



Welcome to the Spring Edition of Flourish & Bloom!

Spring in Cornwall is a delightful and lively season for gardening, characterised by the early blossoming of bluebells, daffodils and magnolias - **have you noticed them yet?** These first blooms indicate a quick transition into the growing season. With the recent rise in temps, you might have observed lovely Bees and spring insects awakening from their slumber, heralding the onset of this vibrant season.

At Age UK Cornwall's Gardening Services, we've been quite the busy bees! We've been rejuvenating and revitalising our clients' gardens, supporting a new initiative in Falmouth, and getting ready for an upcoming Plant Sale. Furthermore, we've welcomed new team members and eagerly preparing for a wonderful Spring ahead.

In this edition, grab some hot tips for Spring growth, learn about our new gardening initiatives and upcoming events - as always, we love hearing about your gardening exploits, so feel free to email me at jeff.muir@ageukcornwall.org.uk or lee.davies@ageukcornwall.org.uk

Let's hope for a warming Spring full of rejuvenation, growth, and love.

Jeff Muir

Team Lead, Age UK Cornwall Gardening Service

Spotlight on Falmouth Community Hub

A vibrant space for everyone



There's been a real buzz of activity at the Falmouth Hub lately, as work gets underway on our brand-new sensory garden - and it's starting to feel very real indeed.

Thanks to an incredible £20,000 grant from the National Lottery Community Fund, we're transforming the space into something truly special. We're also delighted to be working with the brilliant team at [Muddy Wellies Gardens Ltd](#), who are bringing the design to life. The garden will be full of colour, scent, and texture, with accessible paths and raised beds so everyone can join in.

For us, it's all about creating a calm, welcoming space to connect, garden, and simply enjoy being outdoors. We're so grateful to National Lottery players for making this possible - **please do watch this space, keep an eye on our Social Media video's and updates as the project takes shape!**

You can find out more about the garden on [this link](#)



Community Gardening News



Help wanted for a plant sale in Falmouth

Our next plant sale is just around the corner! It will be taking place on **Saturday 9th May, 9:30am–1pm at the Falmouth Community Hub** (top of Killigrew Street).

As always, the success of the sale really depends on volunteer support. We were blown away by the help we received at our last sale at Govenek in Newquay - it made such a difference. If you're able to support us again (or for the first time!), we'd be hugely grateful.

There are lots of ways to get involved:

- Growing or donating plants
- Putting up posters
- Helping with setup on Friday afternoon
- Lending a hand on the day

(running stalls, chatting to visitors, etc.)

- Or simply coming along and shop for yourself!

We aim to offer a diverse selection of summer bedding, vegetable plugs, biennials, perennials, evergreens, houseplants, seeds, and possibly gardening-themed items. We're also collaborating with the Hub and Lee on colorful posters to help raise awareness. If you can assist or have ideas, please contact: jeff.muir@ageukcornwall.org.uk



David & Cathy volunteering at Govenek plant sale.

St Austell Hub Woodland Walkway

We are thrilled to share plans for a new woodland garden at St Austell Community Hub. This serene, nature-filled space is designed for gentle movement, peaceful reflection, and a connection to the outdoors. **Our goal is to highlight native British woodland plants alongside sensory planting, natural materials, and cozy spots to relax and appreciate the environment** - creating a truly special experience for everyone who visits the hub.

We're currently looking for support and funding to help bring this idea to life, whether through grants, sponsorship, or local partnerships. **If you have any ideas, connections, or might like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you.**



A magical woodland walkway waiting to happen

Spring Gardening Tips

As Spring gathers pace here in Cornwall, gardens are bursting back into life - and it's a lovely time to get outside and enjoy the momentum of the season. With our mild climate and warming soil, plants are quick to respond, and a little effort now will carry your garden beautifully into summer.

Refresh your borders



Spring-flowering plants like primroses, wallflowers, and forget-me-nots will keep things colorful, while early perennials begin to put on fresh growth. If you have shrubs such as lavender, hebes, or hardy fuchsias, give them a light tidy or trim to encourage bushy, healthy growth. You can also plant new shrubs now while the soil is moist and conditions are still cool enough for roots to establish well.

Mulching



Mulching beds with compost or well-rotted manure will help lock in moisture and improve soil structure - especially useful in Cornwall where coastal winds can dry things out more quickly than expected.

Bring in colour



Hanging baskets and containers can be started off now too. Pansies, violas, and trailing plants will give early colour, and you can begin planning for summer displays.

Grow your veg



There's still room for a bit of veg growing as well - easy crops like lettuce, beetroot, and herbs do well in Cornwall's conditions and can even be grown in small spaces or pots.

Garden for Wildlife



Nectar-rich flowers and a few undisturbed corners will support bees and other pollinators as they become more active - but most importantly, enjoy your garden. Spring doesn't hang around for long, and these bright, hopeful days are what make gardening so special.

Garden Inspiration



There's something wonderfully refreshing about stepping into someone else's garden for a bit of inspiration - and here in Cornwall, we're truly spoilt for choice. The National Trust cares for some beautiful gardens across the county www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/cornwall/gardens-parks, offering everything from grand landscapes to carefully curated planting schemes.

Alongside these, Cornwall is full of independent gardens with their own unique charm. One standout is Enys Gardens, which really comes into its own in spring. Its Bluebell Festival, running this year from 2nd–11th May 2026, is a real treat - woodland floors carpeted in blue, creating a calm and quietly magical atmosphere. More here: www.enysgardens.org.uk/whats-going-on-at-enys/

Even a short visit can leave you brimming with ideas - often it's the simplest, most natural touches that stay with you. With this in mind, if you do visit a Garden Centre, take a stroll with nature, or visit a beautiful nature spot - we would love you to share your experiences - you could even pop them on the [Healthy Hub teams space](#).

