

Mum's gift needs TLC as well . . .

Every year thousands of plants are presented in May on Mother's Day. While this is fine if mum has a green thumb, many non-gardening mothers are left wondering how to take care of their living gifts. There are two reasons why chrysanthemums are so closely associated with Mother's Day. They flower at the right time and the name includes the word mum. However, botanists have now renamed these plants dendranthema but this unasked-for mouthful is likely to be ignored by most. Chrysanthemums usually are potted into a very light mix that can become quite water repellent when it's dry. Watering the plants by soaking them in a container is best. Don't water too often and, if the mix gets too dry, a small amount of

Waterwise soil wetter will encourage moisture back. Pinch off dead flowers and feed the chrysanthemum plant every two weeks with a small amount of Thrive Flower and Fruit. Watch for aphids clustering on the new growth. Treat these with Confidor, pyrethrum or Yates new organic Natrasoap. After it's finished flowering the plant can go out into the garden. But, once it's in the ground, it will probably grow somewhat taller than it did in the pot, so make sure you allow room. Cyclamens, have the welcome knack of flowering through the cooler months so they make ideal gifts for Mother's Day. They're happy in a well-lit indoor spot but don't like heated rooms, especially during the night. Put your cyclamen out on to a porch or verandah each evening and



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bring it back next day. Keep cyclamens on the dry side as the bulb-like corm rots easily if wet too long. It's easier to water the plants by sitting them in a bucket and letting water soak from the base. Remove dead flowers with a sharp tug. Don't cut them off. At the end of the flowering season, take the pot outside and leave it somewhere dry for summer. Then, in late summer or early autumn, repot into fresh top quality potting mix and begin feeding regularly with Thrive liquid concentrate houseplant food or Thrive Flower and Fruit.

Volunteer Auditors for Foundation Program Award Audits

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, based in Evanston, Illinois, USA, is one of the largest nonprofit organizations in the United States. Established in 1917, The Rotary Foundation has a long history of support for humanitarian, educational, and cultural projects worldwide, including more than 20 years in the global polio eradication effort.

The Rotary Foundation seeks qualified volunteer auditors to perform audits of Foundation program awards to provide reasonable assurance that project completion and financial accounting records comply with requirements. Volunteers will work closely with program staff, the general auditor, and volunteer leadership in coordinating and completing routine, random, targeted, and other planned audit activities.

Qualifications:

- Rotary club member in good standing
- General understanding of The Rotary Foundation programs
- University degree in auditing, accounting, finance, or similar field
- At least 5 years of experience (10+ years preferred) in auditing, accounting, or compliance reviews
- Certified, chartered, or registered accountant, auditor, or financial investigator in home country
- Excellent English oral and written communication skills
- Ability to travel internationally (maximum three assignments per year)
- Available for assignments as of 1 July 2006
- Knowledge of a second language (preferred)

The Foundation will absorb reasonable travel and administration costs associated with any and all assignments.

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International

Interested candidates should mail or e-mail a résumé, biography, or curriculum vitae summarizing education, experience, and qualifications by 29 May 2006 to:

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