

April comes and the garden springs to life

I know that the blog has been relatively quiet on the gardening front of recent but that definitely doesn't mean that nothing has been happening. Just that nothing unusual has been happening that I thought you may want to read about.

Last year wasn't a great year in terms of production, the cold, wet spring meant that everything was late in getting established and this in turn meant that we had didn't get much in the way of veggies to harvest. However it wasn't a quiet year for the garden in general. Our big party last July and the horrendous storms that battered us this winter have meant that there has been a fair bit of "repair" work to do recently. The lawn was trodden on until the poor grass waved the white flag and two fences didn't even get that courtesy, they just collapsed under the brute force of the storms over winter. So before we could get started with the fun of planting, we had to completely replace one fence and make repairs to the second.

We also had the unfortunate luck that the new fence is slightly different dimensions than the old one, so we have lost a few inches of our flower bed (the few inches that had my gladioli bulbs in it) and some of the shrubs have been damaged beyond hope but a bit of work and we'll get the bed looking great again.

Add to that the task of breaking down the greenhouse for cleaning and the unfortunate fact that I was on off my feet for almost five weeks with a knee injury and I hope you can then forgive us for not having much in the way of exciting seedlings photos for you?



New fence



Fence repairs



TLC for the lawn



Starting work



Cleaning the greenhouse
Hopefully though I can rectify this today.



We got our usual assortment of seedlings going a few weeks ago, courgettes, tomatoes, flowers, beetroot, kale, radishes etc and we're starting now to see the little green shoots appearing.

Some of our plans have had to change though, as I just couldn't get the particular varieties I had planned to and after a poor crop of tomatoes from the little balcony plants last year I've decided to go back to the usual bush tomato plants.

So as is tradition, let me introduce you to Colin 2016 (we always have a Colin the Courgette plant).



This year Colin is a yellow courgette plant and as always we will keep you updated on how he grows.

We've also made some changes or I should say are in the process of making some changes to the herb bed, instead this now holds a gorgeous rhododendron and some aubretia and the herbs will be rehoused.



The herbs, instead of being in one big planter, are going into individual little coloured pots and are going to be on the trellis on the new fence here.

