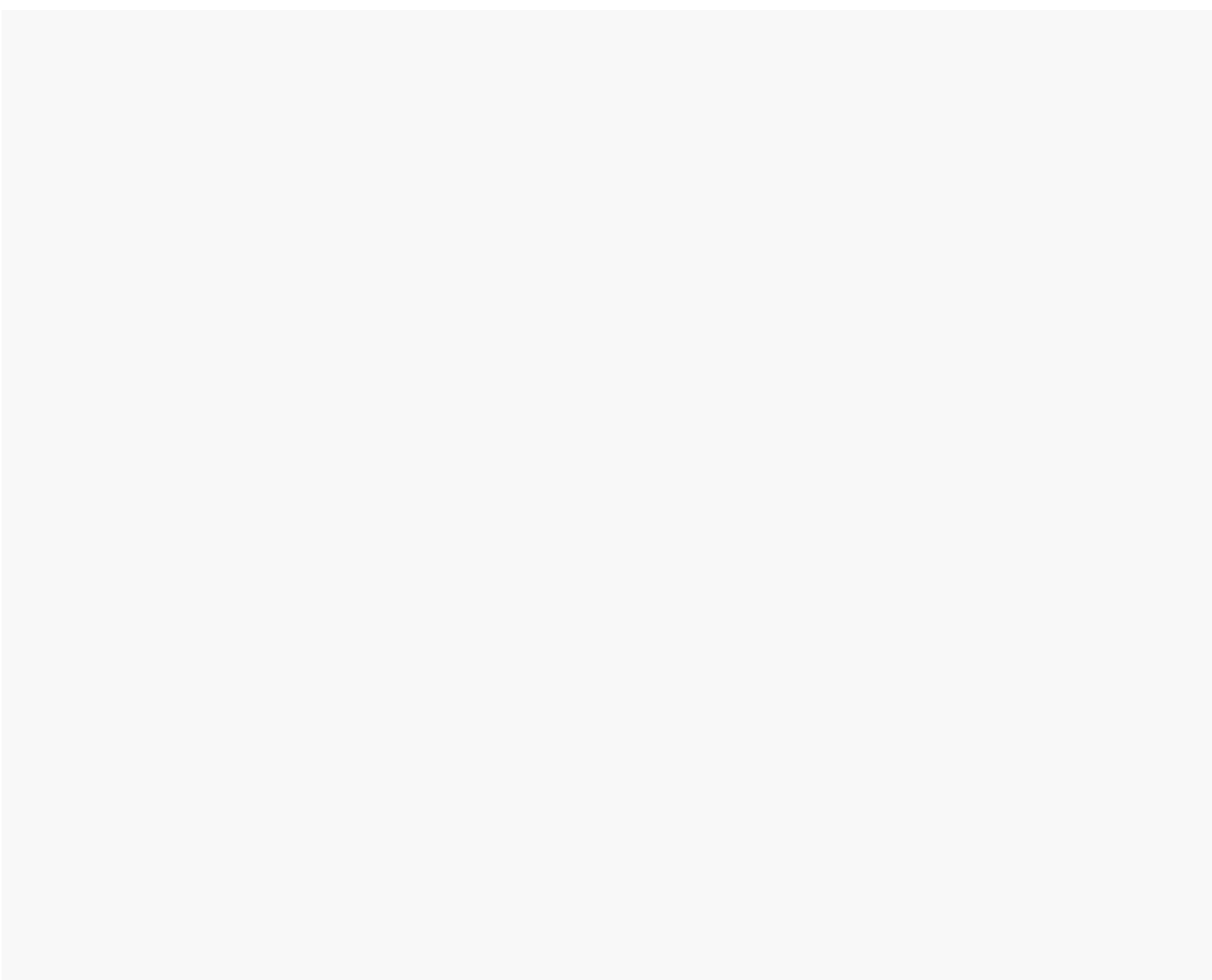
My Real Garden



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Sarah Raven



Garden expert Sarah Raven will be conducting video tutorials throughout lockdown | CREDIT: Jonathan Buckley

As you'd expect, Raven's tutorials are slickly produced and easy to follow, like everything in her popular catalogues. There's a focus on seasonal jobs, sowing and growing and step-by-step guides to jobs, including potting up dahlias, as well as segments on key plants and why they are so useful to grow.

