



Open Gardens Manuden 2020 Sunday 20th June

Launch of Open Gardens June 20th 2021

At the time of writing, dear reader, I am shivering with current temperatures hovering at about minus 8!! However I am dreaming of balmy sunny days and enjoying the gentle stroll around the village enjoying the spectacular gardens that Manuden has to offer! Yes, as the news is getting more and more positive all plans are underway for a wonderful afternoon in June! This, if you haven't heard of it, is where we open up our gardens for people to enjoy! We make a small charge and all the money goes to village good causes and charity! We will be asking our regulars to open their gardens and hoping to attract some new ones as well! Your garden doesn't have to be huge, designed or spectacular! All we ask is that you are willing to share it for an afternoon! So with this in mind here are some Top Tips for March to get you in the mood! I will give you more details of how to join in next month. Until then enjoy your garden and thank you to the villagers who have said that they've found the tips useful!

- * If you have a greenhouse, windowsill or conservatory, March is the time for sowing your hardy annual seeds under cover. Sow fruiting half-hardy vegetables, e.g. tomatoes as well as courgettes, leeks, peas, beetroot and cucumbers. Broad beans can be sown direct outside.
- * Lift snowdrops and aconites and divide them, in the green when they are just going over.
- * Plant dahlia tubers in pots under cover. Frost free!
- * Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes as well as summer-flowering bulbs
- * Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials
- * Protect new spring shoots from slugs
- * Top dress containers with fresh compost
- * Mow the lawn on dry days high setting (if needed)
- * Hoe and mulch weeds to keep them under control
- * Prune bush and climbing roses

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