## emotional ties

Royal Horticultural Society ambassador and herb expert **Jekka McVicar** on glug jugs and gold medals

I won the RHS Lawrence Medal [awarded by senior judges for best in show] for my last floral exhibit at Chelsea in 2009. It was a first for organic plants and herbs. Even though I've won 62 RHS Gold Medals, this was a huge honour!



I'm a scruffy urchin by nature, but I have invested in some beautiful coats by Designer Weaving Company for events, such as **RHS** Chelsea Flower Show. They make me look so smart - and you can't see the

mud underneath!





My father owned a glug jug, which was only used on special occasions such as the Ribena we had after my 11-Plus exam. I was fascinated by the wonderful noise it made as a child. Now I have my own collection.

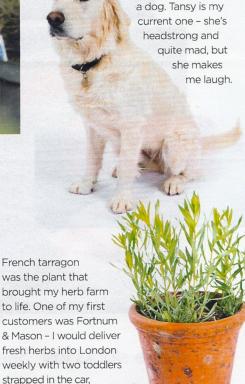




In the early 70s I was part of a band called Marsupilami - I was the flautist and the only woman. We played at the first Glastonbury, and at the Isle of Wight festival alongside Bob Dylan. I look at these record sleeves and cringe - but it was my university of life!

Over the years, I've always

had the company of



■ Jekka will appear at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show from 24-28 May. The Complete Book of Vegetables, Herbs and Fruit by Jekka McVicar, Matthew Biggs and Bob Flowerdew (Kyle Books, £30\*) will be published on 25 August

chewing paperwork.