



*The days are getting warmer and longer, gardens are more colourful, plants are growing.....get out there and enjoy!!*

### TREES AND SHRUBS

- ◆ Carefully snip off the dead heads of azaleas and rhododendrons after flowering.
- ◆ Cut back broom when it has flowered.
- ◆ Reduce long shoots of climbing plants.
- ◆ Towards the end of the month, trim box-topiary.
- ◆ Feed roses and deadhead regularly to encourage more blooms.
- ◆ Prune plum trees in June or July when growing strongly.

### FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

- ◆ Separate and plant strawberry runners.
- ◆ Thin out any developing fruit on fruit trees after the June drop.
- ◆ Fertilize vegetables as necessary and keep them watered, mulched and weed-free.
- ◆ Plant any vegetables outdoors that were pre-grown in the greenhouse.
- ◆ Tie up tomatoes and pinch-out side shoots regularly.
- ◆ Harvest herbs and early potatoes.

### FLOWERING PLANTS

- ◆ Plant the last of the annuals.
- ◆ Stake tall-growing varieties to prevent them from being flattened by wind and rain.
- ◆ Pull out weeds, hoe and mulch the beds.
- ◆ Cut back early flowering species, such as delphiniums, to a hand's height above soil level (they will flower again in late summer).

### HEDGES

- ◆ Many types of hedges can be given their first clipping of the season, which will help them keep their shape and stimulate fresh growth.
- ◆ Older hedges may need just a small trim, but young, actively growing hedges should be given a substantial prune.
- ◆ To keep the top of hedges flat and even, try using a length of string as a guide.
- ◆ Don't forget to weed under your hedges at this time of year. After weeding, add a layer of mulch to reduce the chance of any weeds from reappearing.

### LAWNS

- ◆ It may be necessary to mow twice a week now. If rainfall is low then water the lawn thoroughly, but not frequently, to encourage deep root growth
- ◆ If weeds are still prevalent, apply a lawn weed treatment when the soil is moist.
- ◆ If clover exists then rake the lawn before mowing.
- ◆ If you plan to mow a wildflower meadow twice a year, carry out the first mow in mid-June.



Senetti should be treated as an annual. If regularly deadheaded, it will bloom all summer long!