

NEWSLETTER

MEDICAL DETECTION DOGS OUR CHOSEN CHARITY OF 2016

Finnese Finnes

EASTER INSPIRATION, BEST BUYS AND ADVICE



Buckingham
We will donate Medical Monate Medical Monate of this plant to Detection Dogs

OUR LATEST EVENT CAUSED QUITE A SCION STIR!

LATE MARCH /
APRIL
2016 ISSUE

WHAT'

What's new this Spring, 12 Top Tips on Growing Organically, Celebrating Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, Seasonal Tasks around the Garden, Round-up of Our Event Weekend, Inspiration on Creating the Perfect Garden and much more. Now here's a fact; there are over 22 million gardens in the UK - that's an area the size of Somerset. However, the size of new plots is getting smaller. Land has become expensive so builders shoe-horn in as many properties as they can into new estates. This is a double-edged sword for the many families who want to live in one of these new houses yet still want to enjoy all the benefits of a decent garden space. As we've seen close to the Garden Centre in Buckingham there has been a major housing boom - over 700 new homes - and for most people their dream is to create a garden space, which includes flower borders, a lawn or artificial option, a small tree, a deck or paved area for entertaining and an area to stage your BBQ, table and chairs. This can be a challenge in any garden but don't worry we are here to help! Our gardens also come into their own when it comes to wildlife. Offering a refuge for our garden wildlife has never been so important. The declining numbers of honeybees and butterflies have fuelled a large interest in plant species that encourage and provide nectar to both insects. So, if you are planning to add some new plants over the busy spring planting period, do spare a thought for our fluttering and buzzing companions. We gardeners are definitely doing our bit for the plight of the honeybee, certainly more than the farmers, who rightly or wrongly, have removed masses of hedges.

Many of the popular Daisy family make excellent pollen rich recruits to add to the garden, so if you are planning to establish Aster, Gaillardia or Helenium, put these on your shopping list. By buying a few you will be helping the charity, Medical Detection Dogs, as this year we are giving 10p from the sale of each plant to them.



Enjoy your spring garden - whatever the weather!

Chris

SHOP NEWS: LEISURE, IRRIGATION & NEW RHS RANGE

SITTING COMFORTABLY? At the Garden Centre the seasons move along fast and we will soon be into our furniture season. This year will be our biggest year yet with the large range of furnture that will be available and on show in our Garden Centre. With companies such as Alexander Rose, Kettler, Rondeau Leisure and Ascalon there is something for everyone.

From inspiring ranges designed to make you feel at home in your garden with substantial choices from

Rondeau Leisure and Alexander Rose, to beautiful contemporary garden furniture from Kettler that will enhance and add luxury to all types of outdoor space whether it's a discreet shaded balcony or a large sun soaked patio.

Our most popular bench for CAZE





Kettler is our fastest selling range and with its simplistic mesh and rattan designs it will easily fit into any style garden and with our easy step by step guide you can create a set to suit your needs including parasols and cushions to match. On offer this year is the stylish Jarvis rattan recliner and footstool, buy two recliners plus footstools at £499 and receive a rattan side table for worth £99 free!

IRRIGATION We are delighted to be stocking a new and innovative range of irrigation equipment from Flopro. Robust and well constructed, Flopro fittings work well with both the established Hozelock and other brands. The range includes hosepipes, hose active and reels, spray guns, sprinklers, connectors and fittings. We've got a

couple of special offers running until the end of April— the Flopro Mini Hose Reel (10m) and the Flopro Compact Hose Reel (20m), both £19.99 each. If you would like the opportunity to win one, please visit our website at the following link:-

http://www.buckinghamgardencentre.co.uk/r/floprocomp

Garden Centre Discount holders: Look out for our special Flopro offer in the May/June issue of the newsletter!



NEW HORIZON Pelleted Poultry Manure 7kg for the price of 5kg, now £5.99. New Horizon Pelleted Poultry Manure is an organic alternative to chemical fertilisers. These pellets provide you with a great quality general purpose feed for a variety of plants. This nutrient rich pelleted fertiliser feeds your plants for longer and slowly releases its natural goodness into the soil; developing healthier plants, better crops and blooms. This product is formulated for use on flowers, fruit, vegetables, trees and shrubs.

NEW IN Look out for the new range of Kelkay RHS Gardeners Collection. This is the only range of gardeners' grits and sands endorsed by the Royal Horticultural Society. The collection, pictured right, includes silver sand, grit sand, sharp sand, potting grit and washed gravel all available in large and handy sized packs located in our Seasonal Tunnel.



