



mowed lawns. But, if Eric is retiring who will look after your gardens?

Local gardener, John Nicholls, has known and worked with Eric since his teenage years, doing odd jobs over

the summer months. Along with being a qualified tree surgeon, John's business, Nicholls & Son, provides a variety of garden services. John says, "Eric contacted my parents, mentioned he was retiring and offered me the opportunity to take over his business."

So to all "Eric's Ladies": you can be sure your gardens will be as beautifully cared for by John as they were by Eric. And, Eric isn't really retiring because he has recently been presented with two grandchildren who will no doubt keep him busy, and he has his own beautiful garden to look after...

## Action Against Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is increasing and that makes it all the more unacceptable that this modern form of slavery, so brutal, violent and degrading, still persists. So I am pleased that the Home Office has announced the Government's intention to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings by the end of the year.

Ratification of the Convention will be a milestone in the strategy to protect the victims of trafficking and bring to justice those that exploit them, but it is only one part of the Government's wider anti-trafficking strategy. The strategy also includes, among other things, a dedicated Human Trafficking Centre as the central point of expertise and operational coordination in tackling human trafficking, nationwide police-led anti-trafficking operations to rescue victims and catch perpetrators, and government funding for victim protection under the Poppy scheme, which supports adult women trafficked into the UK for sexual exploitation.

It is vital that the Government takes action to tackle this organised criminality which seeks to make money from human misery and these measures represent an important way forward.

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