

March Newsletter

So here we are already in March, hot long days generally are now behind us. Who knows though, we might be in for a surprise! Regardless of all that, it is not time to put up the closed sign yet.

The vege plot is still well and truly open for business. But before we jump the gun, it is a good idea to weed, feed and clean up spent plants. The summer veges will have devoured most of the soils nutrients and what with all the watering, sheep pellets, manure and compost are all good to go.

It is also a very good idea to mulch with pea straw now, keep those roots nice and warm.

March is often talked about as the month to plant out your brassicas.

Broccoli (the sideshooter varieties just keep coming), cauliflowers and kale.

IN STORE

Still a great selection of Geraniums and Pelargoniums, they flower for a long time and make a great show.

Bulbs, plenty for everyone, easy to plant and very easy to enjoy come late winter/early spring.

Peastraw, now is the time to mulch, mulch, mulch

Alstroemerias, in flower looking beautiful

Roses All bush and standard roses ½ price this month

Veges Always something to find in this department

Perennials Great to plant and we have so many to choose from

What's coming in....

Tulips should start to arrive and Cyclamen will come into their own.

Many more winter bedding varieties will be available, and the list goes on with vege plants: Chinese cabbage, leeks, celery, spinach, silverbeet, and Florence fennel.

And your soft herbs that prefer the cooler climate, coriander, fennel, dill and parsley. You will have to grow your own basil inside from now.

With all the above planted, you are sure to be rewarded with some goodies from autumn to spring. You will need to cover your brassicas with bug net if you haven't got the time to pick those dreaded caterpillars off.

Also don't forget the flower garden, still plenty of time to plant our many varieties like lobelia, petunia and impatiens. They will all flower until frosts appear and can often do very well away from the hot summer sun. But eventually you will have to give way to winter stalwarts....the likes of pansies, violas, poppies, sweet peas, primulas, polyanthus, stock, calendula, cyclamen, and dianthus. Remember they all do so much better with a feed now and then.

The little Market -Don't forget to browse @ The little Market, there is usually something for everyone. Check out our interesting varieties of capsicums. Great as a present or just as an indoor potplant. Also our wooden Eco Labels 100% sustainable hardwood timber. Durable and easy to write on, reuse with a light sanding. Chemical free. And don't forget we have fresh bread available on Fridays.

Alstroemerias in flower



The beginning of autumn is a good time to plant out trees and shrubs as this is nature's optimal time for the best root growth.

Planting now means the roots will get established before winter and then come spring voila! They will grow like nothing else! It makes for a happy, healthy plant and that is what we like to see.

Keep a new plant watered well and when the weather cools down, you can ease off the watering.

It is also a time to plant out hedges. If you are thinking about a hedge and do not want anything towering over, consider **Corokias**. These are fabulous looking plants and very easy to grow, and really do make a great hedge. The unusual colour and different texture can add exciting forms for your garden. We have many varieties in stock, they also look sharp in a pot. Easy to trim and maintain.



Corokias
Excellent for hedging



Another oldie worth considering planting is the **Hebe**. These are frequently spoilt by a lack of trimming, and therefore become woody sprawling plants that no one likes. But if you remove the dead flowers straight after flowering and cut foliage back by about a third, you will end up with a bee-attracting plant. So many varieties available now, really worth considering having one or two in your garden. Remember to always leave some foliage on the stem, don't prune back to bare wood, it will not like that!

Nandina Gulfstream is another excellent low maintenance plant with blue-green summer foliage that turns brilliant shades of bright red and crimson in autumn, and winter cold intensifies the colour of the foliage. Easy to grow.

And think grasses, so many different types, look great en masse, and consider planting them with other different plants like agapanthus, daisies or liqularias, so many choices.

We try to keep our special **\$9.99 bed** full of hardy and interesting plants at a great price. Always worth a look.

Stock will now start arriving for autumn planting.

We have many Hydrangeas in stock and a good time to plant them is now.

Hydrangea Limelight →



Living Light candles, check out our new range in candles and diffusers. Hand made in Takaka, these smell incredible - filling your space with scent and ambiance.

Love your Garden