

Now is a good month to:

- Plant Dahlias, Cannas & summer bedding.
- Dead-head Rhododendrons & Azaleas.
- Remove suckers from rose stems.
- Thin out seedlings.
- Pinch out the side shoots on tomatoes.
- Net strawberries & other soft fruits.
- Increase shading in the greenhouse.
- Mulch crops.
- Apply weed, feed and mosskiller to lawns.
- Cut down daffodil and tulip foliage.
- Don't forget to water your crops and hanging baskets regularly.

Planting Ideas

A great way of introducing children to gardening is to build a mini-landscape in a seed tray.

Choose a large, shallow tray with drainage holes in the bottom, add a layer of grit and then fill with compost. Using rocks and pebbles make features such as rivers, volcanoes & mountains. Plant up with small ferns, low growing herbs such as thyme and chamomile, or alpine plants. Positioning plants whilst still in their pots makes it easier, and give them a good soak before transplanting. Plastic farm animals, dinosaurs, jungle animals or fairies will bring the scene to life.

Plantation's Bush Telegraph



RHS Tatton Flower Show

July 21st - 25th

This year, we are building two interlinked 'Back to Back' gardens, called 'Colonial Chic & Bajan Roots'. The gardens have been designed by Andy, along with Mat Tucker from Redburne Landscapes, and although they differ in style, are linked by common themes—soaring palms, tree ferns, chiseled stone and a leafy oasis of foliage colour. A colonial shelter forms the centerpiece, dividing the sharp clean lines of 'Chic' from the sunken, curvaceous enclave of 'Roots'. We will also be building a show feature called 'Destination Plantation', to illustrate how good, simple design can be put to practical effect whatever the size of plot. If you are visiting the show, come and say hello—we are on stands A64 & A65.



With summer upon us, the choice of beautiful plants with which to fill your garden seems endless.

To create a 'cottage garden' effect, use plants that flower in soft pinks, blues, lilacs & creams. For a more contemporary or tropical look, use bolder colours such as lime green, reds and oranges.

If you are a hayfever sufferer, choose plants that are insect pollinated, such as Clematis, Echinaceas & Heleniums with their fabulous daisy like flowers, Rudbeckia & Verbena bonariensis. All Magnolias are also insect pollinated, as are Crab Apples.



Colonial Cafe

Our kitchen garden comes into its own at this time of year, producing plenty of fresh salad leaves, vegetables and herbs, for the café.

We now have a lovely new summer menu which includes afternoon tea—why not call in for smoked salmon sandwiches, homemade scones with clotted cream and a pot of tea or cup of coffee. See our website for more information.

SAVE £5

Buy your ticket for the RHS show in advance and save £5.

We now have tickets available at the reduced rate of **£22**—a saving of **£5** on the gate price. Tickets are valid for any day Thursday to Sunday.



1st Mercian (Cheshire) Regiment

As our local regiment has been deployed to Afghanistan, we are raising money to contribute towards their 'With You in a Jiffy' scheme. Small 'luxury' items such as toiletries, books & magazines, sweets & playing cards are bought/collected, packaged in jiffy bags and then sent out with returning troops.

You can support them by purchasing one of the wristbands and putting a donation in the collection box in our café, or we have a 'Cheshire Regiment' pie, made from Cheshire produce, on our specials board, from which we will donate £1

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