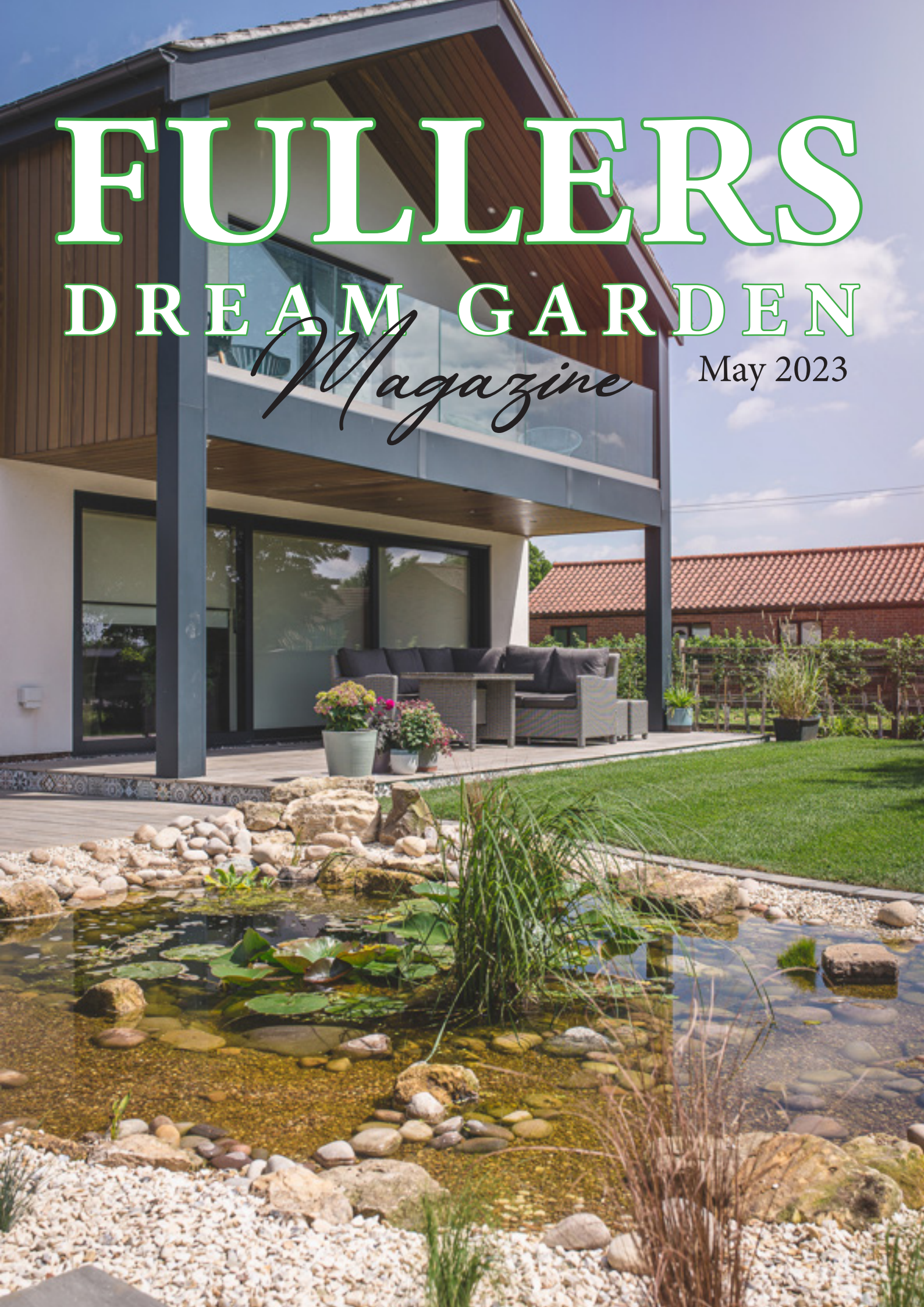


# FULLERS

## DREAM GARDEN

*Magazine*

May 2023



# Welcome,

## Spring Your Garden Into Action. . .

May is not only the best month for birdwatching, it's also the best time to spruce up your woodwork and focus on getting the best out of this year's harvest. This month's magazine will provide you with ideas and tips to make your garden summer ready. However, if you need a helping hand simply give our amazing team a call.

**May your dream garden await you!**



**Ed Fuller**  
Director of  
Fullers Landscaping.



**FULLERS**  
**LANDSCAPING**

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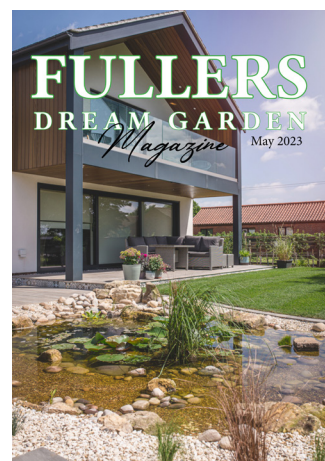
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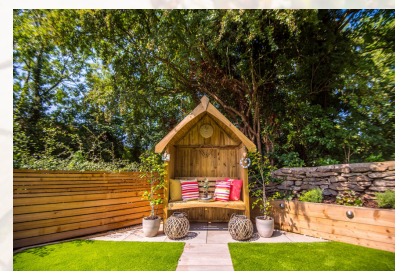
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# Things To Do In The Garden This Month

- Watch out for last frosts and protect tender plants.
- Collect rainwater.
- Earth up potatoes, and plant any still remaining.
- Plant out summer bedding at the end of the month (unless it is still cold).
- Open greenhouse vents and doors on warm days.
- Feed pond fish regularly.
- Clip hedges but check for nesting birds first.
- Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of daffodils and other spring-flowering bulbs.
- Start planting vegetables for a harvest this year such as asparagus, rhubarb, carrots, cauliflowers, artichokes, brassicas and courgettes.
- Continue to apply and refresh mulches to discourage weeds and conserve moisture.
- Add a fresh layer of compost to permanent pot plants to add back nutrients into the soil.
- Keep weeding your borders and beds
- Prune your herbaceous plants to help keep the taller, last flowering perennials from leaning.
- Trim back spreading plants such as aubrieta, alyssum and candytuft after they've flowered to encourage fresh new growth and more blooms.
- Trim lavender plants, cutting off old flower heads and about 2.5cm (1 inch) of the current year's growth.
- Plant your outdoor pots and Summer hanging baskets, but keep them in a greenhouse or bright garage for a few weeks for them to establish.

## Did You Know?

Birds learn to sing in much the same way as humans learn to talk: by listening to, and then imitating the vocal sounds of their elders.

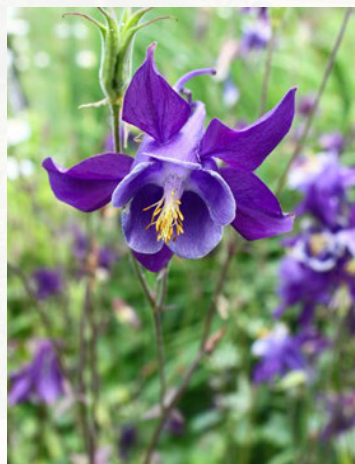
Of course, these sounds rarely come out right the first time, but a fledgling's sense of hearing can tell her just how off the mark she is. If a note is too low, she'll know to whistle it higher next time, and that feedback helps birds (and us) learn how to communicate.

# What Looks Good This Month

## OUR FAVOURITE PLANTS FROM THE GARDEN

### PAPAVER ORIENTALE

These perennial poppies aren't prolific like their annual counterparts. Their huge, silky-satin flower heads being fiery bursts of colour into the garden in the last Spring. Stay traditional with the red varieties or mix it up with dark purple, or even white varieties.

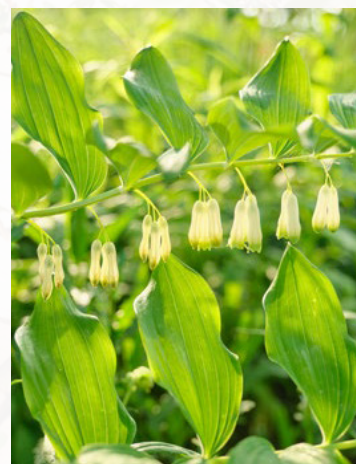


### AQUILEGIA

Aquilegia is a delightful cottage garden perennial, which is incredibly easy to grow. It's clear to see how they have acquired their common name 'Granny's Bonnet', They may look innocent, but they have a promiscuous reputation. Once you have them, you will always have them.

