



Grayshott Gardeners'

Newsletter

August 2026

From the Committee

I hope by the time you read this that we have had some rain, but the forecast is not promising.

With a hose pipe ban now in force the challenges to keeping our gardens and allotments alive have only become greater. Though with hefting all those watering cans about, who needs the gym?

In our garden a few plants that were planted in the past year or so have sadly succumbed.

The subject of the talk by Tim Ingram at this month's club night could not be more timely. I am looking forward to some ideas on selecting perennials that will survive on dew.

Our Summer Show was a great success, thanks to all the efforts put in by the entrants and the volunteers who made it happen. This year we had the welcome addition of some exhibits from children from Grayshott primary school, the gardeners of the future! Thanks are also due to the scouts who helped with the clear up at the end of the day.

Now, off to Google "how to do a rain dance"....



Alan Wright
admin@grayshottgardeners.net

Refreshment Heros!

The Summer Show Afternoon Tea was greatly enjoyed by so many people and once again proved to be a huge success thanks to the many very special helpers in the kitchen and the talented and generous cake makers to whom we owe enormous gratitude and thanks, it could not have happened without you!

The importance of the involvement by our Members in Club activities is vital to our success as a Club and always seems to be a fun experience which is enormously appreciated.

Thank You All
Jane Jones
Refreshments Coordinator



A fantastic spread

The most amazing chocolate/cherry cake



Some very happy customers

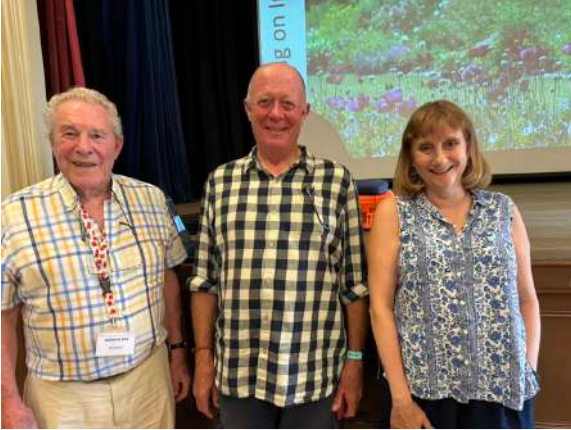


Just a few members of the hardworking team

July Meeting

**'Bordering on Insanity -
creating an all year round
border'**

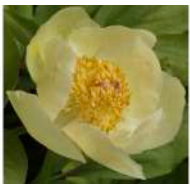
Timothy Walker



Gordon Rae, Timothy Walker, Sue Wheeler

Grayshott Gardeners enjoyed an informative and very entertaining talk by Timothy Walker, who began his career as a trainee at the University of Oxford Botanic Garden and later became its director.

He focused on the creation, planting and colour schemes of the "back border" in his Oxford garden.



More details on the talk can be found at:
grayshottgardeners.net/

August Meeting

**'Alpines and Perennials for
Dry Gardens'**

Tim Ingram



Grayshott Gardeners is delighted to welcome nurseryman Tim Ingram as our speaker this month.

He owns Copton Ash Garden which is a family run garden and specialist plant nursery in Faversham, Kent. It presently opens for the National Garden Scheme with the attached nursery focused mainly on alpines and dry-loving plants.

Tim is also a longstanding member of the Alpine Garden Society and Copton Ash is a member of Plant Fairs Roadshow – a cooperative of small independent specialist nurseries organising plant fairs in the Southeast.

Tim will have some plants to sell.

The meeting will be held in
Grayshott Village Hall
Wednesday 12th August 2026

Free refreshments

Doors open at 7.15pm ready for the meeting to begin at 8pm.

SUMMER SHOW - 2026

The Great British Weather has a habit of causing concern in the run-up to the show. In previous years, we've had high winds and rain battering our gardens and ruining flowers and crops alike. This year was quite the opposite, with week after week of very hot weather, and no rain, our gardens are parched and looking pretty sad. So, it was with some trepidation that the Club opened its doors on Saturday 11 July: would there be sufficient entries? - would the local community venture out on such a hot afternoon?

