

Hello from Churchtown Farm...



As we basked in late summer sunshine the first of this winter's crop of scented narcissi peeped through the soil and our thoughts turned to the preparations needed for our busiest time of year.

In the fields, Jon and his team have been doing all the work needed to ensure a top quality crop of scented narcissi. In the shed, box making and ribbon cutting continued apace as we waited for the first winter scented narcissi to be picked. One job was missing as we had no 'newbies' to train; all our shed team are enjoying Scilly so much they have decided to stay, so there will be some familiar names and voices dealing with your flower orders this winter.





# THE EARLY BIRD



Place Christmas orders by December 5th and as well as the satisfaction of ticking off part of your Christmas to-do list you will automatically be entered into a draw to win your flowers for **FREE**.

### HOW IT WORKS

We will randomly pick 25 winners and refund the value of ALL their orders to be delivered between December 10th and Christmas. So the more flowers you order, the more you could win. More detailed terms and conditions at: www.scillyflowers.co.uk/flowersforfree

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You will find a handy order form in the centre of this newsletter. if you prefer to order online visit scillyflowers.co.uk, or of course you can call us at the farm on 01720 422169. As our phone team also pack the flowers, they are well placed to answer your questions and are happy to take a break from the chilly packing shed to have a chat.

### CHRISTMAS BOUQUETS FROM £22.50

A simple gift box of scented narcissi is a lovely Christmas gift, but if you are looking for something a little different we also send sumptuous Christmas bouquets.





Postcard

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Keep your eyes peeled for a postcard from Scilly landing on your doormat in the New Year with a flowery special offer.

Behind the Scenes

Preparations for Christmas start way back in the summer. Once Jon and his team have finished the day's pick of scented pinks they turn their attention to the scented narcissi. Some bulbs need lifting, drying and replanting while others need different cultivation techniques to ensure we have flowers all through the winter season – Jon proudly picked our first narcissi on 7th October!



In late November, as the days really shorten, picking steps up a gear. Since all our narcissi are grown outdoors, if stormy weather blows in, picking becomes a tough job.



Once the Christmas rush is really under way we need extra space so our whole packing operation moves to a bigger shed that we borrow from farming friends on the larger island of St Mary's.



Huge bundles of flowers arrive back at the shed where Neil's team carefully sort and bunch them, checking the quality of each stem as they go. After being trimmed and sleeved the flowers go to the cold store ready for packing. Fuelled by pasties, cups of tea and cake; our well practised packing operation swings into action, making sure all your Christmas flowers are ready for the freight boat from Scilly and finally to doorsteps all over the country.

# 05

### DEMENTIA FRIENDS



We always strive to give the best customer care and recently we found 'Dementia Friends'; an Alzheimer's Society initiative that aims to widen understanding of dementia. We now include the Dementia Friends video in our staff training so that our team are just a little more able to help. Find out more at www.dementiafriends.org.uk

# It's so easy to order...







WAYS TO ORDER

**By phone** 01720 422169

By email info@scillyflowers.co.uk

Use our FREEPOST order form on the page opposite

Want to see more pictures or need more information? Pop along to our website scillyflowers.co.uk

### SAME GREAT VALUE. PRICES FROZEN.

	Posy Pack	£10.50
Pack B	30 flowers	£15.00
Pack C	40 flowers	£17.00
Pack D	50 flowers	£18.50
Pack E	60 flowers	£20.00
Pack F	Christmas Bouquet	£34.00
Pack H	Christmas Spray	£29.00
Pack V	Posy Bouquet	£22.50

Order by **5th December** to be entered in our prize draw (page 3).

Last orders for Christmas by **19th December** please.



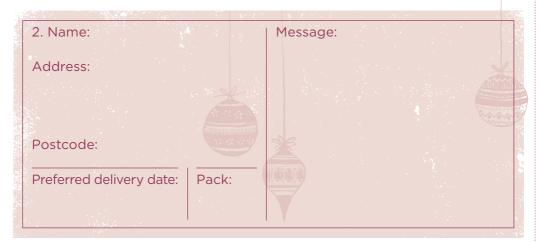
Order Form

All prices include packaging and FREE First Class postage.

