



## Newsletter 4 – April 2023

Dear Members,

This April's meeting is going to be a busy one indeed – not a 'two for the price of one' but a 'three for the price of one'!!

The meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> will start with a brief Special General Meeting (SGM) which was mentioned at the AGM in February and then referenced again in an email that came out to you on 13<sup>th</sup> March. This is to ask you for approval of the proposed new rules for the club. As yet, I have not received any questions regarding this from members unable to attend the meeting, although there is still time – please note that these should be received by me no less than 5 working days before the meeting. [secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk)

Also, that night is the Late Spring show, details of which are below. Hopefully the weather will have been a bit kinder to our gardens and we will have more entries than for the daffodil show.

Finally, our speaker for the evening is Paul Patton, a professional gardening consultant, writer, speaker and broadcaster who has over forty years' experience. His talk will be on, 'Growing for the Kitchen' – something we may all be thinking about more than usual, given the shortages of basic veg that has happened over the past few months!

Last month, Jon Evans gave an interesting talk on, 'The World of Alpines', with some beautiful slides. He has sent through various bits of information and links for those folk interested in developing their alpine gardens:

- The Alpine Garden Society website is <https://www.alpinegardensociety.net/>
- Photographic diary: <https://www.alpinegardensociety.net/garden-diaries/photographers-diary/>
- The website for the local alpine group in Woking is:  
<https://alpinegardensocietywokingwestsurreygroup.interests.me/>

Finally, you can now see all the minutes from previous AGMs (that we have recorded electronically) on the website.

Julie Sheppard

### LATE SPRING SHOW

The Late Spring Show takes place on the April club night. If you haven't bought a schedule, but want to enter, details for this show are 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. Full details of categories, entry requirements etc can be found in the schedule which was emailed out to everyone earlier this month (3.2.23) and on the [website](#).

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

Please note exhibits must be staged between 6.45 pm and 7.15 pm; judging will commence at 7.30 pm.



Plans for the 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations are progressing well, and we have the most wonderful afternoon tea planned! More details will come out in a separate email, but make note of the date if you haven't already done so - tickets will be on a first come first served basis, with the cost being exceptionally good value at just £20 per ticket. The afternoon tea is being catered by [Sarah Kelly Fine Foods](#) and as you can see below, this is not just an ordinary tea!

Assorted sandwiches served on white china platters:

Smoked salmon, lemon and black pepper  
 Egg mayonnaise and watercress  
 Baked ham, mixed leaves and wholegrain mustard  
 Cucumber, cream cheese and chive

Homemade sausage rolls, served warm

Buttermilk scones with raspberry jam and cream  
 Goey chocolate brownies  
 Viennese whirls with a roasted rhubarb icing  
 Zesty Lemon cake

## AWARD OF A BURSARY FOR HORTICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

In recognition of the club's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we want to encourage the next generation in the development of horticultural expertise and knowledge. This is a core part of the club's constitution:

*The Object of the Club shall be... for the encouragement of expertise in and knowledge of all matters concerned with horticulture for the social enjoyment of Members.*

The bursary is for the sum of £500. It is for someone who is currently studying or due to start studying for a qualification in some aspect of horticulture during this calendar year. The person needs to live within 10 miles of Sandhurst and must be a member or related to a current member of the club. For example, this could be a child/grandchild/niece or nephew.

Some examples of how the bursary could be used include horticultural courses offered at Berkshire College of Agriculture, the RHS or Sparsholt College. It could be used for an apprenticeship, an access diploma to further advanced studies or perhaps a City & Guilds qualification. These are examples only. The bursary could be used to fund the study and/or purchase any equipment and materials needed.

It is hoped that the successful applicant will, in future, be able to attend a club night and let the members know what they have done and how this has helped them. There is no restriction on age.

Please see the attached application form for further details and do encourage any family members to consider it. Closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. Completed applications should be returned to: [secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk)

## TRADING HUT

The Trading hut is open, as usual, on a Sunday morning from 9 to 10.45 am. We are now open on Wednesday afternoons, 2 to 3.00 pm until the end of May.

Unfortunately, prices are going up on everything at the moment, and we have had some significant changes on the prices of Flower & Veg fertilizer. When we have to re-stock Growmore etc I would expect these to show the same sort of increase. We are doing our best to get stock at a good price.

**Grow bags:** The main ones are Erin Super-Sized 35l bags, (standard Grow Bags are 27l) - £4.90.

Before ordering I did check prices from other places - B&Q are currently selling 27L ones for £4.20 which equates to £5.45 for 35L, Longacres 27L ones are £3.99, this is equal to £5.17 for 35L. This means our prices are still very good value.

The new price list is now available on the [website](http://www.sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk). The new card reader makes paying much quicker and easier.

We are still looking for volunteers to join the group we have to help with hut deliveries. If you are able to spare an hour or so now and again, please contact Beverley and Carole at [sgctradinghut@gmail.com](mailto:sgctradinghut@gmail.com). We will try and keep the number of deliveries to a minimum.

Beverley

## TOOL SHARPENING

On Sunday 7th May, members of California Gardening Club will once again be coming along to the hut to sharpen your tools from about 9am to 10.30am. 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.

## TRADING HUT MAINTENANCE – HELP IS STILL NEEDED!

Almost all jobs at the hut are now covered by members but there are occasional maintenance jobs that will need doing. For example:

1. Purchasing and replacing a fluorescent tube/starter.
2. Clearing the guttering (ladder in hut) about twice a year.
3. Organising the painting of the black round the base of the hut including purchasing paint/brushes, etc. about every 3 to 4 years.
4. Anything else that might crop up.

Any money spent is repaid very quickly by Steve, our Treasurer.

This is not a job that would take much of your time/year and could be done whenever suits you. If you think you could help with this or would like more information please email: [sgctradinghut@gmail.com](mailto:sgctradinghut@gmail.com).

## TRIPS

Kew Gardens Saturday 1st July 2023 - Departing Sandhurst Library at 09.30h and leaving the venue at 16.00h. Cost £33.00.

There is so much to say about Kew Gardens, they have been evolving for a very long time. To name a few areas: the Japanese gardens, the Great Pagoda, the Palm House, the Princess of Wales Conservatory (Diana not Catherine) Rock, Rose and Kitchen gardens, so much to see. So much walking to do. Good comfy shoes required. There are places to eat and drink.

Kew Gardens Christmas Lights - Thursday 30th November 2023. Information not available at the moment, but keep the date for your diary.

Please email me: [Trips@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:Trips@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk) to book places or see me at club night.

Payment via bank transfer please or by card at club night.

Bank details: a/c Gardening Club of Sandhurst District

a/c 92029304 and sort code 09-01-51

Sheila Davenport

## SHOW SCHEDULES

A reminder that these are available in a number of ways:

- They were emailed out to members on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023
- Online via [this link](#) to the website where it can be found on the 'downloads' page

Also, for those of you who like to plan ahead, remember you can print the whole schedule off in one go, or show by show.

Any problems, please contact a committee member.

## NGS OPEN GARDEN

A reminder that the garden of two of our own members is opening this year under the National Garden Scheme (NGS) for the very first time. It can be found at 13 Broom Acres in Sandhurst (some of you may



Sunil Patel

recognise this as the address for the plant sale as well!). Go for the cake, stay for the garden and have a wonderful time! You can find more details in the 2023 NGS Yellow Book or online at [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk), under “13 Broom Acres”. They are open on various days throughout the summer and if you would like to volunteer as a helper on the open days, please email Sunil or Gareth at [garden@sunilpatel.co.uk](mailto:garden@sunilpatel.co.uk) or contact a Club Committee member.

## PLANT SALE

This will take place on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2023 from 10.00am – 1.00pm, and take place in front of the house at 13, Broomacres on the Longdown Estate. Hopefully you have put some seedlings aside, already divided some perennials and are nurturing your cuttings in order to support the plant sale. If you haven't started yet (and let's be honest, the weather hasn't exactly been conducive!), then there's still plenty of time. Details of what to do with them will come later in the year. In addition, two volunteers will be needed on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> to help set up and then two on the day. If you are able to help, please let a committee member know. We will remind you again nearer the time.



## 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 **50% 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://surreyhorticultralfederation.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/>

## DAFFODIL SHOW

The new Show Committee members are Lori Bird, Adele Cox and Carole Hickman and we took over earlier in the year. We had a meeting with Julie and Jane. Copious notes were produced, plans of the show tables, instructions on what goes where given. Emails flew around the ether!

Our first show was 15<sup>th</sup> March - the Daffodils. Luckily for us, this is the smallest show. Have we got enough volunteers? What time do we start setting up? Who does the results? Most importantly who has the cup? Thanks to Peter Radband, Sandra, Julia and Jane all our questions were answered. The gardening club members who have been doing it for years turned up on the night and everything swung into action. Lori shadowed the Judge to see how that worked. Adele followed Sandra to see how the entries and results were collated. I just wandered about in awe of all these people who knew exactly what went where.

There were quite a few entries, but not as many as in the past. The smallest beautifully formed daffodil won Class 1. Well done, Rachel. It made my daffodil look like “Mae West” big and blowsy!! Peter Radband entered a lot of the classes and the judge waxed lyrical about his small cyclamineus daffodil. Peter won the cup and Tony Winter was second and I was third.

Thank you to everyone who supported us at our first show.

[sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](http://sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk)



On to the next!!

Carole, Adele and Lori



## DAFFODIL SHOW RESULTS 2023

Entries: 23 Entrants: 9

Class	Type of daffodil	1st	2nd	3rd
1	Trumpet	Jill Humphries	Carole Hickman	Lorna Neighbour
2	Large cupped	Tony Winter		
3	Small cupped	Tony Winter	Carole Hickman	
4	Double	Peter Radband	Tony Winter	Lorna Neighbour
5	Triandrus	Carole Hickman	Tony Winter	Peter Radband
6	Cyclamineus	-	-	-
7	Jonquilla & Apodanthus	-	-	-
8	Tazetta	Jill Humphries	Peter Radband	Lydia Stonestreet
9	Poeticus	Shirley Whybrow	-	-
10	Bulbocodium	Peter Radband	Tony Winter	Carole Hickman
11	Split corona	Peter Radband	-	-
12	Other	Lorna Neighbour	-	-
13	Wild variants/hybrids	Carole Hickman	Peter Radband	-

## WISLEY

Just thought I would update you on my last couple of jobs at Wisley. November to January I was a steward at the Wisley Glow Events. Our shift was 6 and a half hours outside in the COLD! I thoroughly enjoyed it – even in the frost and -5 degrees we had! Visitors commented, bet you are cold, but my reply was I was nice and toasty in my 5 layers plus 3 pairs of socks, scarf, hat and gloves! I was not cold any night.

We collected a rota card on arriving at 2.45pm radio and hi vis jacket to wear. We moved around to a different position on the trail every half an hour. Some positions were busier than others. I enjoyed the Wisteria walk offering to take group photos of families. If you chose a good rota, you got 2 warm up slots in the glass house! The lights were all fascinating and some nights the mist was magical. I was very aware of being outside and close to nature; because all the lights were on the birds thought it was dawn and sang their hearts out. I often pointed



this out to visitors who thought it was a recording, but on a rainy day it would be silent. I really enjoyed my experience met lots of lovely people and looking forward to this year.