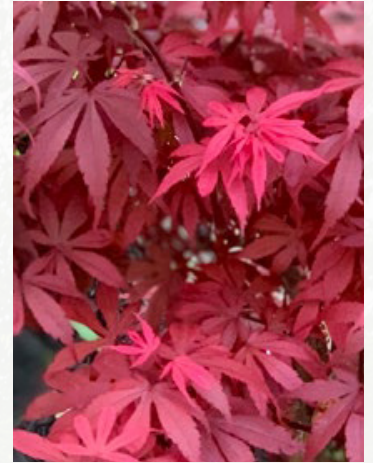
### POLYGONATUM

Solomon's Seal are beautiful shade loving perennials with pretty, pendulous blooms on graceful aching stems reminiscent to Jurassic woodland. Not the most extroverted plant but offers a much quieter personality to a perennial border.



## ACER PALAMATUM

Just having re-emerged for the new Spring, Acer leaves are very special. The delicate and intricate detail in the foliage and their graceful manner make them a stunning specimen in any garden border or container.

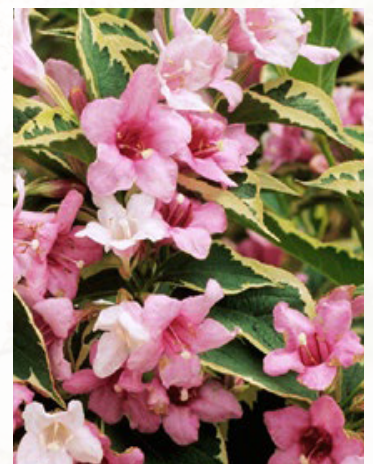


## IRIS 'HOLDEN CLOUGH'

These gorgeous golden flowers overlaid with purple-brown veining, make this one of the most striking and unusual colour combinations of any iris. Thriving in damp conditions, they flower in late Spring and early Summer, reaching a height of up to 90cm.

## WEIGELA 'FLORIDA VARIEGATA'

A classic shrub that is outstandingly reliable, Its neat growth is well suited to a traditional, old-fashioned mixed border. Large growing but keeps itself within order. Variegated leaves and perfect pink flowers make it appear almost candy like.



# This Month's Plant Profile

## SYRINGA VULGARIS 'SENSATION'

The name truly says it all with this sensational lilac. A cultivated variety from what is known as the common lilac, is this special bi-colour variety. Dark-purple flowers with a distinctive and striking white margin to each flower appear en masse this month for a short while through to June.

Although short-lived, its attractiveness to all sorts of wildlife brings a burst of life into the garden during late spring.

Their highly perfumed blooms amongst pretty heart shaped foliage is a pleasure to see. Referred to as a tree, in fact, Lilacs are classed as large shrubs, reaching around four metres in height and spread, but very slow to grow.

Lilac 'Sensation' is a striking specimen shrub for small and large gardens alike and adds a wonderful sensory experience. To maintain the shrub's vigour, prune lightly after flowering. Lilacs bloom on older wood so by pruning later in the year, you will trim off next year's flowers, compromising its beauty.

Lilacs will also tolerate most soils, making it a reliable and unfussy shrub to grow. They too, tolerate partial shade and a range of conditions from exposed to sheltered. If grown in full sun, maintaining consistent moisture in the soil will benefit them greatly.



## GERANIUM 'ROZANNE'



Cranesbills are hardy perennials, demure in their nature, but find themselves at home in gardens of all size, shapes and sorts. Not to be confused with its annual counterpart, they're incredibly easy going and their willingness to flower with any encouragement makes them a popular addition to many outdoor species.

Cranesbills are a classic cottage garden perennial with beautiful violet-blue blooms and stunning green foliage which are easily maintained with minimal amount of care and attention. Effortless companions to roses, they make great low level ground cover, and although they die back completely in the winter, their long season of interest forgives that.