We needn't have worried, as the show was as spectacular as ever with a grand total of 253 entries covering the majority of classes, and 141 attendees. We were very pleased to sign-up three new members too. The judges all commented on how well everyone had done with their entries, given the recent very hot weather. The fruit and vegetables on display were particularly good and for the first time in many years a vegetable won the coveted 'Best in Show'; won by Alison Lang for her two fabulous aubergines in Class 63 – 'any other vegetable'. The judge was particularly pleased to be able to award 'Best in Show' for a vegetable – a very close runner up was Anne Waddell for her beautiful dahlias.

Of the 29 entrants, we were delighted that there were four new entrants. Brilliant! I do hope that you all enjoyed the day. We know that entering a show for the first time can be rather daunting and so we have adopted a Buddy approach where new entrants are buddied-up with someone on the Shows Committee – feedback from new entrants is very positive, saying that it makes entering much easier and enjoyable.

This year, some pupils from Grayshott school came along with items they had grown or made; our main judge gave comments on each and every exhibit and all were given a Grayshott Gardeners rosette – much to delight of the pupils. The President's Award, selected by Gordon, was given to the 'very wonky' carrots in Class 53 from Alison Lang.

Many congratulations to the following winners:

Home Produce Cup	Amanda Dowden
Floral Arrangement Trophy	Sue Erler
Photography Prize	Liz Munson
Mike Hallt Cup	Andy Karayianni
Davies Rose Cup	Viki Cresswell
Smith Cup	Anne Waddell
Davies Tankard	Pamela and Alan Wright
Novice Cup	Alison Lang
Littlejohn Rose Bowl	Pamela and Alan Wright
Banksian Medal	Alison Lang
Best in Show Plate	Alison Lang



(L-R, Andy Karayianni, Alison Lang, Viki Cresswell, Amanda Dowden, Sue Erler, Liz Munson, Pamela Wright, Alan Wright, Anne Waddell)



BEST IN SHOW

Staging a show is a huge team effort and many thanks go to our Shows Committee, led by Pamela, who work tirelessly to pull together all the varied strands to produce such a brilliant show. A special thank you to all the many volunteers who help on the day: Plant sales; our bakers who bake delicious cakes for the Teas; setting up the hall; the tombola and finally a huge 'Thank You' to the local Scouts who stayed on to help us clear-up after the show, thereby making such a welcome difference to our exhausted exhibitors.

Janet Hall



Alison Lang

SUMMER SHOW - 2026 *contd*



Gordon presenting The Presidents Cup to Alison Lang (her 4th award of the day!) - awarded for the ugliest carrots he'd ever seen!



See if you can guess which one's!



Technique is everything



Some of the scouts



Staying cool with Sue Erler - have fan will travel



The Photography Class



Checking out the competition for next year!



Christa & Reinhard, bribed to run the tombola on their UK holiday by her sister Liz Munson - what splendid chaps!



The Juniors Exhibits



George



Bella & Millie



Ella & Connor



Janet Hall

Member Spotlight - Kew Gardens

If you get the chance to go and visit Kew Gardens, there's a special treat in store in the shape of 30 monumental Henry Moore sculptures which are sited all over the gardens inviting you to appreciate the parallels between art and nature.



There are eight trails that you can follow with free daily walking tours that cover both the gardens and the Henry Moore sculptures and if you want a more leisurely experience there is the Kew Explorer (a road train) to take you round the site with a guided commentary. Well worth doing the whole tour and then deciding where you want to go first. It works like a hop on, hop off so you can use it all day.



The key attractions are the Glasshouses, the Treetop Walkway, the Great Broad Walk Borders, the Rose Garden, the Carbon Garden and the Mediterranean Garden. The Hive is a must see experience too.



