



Dear Member

March 2018

Well it seems ages since we saw you at the AGM – lucky we didn't have the snow then. Now like me, I expect you just have soggy ground left – we need some sustained sunshine!

At our AGM we learnt that we have 378 members and sales at the Hut had been very good over the previous year with a profit of £1,541 which is 11.7%. We made a loss on club nights but some of our speakers charge in excess of £90 now and the raffle etc doesn't cover that. In addition the hall charges have risen considerably as we are now being charged for setting up time.

However, overall the club is very healthy, so keep coming to the meetings and the Trading Hut so that we can continue.

Also at the AGM our chairman, whilst remaining on the committee, stood down from her position as she is now a Town Councillor and there is a conflict of interest.

I hope you enjoyed Mark Saunders with his photography – I thought his slides were beautiful.

This month on **Wednesday 21st March** we have our Daffodil Show.

Setting up time is 6.45pm till 7.30pm. Judging will take place during our talk for the evening which is on “Ponds” all shapes and sizes. A new speaker for us – Ray Broughton.

Now all we need is the sun to bring the big Daffodils out, the small ones are almost out.

Show schedules are available at the Hut or on club nights.

As you are aware, we have been having trouble with opening the Trading Hut. We have been there 20 years and have never had a problem, when out of the blue an email arrived late on Friday evening 2nd February informing us there would be no access to the hut after 8th February until the roadworks were finished. This is despite the fact that we have a lease that states categorically we have to be consulted with and given adequate notice of such events before they go ahead.

At the AGM Len Clark our Vice-chairman (now |Chairman) said we would be working hard to resolve this. You will have seen the efforts we have had to put in to keep the Hut open and Jane Heritage, Len and myself have been lobbying Councillors for a solution as hardly any work has been done on the road in the last 30 days. The **GOOD NEWS** is that common sense has prevailed and we have been granted access to operate normally for the time being - **Sundays back to 9.00am to 10.45am and Wednesday 2.00pm to 4.00pm** until the end of June.

Graham Talbot is still scheduled to carry out the **workshop on Good Friday** as in our programme. Please bring any questions, plants or plant cuttings on any problem you may have. Also he will be sowing seeds and other things, so do come – he is worth it.

Now, help from you the Members, - Jane and I will be attending the Town Council Leisure Committee meeting on **Thursday 15th March** to put our questions to them. Please will you come to the hall and support us as you did when we took the matter of the bookings for our club to them. **It made a huge difference to have you there!** Time 7.30pm to probably 9.00ish.

We really need to show the Council the depth of feeling from our members **so see you there!**

Chris

TRADING HUT

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON OPENINGS

The Hut is open again on Wednesday afternoons, 2 to 4pm, until the end of June. This may change if work on the road near the hut starts again so keep an eye on your emails.

EASTER OPENINGS

One again we will be open on Good Friday 30th March 9 to 10.45am. But it will be closed on Easter Sunday. This will enable you to stock up on gardening items before a busy weekend in the garden, weather permitting!

HUT USEFUL ITEMS THIS MONTH

Superphosphate 3kg for £3

Helps root development and quick establishment of young or recently moved plants; encourages early maturity of fruit. Use all the year round (top dressing particularly in the spring) N-P-K: 0:18:0. Base and top dressing 2 oz per sq yd.

Sulphate of Potash 3kg for £3

The best source of potash for most plants, often deficient in very sandy soils. Particularly needed by flowers, potatoes, beans, tomatoes, currants and gooseberries. Acts quickly. To correct a potash deficiency quickly dissolve 1oz in a gallon of water and wet the soil thoroughly. Use in spring. N-P-K: 0:0:48. Base or top dressing 0.5 – 1 oz per sq yd.

Root Trainers (32 cell and lid): £4.80. Replacement cells only £3.20

Seed Tray Inserts 15, 24 or 40 cells (black) 25p each

Propagator Set ½ a seed tray, base and lid: £2.50 per set

Vermiculite (fine and Medium): £1.20 for 5L

Polypots 17L: 30p each. Grow some amazing potatoes in these, very little space required

MEMBERSHIPS – Important information

Please renew your membership by the end of this month. After then we no longer send you a newsletter. You can rejoin at the hut, at club nights or by post (see back of newsletter for details). If applying by post please don't forget to include a SAE. If you joined at the end of last year (from September onwards) you will have already paid for this year. You just need to collect a membership card from the hut or a club night. Alternatively send a SAE to Jane Heritage. A membership application form is available from the clubs website - www.sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

COACH TRIPS

Slimbridge – unfortunately due to the adverse weather conditions I had no choice but to cancel this visit.

Compton Acres and boat trip round Poole harbour – due to lack of response from members in part due to the Royal wedding and the FA Cup final, I have changed the date to **Saturday 12th May**. I hope this will mean there will be a better response to this coach trip. Cost will be £24.50 for Compton and the coach plus the option of a boat trip at £10. We will leave Sandhurst Library at 08.30am.

Please support this trip as it will be a shame to cancel another one.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTS

If you have any unwanted garden items you would like to get rid of (sell or give away) then place an advert in this newsletter.

Email Steve Roome (sroome@aol.com) or drop details off at the hut (not the item – we don't have space). **Garden items only.**

TOP 10 JOBS TO DO IN MARCH

1. Protect new spring shoots from slugs
2. Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes
3. Plant summer flowering bulbs
4. Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials
5. Top dress containers with fresh compost
6. Mow the lawn on dry days (if needed)
7. Cut back Dogwood and Willow grown for colourful winter stems
8. Hoe and mulch weeds to keep them under control early
9. Start feeding fish and using pond fountain: remove pool heaters
10. Prune back bush and climbing roses

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: Len Clark 01252 654937

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

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