



# Newsletter 3 – March 2022

Dear Members,

I hope you enjoyed last month's on the work of the Bracknell Forest ranger service – I was surprised by the range and diversity of their work as well as disappointed by how much time and money is wasted by them having to clear up after fly tippers! It was Oscar's (the Ranger) first ever talk, and he was surprised by the number of folk attending (I think he'd been expecting about 20) and I think he'd prepared it all very well.

This month's talk is about **vegetables** and will cover growing, techniques, ideas & advice and hopefully some tips about showing. It is being given Barry Newman, a well-known grower, exhibitor, lecturer and judge. He is Vice-Chairman of the RHS's Fruit, Vegetable & Herb Committee and a former Chairman of the National Vegetable Society. A real expert; I do hope you will be able to join us.

Also at this meeting is our first show of the year – the Daffodil show - and our first 'live' show since Autumn 2019! Please see below for further details.

Julie Sheppard

## **DAFFODIL SHOW**

Our Daffodil Show takes place at the March club night. If you haven't bought a schedule, but want to enter, details for this show are now on our [website](#). Please bring your completed entry form from the back of the schedule or just a piece of paper with your name and class numbers. Entry cards will be written while you stage your exhibits.

There will be tables at the front of the hall with all you need: vases, etc. If you haven't done it before, help will be provided.

Staging will be from 6.45 pm and must be complete by 7.30 pm at the very latest – ideally by 7.15 pm. The show will be judged by Graham Talbot, well known to many club members.

## **TRADING HUT**

The hut is open again on Wednesday afternoons, 2 to 4pm from 16<sup>th</sup> March until 29<sup>th</sup> June. We open on Good Friday Easter weekend and NOT Easter Sunday.

## **HUT STOCK**

Clover are no longer making grow bags so see below what we are stocking this year. Inevitably, prices have risen:

Westland Erin Super-sized Gro'bags 35L: £3.85

Westland Big Tom Tomato Planter: £4.60

New Horizon Tomato planter, peat free & organic: £5.60

Clover Multi-Purpose Compost and Composted stable manure: stocks are currently low but more is on order and is expected in the next 2-3 weeks.

## TOOL SHARPENING

Once again, on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March, members of California Gardening Club will be coming along to the hut to sharpen your tools from about 9am to 10.45am. There will be a fee of £2 per item. Rotary mower blades welcome but must be removed from the mower. No cylinder mowers. NOTE: Items can be left and collected later but please bag them and label clearly with your name.

**HONEY:** We have stocks of local honey at £5.10/1lb – cheap if you have looked at the price of good honey elsewhere. Please return your honey jars which we give to our supplier to be reused.

**Have you lost a key?** A silver Yale type key with JMA written on it (no keyring) was found at the trading hut on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February. If you think it was yours collect it from the hut.

## TRIPS AND OUTINGS

### Holiday to the wonderful Isle of Wight

Warner's Bembridge Coast Holiday 16th to 20th May 2022: Please those of you going on this trip make sure your final payment of £549.00 is paid by the **4th April**. Either by bank transfer which is the preferred method or by cheque to me. Bank details as follows:

Gardening Club of Sandhurst & District, Account number 92029304. Sort Code 09-01-51

### Sir Harold Hillier Gardens in Romsey

Trip to Sir Harold Hillier on the Saturday 17th September 2022, leaving Sandhurst Library at 9:30 and a possible return by 5:30 Cost £28.00 each. See attached flyer for more details and booking form.

Sheila Davenport

## PLANT SALE

### *We need your plants!*

As mentioned previously, we will NOT be holding a plant sale at the May club night, as Sunil and Gareth are once again going to hold the plant sale in their garden in Broomacres, Longdown Estate on Saturday 28th May 2022.

They are going to make it a bigger event than last year by selling teas and cakes as well as the essential plants. Let us support them in this venture and raise lots of money for the club, so please pot up any plants you divide, any excess seedlings you have, or any plants you decide just aren't right for your garden. Details of what to do with them will follow later. Thank you.



## DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY



Next year will be a momentous one in the life of the gardening club, as it will reach its 60<sup>th</sup> birthday! Clearly this is something that needs to be celebrated, so we are looking for ideas of things that could be done, projects undertaken etc. and any interest in being part of a small subgroup to look at these ideas, what will work and how to implement them. Please let any committee member know either if you are interested in joining or have a good idea! Julie

## TRIBUTE TO JOSIE BLUNDEN

Well, what to say about this lovely, diminutive lady who was a member of the club since 1990.



Hardly ever missed a club night and always made us a wonderful Dundee cake for our club night and show raffles, also lots of cakes for the cake stall. Hardly ever missed a club night even when she broke her hip and came with her frame.

However, she will also be remembered for her show exhibits. In she would come with her daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren and start filling up her vases. I had only ever been to her garden once but she grew so much and it was such a joy to see her beaming smile when she won the trophies at the shows.

She liked to be called Josie. I remember being

reprimanded for saying “Morning Mrs B, how are you? She promptly said “It’s Josie, dear”.

Owing to the pandemic, the show this March is the first since Josie died. Whoever wins the trophy named after her later in the year will have a class act to follow. *Photo: Josie with her friend, Olivia, in Josie’s garden.*

Chris Dresler

## AFFILIATIONS

We are affiliated to a number of organisations, which offer different benefits and news for members:

**RHS CARD:** We are affiliated to the RHS and as such, buy a card each year for any gardening club member to use. It gives 30% off entry to any of the RHS gardens. Please contact Sandra Hooper (via the email address below) if you would like to borrow it.

**Surrey Horticultural Federation (SHF):** this link will take you to their home page, where you can sign up to receive their monthly newsletter. <https://surreyhorticulturalfederation.org/>

**Hampshire federation of horticultural societies (HFHS):** this is the link for the HFHS; you can sign up for their newsletter by following a link at the bottom of the page.

<https://www.hampshirefedhortisoc.org.uk/>

## CAN YOU HELP BE PART OF THE ‘SOCIAL TEAM’?

We are still looking for members to help ensure the continuity of the club by taking 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. This does not include the trips at the moment, as Sheila is happy to continue them for the time being!

Julie

## A FEW REMINDERS:

**Membership:** Membership fees are now due, £5 for an individual and £8 for a couple. If you want a paper copy of the newsletter and 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 see there is now the option to pay your fees by bank transfer – see the

attached membership form for details of what to do. Please note, after this one (March), newsletters **will no longer be posted or emailed** to members who have not renewed their membership.

**Show schedule:** 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.

**New contact details:** We have updated some of the contact details for key roles within the committee. Please note the addresses on the contact information at the end of the newsletter.

## **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=SVRibE0vRW5mTUJFqdGlnbVxSljPZz09>

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](mailto:secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk)

Vice Chairman and Trading Secretary: Jane Heritage 01276 600438

[hut@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:hut@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk)

Treasurer: Steve Roome [sroome@aol.com](mailto:sroome@aol.com)

Coach Trips: Sheila Davenport [trips@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:trips@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk)

Seed and Plant orders: David Dunford 01252 656826 [dvdunford@ntlworld.com](mailto:dvdunford@ntlworld.com)

Wisley Tickets & Newsletter Distribution: Sandra Hooper 01276 34112

Newsletter Contributions: Steve Roome 01252 877965 [sroome@aol.com](mailto:sroome@aol.com)

Bulb Orders: Ruth Page 01344 774539

Trading Hut Volunteers: Lesley Williams [johnwilliams288@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.

General enquiries: [enquiries@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk)