



Newsletter 9 – October 2026

Dear Members,

I'm writing this with some very welcome rain battering against the window! Not often you'll hear me say that... After what has been a tough summer, it is good to see the grass reappearing and I'm sure you can hear the plants heaving a sigh of relief.

The Autumn show was an excellent demonstration of the determination of club members, so thank you to everyone who rallied round and entered in one or more of the classes. Do please read the Show team's report below.

It's good to have the trading hut back open and to re-start our talks for the autumn period – the first afternoon talk has taken place and the October evening talk is due on **Wed 21st Oct.** It will see the welcome return of Geoff Peach (judge and speaker), who will give a talk on 'A Gardener's Life'. This talk was highly recommended by members of another club, so I look forward to hearing it – and hope many of you will join us at 7.15 pm in the community hall.

Julie Sheppard

AUTUMN SHOW

Following the numerous heatwaves endured throughout the summer months we wondered if we would have enough entries to run a show but we shouldn't have doubted the resilience, true grit and determination of our club members.

With 22 exhibitors entering 198 exhibits plus the 38 photographic entries from 15 members we had, what we hope you will agree, was a magnificent show.

Our thanks must again go to the army of volunteers - you know who you are! There is much to do with organising these events and without the many volunteers giving their time, expertise and muscle power the shows would not be possible. Perhaps you could offer some help in future?



Feedback from the judges has again been so positive, all were very impressed with the quality of exhibits, and expressed their fondness for our club with its warm welcome and friendly members.

We were honoured again with the presence of the Mayor of Sandhurst, Cllr Graham Birch, who enjoyed his tea and homemade cake whilst chatting with members before presenting the trophies.

We hope everyone has enjoyed being part of the Shows this year and if

you didn't participate then you may like to consider doing so next year. Show schedules for 2027 will be released early in the New Year.

Any suggestions or comments? Please send to shows@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Many thanks

Di, Jill, Lori, Sheila & Carole - Show Team



Jill Fenner has stepped down from her role in the show team and the committee would like to add their thanks to her for her role in show team this year – she had the all-important job of managing the spreadsheets!

The full set of results can be found at the end of this newsletter, alongside some more photos from the day. More photos will appear on the club's [website](http://sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk) in due course.

Photography classes for the summer and autumn shows

Just to give all the budding photographers a heads up, here are the categories for the shows next year. In particular, you might like to note the Autumn show classes:

Summer show (Sat. 19th June 2027)

Garden wildlife

Looking out at a garden

The unexpected

Autumn show (Sat. 4th Sept. 2027)

The winter garden

Flowers in the wild

What on earth is that?

TRADING HUT

There is still time to order potatoes and onions; the order form is available in the [download section](#) of our website, attached to this email and there are also a small number available at the hut. A reminder that there is no postage and packing on these orders as they will be delivered with the hut order in January 2027. Usual postage on potatoes from seed suppliers is in the region of £7, so this is a good saving

There are a small number of autumn planting bulbs still available at the hut.

Changes to hut opening times

Sunday 1st November: The hut will be **CLOSED** on this day as there is no access to the site following the fireworks.

Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Sunday: We will be opening on Saturday 7th November **NOT** Sunday 7th. Usual time, 9 to 10.45 am.

Seed Orders

The seed catalogues from Kings Seeds have now arrived and are in the trading hut. There are only a few (7) remaining but each catalogue contains an order form. I have requested a further 12 and more importantly 24 order forms. Whilst the catalogue is lovely, all of the seeds are available on their website www.kingsseeds.com so you can prepare your order now and collect just an order form.

Additional catalogues and order forms will be in the trading hut for collection on the 11th October at the latest. If you take a catalogue, could you return it to the hut with your completed order for other members to use. Thank you.

Please be aware there is **no discount** on seed collections as these are already discounted.

Orders:

- The last date for receiving completed orders is **22nd November** at the Trading Hut
- You must enter flower seeds (box 1) and vegetable, fruits and herb seeds (box 2) on separate parts of the two-sided order form.
- There is **no discount** on seed collections
- If you need additional rows for your order attach those clearly using a separate piece of paper but include the costs in the relevant Total Value summation (Box 1 and 2).
- This is a Group Society order so insert £2 in the box for individual packing.

