

Newsletter

CHAIRMAN'S AUTUMN MESSAGE



Autumn is a beautiful time of year for the flower arranger, and this year in particular, there is a bountiful harvest for us to utilise in our flower arrangements. The abundance of berries and fruits in the hedgerows is noticeable – a sign of a hard winter ahead, as some would have us believe! I have seen lots of photos on social media of fabulous autumn designs, many making use of the different varieties of pumpkins and gourds that are available now. Their shapes, forms, colours and textures make interesting additions to floral designs and they're a definite statement that the autumn season is upon us.

In September, we held our Area's Autumn Council meeting. One member commented that there was a 'friendly and warm atmosphere', which was lovely to hear. There is important business to be dealt with at the Council meetings, but if members can leave at the end of the meeting feeling positive, then that's an important achievement too. A roving microphone was used during the meeting to encourage member participation in the topics being discussed; a move that certainly facilitated more member involvement.

Katherine Kear, outgoing National Chair, reported at Council that the National Show had been a financial success and that there would be no increase to the NAFAS affiliation fees (due in December 2024). These announcements too will have contributed to the upbeat mood of the day.

Area held a workshop in September where visiting demonstrator, Pip Bensley showed members a new foam free method of creating Stack & Pack designs. A fabulous array of designs was created by our very talented and creative members. Well done to everyone involved and to Sue Blandford for organising the event.

In October we held an Officers' Day workshop with Bob Harris and a very successful day it was too. Thank you, Bob.

Congratulations to Emily, our Area secretary, who had the honour of being invited to compère the online NAFAS National AGM. She did an exceptional job and we're very proud of her. Well done, Emily!

Congratulations also to all our members who have competed at shows during the summer. We have very many talented members, and some of those talents were on display at the RHS Malvern Autumn Festival.

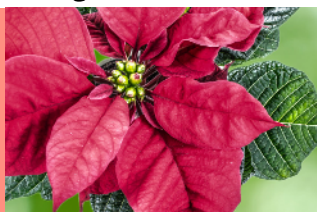
In November we hold our Winter Council meeting and 64th AGM. At the AGM, Sue Walton's term of office as Treasurer comes to an end. My special thanks to Sue for her dedication and hard work overseeing the Area finances so efficiently and effectively for the past 5 years. Sue has been an integral and invaluable member of our Area's Executive Committee.

Also, my term of office as Area Chair ends at the AGM. I have been so proud to have represented our Area in this capacity over the past 3 years. I have met some lovely people along the way who have helped and encouraged me in so many ways, my heartfelt thanks to them.

I have been very fortunate to have been supported by a hard-working Executive Committee, committed to serving our Area and I wish them well for the future. Adrian Cooke, the incoming Chair, will be working with a very good Executive team indeed.

Finally, a huge thank you to you, our members, for your kindness and friendship. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to have been the Chair for such a lovely Area.

Elizabeth Gordon, Area Chair



THREE COUNTIES & SOUTH WALES AREA OF NAFAS
Winter Council Meeting, AGM & Xmas Demonstration

FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER 10.30am

The Larruperz Centre, Ross-on-Wye HR9 7QD





CONGRATULATIONS to Churchdown & District Flower Club who celebrated their 25th anniversary this Autumn. Club members were entertained with a fantastic demonstration by Katherine Kear and Bob Harris and enjoyed a delicious celebration cake.



Yolanda Campbell

The Winter copy of The Flower Arranger magazine is now available.

The annual subscription for 2024 is £16

Contact CHRIS LYNCH
chris.lynch54@btinternet.com
 01531 670037

Many congratulations to Yolanda Campbell (Herefordshire Flower Guild) who has several designs featured in the Winter edition.

THE FLOWER Arranger

THE UK'S BIGGEST-SELLING FLORAL DESIGN MAGAZINE

20+ wintry designs to try

Per Benjamin's frozen flowers



Festive flowers on a budget

Door deco for Christmas

Candlelit creations



ALWAYS WINTER NEVER CHRISTMAS AREA DAY 2023

Wednesday 1st November 2023

Theatr Brycheiniog, Canal Wharf,
 Brecon LD3 7EW

Morning Speaker

Trisha Stewart

'A Calendar Girl's Story'

Afternoon Demonstration

Cherie Nummy

'Oh, What a Pantomime!'