Their first leaves will have begun to form in April. They'll spread with maturity, but won't exceed more than 60cm in spread and around 4cm in height. Geranium 'Rozanne' are known for their soil versatility and ability to thrive in a wide range of conditions. Don't mistake their low maintenance ways for being an under-performer. 'Rozanne' is a plant that everybody can grow, a perfect plant for a novice gardener. You can hack this cranesbill right back and it will come back stronger next year. So, you really don't need green fingers to enjoy great looking results when growing Geranium 'Rozanne'.

## DIGITALIS PURPUREA FOXGLOVE

Whether you're a gardener or not, it's highly likely that you will recognise a foxglove. Although a common flower and native to Europe, it has been introduced into our gardens for many hundreds of years, providing striking colour and architectural height to borders. Considered a cottage garden flower, foxglove is actually a biennial, meaning it will grow in the first year, and flower in its second, spreading its seeds at the end of its life cycle.





## Creatures and Critters

### YOUR GUIDE TO ENCOURAGING AND CARING FOR WILDLIFE IN YOUR GARDEN

Safe hideaways can be hard for wildlife to find in some gardens. Build a bug hotel well and it could shelter anything from hedgehogs to toads, solitary bees to bumblebees, and ladybirds to woodlice.

And what better use for all your garden waste and odds and ends? No extra resources are needed. Use what you can find.

You can build your bug hotel at any time of year, but you may find you have most natural materials such as straw, dry grass, twigs and hollow plant stems from autumn.

Used plant pots and scrap pieces of wood now have their use. It's a great activity to do with the kids too, no instructions required.







May is here. Arguably, the best month for birdwatching brings plenty of opportunities with migrants still flooding in. This is the time when bird spotting in your own garden can really deliver the goods. Whisk yourself into a quiet 'hide' in your garden, out of sight and enjoy the pleasant and calming activity of bird spotting. With plenty of activity sheets easily accessible online, get the kids involved too! This may be your chance to get some peace and quiet.



# Maintenance Matters

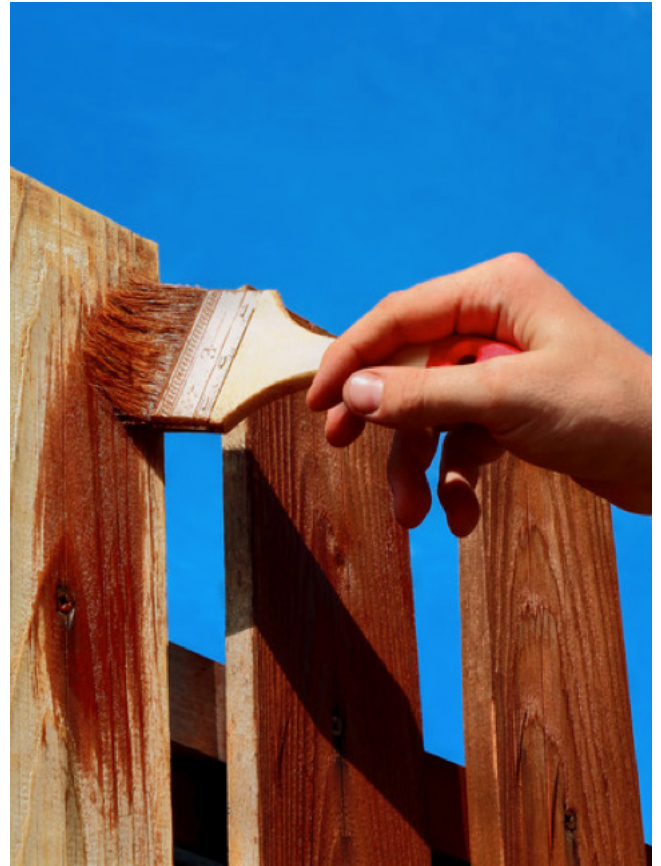
## 1. PAINT FENCES

It's time to freshen up your fences! Dingy looking fences, with paint peeling off here and there isn't a good sight. If the fences in your home are in a similar condition, it's time to give them a new look. Repainting fences won't just improve its looks, but it will also protect the wood and make it last longer.