**Fill in** the form below **Cut it out** and pop it in an envelope **Use our FREEPOST address:** FREEPOST RTKX-YETY-ALLL Churchtown Farm, St Martin's, Isles of Scilly TR25 0QL

YOUR DETAILS Please use block capitals				
Sender's name				
Home address				
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	Postcode			
Telephone No				
Email address				
me another Pack E £20.00 / Pac	Pack A £10.50 / Pack B £15.00 / Pack C £17.00/ Pack D £18.50 Pack E £20.00 / Pack F £34.00 / Pack H £29.00 / Pack V £22.50 Bigger packs and gift vouchers also available—please call or go online.			
RECIPIENT DETAILS				
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3. Name:	Message:
Address:	
Postcode:	
Preferred delivery date: Pack:	

PAYMENT DETAILS	
I enclose a cheque for £	(payable to 'Churchtown Farm')
I wish to pay by credit card	
Card No.	
Security No. (Last 3 digit	s on the signature strip on reverse of cards)
Valid from	Expiry date
Signature	

Flowers of the same or greater value may be sourced from other growers to ensure supply and quality. Although your flowers will be sent by First Class post we cannot guarantee the exact date of delivery.

# Biological anatomy of Narcissus Tazetta Soleil d'Or

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### Spathe

Crisp brown sheath that protects the bud as it breaks through the soil.

### Six Tepals

The term for undifferentiated, fused petals and sepals.

### Corona

The central trumpet or cup.

### Emergent Buds

These continue to open if the flower is kept in clean water and cool conditions.

### Molecules

Scent compound oils are released from the flower head as it opens.

Sap filled hollow stem

Helps keep the flower hydrated once picked.

Image by Carol Hartley

LAST CHRISTMAS... The winner of our competition was Helen Utting, who with her husband Andrew took the Scilly holiday they won to celebrate Andrew's retirement. Of course, whilst they were here we enjoyed showing them around Churchtown Farm.



### WISH YOU WERE HERE

If you haven't been to Scilly for a while or have never quite got around to a visit, take a look at **visitislesofscilly.com** where there is a wealth of information to help you plan your trip and find offers and ideas that will make your holiday a little extra special.



Calendar 2015

- New Year fancy-dress party at the Seven Stones Inn - Tunnel roof blows off in high winds! Oops! - Ben volunteers with Shelter Box in Malaysia APRIL



JANUARY

- Send last narcíssí and fírst pínks - New team members Brad, Lorríe, Glyn & Chrístína arríve

## JULY

- lift 10 tons of bulbs for sorting and cleaning - Ruth moves into hernewhouse



OCTOBER - Send first narcissi and last pinks



### THIS YEAR WE HAVE BEEN MOSTLY ...

To keep up with our farm news throughout the year and make sure you're the first to know about special offers and competitions, like us on (f) or follow us on 📀

FEBRUARY

Busy, busy, busy with flowers

- Kerry coxes the St Martin's boat in

the World Pilot Gig Championships

- Start covering the narcissi fields,

ready for Christmas



MARCH

- Ben's new tractor arrives! - Watch solar eclipse on tea break - Send 7000 boxes of scented narcissi for Mothering Sunday

MAY

AUGUST



First signs of narcissi

foliage showing through

All volunteer at a rather

wet St. Martin's Fete

JUNE

- Zoe competes in Tresco Triathlon - Make 550+ bales of haylage - After 25 years Keith retires for the 2nd time!

### SEPTEMBER

- Plant 6.25 tons of bulbs - Cook burgers and tea for 150 brave souls taking part in the Scilly Swim Challenge - Rugby fever - Ben & Neil in Cardiff

**NOVEMBER** - Plant 6260 baby

#Tant 5260 baby sciented pink plants ready for next spring



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- Christmas is coming, all hands on deck!

DECEMBER



25 chances to WIN all your Christmas flowers for FREE

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DON'T FORGEI

When you order before December 5th. See page 3.

NOT JUST FOR CHRISTMAS We send flowers all year round and all our flowers are fully guaranteed. If you ever have a problem with our service please let us know straight away so we can put things right.

Seasons Greetings and a peaceful New Year...

The Julian family and the Churchtown team

### VISIT SCILLYFLOWERS.CO.UK CALL 01720 422169

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK/SCILLYFLOWERS Churchtown Farm, St Martin's, **OR TWEET US @SCILLYFLOWERS** 

Isles of Scilly TR25 0QL