

English:

This is a story about Christmas decorations and Christmas greenery. Decorating our homes with greenery is a Christmas tradition ingrained in our national consciousness. The Christmas tree is of course, the most well known, but it is equally hard to imagine Christmas without wreaths, holly and mistletoe. But when and why did such traditions emerge?

It is a surprisingly difficult question to answer as Christmas traditions are generally deep rooted and undocumented. They have also been adapted and changed over time and are riddled with regional differences and personal interpretations.

Throughout history, decorations in the festive season have strongly centered on the use of evergreens. The Christmas tree is evergreen. But the late Middle Ages on the sole surviving church records include entries for the purchase of holly and ivy in the winter.

For Christians, evergreens symbolize eternal life and the promise of the return of life in the spring. We know that private homes would also have been dressed in greenery at this time of the year.

The Carol, "Decked the halls with boughs of holly." It originated in Wales in the 16th century, showing the continued use of holly within Christmas decorations. Other carols of this period also mentioned ivy and holly as decoration.

Later, in the Victorian period, holly and fur garlands were strewn on the mantelpiece. Charles Darwin in Down House, which he wrote and published in 1877, believed that a scarcity of bees in the spring had resulted in fewer berries and holly in the winter. He wrote, "We cannot decorate our Christmas hearts with the scarlet berries of the holly because bees were scarce during the spring."

It is said that in ancient Rome, wreaths were used as rewards for military success and excellence. Wreaths made of flowers or olive branches, also used to crown winners of the Olympic Games.

Kalends, the New Year festival celebrated by the Romans, included the exchange of wreaths, garlands and other small tokens. It is believed that advent wreaths may have been first used by Lutherans in Germany, in the 16th century. The first record of this custom, however, is from the beginning of the 9th century, when the Lutheran Clergyman led to candle in a wreath every Sunday and told the Nativity story.

The customs spread their homes and churches and continues today. During the 19th century, wreaths were made to hang on the front door. These wreaths were also known as welcome rings and usually consisted of holly, ivy, pinecones and ribbons.

Simplified Chinese

这是一个关于圣诞装饰品和圣诞绿植的故事。用绿色植物装饰我们的家园是我们国家意识中根深蒂固的圣诞节传统。圣诞树当然是最著名的，但同样很难想象没有花环、冬青树和槲寄生的圣诞节。但是，这些传统何时以及为何出现？

这是一个令人惊讶的难以回答的问题，因为圣诞节的传统通常根深蒂固且没有记录。随着时间的推移，这个故事也被多次改编和改变，并充满了地区差异和个人解释。

纵观历史，节日期间的装饰主要集中在使用常青树上。圣诞树是常绿的。但在中世纪晚期，唯一幸存的教堂记录包含了冬季购买冬青树和常春藤的条目。

对于基督徒而言，常青树象征着永恒的生命和春天回归生命的承诺。我们知道，私人住宅在一年中的这个时候也会穿上绿色植物。

颂歌，“用冬青树枝装饰大厅。”这起源于 16 世纪的威尔士，表明在圣诞装饰品中继续使用冬青树。这一时期的其他颂歌也提到了常春藤和冬青作为装饰。

后来，在维多利亚时期，壁炉架上散落着冬青和毛皮花环。查尔斯·达尔文在他于 1877 年撰写并出版的《唐屋》中认为，春季蜜蜂稀少导致冬季浆果和冬青树减少。他写道：“我们不能用冬青树的猩红色浆果来装饰我们的圣诞心，因为蜜蜂很害怕春天。”

据说，在古罗马，花环被用作军事成功和卓越的奖励。用鲜花或橄榄枝制成的花环，也曾用于为奥运会的获胜者加冕。

Kalends 是罗马人庆祝的新年节日，包括交换花环、花冠和其他小象征物。据信，降临花环可能是在 16 世纪德国的路德教会首次使用的。然而，这种习俗的第一个记录是从 9 世纪初开始的，当时路德教会的神职人员每个星期天都会在花环上点燃蜡烛，并讲述耶稣诞生的故事。

习俗传播到他们的家园和教堂，并持续到今天。在 19 世纪，花环被挂在前门上。这些花环也被称为欢迎戒指，通常由冬青、常春藤、松果和丝带组成。

Traditional Chinese

這是一個關於聖誕裝飾品和聖誕綠植的故事。用綠色植物裝飾我們的家園是我們國家意識中根深蒂固的聖誕節傳統。聖誕樹當然是最著名的，但同樣很難想像沒有花環、冬青樹和槲寄生的聖誕節。但是，這些傳統何時以及為何出現？

這是一個令人驚訝的難以回答的問題，因為聖誕節的傳統通常根深蒂固且沒有記錄。隨著時間的推移，這個故事也被多次改編和改變，並充滿了地區差異和個人解釋。

縱觀歷史，節日期間的裝飾主要集中在使用常青樹上。聖誕樹是常綠的。但在中世紀晚期，唯一倖存的教堂記錄包含了冬季購買冬青樹和常春藤的條目。

對於基督徒而言，常青樹象徵著永恆的生命和春天回歸生命的承諾。我們知道，私人住宅在一年中的這個時候也會穿上綠色植物。

頌歌，“用冬青樹枝裝飾大廳。”這起源於 16 世紀的威爾士，表明在聖誕裝飾品中繼續使用冬青樹。這一時期的其他頌歌也提到了常春藤和冬青作為裝飾。

後來，在維多利亞時期，壁爐架上散落著冬青和毛皮花環。查爾斯·達爾文在他於 1877 年撰寫並出版的《唐屋》中認為，春季蜜蜂稀少導致冬季漿果和冬青樹減少。他寫道：“我們不能用冬青樹的猩紅色漿果來裝飾我們的聖誕心，因為蜜蜂很害怕春天。”

據說，在古羅馬，花環被用作軍事成功和卓越的獎勵。用鮮花或橄欖枝製成的花環，也曾用於為奧運會的獲勝者加冕。

Kalends 是羅馬人慶祝的新年節日，包括交換花環、花冠和其他小象徵物。據信，降臨花環可能是在 16 世紀德國的路德教會首次使用的。然而，這種習俗的第一個記錄是從 9 世紀初開始的，當時路德教會的神職人員每個星期天都會在花環上點燃蠟燭，並講述耶穌誕生的故事。

習俗傳播到他們的家園和教堂，並持續到今天。在 19 世紀，花環被掛在前門上。這些花環也被稱為歡迎戒指，通常由冬青、常春藤、松果和絲帶組成。