Choose a paint that can resist the natural elements like wind and rain. In case the stain doesn't have these qualities, you can combine it with a preservative designed to protect wood against the outdoor elements.

## 2. MAKE PLANTERS

If you have spare wood lying around or can source it from somewhere, planters are a quick outdoor project to spruce up the garden. Cut the wooden planks to join them together in the shape of a rectangular planter. Make sure the ground is level before placing the planter over it and filling it with soil.



## 3. PLANTER STAND

If you want to give your garden landscape a vertical dimension, you can do so with a simple wooden planter stand. Place some container plants on the different levels of your planter for an enhanced look. At the same time, it will protect your plants from pests and soil-borne diseases.

You can either purchase a ready-made stand from the store, or make one yourself. It can be a simple woodwork project you can start right now! All you'll need is some wood, drill, screws and saw.

## 4. RETHINK SITTING

Does your garden have a comfortable sitting space. It's time to give it another thought. If you already have wooden benches, they might need repainting or fixing. If the wooden planks are coming off from the edges, now is a good time to drill them back in and make the bench usable. Add some chairs, tables and a few bright cushions to make the space as welcoming as you can.



## 5. Repairing Rough Lawns

An immaculate swath of finely trimmed sward is the definition of British summertime. Perhaps our infatuation with a perfectly preened lawn stems from pastime games of bowls!

We all strive to have a beautiful lawn, but they can be tricky to keep. A common complaint and one that spoils the definition between your green space and your flower beds is weak edges. This causes problems when mowing as the edges crumble away.

Single the area out and rectify it quickly and easily with this great hack! Where a weak edge is particularly bothersome, cut out a rectangle of sod around the damaged area. A generous size rectangle ensures it won't fall apart as you lift it.

Lay the piece of sod again, turning it around so that the broken edge faces inward, and then cut the new edge to align it. Butt up the edges, pressing down the replaced section firmly and making adjustment to the soil underneath if necessary. Fill the hole from the broken edge with top-dressing and work it into the seams to help them knit together.

The grass will creep back on its own if small gaps are left but if it's a larger area, reseed the bald patches to give it a helping hand.

If your lawn is in need of a little more than a quick repair, give us a call for more advice.



# Garden Showcase of the Month

We get to work on some amazing project and we thought we would share them with you. They can hopefully provide you with inspiration for your own dream garden.

## Garden to Complement the House

**Project Year:** 2021

**Location:** Collingham, Nottinghamshire



*The 3D render for the project. This was part of the design package presented to the client.*

This garden was created to complement the clients amazing house. The clients wanted several areas for both formal and informal gatherings, and a natural water feature.

The project involved work to the front, sides, and rear of the property. Due to the property being set back from the road, there was ample room at the front to create a driveway and accommodate a grass area. Before you make your way into the back garden, along the side of the house, is a seating area, which is a bench flanked by two raised beds. These raised beds are near to the side door which leads to the kitchen, therefore they are being used to grow herbs and salad due to the easy access, however it is also a lovely area to sit and enjoy a morning coffee.

The rear garden consists of several seating areas each using individual materials. The main eating area was created using porcelain paving with various shades of grey. This then leads to an area underneath a balcony which is formed with porcelain planks. The step up to the covered area is emphasised with mosaic tiles. These tiles are also used within the main water feature as they create a bridge which ties these two seating areas together. This water feature provides a soft rippling sound as the water flows into a pond which is surrounded by rocks and cobbles. The Lilies and other plants in the pond finish off this feature and help to create a wildlife habitat.

Overall, the feel of the garden compliments the house and gives a useable space all year round. It is a modern garden but feels like it has been in place for years due to the natural feel of the pond.







## Making Small Space Special

Owning a large garden is a dream for many, but with a large space comes a similar amount of time to maintain it.

In fact, a big area just doesn't have the cosy feeling a small garden possesses. And getting the most out of your small space doesn't require intuitive and expensive solutions, just careful and considered planning.

