SWINDON ALLOTMENTS & LEISURE GARDENS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN/WINTER
2026

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1138814



LIST OF MONTHLY TALKS

HORTICULTURAL SHOW SPECIAL!

UPDATES FROM THE SHOP

A WINTER PLANTING GUIDE

PLUS... MEET THE GROWER!

WWW.SALGA.ORG.UK


THE RECOVERY TREE CHARITY
twigs
TWINKLY LIT UP GARDENS
SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2026
4.30 - 7.30PM
HOT & COLD REFRESHMENTS
CRAFT STALLS
LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO
SUGGESTED DONATION OF £3 FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN
TWIGS Community Gardens
Manor Garden Centre, Swindon, SN2 2QJ
ZURICH
EVENT SPONSORED BY ZURICH COMMUNITY TRUST

ABOUT SALGA

SALGA is open to all Swindonians and those who live in the surrounding area who are interested in growing things.

It doesn't matter whether you have a garden or not – some of our members live in flats, and get great satisfaction growing plants on their windowsills or balconies. At the other end of the scale, there are those with allotment plots and full scale vegetable patches.

Wherever you fit into this, joining SALGA means you can benefit from the shop at Pickards Field, our annual seed ordering scheme, the monthly talks on all things horticultural, and last but not least, SALGA's Horticultural Show, which takes place at the beginning of September each year.

SALGA is a registered charity and is run by a committee of around 8-10 people which meets once a month. Lots of other people are involved in helping with our activities, and we're a friendly bunch – as most gardeners are!

We look forward to seeing you at the shop, a monthly meeting or on the allotment.





CHAIRS' REPORT

Following the wet Spring, we were looking forward to a busy summer, but who knew we would experience one of the hottest summers on record and how much it would affect our allotments and gardens? The 'top tips for surviving a hot summer' published in the Spring newsletter was certainly useful, although it was difficult to 'water deeply' as we limped along with watering cans after the hosepipe ban was enforced.





Despite the weather, over 500 exhibitors entered the SALGA Horticultural Show on Saturday 5th September showing all manner of produce from apples to potatoes, home-made alcohol, cakes, chutneys, pickles and a beautiful display of flowers and plants.

Everyone should feel really proud of their entries whether prize winners or not. The local schools came up trumps as usual with a varied display of produce and photos. A big thank you to the SALGA Show Committee for organising another successful show. Their full report will be included in this newsletter.

Pip Smith was a recent speaker at one of our monthly meetings and his talk ‘The drought resilient garden’ again hit the mark and gave us plenty to think about when planning our gardens for next year. The winter is expected to be wet and warm, with the threat of an El Niño causing havoc with our weather patterns. So start planning your gardens with this in mind.

We have two or three speakers lined up for the remainder of the year and of course we end the year with the quiz in December. Further details to follow. **Please note the date of the December meeting has been changed from Thursday 17th December to Thursday 10th December to accommodate rehearsals for the pantomime.**

Our members enjoyed an outing to Bowood Country Park in April, which included a guided tour of the walled gardens. Our group really enjoyed seeing the absolutely fabulous gardens and the weather was kind to us despite it being April. We are off to RHS Wisley in October, which should be another exciting day out. It will be interesting to see Wisley in the autumn when the leaves will be turning to the gorgeous golds and oranges.

Sandie & Avril



SWINDON GROWERS SUMMIT 27

SATURDAY 3RD APRIL

Christ Church Community Hall. 10-4pm.
Speakers, stalls, compost testing, community stands
plus a hall full of ideas and inspiration.
Save the date. More details coming soon...



'The health of soil, plant, animal, and man is one indivisible whole'

-Eve Balfour

THE WINTER PLOT: WHAT TO PLANT IN OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

Don't pack away your garden tools just yet! October and November offer a golden window to plant hardy crops that keep your soil active and guarantee an early harvest next spring.

Here is what you can plant right now:

- **Garlic:** Autumn planting is essential. The cloves need winter cold to split into plump bulbs for next summer. Plant cloves pointy-end up, 5cm deep.
- **Onions & Shallots:** Overwintering sets establish roots quickly in autumn, lying dormant through winter before bursting into rapid spring growth.
- **Broad Beans & Peas:** Winter-hardy varieties like 'Aquadulce Claudia' broad beans survive the frosts to crop weeks ahead of spring-sown seeds.
- **Winter Salad Greens:** Mizuna, rocket, and winter lettuce will provide steady, fresh pickings if shielded under a simple garden cloche or cold frame.

