SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

153527106

(CUSIP Number)

09/30/2026

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- [x] Rule 13d-1(b)
- [ ] Rule 13d-1(c)
- [ ] Rule 13d-1(d)

SCHEDULE 13G

CUSIP Number(s):	153527106

1	**Names of Reporting Persons** JANUS HENDERSON GROUP Ltd.
2	**Check the appropriate box if a member of a Group (see instructions)** ☐ (a) ☐ (b)
3	**Sec Use Only**
4	**Citizenship or Place of Organization** JERSEY

Number of Shares Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person With:	5	**Sole Voting Power** 0.00
	6	**Shared Voting Power** 704,896.00
	7	**Sole Dispositive Power** 0.00
	8	**Shared Dispositive Power** 704,896.00
9	**Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person** 704,896.00	
10	**Check box if the aggregate amount in row (9) excludes certain shares (See Instructions)** ☐	
11	**Percent of class represented by amount in row (9)** 7.3 %	
12	**Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)** HC	

SCHEDULE 13G

Item 1.

(a) **Name of issuer:**

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO

(b) **Address of issuer's principal executive offices:**

1340 TREAT BOULEVARD, SUITE 600 WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597

Item 2.

(a) **Name of person filing:**

Janus Henderson Group Ltd.

In accordance with SEC Release No. 34-39538 (January 12, 1998), this Schedule 13G reflects the securities beneficially owned, or deemed to be beneficially owned, by Janus Henderson Group Ltd. It does not include securities, if any, beneficially owned by Janus Henderson Group Ltd.s ultimate parent Janus Henderson Group Holdings, LLC, the direct or indirect owners of Janus Henderson Group Holdings, LLC, or other persons that may be deemed under control of such owners. Any beneficial ownership by such persons has been disaggregated from that of Janus Henderson Group Ltd. in accordance with the release.

(b) **Address or principal business office or, if none, residence:**

201 Bishopsgate
EC2M 3AE, United Kingdom

(c) **Citizenship:**

Y9

(d) **Title of class of securities:**

Common Stock

(e) **CUSIP Number(s):**

153527106

Item 3. **If this statement is filed pursuant to §§ 240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:**

(a) ☐ **Broker or dealer registered under section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78o);**

(b) ☐ **Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c);**

(c) ☐ **Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c);**

(d) ☐ **Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8);**

(e) ☐ **An investment adviser in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);**

(f) ☐ **An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);**

(g) ☑ **A parent holding company or control person in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);**

(h) ☐ **A savings associations as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);**

(i) ☐ **A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);**

(j) ☐ **A non-U.S. institution in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J). If filing as a non-U.S. institution in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J),**
please specify the type of institution:

(k) ☐ **Group, in accordance with Rule 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(K).**

Item 4. Ownership

(a) Amount beneficially owned:

Janus Henderson Group Ltd. (JHG) is the ultimate parent of a number of SEC-registered investment advisers and foreign equivalents thereof, including but not limited to Janus Henderson Investors US LLC, Janus Henderson Investors UK Limited, Janus Henderson Investors Australia Institutional Funds Management Limited, Janus Henderson Investors Middle East Limited, Janus Henderson Investors (Jersey) Limited, Janus Henderson Investors (Japan) Limited, Janus Henderson Investors (Singapore) Limited, Kapstream Capital Pty Limited, Privacore Capital Advisors LLC, Tabula Investment Management Limited, Victory Park Capital Advisors LLC, and Richard Berstein Advisors LLC (each, an Asset Manager and together, the Asset Managers). The Asset Managers generally exercise investment and/or voting discretion on behalf of their clients which include investment companies, other investment advisers, institutional separate accounts and retail separate accounts (collectively referred to herein as Managed Portfolios).

As a result of their exercise of investment and/or voting discretion on behalf of the Managed Portfolios, the Asset Managers may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of 704,896 common stock of Central Garden & Pet Co. However, the Asset Managers do not have the right to receive any dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the securities held in the Managed Portfolios and disclaim any ownership associated with such rights.

(b) Percent of class:

7.3 %

(c) Number of shares as to which the person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:

0

(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote:

704896

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

0

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

704896

Item 5. Ownership of 5 Percent or Less of a Class.

