

NOVEMBER

"And in November when the trees are bare the pruning of trees is one of the pleasantest labours of the garden"

Canon Henry Ellacombe, *In a Gloucestershire Garden*

EXPERT TIP

"Make your front garden attractive by planting up a pot by the door for winter interest. It will raise a smile every time you look at it. You could carefully move and pot up something that is looking good in the garden, or buy something new."

Wolfgang Bopp, curator, The Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, 01794 369317, hilliergardens.org.uk.



Leather florist's apron, £35, Wiggly Wiggles, 01981 500391, wigglywiggles.co.uk

It is time to prepare the garden for winter now

IN SEASON

PLANT AND SOW

- Shallots and garlic can be planted now.
- Place forcers over rhubarb crowns.
- Sow dwarf broad beans straight into the ground.
- Sow lettuce seed under cloches or cold frames, in bio-degradable pots. Do not plant where lettuce has grown in the previous two years.

- Sow carrots for a spring crop. Do not plant where you grew potatoes, beetroot, celery, aubergines, tomatoes, pepper or parsnips.

PICK AND EAT

- Harvest winter salads.
- Keep harvesting the winter staples: sorrels, parsnips, kale and leeks.
- Harvest sprouting broccoli, trench and leaf celery.



Apple House bird feeder, £5.01, Ingarden, 01732 832299, ingarden.co.uk

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Christmas from your Garden workshop, 21 November.

Near Wheatley, Oxfordshire OX33 1JZ, 01844 339254, waterperrygardens.co.uk. Learn how to make decorations and wreaths using plants from your garden. Cost, £45.

Enchanted Christmas

28 November to 21 December: Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings.

Westonbirt Arboretum, Tetbury, Gloucestershire GL8 8QS, 01666 880220, forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt. Walk through the Enchanted Wood and see the arboretum lit up at night; also take the opportunity to see and buy plants with late-season appeal.

EXPERT TASK

"Get the last of the tulip bulbs in, from now until the year's end. Spread the bulbs randomly and plant them about four inches deep in well-drained soil. Treat them as annuals and take them out next year. Always buy the best bulbs you can afford."

Simon Larkins, head gardener, Lytes Cary Manor, 01458 224471, nationaltrust.org.uk.



VISIT... BRODSWORTH HALL AND GARDENS (shown here) Brodsworth, South Yorkshire DN5 7XJ, 01302 724969, english-heritage.org.uk.

Open 1 November to 31 March, weekends: 1 April to 29 October, daily. **Admission** Adults, £4.60; children, £2.30. An Italianate garden.

DON'T MISS... KNOLL GARDENS Hampreston, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 7ND, 01202 873931, knollgardens.co.uk.

Open Call for opening times. **Admission** Adults, £4.75; children (five to 15), £3.25. The nursery of this garden specialises in grasses.