Top Tip: Excess winter damp is a bigger threat than the cold. Ensure your soil drains well, and use horticultural fleece to protect tender leaves from heavy downpours.



REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

It is amazing how quickly this year is disappearing!

It was amazing to see at the Horticultural Show how members have coped with the incredibly hot weather this year and produced the number of exhibits that they did. Quite incredible.

Largely due to the well supported coffee morning earlier in the year, which raised nearly £300 in support of Show costs, we ended up with a £100 surplus compared to a £300+ deficit last year.

Financially, the shop has again been a success so far. Shop sales have been up by over 15% compared to 2025, which is just as well, as there have been (and will be) a number of significant items of expenditure going out, such as:

- The third instalment of £600 for the Pickards Field groundworks;
- The purchase for almost £600 of a new racking system to hold the rolls of groundcover and netting materials;
- A budget of around £800 for the Schools gardens project and the creation of a number of outside raised beds at Pinetrees Community Centre;
- A budget for speakers of £1,450;

The use of the SumUp card facility has been popular, with well over 50% of all sales paid for this way.

We have made representations to the Parish Council about the entrance track to Pickards Field, which badly needs repairs, largely due to the wear caused by large delivery lorries.

A temporary repair was recently completed with the laying of some ballast to fill in the potholes, but this will not last for long. The P.C. have told us that a permanent tarmacked surface leading into the site will cost in the region of £20,000, to which we will be expected to make a 50% contribution. The work will not be possible until the next financial year, commencing in April. Discussions will be held to determine the extent of the work required and how we might organise any contribution that we agree to make.

Two members trips have been organised this year, to Bowood House and Gardens in April and to Wisley RHS Gardens this month (October). Unfortunately, the Bowood trip was poorly supported and made a large deficit but Wisley will make up for that, with 50 members hopefully enjoying a return trip – we previously visited there in May 2025.

Many thanks to Roy, for all the work he does in keeping the shop stocked up and responding to requests from members for new items. Also, thanks to all the volunteers who help to keep the shop running – there would be no shop without you!

John Edgerton
Treasurer
October 2026

Did you know...

The banana plant is the largest herb on Earth, and its thick trunk is made of tightly wrapped leaf bases rather than wood

The inside of a **cucumber** growing on the vine can be up to 20°F cooler than the surrounding air

RECIPE TO TRY AT HOME

Pear & Ginger Cake
Makes a 20-22cm (8-9in)
Round Cake

Ingredients
100g (3 &1/2 oz) unsalted butter
100g (3 & 1/2oz) self raising flour
100g (3 & 1/2oz) ground almonds
3 pieces preserved stem ginger, chopped
115g (4oz) golden castor sugar
2 tsp baking powder
2 tsp mixed spice
3-4 firm ripe pears (about 300g/10oz) chopped weight (cored, quartered and diced)
3 large eggs, beaten
20g (1/4oz) flaked almonds

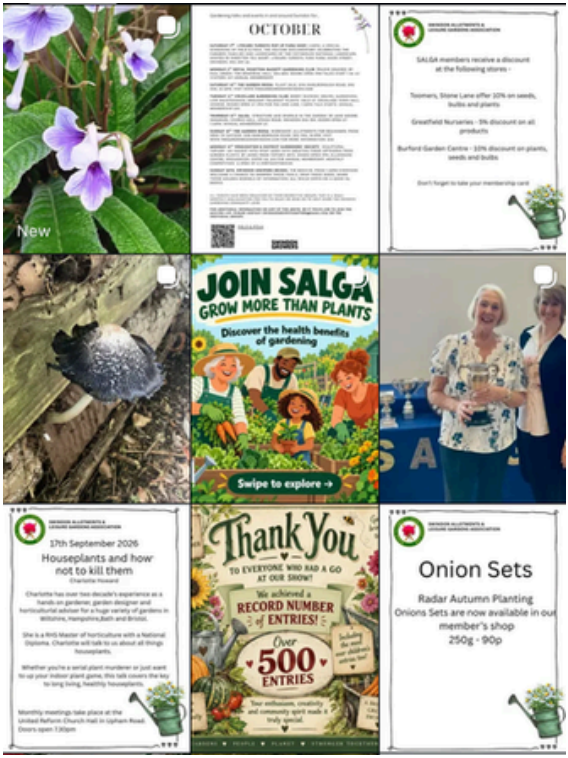


Method
Preheat oven to 180C/350F/gas4. Grease and flour a deep 20-22cm (8-9in) loose-bottomed sandwich tin, You need to use a loose-bottomed tin as the cake is quite juicy and some of the juice will leak out and cause the cake to stick to an ordinary tin.
Melt the butter in a pan and remove from the heat. Put the flour, ground almonds, baking powder, mixed spice and 100g of the sugar into a large mixing bowl.

