



Dear Member

February 2018

Thank you so much for coming to our first meeting in January. Margaret Arnott was a very good speaker and I hope you found the evening interesting. We should have copies of the local NGS books at our meeting in March and a NGS supplement showing details of some gardens open in the local area is included with the newsletter.

This month is our Annual General Meeting - Date **Wednesday 21st February at 7.30pm.**

This is your chance to raise any questions or ideas you may have. After our AGM, which lasts about half an hour, we will have our tea break and after that we have Mark Saunders to talk to us on Photography in the Garden. This is to encourage you to take photographs, obviously for your own pleasure, but you may want to exhibit in our Summer and Autumn Flower Shows. Show schedules will be available at club night in time for our Daffodil Show in March - cost 50p.

Two other dates to put in your diary if you haven't got your new membership card, available at club night or at the Trading Hut. £5 single, £8 double.

Good Friday March 30th - Workshop at the Trading Hut with one of our favourite and most knowledgeable speakers, Graham Talbot.

Sunday May 20th - Bracknell Greening - 10am. to about 12 noon. More details to follow.

VERY, VERY IMPORTANT - READ BELOW ABOUT OPENINGS OF THE TRADING HUT.

Happy gardening, Chris

TRADING HUT: TEMPORARY OPENING TIME CHANGES

Owing to the construction of a new surface the road past the hut will be closed from 7th Feb until at least 12th March. During this period we will operate as follows:

- The hut will be open on **Sundays from 4 to 5pm.** The temporary new time will start this coming **Sunday 11th Feb until Sunday 11th March.** This may have to be extended if the road construction overruns.
- Access will be through the fenced area next to Pistachio's Café.

- We appreciate this may seem a strange time of day but it has been picked because we cannot use that access route when the café is open or when the contractors are on site. Also, there will be many people trying to use the small café car park (allotment users, football club, dog walkers, park users) so we hope 4 – 5pm is when you will be able to park more easily.
- If it is busy I would ask those not getting heavy compost, etc. to consider using the hall car park. If you can bring your own wheelbarrow that would be helpful.
- Why only 1 hour? To reduce the amount of time committee members and helpers have to be there.

Thanking you all, in advance, for your co-operation. Jane

TRADING HUT

Your new price list is included with this newsletter. It is also 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 2017 prices.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND EASTER OPENINGS

We plan to open the trading hut again on Wednesday afternoons, 2 to 4pm, from 15th March until the end of June. This may have to be modified if the road construction is not finished by the 15th. Easter opening will be Good Friday rather than the Sunday. Details confirmed in the March newsletter.

HUT STOCK

As we cannot have deliveries while the road is closed and its opening could be delayed, extra stock has been obtained at short notice so please come and buy it!

MEMBERSHIPS

Membership fees are now due, please try to pay before the end of March. It is still excellent value at only £5 for an individual and £8 for a couple. An extra £5 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. A Membership Application Form is available on the Clubs' website www.sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Coach Trip to Slimbridge on Saturday 3rd March 2018. Cost is £32 to include coach and entrance. For WWT members it will just the cost of the coach which is £24.00. We leave Sandhurst Library at 8 a.m. and I would like everyone to be early around 7:45 so we can get away on time.

We have a 27 seater coach and just six seats left. Please phone or email. All payment by February club night please.

Chelsea Fringe Bracknell Forest, Sandhurst. An alternative gardening festival. This will be held throughout the Borough during Chelsea week 19th to 27th May 2018. The gardening club will be joining in and our event will be on Sunday 20th May between 10 and 12 at the Trading Hut. Two of our committee will be demonstrating planting tubs of flowers, herbs and vegetables during that time and in between we hope to have members helping the general public with questions and answers. An example or two, type of plant for shade or soil needed for a vegetable. Questions our clever members can answer easily, so please volunteer to help with this. You may only be needed for twenty minutes. We will do free refreshments and the pots will be raffled free. We expect to include the children with planting up their own pots which they can take home.

Please email me if you can give a little time for the questions and answers. Thank you

The library will be holding an event, poetry reading, more later. In the main hall on the 26th May we expect more events and there will be planned walks with a leader. Lots more later. It will be a free event throughout the Borough and this will be our first year. Let us hope it is successful and we can think about next year!! This is good for our wonderful community.

Sheila, Chairman, 01252 874361
shethos8@gmail.com (this is my new email address)

TOP 10 JOBS TO DO IN FEBRUARY

For further information go to 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

SNOWDROP GARDENS TO VISIT

Welford Park, Newbury, Berkshire, RG20 8HU

2018 SNOWDROP SEASON -31st Jan to 4th Mar. OPEN Wednesday to Sunday and always CLOSED on Monday and Tuesday. 11am to 4pm. £7.00 adults, £6.00 concessions, £3.00 children (4-16), under 4 years free

The Down House, Itchen Abbas, Hampshire, SO21 1AX.

Sunday 18th February 2018 (12pm - 4pm). NGS Admission: Adult £5, Children free

Gatton Park, Rocky Lane, Merstham, Surrey, RH2 0TW

Opening times: 1.00pm - 5.00pm. **£5** per adult, children free

Our snowdrops are starting to come up through the cold frosty ground and we are expecting an excellent display in February. We are open every Sunday in February and every afternoon in half term, to give you a chance to see the beautiful displays of snowdrops on a winter walk.

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.

EMAIL AND WEBSITE

Our Email address is: 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

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

Wisley Tickets & Newsletter Distribution: Sandra Hooper 01276 34112

Newsletter Contributions: Steve Roome 01252 877965 - 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