Doors Open 9:30am

Non-refundable tickets: £25 each

Available from Kathy Lee:

kathlee3csw@gmail.com



THREE COUNTIES & SOUTH WALES
 AREA OF NAFAS
 Registered Charity No. 517110

AREA DAY 2023

Only a few days to go to AREA DAY 2023. We wish the Area Day Chairman, Lilian Bevan, and her committee every success for a wonderful day.

To secure a ticket please contact

KATH LEE

kathlee3csw@gmail.com



BATTLE OF BRITAIN SERVICE

Two members of Fownhope Flower club (Sandra and Janelle) represented our Area by arranging pedestals at Westminster Abbey in September for the Battle of Britain Service.

SUCCESS AT MALVERN

Congratulations to Margaret Thomas (Hereford Flower Guild) on winning Reserve Best In Show at the Malvern Autumn Show

'100 years of DISNEY'

Donald Duck and Mickey Mouse were just two of many Disney characters that featured in a flower festival staged by Sodbury & District Flower Club with the help of Winterbourne Flower Club recently at St John's Church, Chipping Sodbury.

The festival raised £5319!

Well done to all involved.



Fownhope at Westminster



Margaret Thomas

Thornbury & District
Flower Club

Are pleased to present:

Delyth Price "Christmas is Coming"

Thornbury Methodist
Hall, Thornbury.
Thursday 30th November
2023

7:30pm
(Doors open 6:30pm)

Sales table, Raffle,
Refreshments
Tickets only £10.00

Please call 07855 266203 or 01454 418922 (Karen) to reserve
tickets in advance they will also be available on the door
(Numbers are limited)

Cheltenham FLOWER CLUB

Presents a Christmas Flower Demonstration

"Seasons Greetings"

By National Demonstrator

Elizabeth Graham

Monday, 4th December 2023, 2pm

at

The Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham, GL52 3JE

doors open 12.30pm

fully licenced bar, tea & coffee, various stalls, raffle of the
spectacular Christmas flower arrangements demonstrated

Visitors

Tickets £15

Contact the Club through the website

www.cheltenhamflowerclub.com

card payments welcome



Abergavenny Flower Arrangement Society

Est. March 1962

Our Christmas Open Meeting
Thurs 14th Dec
Lorena Dyer
"The magic of Christmas"
Borough Theatre, Abergavenny
7pm
Tickets £15

Rhiwbina Floral Society

Open Night

November 7th, 2023



"Treemendous

Christmas"

Coral Gardiner

National Floral Demonstrator

Rhiwbina Memorial Hall

Doors open 6.30 for 7.30 pm

Tickets:- £13

(includes a glass of wine or soft drink)

For tickets please contact

Ann Lewins on 07986 703468

www.rhiwbinafloralsociety.org.uk

Bromyard Floral Club Christmas Open Evening

Donald Morgan

presents his floral demonstration

'It's Christmas'

Tuesday 5th December 2023
The Conquest Theatre, Bromyard
at 7.30 pm

(doors open at 6.30 pm)

*Tickets £10

* Raffle

Contact: Judy Warrington Tel: 07852 801632

Heather Nuthall Tel: 01886 812627



Lydney and Severnside Flower Club

'It's that Time of Year'
A demonstration by
Elizabeth Gordon
13th November 2023
Doors open 6:30pm for 7:15pm start
Lydney Town Hall, High St, Lydney,
GL15 5DY
Tickets £10 on the door
www.lydneyandsevernsideflowerclub.org.uk
facebook.com/landseflowerclub

Haverfordwest Floral Art Society

Presents

Christmas Sparkle

with Adrian Cooke

At Clarbeston Road Memorial Hall

SA63 4UL



Wednesday 6th December 2023

Doors open 6.30pm Start 7.30 pm

Tickets £10 to include refreshments

For Tickets; please ring Caroline

tel 01437 769977 mob 07969318252

Barry Floral Society

Three Counties and South Wales
Area of NAFAS



Invite you to a
Christmas
Demonstration

'Festive Floral Fantasy'

by

Arnaud Metairie

To be held in St Nicholas Hall,
St Nicholas Road
Barry, CF62 6QX

at 2.00pm (doors open 1.30pm)
on Tuesday 5th December
Raffle, Sales of flower arranging
equipment, decorations & books

