

It's a Gardener's World!

This week I've spotted this odd shaped plant, a perfect ball of purple standing proud on the longest of stalks – Harry's front garden has some lovely specimens! It's the Allium (or ornamental onion!).



They produce their wonderful flowers in May and June, after the flourish of spring bulbs and before the exuberance of summer. They hold their colour for several weeks and once that fades, many of them have striking seed heads. Hardy and easy to grow, they stand up straight, usually without needing any support, and they come in a glorious range of heights, sizes and colours.

The allium genus is made up of some 260 species of bulbous perennials, many of which are well known in the vegetable garden. Onions, leeks, shallots, garlic, chives – they are easily identifiable because they give off their distinctively pungent scent in varying degrees when the leaves are crushed.

In the first “Shrek” film, the characters of Donkey and Shrek have a discussion about Ogres having layers, like onions and cakes. Meaning that there’s more to them than what first meets the eye. Hey, Shrek – Guess what! Humans are like onions too. We all have layers.

The layers on the outside are what the world sees – what we are. But as we peel back the layers, we begin to see the inner selves – who we are. And as we reach the core of our ‘self’ we find what gives us our purpose & heart, our soul & our spirit. God starts in the heart of a person - in the core of their being - and works outward. The Holy Spirit will show us the way. It’s like peeling an onion - God reveals these things in layers - bit by bit. And as each layer is dealt with, progress is made and we take one step closer to being like Jesus.