



Aughton & Ormskirk U3A GARDENING GROUP NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2018

Welcome to this issue of the Gardening Groups newsletters which we hope you will find of interest.

Full details of the Gardening Group can be seen on the U3A website at <http://aughton-ormskirk-u3a.co.uk/groups/gardening-group/>

The Gardening Group is starting again with new Leader.

It is pleasing to report that the gardening group is now being restarted under the leadership of Pam Higgins.

Inaugural Meeting: Wednesday 3 October, 2.00 – 4.00 pm.

Venue: St Michaels Church Hall

All offers of help in organising this group will be gratefully received. With your support this group can once again become active so please come along on 3 October and hear the exciting plans for the group's future.

Think about container displays

October is the month we should be planting up winter containers, so they can establish themselves before the really bad weather sets in. Try cyclamen, winter-flowering heathers and pansies for colour, as well as container-grown shrubs including small-leaved hebes and skimmia, while ornamental cabbages bring form and colour to winter pots.

Don't forget to plant spring bulbs in window boxes and containers. Zingy yellow dwarf narcissi, deep blue muscari and other dwarf bulbs including scillas, chionodoxas and early crocuses are perfect for pots.



Composting

Continue to clear leaves from lawns to avoid brown patches; collect up the leaves in leaf mould bags or pile them onto the compost to create lovely mulch for next year's borders. Rake them up, then mow over to chop, then gather them up – this will make their conversion to leaf mould much quicker.



Now's the time to pep up your lawn. When the wet weather comes, scarify and spike your lawn to remove moss and dead grass, improve oxygenation and relieve compaction.- Give the lawn an autumn feed and add top dressing, especially if you have clay, chalk or sandy soil



We can complain because
rose bushes have thorns,

or rejoice because
thorn bushes have roses
- Abraham Lincoln

Garden Jobs for SEPTEMBER

- 1) Sow hardy annuals for bigger plants next year.
- 2) Plant spring-flowering bulbs such as daffodils, crocus and hyacinths now.
- 3) Keep deadheading annuals and perennials to extend their performance.
- 4) Prune climbing roses and rambling roses once they've finished flowering.
- 5) Divide and replant perennials.



**CHORLEY
FLOWER
SHOW**

CHORLEY FLOWER SHOW

The award-winning show will be back in 2019.

The Chorley Flower Show in Astley Park is fast becoming one of the most popular events in Lancashire. In 2016 it won the 'Tourism Event of the Year' award and each year the show grows in popularity and standing so make a point of watching for the show dates in 2019, it's a must to attend.