



# Milford Gardeners' Club Newsletter

## Hello everyone

It was lovely to be back at the Community Centre last month and to be able to greet so many of you. Fifty members attended plus two guests which was a great turn out. I hope you enjoyed the seating arrangements on the round tables. I felt it worked well, allowing for better spacing and the opportunity to talk to people you perhaps did not know.

For our first meeting back we were so lucky to have Marina Christopher as our speaker. She is so knowledgeable and can present quite technical aspects of plant growing and development in easy to grasp language, making for a hugely interesting talk. The bonus was the plants she brought to sell at the end which were going like hot cakes. Are we feeling deprived?!

This month we have Andy McIndoe talking to us about the Winter Garden. I am sure I don't need to tell you who he is. Suffice it to say he has had over 40 years involvement in horticulture and led the team from Hilliers that gained 25 consecutive gold medals at Chelsea... and he is also a brilliantly entertaining speaker! He will be bringing plants and books to sell so come prepared.

**Finally, some urgent help is needed.** We need a new Membership Secretary, now that Clare has stepped up as Treasurer. You would not necessarily have to join the Committee. We also need someone to provide technical help with the sound and vision system at the Community Centre during meetings. There is a more detailed description of what is required for each role overleaf.

In the meantime, enjoy these quiet days of warm sunshine. It's a real bonus and is stretching out the display of late summer flowers. The cosmos and rudbeckia seem particularly good at the moment and there is still time to take pelargonium and other cuttings. Enjoy!

*Sue Crabb (Chair)*

## October 2021

### Forthcoming events:

#### Wednesday 20th October

The Winter Garden *Andy McIndoe*

#### Wednesday 17th November

Garden Design—making the most of your garden *Simon Goldsack, Holme Gardens*

#### Wednesday 15th December

Christmas social evening

**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.

## Help needed

### ***Membership Secretary - Requirements of role***

Familiarity with spreadsheets; these have all been set up by Clare and it would be the task of keeping them up to date. The bulk of the work would be during December, to prepare and get application forms printed and to take subs in during January, entering details of payments on an Excel spreadsheet which is shared with the Treasurer. If you feel you might be able to help please talk to Clare or myself at the next meeting.

### ***Technical help for the sound and vision system at the Community Centre***

When we were meeting pre-Covid, we were lucky enough to have the help of John Hall. He is no longer able to help and the Community Centre have told us there will now be a charge for help on the night, in the region of £30-35. With 9 or 10 meetings a year this will make a big hole in our budget. The Centre have indicated that if we have someone from the club who has been trained, to help us, there would be no charge. They can provide someone to do the training. So do any of our members feel they could help? Maybe some of you have done this for U3A or some other event. Talk to me if you think you can help.

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## 2022 Holiday

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their deposits to confirm the 6-10th June holiday in Colchester and Cambridge region. We have enough members now for the holiday to definitely run (Covid and Government allowing!). With 30 people it leaves 3/4 places on the coach, but it also means we have a little more space to move around and somewhere to put all the plants we buy! So 30 is perfect but I can just about squeeze in another one or two! You probably won't be hearing from me again until next year when I shall give you dates and prices for the balance.

Thank you again for supporting the Club's holiday.

*Jenny Spenser*



*Some butterflies on my buddleia (just to fill some space and provide some colour!!) Clare*

