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Nursery News March 2017

Open Daily 9:00 - 5:00

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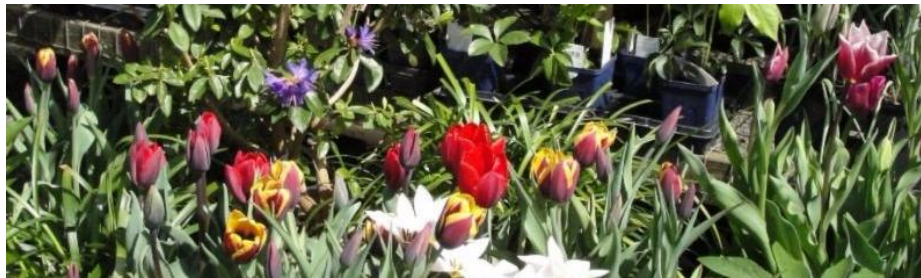
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It's hard to believe that it's finally spring! It is so welcome after all the cold and snow. We look forward to seeing you soon.



It's also hard to believe that we are celebrating our 25th anniversary this year. We are so fortunate to be able to do something we love in such a beautiful setting. We've learned a lot along the way and have met some amazing people and made a lot of good friends. Here's to the next 25!

In honour of this momentous occasion, Russell Nursery is proud to present a series of speakers that we hope you will find interesting and entertaining. We do hope you will join us for some, or all of these talks.

Coming up this Sunday... [Lori Weidenhammer](#) 'Creating a Buzz: Attracting and Feeding Bumblebees In Your Garden'
Sunday, March 26, 1:30pm. at Kildara Farms

Short tongues, Long Tongues, Blondes Without Pollen Baskets. Did you know that bumblebees have traits that set them apart from other bees? Did you know that their unique 'buzz pollination' is the secret key to pollinating tomatoes, potatoes, and blueberries?

Did you know that they fly up to a mile and a half from their nests in their pursuit of

pollen and nectar? Make sure YOUR garden is one of the destination stops for these furry and lovable bees.

With Lori's inimitable style incorporating humour with intimate knowledge of the Bumble Bees' dietary preferences, mating habits and life cycle, you will learn how to welcome Bumble Bees into your garden \$18.00 [Buy Tickets](#)



Coming in April...

Richie Steffen *'Bright Ideas for Shade'* Wednesday, April 19, at 7pm.
At the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific

Did you know that *Great Plant Picks* is actually an organization, not just a list of plants?

Based in the Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden near Seattle, GPP is an educational program that recommends and celebrates a comprehensive array of plants that thrive and grow well in our area. The Miller Botanical Garden is Mrs. Miller's legacy garden, and Richie Steffen is the curator of both the garden and Great Plant Picks.



Do you have shade in your garden? As a *Pteridomaniac*, (fern fanatic!) Richie intends to dazzle us with the joy and beauty of ferns, as well all the other gorgeous shady characters we lust after. Even if you have only one patch of serene shade, make it remarkable! Richie will advise on plantings for dry, moist or wet, from dappled to deep shade.
\$25.00 [Buy Tickets](#)

Coming in June...

Douglas Justice *'Small Trees for Residential Gardens'* at Sea Cider Farm and Ciderhouse on **Wednesday, June 21 at 7pm.** \$25.00

Coming in October...

Allan Mandell *'Soft Light and No Wind...Seeing and Shooting Gardens'* at The Horticulture Centre of the Pacific on **Sunday, October 1, at 2pm.** \$25.00

April Classes

Classes are free, but space is limited. To reserve a place please register by [email](#) (*Please include your phone number*) or call 250-656-0384.

How to Grow Great Veggies in Small Spaces *with Faye Ford*

You don't need acreage to grow enough veggies for your family. Even if space is limited to containers there is a lot you can grow. In this class you will learn 7 ways to increase your yield of fresh veggies, no matter how small your garden is.

Sunday April 02 1:00 p.m.

Greenhouse Gardening *with Brian Russell & Faye Ford*

Learn how to make the best use of a greenhouse in all four seasons. With informative pictures and detailed tips on growing, Brian and Faye will take you through a year in the

greenhouse, right from seeding to harvest. Greenhouse growing differs in several important ways from outdoor growing; this class will enable you to grow with confidence in a glass house.

Sunday April 09 10:00 a.m.



Peas to Perfection *by Faye Ford*

We are often asked "What is the difference between Snap peas and Snow peas?" It's hard to remember which is the flat one and which is the one with peas in it. The way I remember is that snow lies flat on the ground, and *Snow peas* are the flat edible pods. *Snap peas*, aka *Sugar Snap*, have fully formed peas inside edible pods known as 'mangetout' or 'eat it all'. *Shelling peas* nestle inside sturdy, inedible pods.

Few garden crops rival the perfection of crisp peas in late spring. Getting them started early is the secret. [Find out how you too can grow perfect peas!](#)



Shelling Peas



Snap Peas



Snow Peas

How Not to Kill Your Seedlings

Killing your seedlings is easy, but so is growing them to become strong and vibrant young plants!

Whether you sow your own seeds or buy starts from the nursery, your seedlings will go through a vulnerable stage of babyhood, when you must meet their every need. Just follow these [simple guidelines](#) and benefit from lessons we've learned along the way.



It's amazing what a seed can do!

Mason Bees

Last year was a tremendous year for fruit and berries of all kinds, partly due to the frenetic activity of all our friendly pollinators. The life cycle of Mason Bees aka Orchard Bees is timed so they are at their most active when apple and other fruit

trees are in bloom.

Mason bees are naturally occurring, but it doesn't hurt to give them a boost and provide them with accommodation handy to their work site!



Place your Bee Condo in a sheltered site

Mason bee condos and bees are available at the nursery. Search our website under [Articles](#) to find lots of info about these hardworking creatures.



New from Weeks - 'Good as Gold'

Bare Root Roses are Available Now There is still a good selection and they will be available for another couple of weeks. They establish well and are easy to plant. Potted roses will be ready in late May or early June, but can be reserved anytime.

Re-potting Large Containers

Occasionally **Japanese maples, roses, bamboo (especially bamboo!) and other large plants grown in containers need to be re-potted.** How can you tell when it's time? If you feel that a particular plant didn't do so well last year, and/ or water ran right through the pot without being absorbed, then it probably needs some attention.

Re-potting doesn't always mean going to a bigger pot. It could just be a case of trimming the roots and replanting into the same pot using fresh soil. Handling big pots is easier than it looks if you know a few tricks and have someone to help. [Read on...](#)



It's possible to re-pot anything if you have enough help!

*It took nine gardeners, a crane and a lot of planning to place a one-tonne tree, believed to be the oldest potted plant in the world, into a new container. **The ancient cycad was collected from South Africa on one of Captain Cook's voyages and has been at Kew Gardens since 1775!** From The Daily Mail*

New This Year

Hasagawa Japanese Orchard Ladders are by far the best on the market. These ladders are lightweight, engineered for safety and feature adjustable back



Tripod Ladder

legs, deep double rung steps and broad clawed feet.

The ladders come in two styles: the basic tripod model and a platform model for ultimate safety. Heights range from 6 to 16 feet.

If you are looking for a ladder for light use around the garden or heavy use on the job, you should come and have a look at these.



Russell Nursery is the authorized BC distributor for **Halls English Greenhouses**, which come in a variety of sizes and models. Several are set up at the nursery. For information please visit our [website](#).

If you aren't sure which one is right for you, call us to arrange a free in home consultation. 250-656-0384

Call us at 250-656-0384

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