At the start of the lockdown the writer and gardener (above right) started posting short video tours of her own garden too, giving a glimpse into spring bursting into life at her home and cutting garden, Perch Hill in Sussex.

Arthur Parkinson

The addictive Instagram feed of this young gardener and writer is always bursting with incredible images of his brilliantly put-together containers at his Nottinghamshire family home. Recently he's added to these with useful videos on Instagram TV that covers whatever seasonal jobs he's working on.

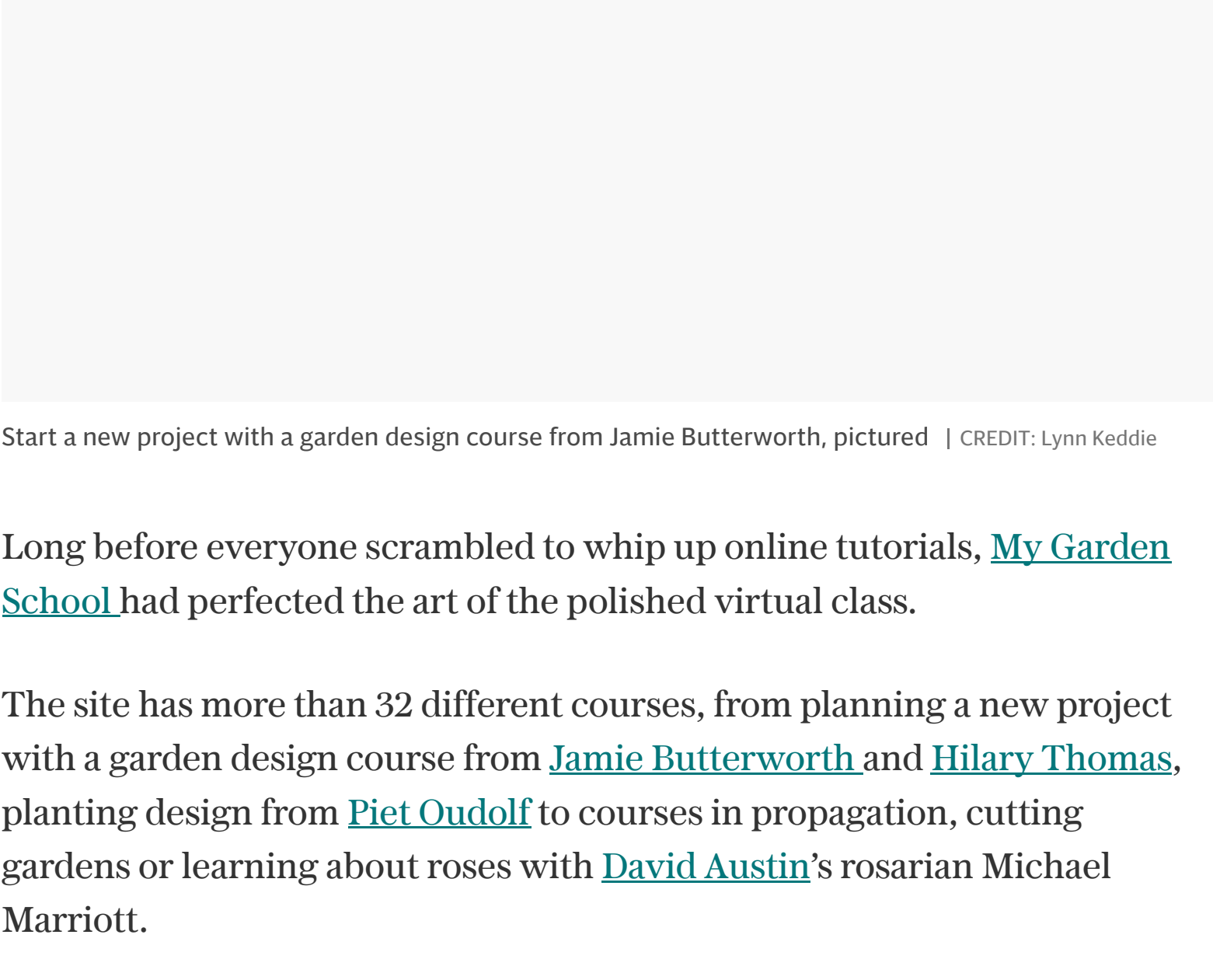
Parkinson is very approachable and he's also extremely thrifty and full of great tips on how to create an abundant garden on a shoestring budget.

