



Sandhurst and District  
**GARDENING CLUB**  
NEWSLETTER



Dear Member

February 2017

How lovely it was to see so many of you at the January meeting despite the cold weather. Mike Swaddling gave us a very interesting and informative talk on what was going on in the Blackwater Valley. It was not as long as some of our talks but we still had to de-ice our windscreens when we left.

This month is our AGM on **Wednesday February 15th at 7.30pm.**

This is the time for you to come up with any suggestions you may have for the club. The AGM will last until about 8pm and then we have a talk from one of our own members - Graham Harding - on 'The Thames Path from Source to Sea'. He is an excellent speaker - we have had him before so do come!

For those of you who haven't got your new programme yet – subscriptions can be paid at Club night or at the Hut which is open every Sunday except EASTER SUNDAY.

We have GRAHAM TALBOT coming to do another WORKSHOP on **GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 14th at 10.00am.**

For new members, he is probably our most knowledgeable speaker - he has been coming to us for years and years and is a mine of information. More on this nearer the time.

Show Schedules are now available and on **March 15th** we have our Daffodil Show - so pick up a Schedule either at club night or at the Trading Hut.

It is frightening to think as I type this, that we are into February already. With this changeable and sometimes horrible weather it is hard to think that Spring is round the corner. I have snowdrops and aconites out already!!

Don't be tempted to sow your seeds too early, they will catch up.

Chris.

## **TRADING HUT**

You should receive your new price list with your February newsletter. It is available on the website and copies will also be available at the trading hut. Inevitably, there have been some price increases but the vast majority of items remain at 2016 prices

## **WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND EASTER OPENINGS**

The trading hut will open again on Wednesday afternoons, 2 to 4pm, from 15<sup>th</sup> March until the end of June.

**PEANUTS:** Price reduction from £1.90 to £1.75/kg.

## **SEASONAL ITEMS**

**Fleece 2m wide:** 17g/m<sup>2</sup> is 30p/m, slightly thicker at 30g/m<sup>2</sup> is 50p/m.

**Lime:** Vitax 3kg box £3.80, 25kg bag £6.05. (owing to the lime in the 25kg bags being a very fine powder we do not split them into smaller quantities)

**Fat ball feeders** (new stock): £2.30 each.

**Winter Tree Wash (Vitax):** 500ml for £9.35.

**DELIVERY UNLOADING:** Thanks to everyone who has put their name on the list. We are now fully stocked, apart from a few small items but deliveries will start again in the spring.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership fees are now due. It is still excellent value at only £4 for an individual and £6 for a couple. An extra £4 is paid if you need your newsletter posted but most of our members now use email. If you apply by post please remember to include a SAE. Details at the end of the newsletter.

**USEFUL WEBSITE:** [www.filcris.co.uk](http://www.filcris.co.uk) - suppliers of 'plastic' wood, ideal for path edging and raised beds.

## **JOE SWIFT: A Man About The Garden**

**Thursday 23 March at 7.30pm at Camberley Theatre**, Knoll Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3SY

TV presenter Joe Swift digs deep to reveal his fascinating story from his Rock n Roll youth to becoming one of the country's top Garden Designers. Hear what really happens behind the scenes at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show and Gardeners World and find out what it takes to get a Chelsea Show Gold Medal?

His TV credits include Gardeners World, and the RHS Chelsea Flower show and he is a regular columnist for The Times and Gardeners World magazine.

Joe will share all this with you, taking questions on his life and career but warns that answering questions on dead plants isn't going to be top of his list!

Tickets £18 (concessions £16).

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**Coach Trips** - Two coach trips will be on sale on Club Night on the 17th February 2017

**A Walk with Val Pretlove around Smithfield Market** including surrounding area - Anyone who has been on Val's walks will know how interesting she will make this outing.

**Saturday 20th May 2017** cost £23.00 Depart Sandhurst Library 9 a.m. and we will leave London at 16:00 hours. A £5 non returnable deposit is required please.

Although we have two outings in June and July, I am going to do the tickets for the Malvern Autumn Show first

**Malvern Autumn Show Saturday 23rd September 2017** cost £26.00 (£11 coach and £15 for the show). Depart Sandhurst Library at 8 a.m. and we will leave Malvern at 16:00 hours. £5 non returnable deposit please.

**Please note the ticket for the show is a special price for us and is same as for RHS members**

**For your information** - as from the 20th February 2017 the car park in front of the Community Hall will have a gate which will close at 10 p.m. each night and reopen early in the morning. The caretaker will be aware we are present and not lock us in. This has become necessary due to anti social behaviour in the car park at night which has caused many problems for our caretaker Paul and his wife.

Kind Regards, Sheila

## **TOP 10 JOBS TO DO IN FEBRUARY**

For further information go to [www.rhs.org.uk/advice](http://www.rhs.org.uk/advice)

1. Prepare vegetable seed beds, and sow some vegetables under cover
2. Chit potato tubers
3. Protect blossom on apricots, nectarines and peaches
4. Net fruit and vegetable crops to keep the birds off
5. Prune winter-flowering shrubs that have finished flowering
6. Divide bulbs such as snowdrops, and plant those that need planting 'in the green'
7. Prune *Wisteria*
8. Prune hardy evergreen hedges and renovate overgrown deciduous hedges
9. Prune conservatory climbers such as bougainvillea
10. Cut back deciduous grasses left uncut over the winter, remove dead grass from evergreen grasses

## **BUTTERFLIES IN THE GLASSHOUSE AT RHS WISLEY**

14 January - 5 March 2017

Step into the Wisley Glasshouse this winter as it transforms into a tropical paradise with more than 6,000 free-flying exotic butterflies.

Escape into the warmth to see these colourful beauties gliding around the cathedral-like space - including 15 species never before seen at Wisley.

The butterflies feel right at home in our rainforest-like Tropical Zone, filled with huge leaves and flowers including banana plants, floating wetland plants, bromeliads and palm trees.

### **EMAIL AND WEBSITE**

Our Email address is: [enquiries@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk) This will direct your mail to a committee member who can deal with it or pass it on to the relevant person.

Our web page is: [www.sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](http://www.sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk)

### **COMMITTEE CONTACTS**

Chairman & Coach Trips: Sheila Davenport ,10 Nightingale Gardens, Sandhurst. 01252 874361

Vice-Chairman: Len Clark 01252 654937

Hon Sec: Chris Dresler, 40 White Hill Residential Park, Liphook Road, Bordon, Hampshire GU35 9DS. 01420 768965

Trading Co-ordinator: Jane Heritage 01276 600438

Treasurer: Marilyn Grant 01344 771646

Seed and Plant orders: David Dunford 01252 656826 - [dvdunford@ntlworld.com](mailto:dvdunford@ntlworld.com)

Wisley Tickets & Newsletter Distribution: Sandra Hooper 01276 34112

Newsletter Contributions: Steve Roome 01252 877965 - [sroome@aol.com](mailto:sroome@aol.com)

Coach Trips: Sheila Davenport 01252 874361

Cake Stall: Carol McGowan: 01276 36392

Bulb Orders: Ruth Page 01344 774539

Trading Hut Volunteers: Len Clark 01252 654937

Other Committee Members: David Hurst 01252 872506, Derek Dolling 01344 774505, Gill Clark 01252 654937.

Postal membership renewals - **Mrs J Heritage 174B, Branksome Hill Road, College Town, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 0QQ**

Please include a SAE with your completed membership form