

Jobs for the Month – April

- Sow herbs such as basil, parsley and chives now;
- Vegetables for growing under cover such as sweet peppers, cucumbers and aubergines can be sown indoors now;
- Plant asparagus crowns;
- Apply a general purpose fertiliser such as blood, fish and bone or Growmore to borders and beds to boost growth of plants and shrubs;
- Put supports in place for tall perennials that require staking; it is better to get these in place now rather than struggle to insert them amongst unwieldy growth later in the season;
- Divide clumps of herbaceous perennials and replant in soil invigorated with well rotted compost or manure;
- Sow sweet peas outdoors where they are to flower;
- Top up pots and tubs with fresh compost;
- Re-pot house plants and topdress large containers adding some slow-release fertiliser;
- Increase the watering and feeding of indoor plants;
- Propagate fuchsias from softwood or stem-tip cuttings;
- Prune evergreen shrubs such as choisya or laurel;
- Divide overgrown clumps of bamboo;
- Divide and replant overcrowded waterlilies;
- Take softwood cuttings of verbena, salvia, diascia and osteospermum;
- Apply Growmore or blood, fish and bone to strawberries, raspberries and fruit trees at a rate of 70g per square metre;
- Cut penstemons to 10 – 15cm from the ground and apply a handful of well balanced fertiliser .