- **I will only be ordering packeted seeds for the club** (all other items do not receive a discount and incur significant postage costs, if you require these, order directly. If you sign up to their weekly newsletter online there are often deals including on occasion free postage)
- Please complete your details clearly in block capitals including a contact number. I will insert the account number when sending our bulk order

MEMBERSHIP

Can I please ask all members to go into your [membermojo account](#) (sign in by clicking button top right if your sign in details don't appear) and just check that all your details are correct? This is particularly helpful for those people who have volunteered for hut duty, to ensure Lesley Williams has the right contact details. You can also amend your details if you are now able to help on any occasions, or are no longer available. If you have more than one membership with member mojo just follow the instructions in the email you receive when checking your details.

A reminder also that it is helpful for the gate duty people if members can show their membership cards as they enter and also at the desk; saves a lot of time!

If any members haven't got their membership cards, please let me know:

secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Thank you.

PROUD TABLE

The theme for this month's Proud table is 'Autumn harvest'- this can be fruit, veg, flowers etc... Anything that represents the bounty of autumn. Also, please have a look at the entries, and be prepared to vote for one with your bean at the break.

CHRISTMAS

Sad to say, no-one has come forward either with any ideas or an offer to help run a Christmas event this year. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, it would be good to have something a bit different this year. While the committee are exploring options, there is still time for you to offer/make suggestions as to what could be organised. Please let me know if you can help or would just like a bit more information/want a chat: secretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Thank you,

Julie Sheppard



PLANT SALE

As the more observant amongst you will have noticed, there is a date (Sat. 22nd May) for the plant sale next year, which Sunil and Gareth have kindly agreed to host once again. As always, this is very much dependent on you – not only do we need you to buy the plants (which I must be honest, you are very good at!!) but we also need you to provide the plants. This year you all really rose to the challenge for this, so we are hoping for the same results next year. Remember, fewer plants= less funds for the club. Now is the perfect time of year to be thinking about the plant sale as you divide your compacted plants, take cuttings to over-winter and sow some seeds to get a head start for next year. **THINK PLANT SALE AND PUT ASIDE SOME OF THOSE DIVISIONS.**

More reminders will come out later in the year/next year as we hit seed sowing time proper.

Thank you.

AFTERNOON TALKS/VISITOR CHARGES

These have now re-started for the winter season – see below for details of the subjects of the talks.

There have been some queries regarding charges etc, so to clarify:

- The talks are free to members, although we do ask for a contribution of £1 by those attending; however this is purely voluntary.
- Guests are very welcome and the charge for them (as for evening talks) is £5. However, with membership at only £10, it makes far more sense to join the club; afternoon talks work out at just £2.50 each then. It also gives access to all the other things the club offers – evening talks, trading hut, trips, shows etc.
- Members are asked to come along and help set-up before/tidy up after the talks if possible. Again, this is voluntary and we recognise that this is not possible for some members.



REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

This will take place as usual outside the community hall. The club is represented at the service and places a poppy wreath on behalf of the club members.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Red denotes changes/updates

Date	Event	Venue
Wed 21 st Oct 7.15 pm	Talk: A gardener's life	Community Hall
Fri 23 rd Oct 9.15 am	Trip: Waddesdon manor, gardens and exhibition	Depart Owlsmoor
Sunday 1 st Nov	Trading Hut CLOSED	
Saturday 7 th Nov	Trading Hut OPEN	9 – 10.45 am
Sunday 8 th Nov	Trading Hut CLOSED	
Tues 3 rd Nov 2.30 pm	Afternoon talk: Follies	Kitty Dancy room
Wed 18 th Nov 7.15 pm	Talk: companion planting	Community Hall
Sun 22 nd Nov	Last day for submitting seed orders at the hut	
Wed 9 th Dec	Christmas party	Community Hall
2027		
Tues 5 th Jan 2.30 pm	Afternoon talk: Flora & Fauna of European Mountains	Kitty Dancy room
Tues 2 nd Feb 2.30 pm	Afternoon talk: 30 acres to 30 sq yds	Kitty Dancy room
Wed 17 th Feb 7.15 pm	AGM Talk: Hedgehogs	Community Hall
Sat. 22 nd May	Plant Sale	'Broomacres'

CONTACT DETAILS:

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

Hon Secretary: Julie Sheppard* 07711 056 815 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: Rachel Parker & Jill Humphries trips@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

Show entries: Email entries are preferred. shows@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

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 chair@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

General enquiries: enquiries@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

