



Sandhurst and District
GARDENING CLUB
NEWSLETTER



Dear Member

August 2019

Well, I think 'changeable' would be the best way to describe the weather of late - from record breaking temperatures one week to huge downpours and thunderstorms the next! Just as long as it doesn't hail and flatten all the flowers, fruit and veg being nurtured in time for the Autumn show...

The speaker at the last meeting - Ray Broughton – was super; not only for stepping in at the last minute and coming to us straight from the airport, but also for the fantastic talk and guidance he gave us on growing and showing daffodils. His talk was full of useful little nuggets that hopefully will encourage lots of you to consider entering the daffodil show next spring. There was also helpful advice on keeping the daffodils (and tulips) looking their best in the home; the most useful piece of information though was to buy your bulbs NOW to be assured of getting the best – remember to look for a double nose with a fat mother!

The cake stall was a great success with just over £80 being raised for the 2 charities - Versus arthritis supported by Jenny Jackson and family & Jane Morgan's hedgehog charity. Huge thanks to everyone who supported them either by bringing or eating a cake!

Finally, with regard to club night, can I please ask members not to talk while a speaker is at the front. A couple of members came up to me at the end of the evening to say they had missed large chunks of what Ray Broughton was talking about because of the noise from people talking behind them. Thank you.

Julie Sheppard

The next important event for the club is the Autumn Show on **Saturday 31st August**. As usual, entries into a committee member by 12 noon on the Thursday prior to the show which is the 29th August.

I need all your cups from last year's autumn show and also the Annual awards that are presented for the highest points over the Summer and Autumn Shows.

The Trading Hut is now shut for August so either give them to a committee member or bring them on the day of the Show to me (cleaned please). Setting up time is 9.00am to 12 noon when the judging begins. The Show is open to members and visitors from 3pm. I shall be in touch with some of you to help at the show nearer the time.

Important - Change of date and venue for Xmas Party. It is now on **Saturday 30th November** at the New Owlsmoor Community Centre.

See inside for further details and make a note now in your diary please.

This is because the Council won't let us have access through the gate at the Memorial Hall properly after 10pm.

See you at the Show with lots and lots of exhibits.
Chris.

TRADING HUT

The trading hut reopens after the summer break on **Sunday 1st September**, the day after the Autumn Show. We stay open every Sunday morning until the last Sunday in November.

KNOW YOUR FERTILIZERS:

Autumn Lawn Food (3:12:12) Promotes healthy root system to give a good start the following Spring and increase root resistance during the Summer. Apply when grass is dry but soil is moist.

Apply 2 oz/sq yd. Water in if no rain after 24 hours. Our price: 3kg for £3.30, treats 53 sq yards.

BUBBLE INSULATION: We have a limited supply of this at the hut so, if you need some, come and buy it as soon as possible. It is unlikely we will purchase more this year unless we can sell most of the roll. It is too bulky to store. 1.5m wide, £1.90/m.

BULBS

We expect the bulbs to be delivered during August and available for sale from the Autumn Show onwards. As usual, prices will be competitive but stocks will be limited so buy early to avoid disappointment.

A REMINDER: SINGLE USE PLASTIC – DOING OUR BIT

We are looking at ways to reduce our single use plastics at the hut. From September we would like you to return your bird food and fertilizer bags (provided they are in a reusable state). Containers will be provided so we can keep them separate. Bags will only be reused for the same product so there is no cross contamination.

Alternatively, bring your own container. For speed, when we are busy, we may just tip an already weighed bag into it but we can then reuse that bag.

CHRISTMAS PARTY * IMPORTANT PLEASE READ*****

Owing to all the difficulties we had last year with the car park gate being locked at 10pm very much spoiling the end of our party we decided to look for another venue for this year. It has meant we have had to change the date and therefore we are giving you more notice so you can get it in your diaries.

The party is now being held at: **THE OWLSMOOR CENTRE, YEOVIL ROAD, SANDHURST** on **SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 7.15 for 7.30 pm**

As usual, we will have food, wine & soft drinks and this year we have a singer for entertainment. Many of you will be able to walk to the venue but there is parking behind the centre, entrance on Cambridge Road. This year tickets will be available from the Autumn Show onwards. Price is £8 (unchanged from last year).

Jane Heritage keeps the tickets between meetings and hut openings so, if you need yours posting, send her a cheque payable to 'Sandhurst Gardening Club' together with a **SAE**. Address at the end of this newsletter under postal memberships. Also, if you have bought a ticket but find you cannot use it please phone Jane on 01276 600438 and she may be able to refund your money and sell it someone else.

JUMPERS FOR CHARITY

Any extras knitted can be brought along to the Autumn Show or the hut the day afterwards. We will then be posting them off. Many thanks for your efforts.

COACH TRIPS

Malvern Autumn Show Saturday 28th September

A reminder to anyone who has not paid for the trip, I will be collecting money at the club show on the 31st August as I need to buy the tickets well in advance of the trip.

The coach leaves Sandhurst Library promptly at 8.00 am please be early. You should be able to park in the library car park.

Sheila

Report on visit to Aston Pottery and garden

On Wednesday 31st July we set off to Aston Pottery in Oxfordshire for the day. I had got the idea firstly from the RHS Garden Magazine which described the lovely gardens with the added extra of The Pottery. From that original article a further two appeared in The English Garden magazine and I was hooked.

Sheila, our coach trip organiser was going to be away so Jane Heritage (our Trading Secretary) and I were in charge. When we arrived, the owner, Stephen Baughan, directed us to the loos and then ushered us into the cafe which had an amazing selection of scones and delicious cakes for you to feast your eyes on.

Fortified by this and tea and coffee we went to the Pottery - there were so many of us we had to go in two groups. Stephen, the owner took us right through the actual making of, say a teapot, explaining the various materials he used and then showed us how he decorated the items with stencils. A different brush for each colour, i.e. for the small jug I bought with the Goldfinch on, he had to use seven different stencils for the picture.

As one member remarked, the items weren't cheap but there was an awful lot of work that went into the finished article. After that a pre-ordered lunch which was excellent and then on into the garden.

Well it was stunning - big bold borders of which there were five. The smallest one measured 320m square. The Hot Bed, backed by a Copper Beech hedge was planted on an incline 3 metres high on the rubble excavated when the Gift Shop and cafe was built. There was a huge Pleached Hornbeam walkway 72m long down to a timber framed summerhouse. All the beds without exception were stuffed with masses of plants in big dollops of colour with an annual bed for which they sowed 8,000 seeds and then block planted them as plug plants in triangles – Gobsmacking !!.

We hope to be able to show you some pictures perhaps at the Autumn Show. We hope you enjoyed it, we did.

Chris.

TOP 10 JOBS TO DO IN AUGUST

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

1. Prune Wisteria
2. Don't delay summer pruning fruits trained as restricted forms
3. Deadhead flowering plants regularly
4. Watering! - particularly containers, and new plants, preferably with grey recycled water or stored rainwater
5. Collect seed from garden plants
6. Harvest sweetcorn and other vegetables as they become ready
7. Continue cutting out old fruited canes on raspberries
8. Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners
9. Keep ponds and water features topped up
10. Feed the soil with green manures

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