



# Milford Gardeners' Club Newsletter

## Hello Everyone

As I write this, it's two weeks to Christmas Day. All I can say is roll on Spring! I hope you have been managing to stay warm. It's precipitating sleety stuff just now and I am just counting my blessings that I have a warm secure home when so many people have not got either.

I have to warn you that there is a lot of information in this newsletter, sorry about that but it's necessary so make sure you keep it somewhere you can find it again!

### **Firstly, arrangements for the Xmas social which is on Wednesday, December 21st.**

The time is the same as usual. Doors open at 7.00 pm and it would be good if you don't come too much before that as the Committee have some preparation to do, we always seem to have some early birds.

We have the Committee Room for the food and it's on the left hand side as you go past the cafe. We are asking you not use the usual door to come in to the Hall but go down the corridor, leave your food contribution in the Committee Room and go in the door near the serving hatch.

There will be no tea or coffee on this occasion as we are providing wine and soft drinks. These will be served in front of the stage.

As usual I have been sorting out some table quizzes and I am going to put the club "history boards" up all around the hall so that those of you who missed our anniversary tea can have a chance to see them.

Hope this all sounds as though it might tempt you to a sociable evening out. Finally, just a gentle reminder that this is only "drinks and nibbles" so make sure you have some supper beforehand! **We will be providing crisps so we won't need them but if you can make your food plate something with finger food on, ie. small things, sweet or savoury, that would be great.**

## December 2022

### **Forthcoming events:**

**Wednesday 21st December**  
Christmas Social Evening

**Wednesday 4th January 2023**  
**PLEASE NOTE DATE!!**  
Chelsea secrets [Pip Bensley](#),  
award winning floral designer

**Wednesday 15th February**  
**AGM** followed by The history of  
Stewarts: 8 generations, one  
passion [Martin Stewart](#)

**Wednesday 15th March**  
The churchyard yew  
*Mark Hinsley*

**Wednesday 19th April**  
Some unusual perennials  
*Bryan Madders*

**Wednesday 17th May**  
Less work, more colour:  
sustainable low maintenance  
gardening *Gillian Taylor*

**Wednesday 21st June**  
A rosy start to the year—types  
of rose, maintenance and  
propagation *Martin Perry*

**Club meetings** are normally held  
on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the  
month at **Milford Community  
Centre**, unless otherwise stated.  
Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30  
start. Refreshments available  
from 7pm.

**Secondly, the date of our January meeting is the 4th.** It's much earlier than usual due to Burn's night falling on what should have been our meeting, so the Community Centre asked us to change the date and this was our best option.

**Thirdly, the programme for next year is included below with instructions of when and how to renew your membership.**

Iris has kindly investigated the possibility of an outing to see snowdrops in February, details below.

Please have a think about small local charities for 2023/24 and if you have particular favourite pass some details on to us. Voting will be in March.

Lastly, Clare did brilliantly with her sponsored run, I'll leave her to add the details. Well done, Clare, a great result.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year and if you can't make the social we hope to see you back with us in the New Year.

*Sue Crabb (Chair)*

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## Proposed outing to The Down House 28th February 2023

We are proposing to run a coach trip outing to the [Down House](#) at Itchen Abbas to see their snowdrops on Tuesday 28th February 2023 and the cost will be approximately £25 per person to include entry and refreshments.

If you are interested in this there will be a form at the Christmas meeting for you to sign so we can decide whether it will be possible to run the outing. We will probably leave Milford at 9.30 and return before dark.

*Iris Slee (Outings Co-ordinator)*

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## Sponsored run for Oakhaven

Thank you so much to everyone who sponsored me for the Oakhaven 10 mile run last month. I completed it in 1 hour 47 minutes which I was very pleased with. The weather was perfect and the route through the New Forest was beautiful.

I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of everyone. The current total is over £1200 (plus another £200+ in gift aid).

Many thanks

*Clare (Treasurer, Newsletter editor, Website editor, etc...)*



*Still smiling at  
8.5 miles!*

## Membership renewal

The membership fee will remain at **£20 per person**. As with last year, to minimise bank charges, we would be grateful if members could pay by BACS if possible or cash. If you have no other option except paying by cheque, then please remember to add the surcharge of 40p to cover the bank charge.

Membership forms will be available in January, by email, on the website or at the meeting, and will contain full details on how to pay. Please complete a form, even if you are paying by BACS, as we need to ensure our membership details are up to date.

*Clare Johnston (Treasurer)*

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Programme for 2023		
January	4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Chelsea secrets</b> <i>Pip Bensley, award-winning floral designer</i>
February	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AGM followed by The history of Stewarts: 8 generations, one passion</b> <i>Martin Stewart</i>
March	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>The churchyard yew</b> <i>Mark Hinsley</i>
April	19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Some unusual perennials</b> <i>Bryan Madders</i>
May	17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Less work, more colour: sustainable low maintenance gardening</b> <i>Gillian Taylor</i>
June	21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>A rosy start to the year: types of rose, maintenance and propagation</b> <i>Martin Perry</i>
July	20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Out evening</b> tbc
August		No meeting
September	20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Wildlife in common: Martin Down and New Forest commons</b> <i>Pete Durnell</i>
October	18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Container planting with bulbs for a year of colour</b> <i>Tim Woodland</i>
November	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Plants for problem areas</b> <i>Roger Hiron</i>
December	20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Christmas Social Evening</b>



**Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year**