GROWISE COMPOST Best deal on 50-litre Growise Multipurpose Compost. 4 bags for £11.94, or only £2.99 a bag. Limited availability.

CLEVER ORGANIC GROWING TIPS

Pauline Brown has compiled a dozen simple hints to help and protect your veggies the organic way this growing season.

1. Grow French Marigolds or Calendulas and plant them in the greenhouse to protect against whitefly. Brush against the plants to release the strong aroma which the insects dislike so they keep well away. When in flower they will also add colour in the glasshouse – an added bonus!

2. Plant Nasturtiums next to brassicas as Cabbage white butterflies will be attracted to them and hopefully ignore



your Cabbages. Also if you grow Sage near cabbages this will repel cabbage butterflies, or if this is not possible if you have a large sage plant which you can prune some twigs from, push these in amongst the cabbages and this will be as effective. Another herb to scatter around to repel cabbage butterflies is peppermint.

3. If you are growing plants in ornamental pots which are susceptible to slug damage,



place the pot on bricks or some other object to raise it up, these being placed in a saucer or other suitable receptacle, then fill the saucer with water but not touching the base of the pot. The slugs will not cross the water to reach the base of the pot. However, be careful that the leaves of the plants are not touching a wall or other such object otherwise the slugs will climb this to reach their meal.

4. If growing Carrots in a container, plant Chives around the side of the pot. This will deter carrot fly. The same can be done for rows of carrots if you can use all the $\frac{1}{2}$ Chivaga

5. Hang unwanted CDs and DVDs around the vegetable and fruit garden to deter birds. This is more effective if the dull side is

painted a bright colour.

6. If you have enough space, create a small 'wildlife' pond in the garden and encourage frogs to breed in this. Frogs absolutely love to munch through your slugs. However, if you already have beneficial grass snakes you may not succeed in rearing frogs as grass snakes love feeding on amphibians.



7. Yarrow (Achillea millefolium) planted in the herb garden increases the aromatic quality of herbs and also help most vegetables in their growth, not so much their size but their resistance to adverse conditions.

8. Plant Rosemary next to Sage (pictured below left) as these are 'companion' plants

each stimulating the growth of the other.



9. Rabbits do not like Onions or any plants of the Onion (Allium) family, so if you have problems with rabbits plant as many Allium around as is practical. It won't get rid of them, but it may deter them a little!



10. Heavy soil can be broken down by the roots of brassicas.

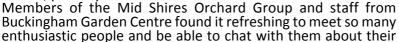
11. Despite what many think, clover allowed to grow in a lawn is beneficial to the surrounding grass! This is because clover adds nitrogen to the soil and this is needed by the grass. Also it stays green when the grass is affected by draught and when it comes into flower, be it white or purple, the bees love it, especially bumble bees, as it is a good source of nectar.

12. Ants are repelled by Spearmint and Pennyroyal, so growing them near the house may prevent ants from entering. If not scatter cut leaves where ants are causing

problems and these should drive the ants elsewhere.

POTATO & SCIONWOOD SWAP EVENT NEWS

The Springtime Scionwood Swap event held at Buckingham Garden Centre on Sunday 28th February was a great success. There was a fantastic turnout, lots of visitor interest in everything going on and the opportunity to swap scionwood from over 350 varieties of apple, pear, plum, cherry and quince. I think it's safe to say that this was the biggest scionwood swap opportunity in the UK, possibly even the world!





orchards, fruit trees and plans for the same if they didn't yet have them. The quantity, quality and extent of varieties of scionwood were excellent and overall it was very satisfying to see so many people turn up with their scionwood and then

go home with a newly grafted tree or material to graft their own, as not only was there scionwood available but rootstocks as well.

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The ability for visitors to be able to watch grafting being done in front of them was also very good as it's not something people would normally get to see. With the scionwood and an apple display, a grafting service from two experts who are members of the Mid Shires Orchard



Group, Marcus Roberts and Andy Howard, grafting demos by Fritz de Zutter of Moulton College (pictured left), and the People's Trust for Endangered Species display it was possible to offer up a bit of 'something for everyone' who attended.