Entrance £5

For more information Contact barryfloralsociety@aol.com
New Members and visitors welcome

Winterbourne Flower Club A Christmas Demonstration The Twelve Days



Presented by

Katherine Kear

National Demonstrator

Friday 8th Dec 2023

Starting at 7:30 pm

at

Winterbourne Community Centre, Watley's End Road,
Winterbourne, Bristol BS36 1QG

Doors open at 6:30pm. Everyone welcome

Refreshments and Raffle

Tickets £12.00

Available from Jackie Ferris 01454 778390
facebook.com/winterbourneflowerclub

SODBURY & DISTRICT
FLOWER CLUB

**'BRIGHTLY
SHONE'**

NATIONAL DEMONSTRATOR
LUCY ELLIS

TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER
7.30PM
THE TOWN HALL
CHIPPING SODBURY

PERSHORE FLOWER CLUB
Presents
VANESSA WELLOCK
'TIS THE SEASON'
Thursday 16th November 2023
Starting at 7.30 pm.
at Number 8, High Street
Persore WR10 1BG
Doors open at 6.30.
Raffle and Bar
Jenny Masser Tel 07704722433

WHITCHURCH FLORAL SOCIETY
PRESENTS

" Countdown to Christmas "

A FLOWER DEMONSTRATION
BY
Brigette Manton

2 PM WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 1st 2023
AT
THE OLD COURT HOTEL
SYMONDS YAT WEST
HEREFORDSHIRE
HR9 6DA

VISITORS £8.00
TO INCLUDE REFRESHMENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION :-
PLEASE CONTACT
WENDY COGGER
01600 890 141

Llanelli Floral Art Society

Christmas Open Evening

Demonstration by
Donald Morgan
Area Demonstrator
Entitled
"The Joys of Christmas"

November 8th 2023
6.30pm for 7.00pm
Diplomat Hotel, Llanelli SA15 3PJ

Tickets **£15**
Available from members
or lfassociaty@hotmail.com
Raffle, Stalls, Bar Available

Dursley & District Flower Society
Demonstration by
Lucy Ellis
"Brightly Shone"
At Stinchcombe Village Hall
On Monday, 13th November, 2023
Doors open 1pm for 2pm
Seasonal Refreshments
Raffle & Sales Table
Tickets £15.00 - 01453 299885
Visitors Welcome

Bush Bank Flower Club

**Chocolate
Fantasy Christmas**
presented by Jane Pugh

Tuesday 21st November
7-30pm Canon Pyon Hall

£10 to include light
buffet supper

Worcester Floral Arrangement Society
invite you to their
CHRISTMAS OPEN MEETING when
LUCY ELLIS
will present through FLOWERS

'BRIGHTLY SHONE'
TUESDAY 31st OCTOBER 2023
THE SWAN THEATRE
WORCESTER, WR1 3ED
7.30 pm - Doors open @ 6.30 pm

Tickets **£12**
from Monica Smith
07970 953 972
Please send S.A.E.

Floral arrangements raffled
Christmas arrangements on Sales table
Donation to local charity

There are also Christmas Demonstrations on...

November 7th - Severn Vale
Elizabeth Graham 'The Festive Season'

November 8th - Gloucester
Coral Gardiner 'Tree-Mendous'

November 30th - Brecon
Sue Thomas 'Twas the Night Before Christmas'

December 5th - Bewdley
Andrew Lloyd

December 12th - Pontypool
Arnaud Metairie 'Festive Floral Fantasy'

NAFAS Christmas cards are available via
the NAFAS website
£3.99 for a pack of 10

CLICK HERE to view the designs
available

**FLOWER
Arranger**

**2024
CALENDAR**

The 2024 NAFAS calendar
is now available to
purchase on the NAFAS
website.

simply click HERE or click
on the image to place



Pontypool & District Floral Art Society

**Dickensian
Christmas Fair**

**Christmas Craft Stalls
& Refreshments**

WEDNESDAY 6th DECEMBER
6.30pm

**St Marys Church Hall, New Inn,
Pontypool**

CLUB OFFICERS' DAY

Bob Harris led a hugely successful Club Officers' Day earlier this month.

