



Newsletter 9 – October 2022

Dear Members,

Autumn has well and truly arrived! Once again, I am sitting here writing this as the rain is pouring down outside – and I'm still pleased to see it! It's had an interesting effect on my garden, with new growth appearing on some things and even flowers appearing in a very out-of-season way – I'm thinking of my magnolias here. Nature and her ability to recover never ceases to amaze me. I suspect you will be noticing exactly the same in your gardens.

OCTOBER CLUB NIGHT

Well, we are certainly getting back into our stride after the summer break, the show (more of which later) was super, the trading hut has re-opened (hurrah) and our next speaker will be joining us on **19th October**. Cindy Smulders from [The Swan lifeline](#) will be joining us to tell us about the work they undertake. She will tell the story of how and why she got involved with the swans, which involved a small duck called Omelette! She will also talk about the history, needs and challenges ahead in attracting the next generations to help look after the river. She will be bringing some merchandise with her - Christmas cards, mugs, tea towels etc. – so have money to the ready! I do hope you will join us.



Julie Sheppard

AUTUMN SHOW



again this had a positive 'feel' on proceedings. I have included a few photographs throughout this newsletter, but there will be lots more on the [website](#) – worth a look by everyone, but especially if you were a prize winner!

This was a super afternoon! Unfortunately, the Kitty Dancy room wasn't available so we had to have the teas etc in the main room and I thought it really added to the atmosphere, feeling as if everyone was more involved. Following feedback from you, the members, the seats for folk to use during prize giving were also at the front of the room and



Huge thanks to everyone who helped either on the day, and/or the evening before with setting up - it is much appreciated, and essential if the shows are to continue.

The results are also attached to this newsletter – again too big to add in here.

Julie Sheppard

TRADING HUT

The hut continues to be open on Sunday morning, 9 to 10.45 am until the end of November (27th).

BULBS: More bulbs have arrived so if you looked at the show, we now have others in stock. Our prices are as follows: £2 (rrp £2.99), £2.70 (rrp £3.99),

HONEY: Excellent value at £5.10 for a 1lb jar but prices will rise next year. Don't forget to return your empty honey jars to be reused.

BIRD FOOD

Now is the time to stock up your bird food supplies ready for the colder weather. We have all the usual: mixed seed, whole sunflower hearts, soft bill, suet pellets and fat balls. Prices are rising but they are still competitively priced (e.g. a recent garden centre price for a 2kg bag of sunflower hearts £11.99, ours £4.20).

Jane Heritage

HUT DUTY

The Trading Hut is open on Sundays from 9-10.45. The hut could not open without the volunteers and I am very grateful to all of you who have said you can help. It is useful if you can reply as promptly as possible if you get a call for so that I can ask someone else should you not be available. It may be that my emails go into junk. Please could you add the address to your contacts to prevent this: johnwilliams288@hotmail.com. I always put 'Sandhurst Gardening Club – hut rota' as a heading. Alternatively, if you are considering volunteering (and it is good for the soul!) you can call 01276 33062.

Lesley Williams

CHANGES TO HUT OPENING TIMES

Sunday 30th October

The hut will be CLOSED on this day as there is no access to the site following the fireworks. Please see additional information below from the council regarding parking during this period and for Remembrance Day.

*The gate at Pistachios will be locked at 4.30pm on Thursday 27th October and reopened on Sunday 30th October (around lunchtime). There will be **NO** vehicular access whatsoever allowed during this time. This is to allow the safe set up and removal of the stage for the fireworks event on Saturday 29th October. Pistachios car park will close at 12.00 noon on Saturday 29th October and will reopen following the fireworks. The main car park will be closed all day on Saturday 29th October.*

Sunday 13th November – Remembrance Sunday

We will be opening on Saturday 8th November not Sunday 9th. Usual time, 9 to 10.45am. Owing to the football there may be a few problems with parking but, as it is not a particularly busy time of year, we should be able to cope.

*The main car park will be locked at 6.00pm on Saturday 12th November.
All vehicles **MUST** be removed prior to this.*



SHOWS – WILL THEY CONTINUE?

We are still looking for a team of folk who can work together on the various aspects of the shows to ensure they continue. Please contact:

- Chris: 01420 768 965 (ansaphone) or
- contact any committee member or
- speak to a committee member at the club night

With fingers crossed that a small group of members come forward!

SEED CATALOGUES & ORDERS

As I hope many of you saw in the recent email, I have been in contact with Mr Fothergill's again and unfortunately Seed Catalogues have been delayed further due to problems at the printers. It is now anticipated that I will receive them next week (w/b 3.10.22). I will email again when they have been delivered and I will ensure they are at the trading hut for collection at the earliest opportunity.

For those of you who wish to prepare their order now you can access the online site at <https://www.mr-fothergills.co.uk/> where you can see all seed items. If you save the item name, number and price this can be transferred to the order form.

Please note the discounts we generate with associated low packaging costs apply to packeted seed orders only. **Potatoes, onion set, bulbs, garlic, etc are classed as non-seed items with virtually no discount and significantly higher postage and packing costs.**

Orders will need to be handed in by **Sunday 20th November** at the latest. This can be either on one of the club nights or to the Trading hut. Late orders will not be accepted.

If you have any queries, please contact me on 07766134728 and I will do my best to respond quickly.
David Dunford

TROPHIES

Please can all trophies be returned by the end of October for engraving. Please bring them to club night, drop them off with a committee member, or leave them at the hut. Thank you.

TRIPS AND OUTINGS

Our last outing of the year was to Sir Harold Hillier Gardens in Romsey on Saturday 17th September. I think we were all pleased to see we had Mike, our lovely driver once again to take us safely there and on a large comfortable coach despite me ordering a small one!! Mike negotiated all the traffic difficulties, including a near miss, (not his fault) for us to arrive at our destination an hour later.

The weather was a perfect September day, sunshine, but not too warm for all the walking we did. The maps we were given took us to all the parts of the beautiful grounds. Trees in all shades of green and some even turning the lovely gold of autumn.

It has been ten years since we visited the gardens as a group and much had changed. A lot of the open space had been planted and bridges and lookouts included. Both ends of the gardens, cafes could be found and along with friend Jill, we made the most of a nice lunch.

We left at 4 four o'clock and Mike took another scenic route home via Stockbridge and the A303 avoiding all the congestion on the M3

Lots of happy faces descended from the coach in Sandhurst, some staggering off with the must buy plants of course. It was a successful trip and I for one was pleased after the difficult times in 2021, so perhaps it is time to think positively of next year's outings.

Any suggestions?

Sheila

CHRISTMAS PARTY - SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2022



Once again, we are returning to the THE OWLSMOOR CENTRE, YEOVIL ROAD, SANDHURST for this year's Christmas party. It will be the evening, so please note the time and date and look out for more details which will follow shortly.



CONTACT DETAILS:

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Other Committee Members: Carol McGowan: 01276 36392, Derek Dolling 01344 774505, Liz Crow 01252 693552

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Please include a SAE with your completed membership form.

General enquiries: enquiries@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk



www.sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk