



Grasmere
Garden
Village



GRASMERE GARDENS GAZETTE

DECEMBER 2017

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JOBS TO BE DOING IN YOUR GARDEN THIS MONTH....

- Clear away debris and remaining leaves in the garden, this will remove the threat of hibernation of pests like Slugs and Snails.
- Start to clean out sheds and greenhouses. Fungal diseases can harbour in greenhouses if they aren't treated with fungicide. Try to keep a flow of air movement if possible- open a window through the day or run a small fan heater on a cool setting.
- Start thinking about what plants you would like to plant for next year. Be careful that you don't leave it too late as the more popular varieties may soon be out of stock.
- Avoid walking on the grass as much as possible this month.
- Tie bubble wrap or newspaper around taps as protection from the pesky Mr Jack Frost.
- Clean the leaves of houseplants with a drop milk or a proprietary leaf shine. With the low light levels at this time of year, they need all the help you can give them.
- Protect any slightly tender plants from frost, with straw or bracken tucked around the base, or with horticultural fleece on top when frost is forecast.
- Take care when spreading salts onto paths with flower beds growing at the side, too much salt can wash into the soil and cause damage to the plants.

HOW TO CARE FOR; YOUR FRESHLY CUT CHRISTMAS TREE

Did you know...? A freshly cut tree can consume up to a gallon of water in 24 hours! That's one thirsty tree!

- When you bring your lovely tree home, saw about 2 inches off the bottom of the trunk before setting the tree in water. When trees are cut, sap oozes out and seals the pores. By sawing off the 2 inches you are opening the pores and the tree will be able to absorb water. DO NOT whittle down the sides off the trunk as the sides are the most efficient at carrying water. If you can't cut 2 inches off, put the tree in boiling water and this will loosen the sap and open the pores.
- Fill the reservoir-type stand with water and never let the water level go beyond the base of the tree.
- Keep the tree away positioned away from radiators, fires and direct hot sunlight through windows.
- Most of all, enjoy your tree! Decorate with love and don't forget to add that all important Christmas sparkle!

CARING FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS HOUSEPLANTS

CYCLAMEN (LARGE) - RED/PINK/WHITE/BI-COLOURED/FRILLY

- The ideal temperature for Cyclamen is about 50oC/60oF.
- Cyclamen like bright light but not direct sunlight.
- Keep the compost moist at all times but NOT saturated as this will cause rotting.
- After flowering; reduce watering and stop feeding. Keep dry until midsummer. Repot using fresh compost burying the tuber to half its depth. Put in a cool, well-lit spot and keep the compost moist.



POINSETTIA-

- The ideal temperature for the family favourite poinsettia is between 55-60oF.
- The poinsettia loves the winter sunshine but must be protected from the summer sun if you would like to keep her until next Christmas.
- Water thoroughly- wait until compost is moderately dry before watering again. Water immediately if her leaves begin to wilt.
- Mist leaves when flowering.



HYACINTH & NARCISSUS - CHRISTMAS FLOWERING FORCED

- Hyacinth and Narcissi Bright light but not direct sunlight.
- Keep them away from draughts but not near the radiator or heater.
- Keep compost moist at all times.
- Feed with liquid fertiliser.
- Keep turning the pot so growth is even and provide support if they start to flop over.



PUT ON A SPREAD FOR OUR BELOVED BRITISH BIRDS!

We have a variety of different size packet in many different seed mixes, peanuts, suet pellets, fat balls, fat slabs, and meal worms. All for very reasonable prices ranging from £1.79 - £11.99. We also have a large selection of bird feeders including those which can be attached to your windows so you can watch your favourite birds up close!

DEAL OF THE MONTH!

3 FOR 2 ON BIRD FOOD (CHEAPEST ITEM FREE)