

YOUR FLOWER GARDEN

May, the "Merry Month", slips by with blackthorn winter as its companion, with the attendant black of frosted potatoes, plum, cherry, currant, gooseberry, strawberry, apple and pear blossom numbered among its victims. Those who dubbed it "merry" were never gardeners! So let us gardeners hope for a "dripping" June and a time of plenty.

We all know we sow our runner beans and go to Stow Fair, a safe Cotswold time which gives a first picking in the last week of July, but this month's tips are of sowing dates and the latest safe sowing dates, most of which occur in June and July. From the middle to the end of June most of the biennials, e.g. wallflowers, forget-me-nots, sweet williams, daisies, foxgloves, polyanthus, pansies, etc. Mid-July for greenhouse biennials, e.g. calceolarias, cinerarias, humeas (incense plants) which require only enough heat to keep off frost, a major consideration these days.

V. Mitchell

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Special Occasions in June and July

- Sat 7 June Fifiield & Idbury Church Fete at 3.00 pm at Fifiield Manor by kind permission of Mrs Boddington
- Tues 24 June 8.30 am H.C. at Fifiield on the Feast of the Birth of St John the Baptist
- Sun 29 June Special Service at Milton at 3.00 pm for St John Ambulance Brigade, including the enrolment of Cadets. All members of the public are invited
- Sat 12 July Milton Parish Church Fete - 3.00 pm

There are many signs that people are interested in the Christian Faith, what it means and how it is lived. If you would like details of the Study Groups of different denominations seeking a Christian life-style, Gerry Hatton (830152) or David Hillman (830470) can tell you.

Geoffrey Lindley, The Vicarage
Shipton