Not Applicable

Item 6. Ownership of more than 5 Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

If any other person is known to have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, such securities, a statement to that effect should be included in response to this item and, if such interest relates to more than 5 percent of the class, such person should be identified. A listing of the shareholders of an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or the beneficiaries of employee benefit plan, pension fund or endowment fund is not required.

The Managed Portfolios have the right to receive all dividends from, and the proceeds from the sale of, the securities held in their respective accounts.
Of the Managed Portfolios, none own more than five percent of the common stock of Central Garden & Pet Co.

Item 7. **Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company or Control Person.**

If a parent holding company has filed this schedule, pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b)(ii)(G), so indicate under Item 3(g) and attach an exhibit stating the identity and the Item 3 classification of the relevant subsidiary. If a parent holding company has filed this schedule pursuant to Rule 13d-1(c) or Rule 13d-1(d), attach an exhibit stating the identification of the relevant subsidiary.

Please refer to Exhibit 99.

Item 8. **Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.**

If a group has filed this schedule pursuant to §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(K), so indicate under Item 3(k) and attach an exhibit stating the identity and Item 3 classification of each member of the group. If a group has filed this schedule pursuant to §240.13d-1(c) or §240.13d-1(d), attach an exhibit stating the identity of each member of the group.

N/A

Item 9. **Notice of Dissolution of Group.**

Notice of dissolution of a group may be furnished as an exhibit stating the date of the dissolution and that all further filings with respect to transactions in the security reported on will be filed, if required, by members of the group, in their individual capacity. See Item 5.

N/A

Item 10. **Certifications:**

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect, other than activities solely in connection with a nomination under § 240.14a-11.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

JANUS HENDERSON GROUP Ltd.

Signature: **Kristin Mariani**
Name/Title: **Head of North America Compliance**
Date: **11/16/2026**

Exhibit Information

Exhibit 24: Power of Attorney
Exhibit 99: Item 7

POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned, Janus Henderson Group Ltd. ("the Company"), does hereby make, constitute and appoint each of Kristin Mariani and Caroline Barotti acting severally, as its true and lawful attorneys in-fact, for the purpose of, from time to time, executing in its name and on its behalf, whether the Company individually or as representative of others, any and all documents, certificates, instruments, statements, other filings and amendments to the foregoing (collectively, "documents") determined by such person to be necessary or appropriate to comply with ownership or control-person reporting requirements imposed by any United States or non-United States governmental or regulatory authority, including, without limitation, Forms 13D, 13F, 13G and 13H and any amendments to any of the foregoing as may be required to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and delivering, furnishing or filing any such documents with the appropriate governmental, regulatory authority or other person, and giving and granting to each such attorney-in-fact power and authority to act in the premises as fully and to all intents and purposes as the Company might or could do if personally present by one of its authorized signatories, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof. Any such determination by an attorney-in-fact named herein shall be conclusively evidenced by such person's execution, delivery, furnishing or filing of the applicable document. This power of attorney shall be valid from the date hereof and shall remain in full force and effect until either revoked in writing by the Company, or, in respect of any attorney-in-fact named herein, until such person ceases to be an employee of the Company or one of its affiliates.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this power of attorney to be executed as of this 9th day of December, 2022. Janus Henderson Group Ltd.

By: /s/ Michelle Rosenberg

Name: Michelle Rosenberg

Title: General Counsel and Company Secretary

The Asset Managers on whose behalf JHG is reporting include:
Janus Henderson Investors US LLC (IA)
Janus Henderson Investors UK Limited (FI)
Janus Henderson Investors Australia Institutional Funds Management Limited (FI)
Janus Henderson Investors International Limited (FI)
Janus Henderson Investors Middle East Limited (FI)
Janus Henderson Investors (Jersey) Limited (FI)
Janus Henderson Investors (Japan) Limited (FI)
Janus Henderson Investors (Singapore) Limited (FI)
Kapstream Capital Pty Limited (FI)
Privacore Capital Advisors LLC (FI)
Tabula Investment Management Limited (FI)
Victory Park Capital Advisors LLC (IA)
Richard Bernstein Advisors LLC (IA)

Please note that not every Asset Manager has investment and/or voting discretion over the securities reported herein.