Patios, lawns and abundant borders are all features that you can squeeze into thumbnail outdoor spaces. The key to making them miniature friendly is simply proportion. Strike a balance between green space and a patio and you can double the size of your garden, or at least feel like you have.

Narrow borders will actually make your space feel smaller, so be bold and brave. Extend those flower beds out and keep planting bright. As a general rule, hot colours, like reds and dark yellows make a space feel more intimate.

Cool colours like light-purples, whites and blues recede the field of vision, making a small space feel larger, while lush borders filled with green leaves and structural planting will create exclusive jungle vibes.

Natural lawns aren't for everyone or the style of your garden might not call for one. Courtyard gardens are often tiny, mostly paved spaces which still need to be broken up into compartments. And, an entirely paved space can feel even smaller. By blending a gravel garden into a courtyard you've opened up the area for pockets of ground planting which are lower in maintenance than container planting and more tolerant to drought.

As you know, courtyard gardens are very warm places. Specific seating areas can now be highlighted, and focal points can be achieved for a more interesting space.

As for your patio, soften the edges. Remember, straight lines train the eye to not look beyond them. So, stagger

paving stones to blend into a lawn (known as ‘racking off’) or curve it around the boundary of the home. A curved patio allows more space where it’s needed, around patio doors or in a position where the garden gets the most sun, and limits patio space in areas only used for access. Of course every patio needs furniture, but the style of furniture is also critical to the size of the space. Bulky, solid furniture will compromise the feeling of space.

Instead opt for loose weave garden furniture such as cane or rattan. These almost see-through styles create a light and airy feeling that don’t block any views. You can find room for a water feature in even the smallest garden and they often run using their own reservoir pump. Water features make great focal points and create a tranquil environment. The market is saturated with many suitable options for small spaces. Blade water features perform vertically and are great for when floor space is limited. Or, if you’re looking for something more traditional, slate monolith water features are great for blending into a cottage style courtyard.

Another great way to create the illusion of a bigger space is by adding height. While this may feel intimidating, introducing structures or tall planting in your garden draws the eye upwards and makes the space feel larger in the process. As small spaces are often victims of overlooking neighbours, a pergola or a small garden tree can help fix a privacy problem.





# Spring Watch

## What to Look Out for

### BLUEBELL WALKS

Take yourself out for a woodland walk this May and you won't be disappointed. You will be welcomed by a sea of blue carpeting the woodland floor. Look closely and you'll spot the nodding heads of bluebells.

If the bells hang from one side of the stem, they'll be our English native Bluebells which are more likely to frequent our woodlands than the more cultivated Spanish varieties.

If you find lots of bluebells it could be a good sign that you're in a very old wood. Exploring a bluebell wood in Spring is a magical experience for the whole family.



### CHICKWEED (*Stellaria Media*)

With large quantities of seed produced throughout the year, this common annual weed can become a real nuisance in beds and borders. It's probably trying to take over your borders right now.

The stringy, but succulent stems of chickweed can

grow up to a foot and a half or so and produce tiny white flowers throughout the growing season. But did you know you can eat it? The leaves, stems, and flowers are all edible either raw or cooked. Chickweed can be used to make a chickweed pesto, buttered chickweed and even a chickweed salad.

# Garden to Kitchen

## This Month's Recipe

This month Beetroot will be ready to harvest. Beetroot contains nutrients that may improve athletic performance, boost heart health, manage glucose levels and more. Here is a recipe you can use with your beetroot. Warm and crispy beetroot fritters pair perfectly with cold soured cream and delicate, raw salmon. A tasty starter or a light lunch that is rich in omega-3.

### BEETROOT FRITTERS WITH SOURED CREAM & SALMON TARTARE

PREP TIME: 30 MINS

COOK TIME: 25 MINS

SERVES: 6



#### Method

##### • STEP 1

Heat 1/2 tbsp groundnut oil in a large frying pan. Gently fry the onion until soft but not coloured. Add the garlic, cook for 1 min, then set aside. Peel and grate the potatoes and beets. Put the grated flesh of each into some muslin or a brand-new J-cloth (or a tea towel if you don't mind it getting stained) and squeeze out as much water as possible. Put the gratings into a bowl and add the cooked onions, the eggs and a good amount of seasoning.

##### • STEP 2

To make the tartare, dice the salmon and mix with the other ingredients, plus some seasoning to taste. The mixture should be moist, so add a little more oil if you need to. Leave the tartare to sit while you cook the fritters.

##### • STEP 3

Heat more oil in the frying pan and spoon in about 1/6 of the mixture per fritter. Cook until crusts have formed on one side, then flip over. Once they're golden on both sides, turn down the heat and continue to cook until soft all the way through, flipping them from time to time (about 5 mins each side). Be careful not to get the outside too dark before the inside is cooked, and add more oil as you need it. Keep the cooked fritters warm in a low oven while you finish the rest.

##### • STEP 4

Serve the warm fritters with a generous dollop of soured cream and spoonfuls of the tartare.

#### Ingredients

##### For the fritters

- 3 tbsp groundnut oil
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 225g Maris Piper potatoes
- 550g beetroot
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten

##### For the tartare

- 450g salmon fillet, skin removed
- 2 shallots, very finely chopped
- 2 tbsp very finely chopped dill
- ½ lemon, juiced
- 3 tbsp extra virgin olive oil (a fruity one, not a grassy Tuscan one)

##### To serve

- 300ml pot soured cream

# Garden Puzzle

Can You Find These Shrubs In The Word Search?

BRUNNERA

PIERIS

PRIMULA

CAMELLIA

CHAENOMELES

CEANOTHUS

SPIRAEA

Z	E	Q	W	H	S	W	P	V	I	B	D	T	E	Y
U	Q	P	L	M	U	L	Z	M	Q	G	S	N	U	X
R	P	I	B	G	D	E	T	C	N	D	H	N	N	Z
F	V	K	R	A	P	N	F	V	F	T	R	X	R	O
S	J	E	U	E	N	Y	Q	W	D	X	A	M	T	R
P	V	S	N	T	F	P	K	M	P	H	Q	O	N	X
I	U	Q	N	C	E	A	N	O	T	H	U	S	L	G
R	H	D	E	N	B	W	W	S	U	W	G	A	I	P
A	D	W	R	S	C	A	M	E	L	L	I	A	J	I
E	Q	V	A	D	Z	X	S	P	C	I	J	L	L	E
A	K	M	J	I	M	J	N	P	Q	O	I	S	W	R
S	V	C	F	A	L	B	G	B	P	G	Q	E	H	I
H	C	M	V	H	V	F	T	M	N	G	T	R	R	S
A	C	H	A	E	N	O	M	E	L	E	S	M	F	C
H	C	P	R	I	M	U	L	A	C	P	V	M	W	W

**Chaenomeles** – Also known as Japanese Quince its invaluable for early spring colour

**Pieris** – ‘Forest Flame’ is a common cultivar of this genus

**Ceanothus** – Baby blue blooms on evergreen branches

**Camellia** – Evergreen with early Peony like flowers, prefer acid soil


**Spiraea** – ‘Bridal Wreath’ is a common cultivar of this genus

**Primula** – Often used as colourful bedding plants amongst pansies

**Brunnera** - Silvery veined leaves with forget-me-not like blue flowers


# Contact Us

If you are looking for a landscaper who can transform your garden, get in touch with Fullers Landscaping now.

 01522 868717

 [landscapinglincolnshire@gmail.com](mailto:landscapinglincolnshire@gmail.com)

**You can also find us on social media**

 <https://www.facebook.com/fullerslandscaping>

 <https://www.instagram.com/fullerslandscaping>

 <https://www.youtube.com/@fullerslandscaping>

**Registered Company**

**Number: 11493946**

**Name: Fullers Landscaping Limited**

**Address: 1 Elder Close LINCOLN LN6 9NS**

“

The whole experience, from the initial design, through to the completion of our garden, has been excellent. A big thank you to all involved, the Designer, the Project Manager, the team of Landscapers & the Admin, everyone have been friendly, helpful, & nothing has been too much trouble. An excellent team who have delivered a great garden within the timescale indicated. We would have no hesitation in recommending Fullers to anyone considering landscaping their garden

”