Kew Gardens on their own are stunning, and with the strategically placed sculptures, it adds a completely unique opportunity to appreciate Moore's career development and creative process in the context of such a wonderful backdrop. There are also additional ticketed events for after hours to enjoy the Gardens in the evening.

Carmen Harvey-Browne



Member Photos - Butterflies in My Garden



Speckled Wood



Comma



White Admiral on it's way
back to the garden



Small Copper



Red Admiral



Painted Lady



Common Blue Male



Common Blue Female



Meadow Brown



Small White



Red Admiral



Small Copper



Mating Gatekeepers



Gatekeeper



The theme for next month will be 'Droughtbusters in My Garden'. I've stolen this idea from Anne Marie Powell's instagram feed (<https://www.instagram.com/myrealgarden/>). Anne Marie will be our Keynote Speaker in October. The idea is to recommend plants from your garden which are surviving/flourishing in the current drought. Photos must be taken by you in your garden. Please send your photo to comms@grayshottgardeners.net by 28th August.

Jobs for this month - August

Gardening in August

(excerpts taken from the RHS website)

Sultry late summer

August is usually one of the hottest months of the year, making watering essential. Try to use grey water wherever possible, especially as water butts may be running low if it has been a dry summer. August is traditionally holiday time, so you might need to enlist the help of friends and family to look after the garden while you are away. When you are at home, take the time to prune wisteria and summer-flowering shrubs such as lavender once they've finished flowering.

1. Prune wisteria

Wisteria needs regular pruning to keep the growth and size under control, but it will also improve the flowering display. Although it seems complicated, wisteria pruning is quite easy if you follow our simple guide. <https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/wisteria/pruning-guide>



2. Summer prune trained apples and pears

Summer pruning is mainly for apples and pears trained as cordons, espaliers, fans, pyramids and stepovers. It allows sunlight to ripen the fruit and ensures good cropping next year.



3. Deadhead flowering plants regularly

Remove spent flowers once they start to look scruffy. The simplest method is to just pinch off the faded blooms, or snip back to the first leaf below the flower for a neater finish.



More Jobs for this month

Water containers and new plants, preferably with grey recycled water or stored rainwater

Collect seed from garden plants

Harvest sweetcorn and other vegetables as they become ready

Cut out old fruited canes on raspberries

Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners

Keep ponds and water features topped up

Improve the soil with green manures

Dates for your diary



GRAYSHOTT GARDENERS

**The Legacy of Hadspen,
to the Newt in Somerset**

Harry Baldwin

Wednesday, 9th September 2026
Doors Open 7.15pm, Lecture at 8.00pm
Grayshott Village Hall

Visitors (always welcome) £5
Free light refreshments & raffle
www.grayshottgardeners.net

STONEHILL AUTOMOTIVES

Sponsors

ehomes
more than houses



GRAYSHOTT GARDENERS
KEYNOTE LECTURE

Ann-Marie Powell

Reimagining Royal Roots:
A sustainable makeover for Hampton Court's
Great Fountain Garden

Wednesday, 14th October 2026
Doors Open 7.15pm, Lecture at 8.00pm
Grayshott Village Hall

Visitors £8, Inter-village clubs £5
Free light refreshments
www.grayshottgardeners.net

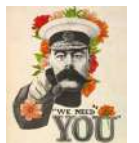
STONEHILL AUTOMOTIVES

Sponsors

ehomes
more than houses

Can you help?

You will appreciate that the Club can only survive with the generous time given by its volunteers, both on and off the Committee. Please consider if you can spare some time to help. There are many opportunities to do so without necessarily having to join the Committee or committing yourself on a regular basis. For example—helping occasionally in the kitchen with refreshments or to man the sign-in table or programme board. Maybe to help with one of our plant sales.



The more people we have the more we can share the load and provide more for our Club members and it goes without saying that it's a lovely way to meet other members and make new friends.



**STONEHILL
AUTOMOTIVES**

Caring & Reliable Service From Our Family To Yours



The highest Yell rated garage in the country!