February saw the start of The Deep-Sea Dive in the Glasshouse at Wisley. Wow - what a transformation: pillars erected, plants planted to re-create an under-the-sea look, plants made into fish, starfish and seahorses. The trail was a about a Botanist and what a Botanist does. You had to collect clues to work out the word. The Botanist's laboratory was set up with all her equipment and there was a time lapse video of the constructing of the exhibit.

The boulders and pillars are then going to be used for the new orchid display in the Glasshouse.

The next event is the Easter Egg Hunt from the 1<sup>st</sup> April – 17<sup>th</sup> April around the garden with craft or seed planting in the Clore Learning Centre.

Do go along with your children or Grandchildren. All these events are FREE.

Lydia Stonestreet

*If you have any articles you would like to feature in the newsletter, like Lydia's, do please email them and I'll do my best to include them.*

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

## TENDER SHOOTS ONLINE TALKS

The Tender Shoots club continues to offer free online talks to anyone who is interested. I know quite a few members have joined these over the months and found them very interesting.

**April 27th Thursday** – Hilary Hutson – Patio Panache – Container planting ideas from around the world.

**April TBC** Chris Blackburn - Ultra Sonic Pest Control - Learn about the safe way to control animals coming into your gardens without the need to use harmful chemicals.

*Summer break,*

**September 25th Monday** – Lucy Hartley – Climate change and its effect on our gardens

**October 26th Thursday** – Timothy Walker (former curator of Oxford Botanic Garden) – Bordering on Insanity (creating an all-year-round border)

**November 8th Wednesday** – Andrew Mikolajski – Do Your Roots Need Doing – Good root growth is essential for healthy and productive plants.

**December Christmas Quiz TBC**

More talks TBC, further details are on the tendershoots.uk website.

Meetings open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start and as usual there is no charge to attend so everyone is welcome. Feel free to pass it on to your gardening friends.

Zoom link is the same as usual for every meeting.

Meeting ID: 404 301 4750

Passcode: bonsai

Look forward to seeing you soon.

Many thanks

Indy

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

*Changes/new information shown in red.*

Date	Event	Venue
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> April 7.15pm	Late spring show Talk: growing for the kitchen	Community Hall
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 9.00 am	Trip: Exbury gardens	Exbury
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> May 9 – 10.45 am	Tool sharpening	Trading hut
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> May 7.15 pm	Talk: gardening for wildlife	Community Hall
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 10am-1.00pm	Plant sale	Broomacres, Longdown estate
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer show	Community Hall
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> July 9.30 am	Trip: Kew gardens	Kew
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> July - afternoon	60 <sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration	Community Hall
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> July 7.15pm	Talk: Clematis & Climbers	Community Hall
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> July 9.00 am	Last day trading hut open	Trading Hut
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 9.00 am	Trading Hut re-opens	Trading Hut
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Autumn show	Community Hall
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct 2.30 pm	Afternoon talk	Kitty Dancy room
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct 7.15 pm	Talk: ponds	Community Hall
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 2.30 pm	Autumn at RBG Kew	Kitty Dancy room
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov 7.15pm	Talk: Pests & diseases - LIVE	Community Hall
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov 9.00 am	Last day Trading Hut open	Trading Hut
Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Trip: Christmas Lights	Kew
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan 2024 2.30 pm	Afternoon talk	Kitty Dancy room
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 2024 2.30 pm	Afternoon talk	Kitty Dancy room

## CONTACT DETAILS:

Hon Chair: Sheila Davenport

Hon Secretary: Julie Sheppard 01252 870521 [secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk)

Trading Hut: [hut@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:hut@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk) or [sgctradinghut@gmail.com](mailto:sgctradinghut@gmail.com).

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

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, Liz Crow 01252 693552

Online membership: Sandra Hooper [membership@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:membership@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk)

Postal membership renewals – Sandra Hooper 15 Lowry Close, College Town, Sandhurst, Berks GU47 0FJ

Please include a SAE with your completed membership form.

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