Add the ginger, pears, eggs and melted butter to the dry ingredients. Stir well and pour into the prepared tin. Scatter with flaked almonds over the top. Put the baking tin on a baking tray and bake for about 45-55min, until golden brown and springy to touch.
Leave to cool for 5 minutes, remove from the tin and put onto a cooling rack. Before serving, dust with sugar.

ENJOY!

SOCIAL MEDIA



We are always looking to welcome new members. The SALGA Facebook page and Instagram page are updated regularly to keep our members informed.

We have 96 Instagram followers and over 700 views on the Instagram account. The Facebook page has 600 followers.

Take a look and let us know what you think. We also welcome ideas on what you would like to see.

MONTHLY TALKS

Monthly meetings take place at Immanuel Church Hall, Upham Road, Swindon SN3 1DH, usually on the 3rd Thursday of every month, unless noted otherwise.

Tea and coffee are served from 7.30pm, and the talk begins at 7.45pm. We hold a raffle at many of our monthly meetings. Tickets costing £1.00 each are sold before the talk, and the draw takes place immediately after it.

15th October:
Jane Moore – Structure and Sparkle in the Garden
Jane will describe the strong plants that bind the garden, and the stunning flowers that make a good garden shine.

She has written for The Times, The Guardian, The English Garden and for BBC Gardeners' World magazine, as well as appearing on various TV programmes including Gardeners' World, and has won numerous awards for her writing and her gardening including the Relais & Chateaux Garden Trophy, the Garden Media Guild Journalist of the Year and has been runner up in the GMG Columnist of the year twice.

19th November:
Lara Honor – Skool Beanz Children's Garden.

Lara will describe how she turned a neglected and overgrown allotment in her village into an abundant children's garden that benefits the whole community. She is a full-time gardener who developed a passion for no dig and growing vegetables while working for Charles Dowding. Inspired by Greta Thunberg, Lara transformed an overgrown allotment in her village in Somerset into a garden specifically for children, teaching them through her Skool Beanz gardening club how to grow vegetables and flowers and how to garden to help nature, with lots of arts and crafts thrown in.
Lara will bring assorted merchandise to sell on the evening (she has a card reader), including books, calendars and gardening crafts.

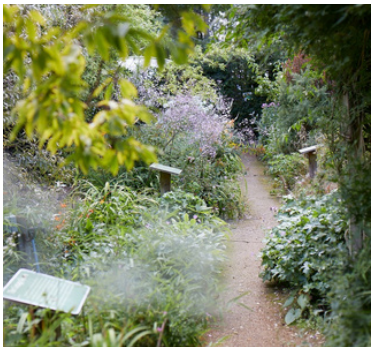
10th December:
SALGA Quiz & Ploughman's Supper.

Celebrate the end of another successful gardening year with your SALGA friends by taking part in our annual quiz and ploughman's supper evening!

21st January 2027:
Alan Holland from TWIGS- Therapeutic Work In Gardening Swindon.

TWIGS Garden in Swindon. Twigs has been delivering a service to people struggling with their mental health for nearly 30 years. The service has evolved and is ever adapting to current needs. Twigs holds the Green Care quality award, Level 5 RHS 'It's Your Neighbourhood' and is a Garden Of Sanctuary.









SALGA SHOP UPDATES

We've had another good year with stock selling well, despite the unusually hot growing season we've all endured.

New Shop Equipment

We now have a new roll dispenser racking for all our nettings and membranes, which is making it much easier for us to measure off the lengths you require.

Onion Sets Update

- Spring Planting: In addition to our usual autumn-planting onion sets, we stocked spring-planting onion sets when we opened this past February. It was a huge success, so we have ordered even more for when we reopen next year.

- Autumn Stock Shortage: Unfortunately, the autumn-planting onion sets we had in stock have already sold out. Although we ordered 20kg, our supplier was shorted by their own supplier. They felt the only fair thing to do was to divide what they had evenly between all their customers.