Being back at the Buckingham Garden Centre after seven years improved the 'on the day' footfall greatly for the event and the promotion done by Buckingham Garden Centre, Mid Shires Orchard Group and the People's Trust for Endangered Species this year encouraged a lot more interest from people living further away. There were visitors from Birmingham, Bristol, Devon, Kent, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Wiltshire, Berkshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and, naturally, all four Mid Shires counties (Bucks,

Oxfordshire, Northants and Warwickshire). The People's Trust for Endangered Species

efforts to encourage, secure and collate 'scionwood by post' from the far-flung groups also turned out brilliantly and the range of contributions provided by people in person were considerable. Scionwood contributions came from individuals all over the place, as well as Mid Shires Orchard Group, the Northern Fruit Group, Suffolk Traditional Orchard Group, Stamford Community Orchard Group, Jeskyns Orchard, the People's Trust for Endangered Species, the Hartpury Perry



Collection and the Tidnor Cider Collection. We were also thrilled to have Francis and Martin Wastie there, bringing scionwood from some of their family's own bred apple varieties - from the original source! Claire Conway-Crapp (pictured left),



chairperson of the Mid Shires Orchard Group said she will definitely be grafting a Wastie collection now. There is a lot of scionwood left over, which is in cold

storage with the Mid Shires Orchard Group currently. They should be viable for a few weeks yet, so we're keen to make these available to anyone who wants them, for a small donation of £1 per piece and £2 for P&P to send bundles of up to 10 by first class post. If

anyone is interested in obtaining some scion wood please visit: http://midshiresorchardgroup.freeforums.org/scionwood-available-from-the-springtime-scionwood-swap-t52.html for details.

Whilst Scionwood Swap Day focused on popular fruits, our Potato Day homed in on providing invaluable advice on the mainstream types of vegetables. Visitors certainly kept our experts busy with the National Vegetable Society (Bucks Branch, below left), Jason Breed from Kings Seeds (pictured below centre) and potato guru Colin Randel from Thompson & Morgan, pictured below right with BGC's Chris Day. Interestingly the mild winter generated many questions as to planning the best crops to cope with extreme winter wet - cloches and polytunnels may soon become the new norm!







TOP TASKS FOR LATE MARCH / APRIL

MUST-DO'S Sow hardy annuals outdoors such as wildflower mixes and Calendula, Centaurea, Clarkia, Cosmos, Dahlia, Delphinium, Eschscholzia, Godetia, Ipomoea (pictured right), Lavatera, Matthiola and Phlox. Many vegetable crops can be sown this month - wait until the weather turns a tad warmer, checking the instructions on the seed packets carefully and sow away! In the open, sow Broad Beans, Globe Artichoke,





Sprouting Broccoli, Kale, Land Cress, Leeks, Parsnip, early Peas, Salad Leaves, Salsify, Swedes, Spinach Beet, Turnips, Carrots and Calabrese. If you are limited for space, module-sow outside (you don't need a cold frame, just something to keep slugs at bay) and plant out as space becomes available. If you only need a few plants at a time for your raised bed or plot, consider plug plants from the Garden Centre.

AFTER all the rain it is hardly surprising to see it is warm enough for slugs to get going, so be alert. Traps, pellets or for example the organic Doff Slug Defence Gel, seem to be very effective. Apply them around Irises, Delphiniums and Hostas and where emerging vegetable seedlings are coming through to get the slimy beasts before they really start chomping in earnest.



GET PLANTING! If the weather is kind, now is the time to plant lovely flowering trees and shrubs such as Amelanchier, Crab apples (Malus), Magnolia stellata, M. x soulangeana, Pieris 'Forest Flame' (remember Pieris, in pots, if your soil is alkaline), Flowering cherries (Prunus), Sorbaria 'Sem' (pictured left), Spiraea and Ribes.

LAWNS Unfortunately regular mowing probably has already started due to the mild

weather. Start to lower the blades at each successive cut. Don't go too low, though, as this will just mean more cutting. A hover machine might be your safest bet, especially if the grass is long as this winter has been relatively mild. If your lawn gets heavy traffic it's a good idea to aerate, scarify and apply some spring fertiliser so that it goes into summer in top shape. Remember many of the lawn products contain fertilisers as well as moss killer, especially important this spring in view of the high rainfall. Get to grips with persistent lawn weeds by using a broad leaved weedkiller such as Weedol Lawn Weedkiller to tackle difficult weeds such as Dandelion, Plantain and White Clover. As always please use chemicals wisely in the garden.