NEW GARAGE IN GRAYSHOTT

ALL MAKES & REPAIRS INCLUDING



- ✓ MOT's
- ✓ Tyres
- ✓ Vehicle Servicing inc. Hybrid
- ✓ Brakes
- ✓ Exhaust, DPF & CAT's
- ✓ Suspension
- ✓ Clutch
- ✓ Timing Belts
- ✓ Air Conditioning Service

SCAN ME!



The Avenue | Grayshott | Surrey | GU26 6LA

T 01428 713732



enquiries@stonehillautomotives.co.uk
www.stonehillautomotives.co.uk

we could tell you why you should sell your home with us, but...

don't just take our word for it.



"Having been left very disillusioned by our initial choice of agent, we switched to Homes. Best decision ever! Not only was the whole team amazingly positive and proactive, they sold our house very quickly, with the minimum of stress. We then purchased our new house via Homes too; again, another great experience. We would recommend this estate agency wholeheartedly - thank you to you all".

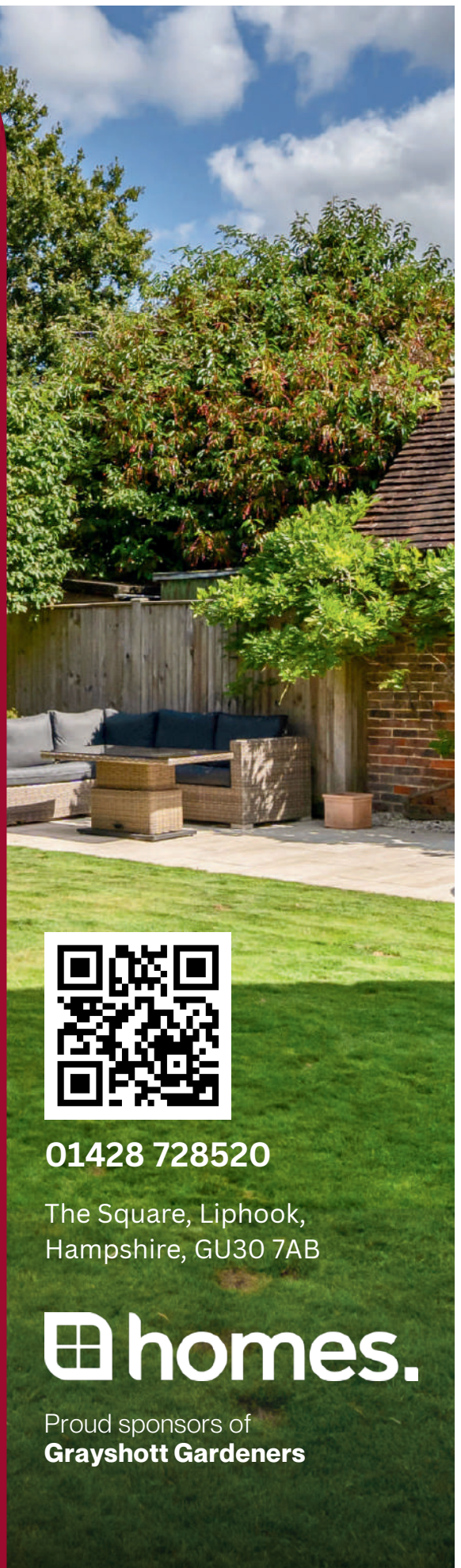
Miss Polden

"Ross made myself and my partners first time purchase so easy! He was always there if we had a question that needed answering and was great at communicating information. Overall, an exceptional service. Thanks Ross from myself and Debbie".

Mr Davies

"Highly recommend Homes Estate Agents. They have been so helpful through the whole process from arranging viewings right the way through to completion. Ross in particular was extremely helpful and kept us in the loop from the offer being accepted through to exchanging contracts. We are looking forward to completing next week and appreciate all of the help the team has provided. ".

Mrs Shoubridge



01428 728520

The Square, Liphook,
Hampshire, GU30 7AB

 **homes.**

Proud sponsors of
Grayshott Gardeners