



Newsletter 10 – November 2025

Dear Members,

Unbelievably, this is the last newsletter for this year, and we're about to have the last club night featuring a speaker - although the Christmas do-cum-gathering will be something to look forward to in December – more details later in the newsletter.

Our speaker this month (on Wed Nov 19th) is Sally Seymour. She will be talking about succulents and cacti (this is another member request for a talk), which will include care/types/ propagation and troubleshooting. She will also demonstrate how to make a wreath out of succulents, which sounds quite intriguing... Sally will be bringing some succulents with her for members to buy. She will accept cash but will also have a card reader with her if you prefer to pay by card. All plants will be under £10.00

Can I remind members that phones should be **turned off** or put **on silent** during the talks on club night; I think the reason is obvious. Also, having checked with the council, the hearing loop should be on for those members who use a hearing aid.

I am sorry to say that no-one responded to the chairs' request for help last month which means the provision of some activities is very much at risk. Please read the sections later in the newsletter and think how you could help the club. No volunteers = no activities.

Julie Sheppard

TRADING HUT

The last Sunday opening at the hut, for this year, is Sunday 30th November.

Time to stock up for the winter and for those early tasks in the new year. There are supplies of Bark and Farmyard Manure for autumn / winter mulching, these are new products to replace those previously supplied by The Compost Centre, which has now ceased trading.

We have multi-purpose compost in both peat and peat free, plus John Innes Seed Compost for early sowing in January before the hut re-opens.

Finally, we're planning to do the annual stock take at the trading hut on Tuesday 2nd December from 10.00 am. If you can spare a couple of hours in the morning to help out it would be appreciated. This will be counting and recording the hut stock, no lifting will be required.

Please contact us on sgctradinghut@gmail.com

A reminder to everyone that cheques and cash cannot be accepted at the hut – if you are on hut duty, please firmly decline such payments. By the same token, please do not request that you leave an IOU – these are difficult to track and unnecessary as the requirement for payment by card only has been in place for a long time now. The only exception would be if the card reader stops working; in this case we would ask you to pay by bank transfer as soon as you get home.

Finally, the instructions for hut volunteers have been amended slightly and are **attached** to this newsletter. The changes have been highlighted in red for easy reference. Please read before you undertake your next hut duty. Thank you.

The Trading Hut team

SHOW SECRETARY/IES NEEDED

After three amazing years at the helm, Carole Edge has decided to step down as the show secretary lead. During this time, she has revamped how the shows run, streamlined the entry process and made the

prize-giving session at the end more accessible – all this while coping brilliantly with last minute changes from the council on show morning! I am sure you will join the rest of the committee in saying a heartfelt thank you to Carole for all her hard work in making the shows run so smoothly.

So, if we are to continue having shows, we need some of you to step forward. Carole has shown that this works best when a small team work together on different aspects of the show, so no one person has to take responsibility for everything; are you willing to be part of such a team? I'm sure Carole would be very happy to chat to anyone thinking about it and to answer any questions. Please think hard and contact a committee member (either on club night, by email or phone) if you would like to have a chat about it. No volunteers = no shows.



The Christmas elves have been hard at work planning and organising this year's fun-filled event which will take place on **Wednesday 10th December!** Following a similar format to last year, it will involve (not necessarily in this order):

- 🎅 Gardening and Christmas bingo
- 🎅 A best Christmas headgear competition (time to start constructing or buying – judging will be purely subjective!)
- 🎅 Christmas songs with the ukelele band, including a club sing-a-long
- 🎅 Musical Christmas and gardening bingo
- 🎅 A raffle
- 🎅 The Proud table 'the winter garden'
- 🎅 Light snacks and refreshments (members to bring their own drinks)
- 🎅 A general feeling of conviviality and bonhomie

Sounds fun? Then do come along – the cost is £7.50 each, that's £15.00 for a couple, payable on the night or by bank transfer – please use 'Xmas' as the reference. In order to make sure we have enough tables/chairs and food, you must let us know you are coming – please email Sheila to book your place - shethos8@gmail.com **Closing date is Sunday Nov 30th**

PROUD TABLE



The theme for last month's Proud table was vegetables, with a worthy winner being Sally Bennett and a lovely tray of ornamental gourds. There is no theme for this month, so do please bring along anything for the table you are proud of and have grown or nurtured from your garden/allotment/house.

RHS BENEFITS

As an affiliated society, the club gets some benefits which are passed on to you wherever possible. One of these is the membership card, which gives 50% discount to any of the RHS gardens for up to 2 members at a time – Sandra Hooper holds the card and if you wish to borrow it, please contact her (details in the contacts list below). We also get sent a copy of The Garden magazine each month. I bring these along to each club night for members to look at /take away to read. They are full of interesting articles and helpful advice – do please take advantage of them.



Finally, you can join the RHS Affiliated Societies Facebook closed group page. You will need to enter the name of the club and also our affiliation number: 10573910

We are also a member of the [Surrey Horticultural Federation](#) and the [Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies](#). While there are no benefits along the lines of the RHS, the two links will take you to the home pages of the groups, which in turn contain a wealth of information – definitely worth a look!



The Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies

Supporting horticultural societies and clubs across Hampshire

TRIP ORGANISER

Could you do this, maybe with help from a friend? Payments and bookings for the trips are mainly made online so no money to deal with as such – just an ability to research and then arrange a trip to interesting places in the area. Sheila will be more than happy to talk to anyone considering it and answer any questions and also to support anyone willing to give this a try. Please contact one of the committee if you are interested. No volunteer(s) = no trips.

ELECTRIC GATE BARRIER TO THE TRADING HUT

Gate duty: If you are one of the splendid volunteers who ends up doing a gate duty, can we help with what you should be saying to non-gardening club folk who want entry though the gate?

- Do not let anyone through the gate who is not a GC member – and don't be afraid to ask drivers what their purpose is; for this reason, it might be better to wait the café side of the barrier rather than the hut side.
- Explain that the STC rules state clearly that we are only to let GC members though and we will forfeit our fobs if we let other groups in.
- If they are with the football, they need to phone the football club and get someone to let them in.
- If anyone's behaviour is unacceptable, please feedback to the committee and then the council can be informed.

Thank you.

PLANT SALE

Just a reminder as you finish dividing your plants to think about the plant sale next year and perhaps pot up a few divisions that could be sold next May. THINK PLANT SALE AND COMMIT NOW TO PROVIDING THOSE PLANTS. Please [email Sheila](mailto:sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk) and let her know what you hope to be able to provide.

sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Please think how you can help, and let Sheila know: shethos8@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Red denotes changes/updates

Date	Event	Venue
Wed. Nov. 19 th 7.15 pm	Talk: Succulents & cacti	Community Hall
Tues 25 th Nov	Xmas lights at Blenheim	Depart library 2.00 pm
Sunday Nov 30 th	Closing date for Christmas 'do'	shethos8@gmail.com
Tues 2 nd Dec from 10.00 am	Stock take at the Trading hut – help needed	
Wed 10 th Dec 7.15 pm	Xmas 'do' – details tbc	Community Hall
Tues 6 th Jan 2026 2.30 pm	Afternoon talk	Kitty Dancy room
Wed. January 21 st 2026	Talk: The Itchen Way	Community Hall
Tues 3 rd Feb 2026 2.30 pm	Afternoon talk	Kitty Dancy room
Wed. February 18 th 2026	AGM Talk: Bugs that bite back	Community Hall
Saturday May 30 th	Plant sale - details tbc	Broomacres

CONTACT DETAILS:

Hon co- Chairs: David Dunford* & Liz Crow* chair@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

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

Treasurer: Andy Bale* andrew.bale4@ntlworld.com and Ian Hopley* hopley.ian@googlemail.com

Trading Hut: hut@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk or sgctradinghut@gmail.com.

Coach Trips: Sheila Davenport* trips@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Show entries: Email entries are preferred. shows@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk Paper entries to 85 Pinehill Road RG45 7JP

Show contact details: shows@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Wisley Tickets: Sandra Hooper* 01276 34112

Newsletter Contributions: secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Bulb Orders: Liz Crow* gardening@mrscrow.co.uk

Trading Hut Volunteers: Lesley Williams johnwilliams288@hotmail.com

Online membership: membership@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Postal membership renewals – Ian Hopley* 24, Waterside Lane, Sandhurst. GU47 8AD

Please include a SAE with your completed membership form.

Seed and Plant orders: David Dunford* 01252 656826 dvdunford@ntlworld.com

General enquiries: enquiries@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

* Denotes committee members