CROPPING In frost-prone areas you can now plant out strawberries. Mulch and water any newly planted fruit. Keep nectarines and peaches covered against leaf curl. A simple frame covered by protective fleece usually suffices. If pollinating insects can't reach flowers then hand-pollinate (with a bit of rabbit fur, small feathered duster or a paint brush works best). The pollen is ripest at midday. Spray with a fine mist of water to help ensure setting throughout the

flowering period. You'll need to hurry if you want to plant bare-rooted fruit trees and soft fruits such as Blackberries (pictured), Gooseberries, Raspberries and all the Currants, before they spring out of winter dormancy. You can purchase soft fruit in large pots throughout the rest of the year if you have missed the end of the bare-root season.





GLADIOLI are having a rightful renaissance. Weather permitting, plant their corms towards the end of the month. In borders, plant the corms in clusters 5-10cm apart. If you're on heavy Buckingham soil add some grit to the base of each planting hole. For a continuous display it's best to plant three or four successive groups at fortnightly intervals. This is something of a one-trick wonder, though, as if you leave your corms in during the following winter, they'll all flower at the same time the year after.

HOW TO CREATE YOUR OWN 'DREAM' GARDEN

A new garden is simply a blank canvas and that often terrifies many new gardeners, says Chris Day.

When you buy a newly built house, the garden is a blank canvas. Starting from scratch can be a daunting prospect, so make sure you have a clear plan as there are so many factors involved and decisions to make. Decide on the style of the garden, the amount of time you want to spend out there, the problems you wish to solve (be they adjacent eyesores - becoming a major issue in new builds, an awkward shaped plot, or boggy areas) and of course, the all-important wish list of what you must include.

The garden is a strong lifestyle statement. When

you come to sell, it will be a major asset if your property has a beautiful garden that enhances your house and has many useable facets. It will invariably give it the edge over other similar properties. Sometimes, high maintenance levels and elaborate borders can push people the other way, so bear this in mind at the planning stage.

If you are going to be moving on shortly, it is worth correcting major faults, such as hiding eyesores by planting instant tree screens or even installing a bamboo screen (pictured left). It is also well worth employing a garden designer to do an initial design that will bring the space together and maximise its potential. This is the bit that beginners often struggle with, whereas a professional should enable you to create a great-looking garden in a shorter, do-able time frame.

If you are intending to stay long-term, help with the layout pays big dividends, even if you phase the work over several years. If you decide on the layout early, then form the levels and plant any major hedges and trees (at a small, affordable size such as bare-root or cell-grown), they can quickly settle in to form the framework of the garden. Then, when you have more cash available, you can

embellish the spaces with detailed paving, pools and other flourishes. Find a designer who is fun to work with and whose work you have seen and liked.

There are so many different ways you can define and form garden spaces. For instance, if you want a 1.8m, eye-level screen, you could build a beautiful stone wall, put in a ready-grown Yew hedge, make a trellis from roofing batons or plant a fast-growing Quickthorn hedge. The price varies, and it would be possible to spend thousands or just a few pounds, but they will all enclose and form the space. If funds permit, you could add to or revise your design at a later date.





The same goes for paving. In one of my previous gardens the 'paved' area was grass initially, defined with Box and Rosemary edged beds, and then later we replaced the grass with a mix of paving, gravel and a sea of Thyme (pictured left) and other soil-hugging groundcover plants. As they say, the garden is a great example of a moveable feast!

What is the best way to create borders?

The advantage of a clean slate is that you can plan and plant your borders in one fell swoop, which makes it so much easier to get them right. Plan your border on paper, work out your quantities, do come and have a chat with us so we can look at the best options. Delay the planting until you have soil prepared in your borders.

This enables you sufficient time to eradicate all perennial and many annual weeds in the interim. If you have a particularly weedy plot, consider the use of landscape fabric, sometimes referred to as garden underlay. Once laid you simply plant through it keeping the perennials and annual weeds at bay.

Don't forget when planning borders that intricate mixes of plants take a lot of maintenance, whereas larger quantities of a few stunning stalwarts - such as Lavandula 'Munstead', Rosa Flower Carpet (pictured



right), and Periwinkles (Vincas) as groundcover for a well-drained soil - will make life much easier.

How do you get the mature look fast?

Gardeners often think spending money on large trees and plants will do the trick, but in my experience if you spend the same budget on smaller plants, over a five year period you get more bang for your buck. However, we can source larger mature



trees, so check with us to identify the best options and prices. Remember larger barerooted trees can be sourced through the dormant season (November-March), so this could be planned into your project as a way of cutting costs of the trees.

In five years, the smaller trees would probably have overtaken the larger and en masse would have greater impact. They would not require staking nor need the same amount of TLC. The choice is yours, and you may well end up mixing and matching.

What if the soil is not up to scratch?

