



## **Interview : Rob and Jodie (update)**

**Jodie:** Yes so we are open now. We're open from Tuesday to Saturday from 2pm to 5pm. We don't need to make an appointment. If people prefer to um order online and just come and pick up plants that's fine as well.

**Rob:** I hate to mention the word but what about the B word, yes?

**Jodie:** Well unfortunately we are no longer able to sell to UK. They've made it much too expensive, complicated and it's just not possible for us any more so we're very sad because we have lost a lot of very loyal customers. Even in December we still thought there was a possibility we thought with a 5 (?) certificate it would be possible but the inspection fees are just too expensive and also we'd have to send everything bare-rooted so that means with no soil um and because of all the delays and the customs it's quite likely the plants wouldn't get there in a good condition anyway.

**Rob:** What about the Covid influence? Has there been one?

**Jodie:** Er yes, that's had another big impact on the business. Obviously last spring was a problem because we were shut for most of the spring. We also do all our plant fairs in the spring because obviously we have spring flowers and they were all cancelled. We normally travel all over France and even Europe and so obviously that had quite a big impact on the nursery. It also meant that we were unable to have a lot of our employees in and we didn't have any other trainees, volunteers so that's had a big impact on production, because we produce everything a year in advance then we have had to reduce our production an awful lot for this year.

**Rob:** Is there anything positive to come out of this?

**Jodie:** Anything positive? Well, spring is on the way the hellebores are out in flower and it's quite exciting this time of year when they all open because we do a lot of our own crosses so when the beds open we're always excited to see what new flowers we've got and obviously the primroses are starting to bloom as well so that's always cheers us up.

**Rob:** That's just the right note to finish on. Thank you ever so much for the update Jodie. Bye

**Jodie:** Thank you. Byebye