



Newsletter –October 2026

Dear Members,



Thank you to everyone who contributed towards making our Autumn Show the excellent event that it was. It was so lovely to see so many people in our lovely Village Hall.

All the exhibits were excellent especially Ted's Sunflower that measured over 11 ft. tall. This year we had 287 entries for the autumn show, whereas last year we had 214 entries. So, we can congratulate ourselves that we are constantly growing and showing.

The Trophy winners were: -

The Dahlia Cup – Laurie King

The Millenium Glass Vase – Kate Mills

The Drakers Dibber – Richard Barron

Floral Art Silver Salver – Christine King

The Cookery Silver Salver – Catherine Ward

The Dawson Handicraft Award – Christine Hunter

Fuchsia Glass Bowl – Sue Pitman

The Chrysanthemum Cup – Richard Barron

The John Mills Fruit Bowl – Bob Rogers

The Trug Trophy – Bob Rogers

The Kendrick Pot Plant Award – Sue Pitman

The Photography Trophy – John Harris

Special Member We would like to say a huge CONGRATULATIONS to one of our members. Diana Levantine was a winner on the BBC Make a Difference Awards on television recently. She is the Chairperson and Co-founder of the Sussex Snowdrop Trust, which is based here in our village. Well Done Diana.

New Schedule The Committee are now working on building the schedule for next year. We like to keep things fresh and interesting for everyone, so if you have any ideas at all, please can you let one of the committee know.

Trips, Outings & Talks. We would like to know where you would like to go for an outing, either in a coach or by car and meet at the venue. Another thought is, would you like to go and visit a Flower Show or a Garden event somewhere, so that we can all gather a few more ideas. If you know of an interesting Speaker, we are open to suggestions. It would be nice to get a few more members along to our talks. So please can you let us know

whether you would prefer the talks in the Morning, Afternoon, or Evening, also weekday or weekend. All suggestions greatly received.

Invitation We have been invited by the Slindon, Eartham & Madehurst Horticultural Society to attend a talk that they are holding on Tuesday 6th October in Slindon Coronation Hall at 7.30 It will be given by Steve Bustin, Chairman of The Hardy Plant Society, but his topic will be *Gardens created for pleasure and leisure* - starting with the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. Further news about Steve can be found in the September edition of The Garden magazine (RHS) where an article about his Brighton garden is fun and informative. Please contact nikiadamson5@gmail.com for further details.

Christmas Coffee Morning

This is our next big event. Last year it was a tremendous success, and we would like to try to make it even better this year. So again, we will need any ideas that you might have to help us achieve this.

Jobs in the garden to keep us busy as Autumn approaches.

Climbing and Rambler Roses, make sure that they are all pruned and tied back onto the wires or trellis. Look out for new long shoots coming from the base and consider training these in and taking some of the old growth out, for an abundance of new flowers next summer.

Now is a good time to cut-back your Old English Lavender to a nice shape ready for next year, otherwise it will go all straggly.

Cut back perennials that have died down

Divide herbaceous perennials

Move tender plants, into a greenhouse or conservatory

Finish collecting seeds from the garden to sow next year

It might be your last chance to mow lawns and trim hedges.

Aerate your lawn and sow new seed in areas that might need it.

Harvest the remaining apples, pears, grapes and nuts

Divide established rhubarb crowns to create new plants

Plant out Spring Cabbages.

Sow Broad Beans for an early crop. this will also help avoid getting black fly which you might suffer from if sown later.

If anyone is dividing their Japanese Anemones please may we have some to plant on Blacksmiths Corner.

For Sale

A Rapid Shredder machine (electric) Please email Brenda for more information.

Thank you from your Committee - Liz Hewson (Chair), Brenda Bailey (Shows & Events), Alan Gess (Treasurer) Bob Rogers, Kate Dobson & Liesma Mezulis.

Details for Brenda Bailey Email WalbertongcShows@outlook.com or 07881552980