



Lawn Care and Garden Services

... an environmentally friendly way

Garden Maintenance and Landscaping

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Summertime 2013 Newsletter.

Ciao! Welcome to the summer newsletter, which you may find has a bit of an Italian theme. Back home our season has been rather slow to start due to a cold spring which resulted in regular maintenance work kicking in weeks later than usual. The start of May, however, has seen the temperature creep comfortably into double figures, the sunshine has returned and our gardens are starting to grow. The bumble bee plays a very important role in our gardens and Chris has kindly written a fascinating article on bumble bees.

LAWN CARE

As we move towards summer and possibly drier weather, it's best to avoid the temptation to cut the lawn too short. Leaving a little extra length on the lawn helps the grass to cope better during dry spells. Mulch mowing is beneficial at this time of year as the finely chopped clippings decompose releasing nitrogen into the soil which feeds the grass. Mulch mowing also mulches the grass helping with moisture retention. Please ask if you require mulch mowing.

This groundsman in the grounds of the Pisa Tower is having 'fun' trying to mow the lawn amongst the crowds.



LANDSCAPING

This garden had been beautifully crazy paved but over the years had become in need of restoration and weeds became prevalent and time consuming to control. Working with the Client we designed a solution to reduce maintenance, provide easy access and introduce new areas for planting. This involved a combination of hard landscaping to provide easy access and low maintenance whilst including generous borders to allow for flowers, shrubs and ground cover plants to reduce the opportunity for weeds. The Client should now have more time to spend enjoying, rather than maintaining, the garden.



Before



After

CHAINSAW SERVICES & SMALL TREE FELLING

Chainsaw cross-cutting and small tree felling services (working from ground level) is now available on a qualified and fully insured basis. Having undertaken certified chainsaw training and further specialised LANTRA training & certification in small tree felling and increased existing liability insurance to cover this additional service.



Here's one I felled earlier!

Antony Turnbull Trading as Lawn Care and Garden Services. Est. 2009. Website: www.antonyturnbull.co.uk

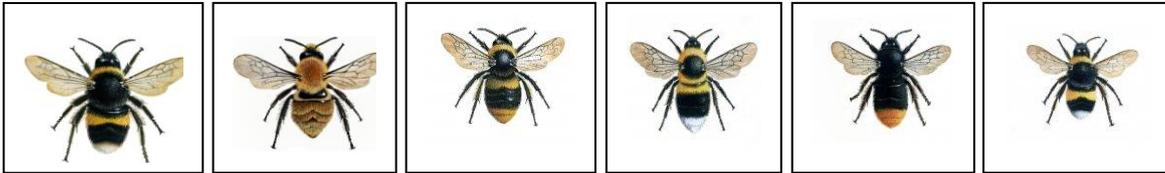
- ◆ Fencing ◆ Garden Sitting ◆ Hedge Trimming ◆ Landscaping ◆ Planting ◆ Pressure washing ◆ Pruning
- ◆ Lawns • aeration • mowing • mulch mowing • scarifying • over-seeding and top dressing • Turfing

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PLANT ORDER / SUPPLY SERVICE

We recently introduced a service to carry a small selection of popular shrubs and seasonal plants on board the van. In addition, if there are any particular plants or types of plants which you may require please ask and we will do our best to source them for you.

BUMBLE BEES



The six main garden bumble bees are (above, left to right,) Buff tailed, Common carder, Early, Garden, Red-tailed, and White-tailed

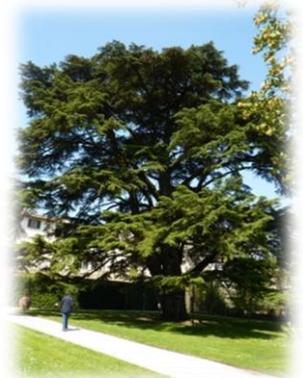
Bumble bees are very important pollinators and, with the current crisis with honey bees, they may become more important than ever. Plants may be advertised as 'good for bees' or other pollinators, and some plants even have flowers designed to be pollinated by specific bumblebees. But the most important single thing is that bees have access to a continuation of flowers from spring through to autumn, e.g. March-April, berberis and flowering currant; May-June, aquilegia and geranium; July-August, lavender and scabious. If you can spot all six of the above in your garden, then you are doing very well!

ITALIAN GARDENS

My wife and I recently celebrated our Pearl Wedding anniversary with a special family holiday in Tuscany. It was our first time in Tuscany and we found it to be a beautiful place. Plants and shrubs thrive with ideal conditions, plenty of sunshine and fertile soil. Garibaldi Street in Lucca was lined with beautiful large flowering magnolia trees.



We visited a Botanical Garden in Lucca which was amazing. This is a picture of a Lebanon Cedar planted in 1822 which stands proudly in the garden with a girth in excess of 6 metres.



It was interesting to see how much the Italians enjoyed pruning their trees. For example Plane trees were regularly pruned back hard which resulted in an appearance very different from ones I have seen in London which are left largely un-pruned. Conifers which we are familiar with also adopt a completely different appearance when the crown is lifted and shaped like a dome.



There are lots of lovely Piaggio vans in Lucca, from left to right: mini-skip; flat bed truck; a Police van and to tie-in with Chris' bee article finally we have the Piaggio Ape 50 ('Ape' means 'Bee' in Italian!)



Arrivederci! Tony.

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