



Milford Gardeners' Club Newsletter

Hello Everyone

I can't believe it is only 3 and a half weeks since the plant fair, it feels more like 6 but there has been a lot going on!

I want to say a huge thank you to all those who helped on the stall and to all the members who donated plants. I think we were sold out by 12.00 and the last few things were cleared in our "bargain boxes". The weather was kind, it didn't rain and people were able to browse. A special thank you to Sharie, Juanita and Clare for all their organising and for being there all morning. Without them and all their hard work, this event would not have been possible. The final total raised was £1647.30 and £1270.50 of that was from our plant stall, so a great result. Clare has sent £825 to each of our charities, Honeypot and Basics Bank and the even better news is that Honeypot was match funded so they will receive double our £825 at no extra cost to ourselves.

The following week was the joint outing with the WI to Houghton Lodge, Longstock Park and a private garden, Terstan, all near Stockbridge. 46 people came and it was a great success, we may even have recruited a few new members! The gardens were beautiful and I certainly came away feeling uplifted and inspired. No rain again!



We have a talk on Athelhampton House to look forward to next week. I've never been but it's on my list of places to visit. As well as that we have the club holiday to look forward to at the end of the month and I'm hoping the roses will still be spectacular. It seems to me that they are all flowering at different times. My sister in Romsey has had a fantastic display that would rival Mottisfont but mine are only just coming into bloom. Strange times in the garden.

There have been many gardens open these last few weeks and whilst I am hoping we will have some gardens open for club members it will not be until mid or late July. I have a lot to do in my garden, which

June 2024

Forthcoming meetings:

Wednesday 19th June

The rejuvenation of Athelhampton House and Gardens *Speaker tbc*

Wednesday 17th July 6.30pm

Out evening at Woodpeckers, Brockenhurst

Wednesday 18th September

Beautiful English Gardens *Andy McIndoe*

Wednesday 16th October

Wildlife in a village *Mike Read*

Wednesday 20th November

Camellias and their cultivation *Tom Clarke, Exbury Gardens*

Wednesday 18th December

Christmas Social (afternoon)



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

has been neglected because I have been sorting the bus stop planters and doing things at the Meadow. It needs some work doing before I could contemplate opening.

I am hoping to arrange a picnic in the Meadow in August but I am away for a week right in the middle so will have to think about dates. Next month will be our out evening and full details of times, location and parking etc. will be in the July newsletter.

I have an article in the Village Voice about the Meadow, which I have decided I can no longer manage so if you know of anybody who is young and enthusiastic about the Meadow, please ask them to get in touch with me.

That's all for now, hope to see lots of you next week.

Sue Crabb, Chair

Herbaceous and Perennial

What is the difference between Herbaceous and Perennial plants was a question I was asked recently by Sue S. during the MGC trip to Houghton Gardens. I did my best to answer, rather winging it I'm afraid, but here is a full definition:

HERBACEOUS means that the plant has non-woody stems that reach their full height and produce flower within one year, before dying back over winter and then reappearing the following spring. Don't confuse with Herbs (parsley/ rosemary etc) which is another subject!

The term PERENNIAL means that the plant will live for more than two years'

Hope this helps - thank goodness for the internet!

Jen Spenser