* Denotes committee member

AUTUMN SHOW RESULTS

Class	Description	1st	2nd	3rd
1	1 Specimen bloom - Hybrid Tea	Sally Bennett	Julie Sheppard	
2	1 rose - selected for fragrance	Peter Radband		
3	3 sprays - 1 or more cultivars		Julie Sheppard	
4	Rambler/Climber - 1 spray	Julie Sheppard		
5	Container for all-round effect		Julie Sheppard	Peter Radband
	Best Exhibit	Sally Bennett		
6	1 large Dahlia - any type			
7	1 small Cactus or Semi-Cactus Dahlia	Rachel Parker	Sylvia Tansley	Maureen Jordan
8	3 Pom-Pom Dahlias	Colin Fuller		
9	4 Dahlias of 1 type (not in Classes 6-8)	Peter Radband	Colin Fuller	Julie Sheppard
10	Vase of Dahlias - at least 9 stems	Peter Radband	Colin Fuller	
	Best Exhibit	Colin Fuller		
	Radio 210 cup highest points	Colin Fuller		
11	Vase of hosta leaves	Colin Fuller	Julie Sheppard	Peter Radband
12	Vase mixed grasses	Julie Sheppard	Sally Bennett	
13	Alstroemeria 3 stems	Colin Fuller	Julie Sheppard	
14	Carnations/Pinks - 3 stems			
15	Cosmos 5 stems	Lydia Stonestreet	Julie Sheppard	
16	French Marigolds	Lydia Stonestreet	Colin Fuller	Sylvia Tansley
17	Rudbeckia - 6 blooms	Sandra Hooper	Colin Fuller	
18	Hydrangea - 1 stem or head	Lydia Stonestreet	Sylvia Tansley	Sally Bennett
19	Clematis Flower (named if possible)	Lydia Stonestreet	Julie Sheppard	Jill Fenner
20	Mixed Flowers - at least 12 stems	Julie Sheppard & Colin Fuller	Betty Wilson	Sylvia Tansley
21	Vase Sweet peas - 6 stems			
22	Vase of Flowers - any one kind not in Classes 1-21	Sally Bennett	Phillip Kemp	Colin Fuller
	Best Exhibit	Julie Sheppard		
	Kathleen Brown Cup Highest points	Colin Fuller		
23	Pelargonium 1 head	Betty Wilson		
24	Fuchsias - 6 Specimen blooms mounted over water	Peter Brockway	Lydia Stonestreet	Sylvia Tansley

25	Fuchsia - miniature standard			Peter Brockway
26	Fuchsia - quarter standard		Colin Killick	
27	1 Fuchsia - shrub	Maureen Jordan	Peter Brockway	Colin Fuller
28	1 Fuchsia - trailing	Peter Brockway	Colin Fuller	Maureen Jordan
29	Pelargonium plant in a pot	Peter Brockway		
30	Begonias any number in a pot	Colin Fuller		
31	Flowering Pot Plant - not Fuchsia, Orchid or pelargonium			
32	Foliage Plant	Colin Fuller	Peter Brockway	Colin Killick
33	Cactus or Succulent	Pat Roome	Peter Brockway	Colin Killick
34	Orchid			
35	Bonsai	Peter Brockway		
	Best Exhibit	Colin Fuller		
	Sandhurst & District Trophy highest pts	Peter Brockway		
36	Hanging Basket, Hanging Pot	Julie Sheppard	Lydia Stonestreet	Sheila Davenport
37	Planter or basket planted with vegetables or herbs			Lydia Stonestreet
38	1 Patio Tub or Trough		Lydia Stonestreet	Sheila Davenport
	Best Exhibit	Julie Sheppard		
39	5 Tomatoes with stalks - ordinary, outdoor / greenhouse	Colin Fuller	Peter Radband	Lydia Stonestreet
40	5 Tomatoes with stalks - small, ordinary	Helen Harding	Colin Fuller	Ruth Page
41	5 Tomatoes with stalks - novelty	Peter Brockway	Lydia Stonestreet	
42	Collection of cut herbs - 3 varieties - 2 stems of each	Jill Fenner	Betty Wilson	Helen Harding
43	Potatoes - 4 of one kind	Colin Fuller	Peter Radband	Helen Harding
44	Any bean except a runner - 6 of one kind	Colin Killick		
45	Runner Beans - 6 of one kind	Colin Fuller	Phillip Kemp	
46	Beetroot - 3 globe or cylindrical	Jill Fenner	Peter Radband	Peter Brockway
47	Onions - 3 with roots cut and tops tied	Peter Brockway	Colin Fuller	Peter Radband
48	Marrow, gourd, squash, pumpkin	Peter Radband	Jill Fenner	Lee Gibbs
49	Shallots 5 of one kind		Peter Radband	
50	Pepper - 2 - sweet (not chilli)	Colin Killick	Peter Brockway	
51	Carrots 3 of a kind	Peter Radband	Colin Killick	
52	Parsnips - 2		Peter Radband	
53	Sweetcorn - 3 of a kind			
54	Cucumber - 2 greenhouse/frame grown	Colin Killick		
55	Courgettes - 2 of one type	Jill Fenner	Peter Radband	
56	Garlic bulbs 3 of a kind		Helen Harding	
57	Any other vegetable not included in Classes 39-56	Jill Fenner	Peter Radband	Colin Killick
58	Collection of 3 salad vegetables	Jill Fenner		
59	Collection of 4 kinds of vegetable - 2 of each type	Colin Killick		
60	Heaviest Potato			

