



# Looking forward to the gardening year...

We thought now would be a good time to remind you of the services we offer and to ask you to pass this info on to anyone you know interested in *Hosta*.

As regular readers of our newsletter, many of you will know we are a 'tiny' specialist nursery so we have to focus on what we can do in the space of a season, and ensure we do it well.

#### At the nursery

Right now we are completing our pre-season tidy up and restocking our sales tunnel with something of every variety we have for sale.

When you visit the nursery you are able to stroll through our National Collection at your leisure with the knowledge we are somewhere on hand to answer questions, give advice, sell you plants, etc. We like to let visitors browse but please remember we are a working nursery, so some areas are off limits for operational reasons.

We are working on the garden and reservoir projects throughout the year and are happy to show you these developments but please be aware the reservoir is only accessible escorted because it is not yet visitor friendly.

If we are not immediately visible when you arrive, don't worry, we are around and will catch up with you.

## **Open hours**

Due to the amount of work we have to handle during the season we are not able to open every day, as we used to. Over the past few years we have identified the popular times for visitors and have created a timetable that reflects that.



## First shoots

Wayhey - here they come...
There's nothing like seeing the plants emerging to get the gardening juices flowing! Click on the image above for the first 2019 nursery video.

### Mail order

We are very proud of our mail order service and strive to provide the best quality advice and plants for your garden.

We then arrange payment and dispatch to suit you click on the video image above for more details.

Mail order is a lengthy business, there are no short cuts to a good service especially as we need to be flexible around customer requests.

We use Royal Mail as that allows us to offer the most

We are open long weekends (Friday through to Monday) throughout May and June - 10am to 4pm: <u>calendar</u>
This includes bank holiday weekends.

All other times are by appointment - please call or email in advance of your visit to avoid the disappointment of turning up to find us closed.

#### **Group visits**

Alongside individual visits we are happy to cater for <u>group visits</u>. We do not charge admission as we would prefer you to spend your money on plants.

We provide light refreshments and an introductory overview of the nursery. We then spend time with you answering your questions and giving advice throughout the visit.

We have a growing demand for this type of event, both during the day or in the evening, which is one of the reasons we are restricting our general opening dates to accommodate these.

#### **Talks**

Mel has a diary of garden club talks she gives out of season, between September and March. Where possible she will bring plants for sale. This is proving very popular and our talks are often followed up by a nursery visit.

Find out more here.

#### Flower shows and plant fairs

Last, but certainly not least, are the shows/plant fairs we attend throughout the season - click here for our calendar.

This is a major activity for such a small business, but vital to help keep us in the public eye. Please introduce yourselves if you do come across us during the year but if you cannot get to any of the flower shows, you can view our display videos on <a href="YouTube">YouTube</a>, or through this <a href="website">website</a> here.

Next month we will feature our first display of the season at the Harrogate Spring Flower Show.

Team Mickfield Hostas

flexibility on delivery.

We have had to raise our larger order P&P price to £12 for parcel values of £50 to £100. We still offer free P&P for orders over £100 within the UK.

However, our rates into the EU and Northern Ireland have had to rise in line with the costs we face to ship - please click here for more details.



#### **GOOD NEWS**

We have frozen our plant prices for 2019 So if you would like to save on P&P come visit the

nursery or see us on the road. We are always happy to take pre-orders to shows BUT you will need to let us know what you want us to take well in advance because we leave for the shows early to set up.

Pre-ordering is the only way to avoid disappointment, rather than relying on the chance we may be bringing that variety with us.

Our first big show is in Harrogate at the end of the month, so we would need to have your pre-order before Friday 19th April.

