MARY MARY CREATES GARDENS NEWSLETTER

December 2020

When we wrote our first newsletter of the new decade, no-one in their wildest dreams expected to live through a year quite like this.

It has been one of the toughest years in living memory, but one thing that has shone through has been the sense of community and shared experience that has brought everyone together.

> "A walk in nature, walks the soul back home."– Mary Davis



- It is impossible to write an end of year newsletter and not mention the world changing event that took place in 2020.
- When the first lock down was announced, many of us felt anxious and fearful as we tried to work out how life would pan out from this point. I vividly remember, however, standing in my garden and listening to birdsong and the breath of nature. I felt hopeful that things would work out and that we would be able to get through this.
 - We have now found that so many people started to really value and enjoy their personal outside space. Some of you have set up home working in the garden, others have planted vegetables with their children, some set up nature cameras to see who else was visiting the garden. Being outside in Nature's arms was like a healing tonic that we all needed.
- We Marys truly believe that being outside and experiencing nature is the best remedy for so many health issues. Many mental health issues have been intensified by 2020, so to hear that so many people are gaining pleasure from their gardens has made us really proud of what we do.
- After Lockdown 1.0 we could not wait to get back to your gardens and carry on doing what we love.

FRESH START FOR MARY



We started this decade with a new home for Mary Mary. Leaving our old office in the depths of the basement in Lavender Hill, we installed ourselves in a light-filled studio overlooking Coblands Nursery in north Tonbridge.

We predicted it would be an inspiration for us – but had no idea at the time just how much we would learn and grow (pun intended) from having such great insight into a fundamental part of the horticultural industry.

This year we have had the privilege of witnessing first hand the professional, well-oiled machine that grows 100s of 1,000s of plants for British gardens.

This means that when we select a plant for your garden, we know that it has been nurtured with the utmost care to be healthy, strong and ready to thrive in your garden.

In 2020 the Marys planted over 10,500 plants, trees and bulbs



"Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. ... There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature — the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter."

-Rachel Carson, Silent Spring

Mary's Open Garden supporting Hospice in the Weald 29th May 2021



VISIT OUR VERY OWN MARY GARDEN

Sadly, for the first time in six years, we were not able to open Mary's Garden for the annual event to raise money for the Hospice in the Weald.

Though this was heart breaking, we are delighted to say that we are now planning to throw the gate open and welcome all and

everyone once again on 29th May 2021.

Things may have to be a little different to usual, but rest assured we will do everything in our power to make this event happen.

We have missed the garden party atmosphere that our visitors to the garden bring with them in the name of supporting one of the most important facilities in the area.



We can't wait to see you all again on May 29th!



PROUD MARY ALERT!

The team have continued to expand on their extensive horticulture and landscaping skills.

Keaton and Josef spent a thoroughly enjoyable week in January honing their brickworking skills which has been of great benefit to a number of our clients this year.

Despite the disruptions to their classes, Jess and Rob have completed the RHS level 2 Garden Planning, Establishment and Maintenance. They set up their exclusive Study Group next to the 'lake' that Jess created beside her cottage during Lockdown 1.0 – a beautiful and inspiring space to learn. Proven by the fact that we heard in early December that both Rob and Jess have passed their exams – a huge achievement at any time, but particularly during this year. We are immensely proud of both of them, and this means that Rob has now completed his two year apprenticeship with us and is a fully fledged Mary. Congratulations Rob!

We are immensely proud of our team and their desire for knowledge – our understanding and experience, brings a more holistic and expert service to you and your garden.



A MASSIVE THANK YOU!

Finally, we really want to say a massive heartfelt **thank you** to every single one of you, our amazing clients.

Mary Mary would not have survived this year without your continued support and for this we are exceptionally grateful. We rely on the support of our community to talk about us and recommend us to others.

We have built our reputation and business on word-of-mouth and people seeing for themselves what we can achieve in the gardens of friends and family.

This new normal, however means that a lot of people are using the internet to find local businesses and we all know how much a search engine loves a good review! A glowing and honest review can make a huge difference for us.



All we want for Christmas is a good Google Review!

Follow the link to post your thoughts about working with the Mary Team: <u>marymarygooglelink</u>

The Mary Garden Bubblers and the Mary Office Remoters

(who knew that would become a thing?!)

wish you all a wonderful festive season and a very Mary Christmas!

Stay happy, healthy and kind and we look forward to seeing you all in 2021!