In Stock Now

We have Bunyards Exhibition broad bean seeds in the shop right now. They are weighed out to our usual 250g bags and priced at £1.70.

Winter Maintenance & Stock Notice

Once we close for the winter, we need to re-level our containers as the backs of them have dropped. Because of the heavy lifting involved in this project, we are trying not to order any more stock before we close. As a result, we are afraid we might run out of a few items soon.

Important Dates & Closing Details

- Last Day Open & Seed Order Deadline: Sunday 15th November 2026
- Shop Reopening Date: Friday 12th February 2027

Opening Hours & Reminders

As a reminder, the shop is open from **10:00am to 12:00pm every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday** until 15th November. Please don't forget to bring your membership card along with you when you visit!

Roy Strange - Shop Manager

The main entrance to the SALGA Shop is located on Pinehurst Road, Swindon, SN2 1QE. It sits immediately to the north of the houses on the west side of the road, right next to No. 51 Pinehurst Road







MEET THE GROWER!

Name: Holly

What/ Who inspired you to garden?

Gardening felt magical from childhood. Mum secretly scratched my name into a tiny marrow I was growing. As it grew, my name appeared: proof that fairies visited my garden! I've had a passion for growing pumpkins ever since!Later, she bought me Cuthbert's Cottage Garden seeds from Woolworths, giving me a dinner fork and a two-foot-square patch of earth. It became a colourful flower patch. I was hooked.

Has anything significant come along to change your way of growing?

As a teenager, I spent 12½p of my waitressing wages on 'Be Your Own Gardening Expert'. Nearly half its 34 pages covered soil! It sparked a lifelong love of gardening books and soil! An old gardener at Malvern Show advised: "If you spend £1 on your garden, spend 95p of it on your soil!" Charles Dowding's no-dig philosophy and Eddie Bailey's advice at Rhizophyllia have since inspired me to treat soil and its microorganisms as a precious habitat.

What are Holly's top growing tips?

Care for your soil and it will repay you tenfold. Organic, no-dig gardening, mulched annually with homemade compost and leaf litter, saves me a fortune on fertilisers and chemicals. It's more climate resilient with less watering, weeding and hassle.Grow more herbs and edible crops amongst your flowers and practise companion planting: we all need friends! Companion plants like tagetes, marigolds and aromatic herbs deter pests and attract beneficial insects. The white feverfew pictured, my sacrificial plant for blackfly, descends directly from my first herb companion plant, grown nearly 50 years ago.

What has brought you the most joy in the garden over the years?

Growing flowers for my daughter's wedding and later for celebrations and remembrance during Covid when commercial floristry wasn't available. My eldest, Rose, wanted wedding dahlias, which I'd never grown. With two years to prepare, we needed 180 perfect blooms within a four-hour picking window! Much of the advice focused on exhibition growing and heavy chemical use, so we adapted it to suit our garden style. A gale before picking had us outside at 3am, wearing head torches and tying up dahlias. It worked! Those same organically grown plants still give us beautiful blooms, and occasional success at shows.

Now I'm growing flowers for my youngest daughter's wedding on SALGA Show day, 4 September 2027. So see you at the show in 2028!


CULPEPER'S
COMPLETE
HERBAL
BE YOUR OWN
GARDENING EXPERT
2/6




cuthbert
cottage garden
A wonderful mixture
of Annual Flowers







KINGS SEEDS

The Seed catalogues from Kings are once again in the SALGA Shop where you may collect them. Paperwork for ordering and all information required will be included with the catalogue. As you know we have a very generous arrangement with Kings where you receive 45% discount on packetted seeds, onion sets and shallot sets.

All orders this year should be either taken into the Shop before it closes on Sunday 15th November or sent direct to Patrick Hawker. His address, telephone number and email address is shown in the letter that comes with the catalogue. As in previous years, Kings will be processing all orders during the first working week in the New Year.

Lets hope the weather allows a bumper crop for next year.

Glenys Dingwall

Did you know...

SALGA members get discount at the following two garden centres when you show your SALGA card:

Toomers Garden Centre - 10% discount on Seeds, Plants and Bulbs.

Greatfield Nurseries - 5% on everything.

The Garden Room



WORKSHOPS,
PLANTS &
GARDENING SERVICES

thegardenroomswindon.com
@TheGardenRoomSwindon

SALGA'S TRIP TO RHS WISLEY

On Thursday 8th October, 49 members of SALGA climbed aboard the coach for a day at RHS Wisley. We went there in April 2025 when the gardens were absolutely stunning with spring flowers and the trees just starting to come into leaf, but thought it would be good to experience the gardens in the Autumn when the flowers have died back and the leaves are changing to their glorious reddish and golden brown colours. And they didn't disappoint us!

Their pumpkin patch was magnificent with an amazing array of gourdes and pumpkins. Definitely put my pumpkin patch to shame.

Then we wandered round the various gardens and borders, which managed to survive the draught conditions. Of course, they have an army of gardeners to keep the gardens tidied and watered, but they still suffered as did our own gardens. The Prairie garden was full of grasses and flower, which didn't mind the draught conditions. Alpine House was looking fabulous as ususal.

The resident hedgehod popped out to see us too!










It was a fabulous day and I think everyone enjoyed their visit, either wandering around the gardens, enjoying lunch in one of the many Cafe's or just browsing in the shop, which is filled with delicious treats and wonderful ideas for Christmas presents. Yes, the Christmas decorations are now in the shops!

We are now planning SALGA trips for 2027, so if you have a desire to visit a beautiful garden within a two hour drive from Swindon, which you think our members would enjoy, please let us know. We are always looking for a hidden gem that is worth a visit.

Get out and about to enjoy the Autumnal days.

Sandie

GROWING FOR GOLD!

SALGA SUPPORT HELPS SOW THE SEEDS OF NATIONAL AWARD SUCCESS!

Following its 2025 South West in Bloom Gold Award, South Swindon in Bloom has now won the national 2026 RHS Community Engagement Award, celebrating its work to bring people together through gardening and create lasting benefits for the wider community.

South Swindon has a record 33 community gardens - more than many other regions in the UK. These involve people of many ages and ethnic backgrounds, embracing a wonderful variety of garden styles. The participation of three schools supported in part by SALGA grants was a key part of this success, connecting children with community gardeners and providing opportunities to learn about growing, biodiversity and sustainability.

SALGA helped make this school gardening work possible, through Swindon Schools Grow Together, providing the initial grant alongside donations of compost and materials from the SALGA shop. Members have also generously propagated and donated plants, and pre-loved garden equipment - an invaluable contribution when schools have no budget to buy these themselves.

SALGA members can take pride in their contribution to this national success: their generous support is nurturing the next generation of gardeners, bringing communities together and encouraging biodiversity, sustainability and a lasting love of growing.

SOUTH SWINDON IN BLOOM

SWINDON SCHOOLS GROW TOGETHER

SOUTH SWINDON IN BLOOM

3

It's Your School (IYS) groups

7

Horticultural community outreach events

3

Parks entered Pride in Parks

260+

Community volunteers engaged

£4k

Raised from plant sales & events

3

Afterschool gardening clubs

34

It's Your Neighbourhood (IYN) groups

17

Growing workshops delivered

AWARDS

Winners: 2026

SALGA CHAMPION'S MEDAL — Ray Adams

Awarded to the most meritorious exhibit in horticultural classes F0-F58 & V1-V50

R.H.S. BANKSIAN MEDAL — Michael Salter

Awarded to winner of highest amount of prize money in horticultural classes F0-F58 & V1-V50. (Past winners in 2024 and 2025 are not eligible in 2026)

