Hello Everyone …

September 2025

and welcome back after the summer break.

To say that gardening has been challenging this year is an understatement but now we have had some rain, things are starting to perk up. Time to take stock and see what has done well and what hasn't.

The weather was a bonus for all our summer visits, no dodging showers but not too hot! The out evening to Oakhaven Hospice was very well supported. About 50 people went along, some who had never had reason to be there before and Dr Jan Swallow, who founded the hospice with Phoebe Coates, gave a very interesting talk outlining the history of the hospice and the benefits of the garden. It was lovely for people to be able to wander in it and realise what a place of solace it could be. I know I found respite there in the brief time my husband was an inpatient.

Our visit to Holme gardens in July, which was the last club activity of the summer, seems a very long time ago now. Despite the dry conditions there were plenty of things flowering and everything looked lovely. The weather was perfect, not too hot and I think everyone really enjoyed the day and just having the chance to catchup with people. I know I did. Needless to say, plants were purchased!

Our speaker next week is Marina Christopher who has been before and I know will give us an excellent talk. She is extremely knowledgeable and illustrates her talks with the plants she is talking about, rather than a slide presentation. She will be bringing some plants for sale so bring some money ! She will also be able to take cards. I also will have some bags of mixed miniature daffodils for sale for £1.00 a bag.

The other exciting news is of next year's club holiday, details and dates below. It's a little more expensive than previous holidays but is 5 days, 4 nights away with better class hotels and some fabulous garden visits on offer. Get your name down quickly if you want to go!

I think that's all I have to say at the moment. I look forward to seeing lots of you back next week.

Sue Crabb, Chair

Forthcoming meetings:

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*

Wednesday 19th November
Grasses and ferns *Chris Bird*

Wednesday 17th 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.

Email: milfordgardeners@gmail.com **Website:** www.milfordgardenersclub.co.uk

HOLIDAY MILFORD GARDENERS CLUB JUNE 2026

Thursday 18th to Monday 22nd June 2026
(5 days and 4 nights travel via Angela Coaches)

DAY 1. Leave Milford and travel to Bruton in Somerset to The Newt Hotel* (originally Hadspen House – Penelope Hobhouse) for lunch and a garden wander. Coach onto Wells for one night DBB at the Swan Hotel.

DAY 2. Possibly walk to the Bishop's Palace Garden for the morning, after lunch travel to Torbay's Headland Hotel for 3 nights DBB

DAY 3. Saturday morning travel to Keith Wiley's Wildside Garden for the morning. Where we take lunch is to confirmed, but the afternoon will be a wander around Hotel Endsleigh's* 100 acre estate and could include afternoon tea. Back to Torbay.

DAY 4. A gentle drive to Bickham House a private garden belonging to Julia Tremlett (opens under NGS). After this we drive across Dartmoor back to the hotel. In the afternoon everyone is free to relax or explore Torbay.

DAY 5. Leave the Hotel to drive through Dorset for a visit to Abbotsbury. Home to Milford.

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Notes:
COST approx.. 20 people = £649 (30 people £575). For the single room at the Swan there is a £50 supplement and only 15 single rooms are available at both hotels.
A couple of lunches are included but those not mentioned are self-funded.

*Here RHS members are free to enter and your final holiday total will be £40.00 less – it might be worth subscribing to the RHS for the year? If not already a member.

Jenny
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