National Garden Scheme

Owners of gardens that open for the [National Garden Scheme](#) have quickly rallied to film their gardens in lieu of physical visits. Every fortnight there will be a longer, in-depth garden tour and each Thursday there will be a new release of shorter films and seasonal tutorials. You can sign up to receive a weekly newsletter that contains all relevant links for new films.

Veg tutorials

Huw's Nursery



Author Huw Richards knows a thing or two about growing food for free | CREDIT: Jason Ingram

Amazingly the Welsh wunderkind Huw Richards, author of [Yeg in One Bed](#) and [Grow Food for Free](#) doesn't yet have his own prime time TV show but he does have a hugely successful YouTube channel, [Huw's Nursery](#), which he began aged 12.

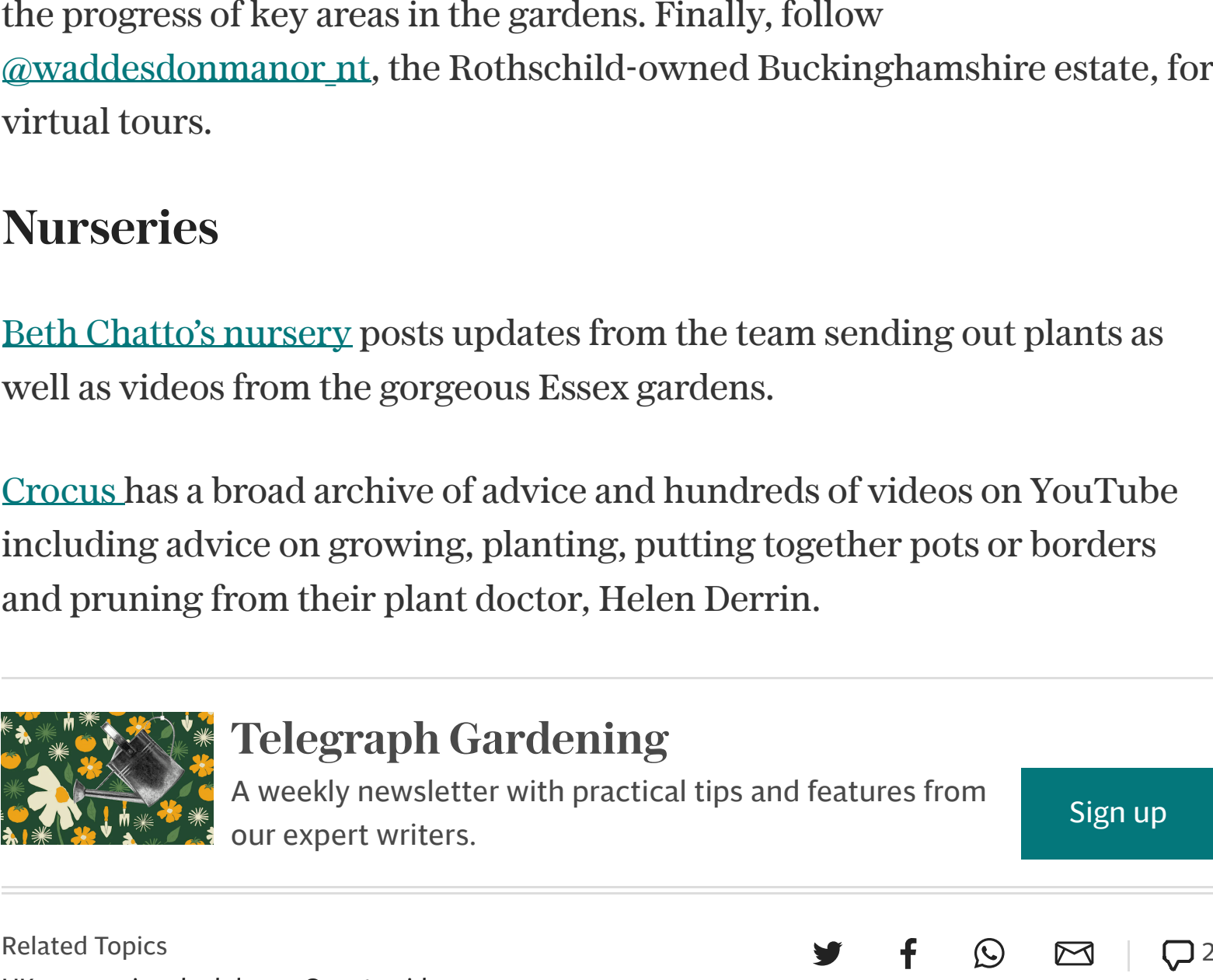
From his plot in Ceredigion, mid west Wales, he shares his organic veg growing wisdom that will work on any scale and always with a thrifty bent, including making plant labels from yogurt pots and making pallet compost bins for a few pounds.

