



Newsletter 2 – February 2022

Dear Members,

This month's talk sees a 'two for one' offer – we begin the evening with the AGM, which will be our first one since 2020, so important that we confirm arrangements and also give you the opportunity to have your say on what is, after all, your club. A separate email will come out about the AGM but I would just like to mention here that there are opportunities to join the committee; new blood is always important as it brings fresh ideas and a new pair(s) of eyes to look at things, so please read the AGM email if you are interested. Previous minutes etc will also come out via that email.

The AGM will not take very long, so shortly after it concludes we will be welcoming our second part of the 2 for 1 offer - Oscar Pickles from the Bracknell Forest Rangers - who will be giving our talk this month. He will be telling us about his role as a Ranger and also all the things the Rangers' team get up to. Bracknell has over 30 parks, all managed by the Ranger service, so it should prove to be an interesting and enlightening evening. Do join us.

Julie Sheppard

NEW CONTACT DETAILS

We have updated some of the contact details for key roles within the committee. Not only is this better practice in terms of maintaining the privacy of individual's email addresses, but it also makes it easier for members should a committee member's role change. Please note the following addresses; hopefully it is self-evident as to who they are for:

secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

hut@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

trips@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

membership@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

and for more general queries:

enquiries@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

DAFFODIL SHOW



Don't forget it's our Daffodil Show next month on 16th March, so you have about 4 weeks to keep an eye on your emerging daffs and select some to put in the show. Full details in the schedule – 50p - available at the hut and club night. This was the first event to be cancelled as Covid emerged two years ago so help make a colourful display this year.

Trips and outings

Holiday to the wonderful Isle of Wight

Monday 16th to Friday 20th May 2022. The time to book has been extended, so I am still taking bookings with a £50 non-returnable deposit.

We will be staying at Warner's Bembridge Coast Hotel and we will have full use of all their facilities staying in an ensuite room on half board. The hotel is situated right beside the sea with the grounds leading down to the beach. Lovely walks in either direction. One towards the Lifeboat Station and an amazing walk out on the pier to the lifeboat.

We will have outings to Osborne House, former holiday home of Queen Victoria and her family and Ventnor Botanical Gardens, formerly the Royal National Hospital for chest disease. It was opened in 1869 and demolished a hundred years later. We will also visit Mottistone gardens and Farringford House and Gardens, former home of Alfred Lord Tennyson. We will also have a day to enjoy the many facilities of the Warner's resort.

Cost per person is £599.00 sharing a double room which includes the coach, a lovely trip on the ferry down Southampton Waters and across the Solent to East Cowes and all the trips out.

Come with us and feel like you are aboard without the hassle of airport and passport. The Island is an amazing place.

Email trips@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk to book this fantastic holiday and pay directly into Sandhurst Gardening Club's bank account:

Name: Gardening Club of Sandhurst & District

A/C number 92029304, Sort Code 09-01-51

or please let me have your cheques made payable to the club.

Sir Harold Hillier Gardens in Romsey

Saturday 17th September 2022 - It is ten years since we last visited these fantastic gardens and I thought it time we did so again. The gardens are an Arboretum of 72 hectares. There are 42,000 trees and shrubs which includes oaks, camellias, magnolias and rhododendron, so lots to see and much walking to do.



I know a visit to gardens are not complete without eating! There is the Garden Restaurant, the Courtyard Cafe and Tilia Tree Cafe to choose from. The Garden Restaurant serves hot meals, plus cakes etc. The other two provide light lunches plus afternoon tea of course. You will be spoilt for choice. Coach leaves 9:30 for arrival time of 11 a.m. or earlier depending on traffic and cost including entrance is £28.

Basingstoke canal trip

Come with us on a trip on the new modern John Pinkerton II for an afternoon on the Basingstoke Canal.

We leave Colt Hill, Odiham at 3.00 for a 2 ½ hour cruise west towards Greywell, stopping to turn round at King John's Castle, where we get off for about 15 minutes to look at the castle. A Cream Tea is provided on the outward journey and it is a lovely, slow meandering cruise making it easy to see wildlife and the surrounding countryside properly.

Plenty of FREE parking at Odiham so members can double up with friends in cars - the boat is covered and the seats much comfier than on the old boat.

There is a toilet on board and a well-stocked bar. The crew give a commentary as we go along.

When: Wednesday 13th JULY, ready to depart at 3.00pm

Cost: £20.00 per person (ticket and Cream Tea)

Email trips@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk to book this super trip and pay directly into Sandhurst Gardening Club's bank account:

Name: Gardening Club of Sandhurst & District

A/C number 92029304, Sort Code 09-01-51

or please let me have your cheques made payable to the club.

Spaces will sell very quickly for this trip, so book sooner rather than later to be assured of a place.

Sheila Davenport

PLANT SALE

Saturday 28th May 2022, we need all you clever gardeners to get cracking on sowing seeds and taking cuttings so we have loads to sell on the day.

Sunil and Gareth are once again going to hold the plant sale in their garden in Broomaces, Longdown Estate. They are going to make it a bigger event than last year by selling teas and cakes. Homemade cakes!!! Let us support them in this venture and raise lots of money for the club. More details to follow.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership fees are now due, £5 for an individual and £8 for a couple. We have decided we will no longer be delivering any newsletters by hand. If you want a paper copy of the newsletter & price list you must pay the postage which is increasing to £10 for the year; first class will be used. Copies of the newsletter & price list will be available at the hut and on club nights. You will note there is now the option to pay your fees by bank transfer – see the [attached membership form](#) for details of what to do.

TRADING HUT

The trading hut is now open, as usual, on a Sunday morning 9 to 10.45am. Easter is not for a while but just to remind you we open on Good Friday that weekend and **NOT** Easter Sunday. We will remind you with dates nearer the time.

We will be opening on a Wednesday afternoon, 2 to 4pm from 16th March until the end of June. This may change when more work is being carried out at Sandhurst Town Football Club later in the year. We will keep you posted via email and the newsletter so do read it!!

SEASONAL ITEMS

Propagator sets (half seed tray, base & lid): £3.30

Root trainers: Set (tray, 32 cells, lid): £4.80, **32 cells only:** £2.40

Jiffy fibre pots – peat free 8cm: 10 for £1.00

Grass seed: With rye £2.60 for 500g, without rye £2.75 for 500g

Price increase: We have just received new stocks of New Horizon peat free compost and the price has risen to £6.90 for a 50L bag.

Growmore price: Growmore has increased significantly in price from £2.90/3kg to in 2021 to £3.95 this year. A big increase but a typical local price is £6.99 for 3.5kg or 52% dearer making our increased price still very competitive.

****SPRING BULBS****

We still have good stocks of spring bulbs, topped up by some late arrivals in the past 2 weeks. Varieties of gladioli, dahlias, begonias, lilies (we now have varieties Purple Dream and Elodie), nerines and some other types. Prices are, as usual, very competitive: £2.99 reduced to £2, £3.99 reduced to £2.70.

UPDATE ON THE FUTURE OF THE TRADING HUT

Eleven members have volunteered to find out more about the hut and be able to work on the counter. They are currently taking turns to working alongside a committee member until confident with all the procedures.

We are still looking for that all important small team to take over the job of running the hut from the end of the year. So far, only one member has said they would be prepared to be part of that team. If you are looking for something to occupy a bit of your spare time maybe this is for you. I have done it many years

building it up to what we have today – an essential part of our great Club. It has been thoroughly enjoyable 'playing shops' but it is now time for me to pass the job on to others. To find out more details contact Jane Heritage on 01276 600438 or email:

hut@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Jane Heritage

CAN YOU HELP BE PART OF THE 'SOCIAL TEAM'?

At the last club night, we explained to members that the next part of our phase to ensure the continuity of the club is to look for members to help take on a small role within the social side of the club. Under this umbrella comes things such as the refreshments at all events (club night, shows etc.), as well as trips, raffles and outings. If you are able to spare a small amount of time to help organise any of these, please chat with any committee member. I'm pleased to say though, that Sheila is happy to continue organising trips for the time being!

Julie Sheppard

SHOW SCHEDULE 2022

This will continue to be available at Club nights. If you bought one for 2020 shows we are using the same classes for this year.

SCHOOLS & BROWNIES



The club supports two local schools with gardening groups by buying their seeds at a discount and then passing them on for free. Also, at the end of last year, all excess bulbs were passed on to several schools and brownies. We have since received several 'Thank You' cards (see left and at the end of this newsletter) via Lydia Stonestreet who is involved with both College Town Primary School 'Eco-Warriors' and Owlsmoor Brownies. Other schools to benefit included Scotland Hill,

St Michael's and Oaklands Infant school.

TOOL SHARPENING

Advance notice that there will be an opportunity for you to get your tools sharpened at the Trading hut on Sunday 20th March – more details to follow.

TENDER SHOOTS – PROGRAMME OF TALKS

The free talks from this group continue in March & April:

Mar 23rd Wed 7.30pm – Margaret Easter – Using herbs over the centuries

April 13th Wed 7.30pm – Richard Harvey – Subject TBC

Zoom login details are the same for all meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4043014750?pwd=SVRibE0vRW5mTUJFdGlnNblVxSlJPZz09>

Meeting ID: 404 301 4750

Passcode: bonsai

Or join via the YouTube page live stream

CONTACT DETAILS:

Hon Chair: Chris Dresler 01420 768965

Hon Secretary: Julie Sheppard 01252 870521 secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Vice Chairman and Trading Secretary: Jane Heritage 01276 600438

hut@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Treasurer: Steve Roome sroome@aol.com

Coach Trips: Sheila Davenport trips@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk
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
Bulb Orders: Ruth Page 01344 774539
Trading Hut Volunteers: Lesley Williams johnwilliams288@hotmail.com
Other Committee Members: Carol McGowan: 01276 36392, Derek Dolling 01344 774505, Gill Clark 01252 654937, Liz Crow 01252 693552
Online membership: Sandra Hooper membership@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk
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.