N.V.S. SILVER MEDAL & CARD — Ray Adams

Awarded to the most meritorious exhibit in vegetable classes V1-V50

PERPETUAL ROSE BOWL — Holly Barrand

Highest number of points in 'Show'. All classes

THE VEGETABLE CUP — Theodora Georgaki

Highest number of points in 'Vegetable Section' classes V1-V50

THE ERNEST BRIGHT ROSE BOWL — Holly Barrand

Highest number of points in 'Dahlia Section' classes F0-F10

THE EDDIE JEFFRIES CUP — Holly Barrand

Winner of Chrysanthemum Class F11

SWINDON BEEKEEPERS' POLLINATORS SHIELD — Shirley Forrester

Highest number of points in 'Flower Section' classes F20-F28

THE REMEMBRANCE CUP — Michael Salter

Highest number of points in 'Pot-plant Section' classes F31-F37

DON REEVE PERPETUAL SHIELD — Shirley Forrester

Highest number of points in 'Domestic Section' classes H1-H15

SWINDON ALLOTMENT SHIELD — Josephine Slade / Diana Ridgley

Highest number of points in 'Handicrafts Section' classes H31-H40

SKIPPER CUP — David Barrand

Highest number of points in 'Fruit Section' classes F51-F58

SMALL CUP — Sandra Carter

Highest number of points in 'Drinks Section' classes H21-H25

TOOMER CUP — Shirley Forrester

Best exhibit in 'Floral Art' classes H51-H52

GREEN-FINGER TROPHY — Ray Adams

Winner of Novice class V61

D & T BROWN CUP — Freddie Barrand-Clarke

Awarded to Children's classes C1-C11

SALGA

CHAIRMAN'S CUP — Theodora Georgaki

Winner of Salad Class V39

T4 CAMERAS CUP — Bella Ford (age 10)

Best exhibit in photographic classes

2026 SCHOOLS AWARDS

THE SCHOOLS TROPHY	Eastrop Infant School
THE GREEN LEADERSHIP AWARD	King William CE Primary School
THE RESOURCEFULNESS AWARD	Badbury Park Primary School
THE DISCOVERY AWARD	Robert le Kyng Primary School
THE ROOTS AND SHOOTS AWARD	Nyland School



OUR 2026 HORTICULTURAL SHOW

More than 500 entries - a SALGA record!

What a sight greeted visitors to Pinetrees Community Centre on Saturday 5 September. The hall was full of flowers, fruit, vegetables, baking and photographs, with well over 500 entries - a club record. After a summer of challenging heat and a hosepipe ban, every exhibit was a testament to the care and enthusiasm of its grower. One of the happiest parts of the day was seeing so many young people take part.

Through Swindon Schools Grow Together, SALGA has been helping local schools discover gardening, and this year's greatly increased number of entries from children and young people showed that enthusiasm in action. All five schools that received awards were represented at the Show, with excited pupils there to celebrate.

A 10-year-old won the overall Photography Trophy. Congratulations to Bella Ford, whose photograph was judged the best across every photography class, including the three adult classes.





There were other lovely moments at the trophy presentation: the Domestic Shield was presented under its new name honouring our former president, Don Reeve, and the new Pollinators Trophy, donated by our friends at the Swindon and District Beekeepers' Association, made its debut. Shirley Ludford from Swindon 105 did a wonderful job presenting the awards once again, and particularly enjoyed meeting the giant white Ghost pumpkin that won the Heaviest Pumpkin award!



A busy hall and a warm welcome

Visitor numbers rose significantly, and there was plenty to explore. Children enjoyed a free activity matching photographs of plants growing in the garden to exhibits in the hall, while helpers welcomed visitors at the raffle, membership, free seeds and advice stalls. Refreshment sales doubled, keeping Sandra, Christine and Wendy especially busy serving tea, coffee and cake. Thank you to all three for taking such good care of everyone.

Much of the wider publicity was thanks to Sue Stevens, who promoted the Show on Facebook and Instagram, arranged media coverage and produced posters. The Swindon Schools Grow Together network helped spread the word too.

The Show was organised by our five committee members — Glenys, Viv, Holly, John and me — whose work began many weeks before the doors opened. My heartfelt thanks go to them, to our judges, to every helper, and to everyone who entered or came along. You made the day feel like a real celebration of our gardening community.

For the first time I can remember as Show Chairman, income from the Show and its associated fundraising exceeded expenditure. The coffee mornings and plant sales organised by the Show Committee at the Pickards Field allotments shop in the spring and early summer played a big part, alongside the larger turnout, stronger refreshment sales and steady raffle sales.

Put next year's date in your diary

Our next Show is Saturday 4 September 2027. The new photography categories are 'Fungi and/or Ferns', 'Orange Flower(s)' and 'Autumn in the Garden' — so get snapping!





SALGA SCHOOLS CHALLENGE: CELEBRATING OUR TROPHY WINNERS

Congratulations to all the schools that took part in this year's **SALGA Schools Challenge**, run in conjunction with **Swindon Schools Grow Together**.

Five schools received trophies at the SALGA Show:

- **Eastrop Infant School** won the **SALGA Schools Trophy** for its outstanding school gardening achievements.
- **King William Street CE Primary School** won the **Green Leadership Award** for making gardening and environmental responsibility part of school life.
- **Badbury Park Primary School** won the **Resourcefulness Award** for showing what can be achieved with creativity and determination.
- **Robert le Kyng Primary School** won the **Discovery Award** for encouraging children to explore and learn through growing.
- **Nyland School** won the **Roots & Shoots Award** for helping pupils build confidence and connect with nature through gardening.

