



Milford Gardeners' Club Newsletter

Hello Everyone ...

It's been nice to see the sun recently, even though it's been cold at night. It's just over 2 weeks until the clocks change and I have already been enjoying having more daylight to do things outside, at the end of the day. All we need is a bit of warmth to get things growing. Everything in my garden seems to be stalled right now. Are we as gardeners ever satisfied?! Is there such a thing as perfect conditions? One to ponder on.

We will be voting for our charities at next week's meeting and have had nominations for Oakhaven Hospice, Honey Pot Children's Charity and the Countryside Education Trust. Nominations are now closed. As last year, there will be a voting box for each charity which will be labelled and counters will be available for you to cast your vote. You may only vote for **one** charity.

The daffodils we planted on the Green last year are starting to come into bloom. There are 3 varieties, with staggered flowering times and I am hoping we get a good show this year. In New Milton last week I saw a gorgeous bank of daffodils with purple crocus mixed in by the park area on the left hand side towards the traffic lights. This set me thinking maybe next year in Milford? As if I needed more work!

The Meadow is looking good at the moment. There are lots of spring flowers at the top end and whilst the plea for help only brought in 4 extra people for the day, a lot of weeding and clearing was achieved. If anyone has native foxgloves going spare I'm desperate to lay my hands on some for the Meadow. The hybrid ones don't seem to seed and I really want a big stand of them by the fence at the top of our patch by the wicket fence.

Lastly, we have about 40-45 people who expressed an interest in going to Wisley on Friday May 9th. There are still plenty of places so if you haven't signed up or you missed this, please do so. Cost currently is £17.50 but if we get 45 confirmed it will be £15.50. We will be asking for payment at the beginning of April and will let you know times etc at the same time. Pick up will be at the bus stop by the Thai restaurant. There's loads to see at Wisley including the new building at Hilltop and the world garden, a Piet Oudolf planted area, the glasshouse and I'm expecting tulips and other spring flowers to be in full bloom by then. There's loads of places to eat and of course the shop and plant centre! It will be a super day out.

That's all for now. Hope to see lots of you at next week's talk.

Sue Crabb, Chair

March 2025

Forthcoming meetings:

Wednesday 19th March

How we made the Down House garden *Mark Porter*

Wednesday 16th April

Clever ways to grow vegetables *Martyn Cox*

Wednesday 21st May

Hanging baskets and pots - demonstration *Ray Broughton*

Wednesday 18th June

Inspiration from Tresco Abbey Gardens *Ben Turner*

Wednesday 16th July 6.30pm

Out evening to Oakhaven Hospice

Wednesday 17th September

Attracting beneficial wildlife to your garden with flower power *Marina Christopher*

Wednesday 15th October

The history of Furzey Gardens
Julia Baker *Plants and handicrafts for sale*

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.

Email: milfordgardeners@gmail.com

Website: www.milfordgardenersclub.co.uk

Charity nominations

We have received three nominations for this year's charities. You will have the opportunity to vote for **one** at the March meeting, and the two with the most votes will receive a share of the profits from the Plant Fair.



Honeypot Children's Charity

This charity is well-known to members as we have supported it before.

They do invaluable work in providing support and respite breaks for young carers, especially those aged 5-12.

Honeypot House is in Blackfield in the New Forest.

You can read more about their work at honeypot.org.uk.



Oakhaven Hospice

Again, this charity is very well-known to members.

Oakhaven Hospice provides specialist palliative and end-of-life care and support to patients with a medical referral who live in the New Forest, Totton and Waterside communities, in the hospice and in their homes.

Find out more at oakhavenhospice.co.uk



The Countryside Education Trust

Established in 1975, The Countryside Education Trust's mission is to connect people with the countryside. Forty years ago we were pioneers, but now we are experts! We introduce people to the wonders of the British countryside, rural life and farming. Our expert teaching team tailors national curriculum-based modules to the needs of each school and we have great feedback from our visitors.

Find out more at cet.org.uk