Charles Dowding

As the guru of no-dig gardening and a market gardener of 38 years, [Charles Dowding](#) has a wealth of knowledge and an immaculate and productive plot to prove it.

There's a lot of information on the no-dig method on his website, including free videos, but for a more intensive grounding there are online courses which can be bought separately or together covering the fundamentals of this approach - the first no-dig gardening course has 19 lessons and 28 videos covering soils, trials, laying out a garden, weeds, compost and harvesting. Once bought, you have lifetime access to them.

My Garden School



Start a new project with a garden design course from Jamie Buttenworth, pictured | CREDIT: Lynn Keddie

Long before everyone scrambled to whip up online tutorials, [My Garden School](#) had perfected the art of the polished virtual class.

The site has more than 32 different courses, from planning a new project with a garden design course from [Jamie Buttenworth](#) and [Hilary Thomas](#), planting design from [Piet Oudolf](#) to courses in propagation, cutting gardens or learning about roses with [David Austin's](#) rosarian Michael Marriot.

There are also eight certified courses from the [RHS](#) and courses on foraging with Miles Irving, who supplies Heston Blumenthal and The Ivy with his products. Recently the site has added specialist courses on edibles from the kitchen garden school at [Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons](#) and [River Cottage](#). From £29.

Anna Greenland

The organic gardener spent three years running the vegetable garden at [Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons](#) and has also worked as head gardener at [Soho Farmhouse](#). From her Suffolk garden she creates a Back to Your Roots series of videos on Instagram with an emphasis on veg growing from scratch.

Lovely Greens

American-born Tanya Anderson moved to the Isle of Man a decade ago and began her organic allotment plot. Since then she has posted an amazing archive of videos that cover growing herbs, vegetables, fruit and keeping bees as well as making natural beauty products using plants from the garden.

Her tutorials are polished, well edited and informative; videos are posted weekly on Sunday evenings.

Gardens on Instagram

Many gardens that are normally open are posting regular updates via short films and images.

Arundel Castle has 80,000 tulips in full bloom during the annual Arundel Castle Tulp | CREDIT: Christopher Pedgler

Keep track of the unfolding tulip season at Arundel Castle via a new microsite, [tulipfestival.co.uk](#). Follow [@westdean gardens](#) to see the season progress and take in head gardener Tom Brown's posts on seasonal garden jobs or [@ewgardens](#), where Ursula Cholmeley posts short videos showing the progress of key areas in the gardens. Finally, follow [@waddesdonmanor_ni](#), the Rothschild-owned Buckinghamshire estate, for virtual tours.

Nurseries

[Beth Chatto's nursery](#) posts updates from the team sending out plants as well as videos from the gorgeous Essex gardens.

[Crocus](#) has a broad archive of planting and hundreds of videos on YouTube including advice on growing, advice, putting together pots or borders and pruning from their plant doctor, Helen Derrin.

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