



Dear Member

January 2018

**A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR MEMBERS**

Another year gone - where does the time go – fast, if we are having fun in our gardens and on our allotments. What weather will be thrown at us this year?

**Wednesday 17th January at 7.30pm** is our first club night of 2018. Our speaker is Margaret Arnott of the National Gardens Scheme. She is going to tell us the history of the scheme and I am sure lots of you like me go to many open gardens throughout the year and thoroughly enjoy them.

**SEEDS** - David Dunford will have the seeds we ordered so you can collect them on Club night.

Two dates for your diary - our **AGM is Wednesday 21st February**

**WORKSHOP - Good Friday 30th March** at the **TRADING HUT** with Graham Talbot - Garden problems and Seed Sowing

Chris

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership fees are now due. There has been an increase in fees but it is still excellent value at £5 for an individual and £8 for a couple.

For those who haven't been at the recent club nights, we have had to put up the fees because the hire of the hall has gone up so much and we are being charged for set-up time now as well. There has also been an increase in the cost of postage from £4 to £5 to help cover the cost of posting 10 newsletters and the price list during the year. The newsletter and pricelist can be viewed online saving this extra cost.

We haven't increased these fees since 1999.

New membership cards are now ready.

Those members who joined from September onwards and have already paid for 2018 can collect their membership card from the hut or at club nights.

## **TRADING HUT**

The trading hut opens on **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 9.00 am**, after the first club night on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The hut has been restocked and, as usual, we have tried to keep prices as low as possible. There are some increases but, in spite of this, we still give excellent value for money. You can pay your subs. and for your seeds at the hut if you can't make club night. The new price list will be available with your February newsletter.

## **NEW ITEMS**

**Vitax Copper Mixture** 175g for £3.75

Used as a leaf spray when plants require copper to help them resist potato & tomato blight.

**Maxicrop Mosskiller & Lawn Tonic** 1L for £7.20

## **SEASONAL ITEMS**

**Fleece (2m wide) 17g:** 30p/m    **30g:** 50p/m

## **BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH**

It is the Big Garden Birdwatch weekend on **27 - 29 January**. If you haven't joined in before try it this year. You only have to spend an hour counting the birds in your garden and it can be done while staying in the warm. Restock your bird food from the trading hut in preparation for the event.

For more information visit the RSPB website [rspb.org.uk/birdwatch](http://rspb.org.uk/birdwatch)

## **SHOW SCHEDULE 2018**

This will be available in February. There will be a few changes so make sure you read it carefully.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

I went to the Christmas Tree Festival at St Michael's church at the beginning of December and what a wonderful sight it was with about 35 individually decorated trees. What talent we have in Sandhurst amongst the young and the older members of the community. Our own tree was decorated by Ruth Page and Jill Roberts. They must have spent hours and hours to complete the task. I just stood staring and tried to take in all the items on the tree, it was quite fascinating to see the variety of gardening items. Well done Ruth and Jill. I hope a lot of you managed to get to the church as it really was a wonderful event and all in aid of the church spire and windows.

## **Our trip to Slimbridge on Saturday 3rd March 2018.**

Cost is £32.00 and for WWT members it will be £23.50 for the coach only. We leave Sandhurst Library at 8.00 a.m. and depending on traffic will arrive home around 18:00.

You will need very warm clothes, it is a very exposed place. However, there is a restaurant where we can purchase hot food. I remember it from last time. A hot meal was never more welcome.

Please pay in full if possible as we only have one other meeting (in February) before we depart.

A very Happy New Year to you all – Let's hope it stops raining so we can go out into the garden again.

Sheila

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

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

1. Recycle your Christmas tree by shredding it for mulch
2. Clean pots and greenhouses ready for spring
3. Dig over any vacant plots that have not been dug already
4. Disperse worm casts in lawns
5. Inspect stored tubers of Dahlia, Begonia and Canna for rots or drying out
6. Prune apple and pear trees
7. Start forcing rhubarb
8. Plan your vegetable crop rotations for the coming season
9. Keep putting out food and water for hungry birds
10. Make a polythene shelter for outdoor peaches and nectarines, to protect against peach leaf curl

## **BUTTERFLIES IN THE GLASSHOUSE**

Escape to tropical climes at RHS Garden Wisley from **13 January - 4 March 2018**

Butterflies in The Glasshouse returns to Wisley this winter, providing a unforgettable tropical retreat for visitors! Seek out more than 50 vibrant species of exotic butterflies as they fly freely among the Tropical Zone of the cathedral-like Glasshouse.

Our special guests will showcase their magnificent colours, patterns and form among lush plantings such as palm trees, bananas, bromeliads and climbers, as well as the aquatic plants that thrive in the warm jungle pool.

## **RHS LONDON SHOWS 2018**

The RHS have put big plans into action for the RHS London Shows, offering visitors more to see and do. The funds from their ticket sales is being invested in supporting our charitable aims such as helping future gardening apprentices.

These shows, held at both the RHS' Lindley and Lawrence Halls, are now ticketed events costing £5 for RHS members (in advance and on the day), and £6 for non-members (£9 on the day). The RHS is committed to growing the next generation of gardeners and, in line with this ambition, the funds from these tickets will help pay for RHS Apprentices, to enable young people to follow careers in horticulture

- RHS Early Spring Plant Fair on 13 – 14 February
- RHS Orchid Show & Plant Fair on 6 – 7 April
- RHS Plant & Art Fair on 11 – 12 July
- RHS Urban Garden Show on 27 – 28 October
- RHS Harvest Festival Show on 2 – 3 October (this is a FREE event)

See [www.rhs.org.uk/shows](http://www.rhs.org.uk/shows) for further information and ticket sales

## RHS FLOWER SHOWS 2018

Cardiff 13 – 15 April	Malvern Spring 10 – 13 May	Chelsea 22 – 26 May
Chatsworth 6 – 10 June	Harlow Carr 22 – 24 June	Hampton Court 2 – 8 July
Tatton Park 18 – 22 July	Hyde Hall 1 – 5 August	Rosemoor 17 – 19 August
Wisley 4 – 9 September	Malvern Autumn 29 – 30 September	

See [www.rhs.org.uk/shows](http://www.rhs.org.uk/shows) for further information and ticket sales

## 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