61	Heaviest Marrow	Peter Radband		
62	Longest runner bean	Sylvia Tansley		
63	Wonkiest vegetable	Peter Radband	Colin Killick	
	Best Exhibit	Colin fuller		
	The Sandhurst Gardening Club Shield Highest pts	Peter Radband		
64	Apples - dessert - 3 of one kind with stalks attached	Lydia Stonestreet		Phillip Kemp
65	Apples - culinary - 3 of one kind with stalks attached			Phillip Kemp
66	Pears - 3 of one kind with stalks attached	Helen Harding		
67	Plums/damsons/greengages - 4 of one kind			
68	A dish of 8 blackberries			
69	Plate of any other fruit, any number, with stalks attached	Peter Radband		
70	Grapes - 1 bunch			
	Best Exhibit	Peter Radband		
	The Napier Church Challenge Cup highest points	Lydia Stonestreet Peter Radband Helen Harding		
71	A Flight of fancy	Ruth Page		
72	Nature's Harvest	Ruth Page		
73	Time of reflection	Ruth Page		
74	A miniature in a box	Ruth Page		
	Best Exhibit	Ruth Page		
	The Christina Dresler Trophy	Ruth Page		
75	A bug hotel	Colin Killick	Peter Radband	Sandra Hooper
76	A small scented cushion	Sandra Hooper	Diane Swaddling	
77	A scarf made from any material	Diane Swaddling	Sandra Hooper	Pat Roome
78	A Christmas stocking	Sandra Hooper	Diane Swaddling	
79	Any other handicraft (not included in Classes 75-78)	Diane Swaddling	Julie Sheppard	Sandra Hooper
	Best Exhibit	Sandra Hooper		
	The Tesco Cup highest points	Sandra Hooper		
80	Lemon and polenta cake	Sally Bennett	Lydia Stonestreet	Ruth Page
81	5 cinnamon rolls	Julie Sheppard	Ruth Page	Sally Bennett
82	Sweet recipe including both apple & carrot	Lee Gibbs	Lydia Stonestreet	Julie Sheppard
83	A jar of chutney	Jane Heritage		Lydia Stonestreet
84	Bottle of homemade beer		Mark Fenner	
	Best Exhibit	Julie Sheppard		
	The May Elsley Cup Highest points	Lydia Stonestreet		
85	Pond life	Janice House	Beverley Morgan Lesley Foxwell	

86	Summer colours	Carole Edge	Helen Harding	Sally Bennett
87	I can 'sea' for miles	Nina Cron	Beverley Morgan	Sally Bennett
	Highest points	Beverley Morgan		
88	A space craft made from recycled materials			
89	A picture made from flower petals			
90	3 homemade biscuits			
	Best Exhibit			

Autumn Cup Winners - Autumn 2026		
Radio 210	Dahlias	Colin Fuller
Kathleen Brown Cup	Cut Flowers	Colin Fuller
Sandhurst & District Trophy	Pot Plants	Peter Brockway
The Sandhurst Gardening Club Shield	Vegetables	Peter Radband
The Napier Church Challenge Cup	Fruit	Lydia Stonestreet, Peter Radband & Helen Harding
The Christina Dresler Trophy	Floral Art	Ruth Page
The Tesco Cup	Handicrafts	Sandra Hooper
The May Elsley Cup Highest points	Culinary	Lydia Stonestreet

Annual Cup Winners - Autumn 2026		
Sandhurst Town Council Cup	Overall Winner highest points in the shows	Peter Radband
June Hurst Memorial Trophy Roses	Roses	Julie Sheppard
John Chuter Cup	Fuchsias	Peter Brockway
Fred Stapley Crystal Vase	Flowers	Peter Brockway
George Brown Salver	Hanging baskets	Lydia Stonestreet
Josie Blunden Salver	Highest points for classes 12 & 22	Sally Bennett
Fred Brant Trophy	Fruit and Veg	Peter Radband
Floral Vase	Floral arrangements	Ruth Page
Waitrose Cup	Culinary	Lydia Stonestreet
Doug Hammond trophy	Photography	Sally Bennett

