



**ACORN
NURSERY**

PLANTS - GIFTS - CAFE

TONY'S TIPS

MAY

April has been mostly warm and very wet and the gardens are loving it. May is mostly a mild month with good warmth in the soil so there is still time to do planting of flower and vegie seedlings and get them established before Winter kicks in later in June. More cool climate plants will be coming through this month including new season Hellebores, more varieties of Camellia japonica, more natives and Proteaceae plants and new edible plants. When we were at the Flower and Garden Show in March our display featured a range of new edible plants and flowers from Oasis. The most popular plant was the Carrot Herb; a carrot flavoured herb ideal to use as a garnish on soups, salads and casseroles. Also popular were the edible flowers of pansies and snapdragons as an ornamental, edible garnish as well as the new Kale Sprout (a Kale plant featuring Brussel type sprouts on its stems).

THINGS TO DO IN MAY

- Treat lawns for invading weeds, either Winter Grass Killer or Buffalo Pro for non-grass weeds.
- Plant foxglove seedlings to allow for enough establishment time for best flowering in Spring.
- Feed your citrus, gardenias, Buffalo lawns in particular now to fatten up for winter but take advantage of all this lovely rain and feed most things with organic based (gentle) fertilisers
- Watch out for Azalea lace bug on Azaleas- use Confidor.
- Watch out for citrus leaf miner on new growth of citrus- Pest Oil.
- Plant onions, lettuces and spinach from seed or seedlings of the same plus all the cabbage, cauli, broccoli, kale etc from seedlings.

NEW SEASON HELLEBORUS

We increase our range of Helleborus with the long flowering Penny's Pink and Wendy's White this month. Both flower from June to September, look great planted together, grow well in difficult positions under trees and will brighten up your winter.



NEW SEASON CAMELLIAS

Sasanqua Camellias are looking great but new hybrids are starting to flower in May; in particular Camellia With Love is a lovely double pink fragrant variety that



is able to withstand a good amount of sun & shade. Volunteer is a very robust, hardy variety with masses of fully double red & white bicour flowers over a long period. I have heard Volunteer flowers described as bold, busy, brash & beautiful. Both varieties have been proven to be strong & reliable. Like all Camellias the secret is in the planting & good soil conditioning. Look around the neighbourhood & see how good the Camellias at this time when all else is going Wintry.



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BEST AUTUMN COLOUR GARDEN TREES

1. Crepe Myrtles- all are good- Sioux is brilliant!
2. Japanese maples; all grafted varieties, particularly Osakazuki
3. Manchurian Pear; still very reliable
4. Acer rubrum - Canadian Maples - Best non problematic large tree for suburban garden with amazing autumnal colour.
5. Malus ioensis plena-has been spectacular in the gardens.

May is the month for Mums and the gift shop is bursting with gorgeous gifts to give on Mother's Day.

Our new Flora and Fauna Collection from the Royal Horticultural Society is perfect for garden loving Mums. Choose from gloves, kneeling pads, watering cans and gardening accessories in this beautiful print.



Our spa inspired range of Salus products have 2 excellent gift packs available. Choose from the 'Lustrous Trio' - Hand Cream, Soap and Lip Balm or the 'Luminous Duo' - Body Wash and Body Oil. Both packs represent a very generous saving.

You could also spoil Mum with one of our luxurious cashmere ponchos. All colours are now back in stock. This versatile poncho is made from 100% pure Mongolian cashmere and can be worn 5 different ways making it the ideal garment for all year round.

With so many things to choose from, come in and let us help you select the perfect gift. We'll also wrap it beautifully for you.

We look forward to seeing you soon in the gift shop...

Melissa, Janine, Viv, Paula and Emma