It was a pleasure to welcome all five schools to the show, along with so many enthusiastic pupils. SALGA's support for school gardening is helping to grow a new generation of gardeners. Word of the Challenge is spreading, too: schools, youth clubs, and parents are now approaching us to ask how they can get involved!





HORTICULTURAL SHOW 2026























LET'S GROW THE FLOWER SECTIONS AT OUR SHOW!

We'd love to see more dahlias, chrysanthemums, cut flowers and floral art at next year's Show.

To help new growers and arrangers get started, we'll be offering some free seeds, plants and hopefully tubers donated from members this spring, along with growing advice from experienced members.

At our July 2027 members' talk, we're also planning to bring together flowers from members' gardens and invite a local florist to show us how to turn them into arrangements for gifts — or hopefully a Show entry!

Whether you're completely new or ready to have another go, watch this space.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership renewals and new members joining for 2027 can be carried out at the shop, at meetings, by post, by email, or included in the seed order if ordering seeds this autumn.

Membership both for renewals and new members paying from now will carry through to the end of 2027.

We would very much like you to pay by bank transfer as our bank has introduced significant charges for cheques.

DENIS MATTHEWS
Membership Secretary


THE RECOVERY TREE CHARITY
therapeutic work in gardening in Swindon
twigs
HELPING PEOPLE & PLANTS TO GROW FOR 20 YEARS
Gardening Through Grief
NATURE BASED CRAFTS AND GENTLE GARDENING ACTIVITIES AT TWIGS COMMUNITY GARDENS
8 WEEKLY SESSIONS
EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON
1.30 - 3.30 PM
FRIDAY 15TH JANUARY - FRIDAY 5TH MARCH 2027
TEAS & COFFEE, BISCUITS/CAKE
LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE
TO REGISTER / FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT THE OFFICE ON 01793 523294 OR EMAIL RECEPTION@THERECOVERYTREECHARITY.ORG.UK

MEMBERSHIP FORM

£7 per year January-December.

Membership Number (for renewals):

Name:

Address:

Post Code: Telephone :

Email:

Allotment site & Plot number (if any):

GIFT AID

GIFT AID If any member of the household is a UK taxpayer, SALGA asks that the membership is made out in that person's name and the declaration is signed accordingly. For every £7 subscription that is "Gift Aided" SALGA receives £1.75 from the exchequer at no additional cost to the member.

IF YOU ARE A UK TAXPAYER, AND YOU WISH SALGA TO CLAIM GIFT AID ON YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE, PLEASE SIGN THIS DECLARATION:

I am a UK taxpayer and would like SALGA to treat all subscriptions I make from this date, until I notify otherwise, as Gift Aid contributions.

Signed:

Full Name:

Date:

4 WAYS TO PAY-

AT THE SHOP
Bring this form to the shop at Pickards Field allotments, next to 51 Pinehurst Rd SN2 IJE. We're open Fri—Sun mornings from Mar –Nov.

AT A MONTHLY SPEAKERS MEETING
Bring this form to one of our monthly Speakers Talks at the Immanuel Church Hall, 16 Upham Rd, SN3 1DH. They take place on the 3rd Thurs of every month. See the website for more information on who's speaking. Unfortunately we do not have a card facility so please bring cash at the hall.

BY BANK TRANSFER
Download a form from the website and return via email to deniswmatthews@gmail.com . Please then pay by bank transfer to Salga a/c 00020536, Sort Code 40-52-40 and include your name as a reference. Your card can be collected at the shop or at a meeting.

BY POST
Existing members, send me your name, address & a cheque for £7. New members, please complete a membership form on previous page, or under "Membership" on the SALGA website salga.org.uk. A stamped and self addressed envelope would be very welcome if you require your membership card sent to you.
Denis Matthews, 3 Clevedon Gardens, Swindon SN4 9EZ

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering can be a very pleasant way to get to know other SALGA members. We are always looking for people who are either willing to help unload a delivery of bags of compost for the shop at Pickard's Field and/or are happy to spend two hours of their time serving customers in our shop.
If you would like to get involved email Sandie on sandiemucahy@gmail.com

COMMITTEE OFFICERS



CHAIR	SANDIE MULCAHY	07795 355115
CHAIR	AVRIL MUIRHEAD	07923 062940
SECRETARY	JOHN ALDRED	07500 456380
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