A common complaint with new homes is that 5cm (2in) below the turf, the ground is loaded with old bricks, consolidated clay, sub-soil and builder's rubble. For a decent lawn, 30cm (12in) or so of topsoil at least is needed, for borders of 45cm (18in). Whatever you are growing, the soil must drain. If the area has had heavy machinery or stacked bricks resting on it, the resulting



compacted, panned lower soil prevents drainage. So if it is squelchy, sort it out as a top priority. Break up the panned soil using a fork, or even a pickaxe if necessary. To an extent, the presence of small chunks of hardcore is not such a problem in borders. On a couple of sites, I have grown hedges and tree belts in rubble and hardcore and you can get remarkable growth. If you want optimum conditions, perhaps for vegetables, great roses and a wide range of shrubs and perennials, bringing in loads of spent mushroom compost, Tree, Shrub & Rose Compost and topsoil to boost humus levels helps enormously.

OUR PLANNED GARDEN VISITS IN 2016

Our February visit to the wonderful winter garden and snowdrop displays at Anglesey Abbey in Cambridgeshire didn't disappoint. Over 70% of the snowdrops were in flower despite the season running many weeks early. The fantastic variety of stem colour, bark interest and winter fragrance was impressive and it really made you realise how essential the likes of Dogwoods (Cornus), Christmas Box (Sarcococca) and Witch Hazel (Hamamelis) are.



We have a full timetable of trips planned so don't delay in contacting us at the Customer Service Desk for more details or to register interest.

Thursday 28th April: National Herb Centre & National Trust Coughton Court.

Wednesday 18th May: Chatsworth House & Garden. Tuesday 28th June: Painswick Rococo Garden & Sudeley Castle Gardens.

Sunday 3rd July: Exclusive Garden Centre Club Members' visit to Evenley Wood Garden Lily & Rose Festival Day, plus one hour Garden Tour. (Self drive).



Wednesday 20th July: The Diss Experience at Blooms of Bressingham.

Tuesday 6th September: The Royal Horticultural Gardens Wisley & Flower Show.

You can find out more about these on our website at http://www.buckinghamgardencentre.co.uk/april2016. html.

WHAT'S ON & FUNDRAISING UPDATES

EVERY SUNDAY Stock up on your fresh fruits and vegetables as Aston Clinton-based Lance Smith joins us between 10am-4pm. You can also purchase fresh meat and poultry here as Crawley's Family Butchers from Brickhill will also be in the Car Park.





WEDNESDAY 13th APRIL We will be delighted to welcome Gary Leaver, Head Gardener at Hill Close Gardens in Warwick. Gary will give an insight into the history, restoration and year round appeal of these unique Victorian gardens. All our talks are in the Talks Room in the Restaurant, at the new time of 4pm, and will last approximately 45 minutes with time for questions. To book a seat please contact our Customer Service Desk. Garden Club Members free, £3 for non-members.

THURSDAY 28th APRIL: Garden Centre Visit to National Herb Centre & National Trust Coughton Court. £45 BGC Garden Card Members, £50 for non BGC Members or for National Trust Members a reduction of £9 on the price. To book please contact our Customer Service Desk.

WEDNESDAY 11th MAY Popular speaker Howard Drury joins us once again and this time his talk takes us through Getting the Best from Climbers and Wall Shrubs. As always you can expect great practical advice from Howard and always a few surprises along the way. See Wednesday 13th April for booking details.



WEDNESDAY 18th MAY Garden Centre Visit to Chatsworth House & Garden. £58 BGC Garden Card Members, £63 for non BGC Members. To book please contact our Customer Service Desk.

POTATO & SCIONWOOD SWAP WEEKEND We welcomed Help For Heroes fundraising champion Chris Collins (right) over our Event Weekend selling second hand books and merchandise. Your fantastic generosity raised £250 for the charity.

MEDICAL DETECTION DOGS UPDATE: Lots of activity at the February Event Weekend with the selling of Raffle Tickets with



the top prize of a pair of West Coast Virgin Train tickets going to Anita Bilbo (pictured bottom right) from Finmere. The Name The Medical Detection Dog Bear Competition proved very popular with the name Brutus turning out to be the winner. Pictured (left) Ray Neale with his granddaughter Kara came in to collect the handsome cuddly bear, Brutus. We suspect Cara will approve of this teddy soon! Over £300 was raised for the Great Horwood based charity.



