



Sandhurst and District
GARDENING CLUB
NEWSLETTER



Dear Member

March 2019

Most members seemed to enjoy the fish and chip etc. supper before our AGM last month - I know I did ! Thank you for coming early which enabled us to get off to a good start. It was a very busy evening, Sheila taking coach bookings, Raffle, memberships, sales of bird seed and of course a lovely talk by Graham Harding 'Sandhurst Walk'. A huge thank you to all of you for turning up trumps to get all the tables and chairs out for our food, and helping clear away at the end - absolutely fantastic.

The AGM reports showed that despite losing quite a lot of money with the road and gate closure, you the members had supported the Trading hut very well and we still made a profit, albeit lower than in previous years. We are still working on the Council to have a key for the side gate and confirmation that we may unload our exhibits for our main shows right outside the hall and we will keep you posted on the result of the next two meetings coming up at the end of March. We tried to get some money back on our hiring of the hall for our Christmas party which because of the locking of the external gate to the hall was thoroughly horribly compromised by the Council's inability to work with us on exit timing.

A resolution was passed that we would **start future meetings at 7.15pm** to make it easier for us to get out of the hall by 10pm.

I also announced that I now have an assistant who will help me over the next few years with the secretarial side, like booking and organising speakers, helping Sheila with new leaflets to promote our coach trips etc.etc. Her name is Julie Sheppard and she was duly voted onto the committee at the AGM.

This month is our Daffodil Show on **Wednesday March 20th**. Setting up from **6.45 to 7.15pm** please. We have one of our favourite speakers Graham Talbot coming to talk about Sweet Peas - growing and showing. We didn't have many entries in the Shows for Sweet Peas so do come, he is so knowledgeable.

A future date for your diary - **Good Friday 19th April** - Graham will be coming to the Trading hut for a workshop as in previous years. **The Hut is not open EASTER SUNDAY.**

Chris

TRADING HUT

*****Wednesday Afternoon Openings*****

The hut is open again on Wednesday afternoons, **2 to 4pm from 20th March until 26th June.**

TOOL SHARPENING

On **Sunday 24th March** members of California Gardening Club members will be coming along to the hut to sharpen your tools from about **9am to 10.45am**. There will be a small fee. We will be providing free refreshments while you are waiting so do look out those blunt tools and come along.

KNOW YOUR FERTILIZERS

Superphosphate (0:18:0): Helps root development and quick establishment of young or recently moved plants; encourages early maturity of fruit. Use all year round (top dressing particularly in Spring). Base and top dressing 2 oz/sq yd.

Bonemeal 3kg for £2.65 (3.5:18:5) Organic, fine ground fertilizer that slowly releases organic nitrogen and phosphate into the soil; this encourages strong and healthy root growth. Bonemeal can be used anywhere in the garden, as a base dressing (before planting/sowing) or a top dressing. Use mainly in Autumn and early Spring. Base dressing 4.5 oz/sq yd. Top dressing 3 oz/sq yd.

HUT ITEMS USEFUL THIS MONTH

Rootmore Q4 250g: £6, use when planting shrubs, etc. Idea when splitting and replanting perennials, it helps them root and get a good start.

Root trainers (32 cell, tray & lid): £4.80 **Replacement cells only:** £2.40.

Seed tray inserts 15, 24 or 40 cells (black): 25p each

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

Vermiculite (fine & medium): £1.40 for 5L **Perlite:** 80p for 5L

Poly Pots 17L:** 30p each – grow some amazing potatoes or other vegetables in these, very little space required.

** Chelsea Show champion vegetable grower, Medwyn Williams, recommends adding 4oz flower & veg fertiliser (equivalent to Q4) and 4oz calcified seaweed to the compost of each 17L polypot before planting potatoes.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTS - Garden items only please.

If you have an unwanted garden item you would like to get rid of (sell or give away) then place an advert in this newsletter. Maybe you are not coping your gardening, we may have a member who might be interested is helping you. Email details to Steve Roome, sroome@aol.com or drop details off at the hut, written clearly on a card to put on our notice board.

MEMBERSHIP ** Important Information**

Please renew your membership by the end of the month. After that 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 do not forget to include a SAE. A Membership form is available from our website: www.sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

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 and she will post your card.

COACH TRIPS

Leonardslee - 11th May 2019 cost now £25.50 for seniors and £27 anyone else

We leave Sandhurst Library at 9.00 a.m. and depart venue at 16:00.

This coach trip to the glorious gardens of Sussex is almost full. **Just a few places remaining.**

Aston Potteries and Nursery Wednesday 31st July 2019 Cost £20 for coach & £5 for tour of Potteries.

Extensive nursery to explore and an interesting walk around the potteries.

We leave Sandhurst Library at 9:45 a.m. and the venue at 16:00. Departure time from the venue is subject to how much time is needed at the potteries. It could be earlier.

Malvern Autumn Show Saturday 28th September 2019. Cost £28.50 to include entrance tickets

This coach is filling up fast, so if you want to go see me at club night or email.

The cost is £11.50 for Coach and £17.00 for entrance tickets = £28.50

Tickets for the Malvern show are not refundable I am informed and if purchased at the venue they will be £5.00 more.

Non refundable £5 deposit now due for all the above trips please. Full payment would be appreciated for Leonardslee at next club night this month. However, all monies for Leonardslee must be paid by club night 18th April.

Please see me at club night 21st March 2019 or email me: shethos8@gmail.com

Sheila

SPRING PLANT FAIR AT RHS GARDEN WISLEY

Meet the growers and choose quality plants from more than 30 specialist nurseries at the Spring Plant Fair. Plants on sale include many with an RHS Award of Garden Merit (AGM).

Friday 22nd March - Sunday 24th March - 10:00am - 4:30pm

Adult: £14.50, Child: £7.25, Members: Free

TOP 10 JOBS TO DO IN MARCH

For further information go to www.rhs.org.uk/advice

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 Cornus (dogwood) and Salix (willow) grown for colourful winter stems
8. Hoe and mulch weeds to keep them under control early
9. Start feeding fish and using the pond fountain; remove pond heaters
10. Prune 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

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

Assistant Secretary: Julie Sheppard 15 Park Road, Sandhurst Berks, GU47 9AA 01252 870521

Vice Chairman and Trading Secretary: Jane Heritage 01276 600438

Treasurer: Marilyn Grant 01344 771646

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

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

Cake Stall: Carol McGowan: 01276 36392

Bulb Orders: Ruth Page 01344 774539

Trading Hut Volunteers: Len Clark 01252 654937

Other Committee Members: 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