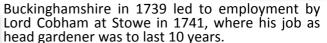


CELEBRATING LANCELOT 'CAPABILITY' BROWN

Chris Day celebrates the 300th anniversary of Capability Brown's birth. As a keen visitor to Stowe Landscape Gardens, literally on our doorstep, it feels fitting to pay homage to one of our gardening greats, who truly had vision beyond belief.

Lancelot 'Capability' Brown (1716-1783) changed the face of eighteenth century England, designing country estates and mansions, moving hills and creating lakes.

Lancelot Brown was born in Northumberland and served an apprenticeship with Sir William Lorraine. A move to



It was his time here at Stowe that gave Brown the opportunity to work with William Kent and see great works carried out there under the overall direction of Kent. Lancelot Brown was a leader in the development of the style of gardening known as 'natural', 'English' or 'serpentine'.

In 1751, Brown became an independent landscape gardener, although he described himself as a 'place-

maker' rather than a landscape gardener, and quickly became very fashionable and in great demand.

Lancelot Brown became known as 'Capability' because of his fondness of speaking of a country estate having a great 'capability' for improvement. He rejected the very formal geometric French style of gardening, a perfect example being at Versailles,

and concentrated on echoing the natural undulations of the

English landscape.

Characteristics of his work included grass meadows in front of the mansion, serpentine lakes, follies, encircling carriage drives, belts and circular clumps of trees. Bridges (pictured right the Palladian Bridge at Stowe) or cascades often were used to connect the 'natural' lakes and a great many formal gardens were destroyed on Brown's say-so, to be replaced with landscapes, which did lead to criticism later on.

Lancelot Capability Brown's career of 32 years saw his style hardly change with the serpentine shapes becoming his hallmark. His popularity peaked at the time of his death, but then fell into decline, reaching its lowest point in the 1880s.

By 1980 however, after a gradual recovery Lancelot Brown was recognised as a genius of English garden design.

Lancelot Capability Brown's sympathetic method of working meant that of the 200 plus parks he designed a surprising number remain in good condition. Often they have adapted well to modern day use as public parks, farms, golf courses and schools. Some of the estates he designed are Blenheim Palace, Bowood and Longleat in Wiltshire, Chatsworth House (make sure you join us on our Garden Centre visit in May!), Harewood House, Prior Park and of course, Stowe. It is at these parks that gardeners today can appreciate Lancelot Capability Brown's magnificently designed landsçapes.



LOOK OUT FOR OUR SPECIAL EASTER TREATS IN STORE

We have plenty of tasty treats in our Food Hall including a great range of Easter cakes and confectionary for those with a sweet tooth. Look out for the special offers on the Cottage Delight ranges too!

Be tempted by our Buy 3 For the Price of 2 offer on our Prepared Frozen Ready Meals. The range, all cooked by our restaurant team, includes popular dishes such as Chilli con Carne, Chicken Curry with Rice, Meat Balls



in Tomato and Basil Sauce and Sausage and Mash with Onion Gravy.



If you need to update the contents of your garden shed and need a new digging or border fork or spade then the Stowe & Kent tools range is well worth a look at. We've discounted them to £19.99 each. The digging spade recently won the Gardeners' World

Magazine's 'Best Buy' accolade!

In the Plant Area, Japanese Maples feature in April as the must-have shrub perfect for pots or borders. Excitingly we have a new variety which we're sure you'll like called 'Starfish' (pictured right). This is the best time of the year to select a new

Acer or two for the garden - the anticipation of the unfurling foliage is something to really look forward to year after year.

If you are looking to start a new herb garden then look out for the new season range of 9cm and larger 1-litre herbs, including the popular favourites - Parsley, Sage, Thyme and Rosemary. The new season for Strawberry and Lavender planting is also here, so time to get establishing new beds and pots.

Finally, don't forget to help our chosen charity, The Medical Detection Dogs, with our ongoing fundraising promotion throughout 2016. Purchase a hardy plant belonging from the Daisy family (including Achillea, Aster, Coreopsis, Echinacea, Gaillardia, Gerbera, Helenium, Pyrethrum, and Rudbeckia and we will donate 10p from every plant sale to the Charity.



Buckingham Nurseries & Garden Centre

Tingewick Road, Buckingham, MK18 4AE. Tel: 01280 822133 E-Mail: enquiries@hedging.co.uk, Web: www.buckinghamgardencentre.co.uk Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/BuckinghamNurseries Summer Opening Times: Mon-Sat: 8:30am-6:00pm, Sun: 10am-4pm. Page 12 Please note we are closed Easter Sunday (27th March).