Attendees were able to benefit from meeting other club officer's and from sharing experiences and ideas to take back to their individual clubs. As a fun icebreaker during the day members were challenged to make a bow and collectively make a posy design. Feedback from the day confirmed all had enjoyed the event and found it really helpful...

*Thank you all so much for this excellent day and the bulbs!
Enjoyable, informative and very worthwhile day- I look forward to the next one !
Lynn (Treasurer, Abergavenny FC)*

Very good format, learnt a lot & came away with some ideas. Good to hear from other clubs and to hear what the different officers had to say. Mo (Bromyard FC)

*Our Club Officers found the Day extremely helpful especially as we have a new treasurer and programme Secretary who both said they now have a much better understanding of how Flower Clubs should work. They would like this sort of day annually.
Margaret (Secretary Hereford Floral)*

NAFAS NATIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES



Residential weekend event
for NAFAS members

Highland Fling

Golden Jubilee Conference Hotel,
Clydebank, Glasgow
Friday 26th – Sunday 28th July 2024

- Arrive Friday afternoon
- Traders / retail therapy
- Tombola & raffle
- Friday evening – three-course meal and entertainment
- Saturday breakfast & lunch
- Speakers
- Superb demonstration
- Saturday Gala Dinner and entertainment
- Sunday morning – breakfast and Speaker
- Close of Conference by NAFAS National Chairman

Enjoy a weekend
of fun, friendship
and flowers

Cost £350 for a single room
or £300 per person based
on two people sharing

To register your interest
and reserve places

Please provide your name,
contact details and
number of places to
Email: events@nafas.org.uk
Tel: 020 7247 5567

A FUNDRAISING EVENT IN AID OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES
Registered Charity No. 103548

Need a sensible cover-up
while you work?
Our unique apron was
designed with flower
arrangers in mind.
Makes a great gift for
flower arranging friends.

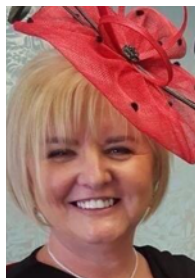
- Stylish and practical
especially for flower
arrangers
- Useful length to
protect you from
mess and spills
- Handy pockets
for loose items while
you work

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nafas.org.uk



WELCOME TO OUR NEW NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, NICKY WYLIE

NICKY has been on the Board for three years and takes over as National Chairman for her second term of three years. Nicky joined her local flower club in 2009 and became Chairman in 2013, and an Officer for the Cheshire Area of NAFAS in 2014. Nicky is a former Cheshire East Town and County Council Councillor, responsible for the Community, Order and Public Safety Committee and brings a wealth of experience in Governance and Safeguarding to the Board. Nicky is a keen flower arranger and in 2019 led the NAFAS Chelsea Flower Team.



Congratulations to our Area Chairman Liz Gordon who, along with Joan Magee (NIGFAS), has been appointed to the NAFAS Board of Trustees. We wish you every success in your new role and know that you will be a huge asset to the Board.



We are proud to be NAFAS' exclusive travel partner

Celebrating 30 years of travel adventures
why not come with us?

Keukenhof
with visits to private gardens and a journey along the famous tulip routes

An Exclusive tour for NAFAS
with
Graham Parker as
Tour Ambassador

April 2024

The tour will also include
visiting the annual
Keukenhof parade

Did you know we love Christmas Markets & Winter Wonderlands?
And we LOVE having our NAFAS and flower friends join in the excitement.
Why not grab a friend - or a few - to experience the magic of a festive holiday. It's a wonderful way to start the Yule season.

Alsace, France
Andermatt, Switzerland
Tyrol, Austria
Krakow, Poland

Now Booking!

What tour would you like us to create?
We are always happy to work with you to create a bespoke tour programme for flower clubs and flower friendship groups. Gardens in the UK or a city break and flower adventure in Europe? We can make it happen.

Why not sign up to receive our NAFAS news straight to your inbox?
ecttravel.com

Get in touch, we'd love to hear from you: **01225 333 747**

E: sales@ecttravel.com T: 01225 469508 W: www.ecttravel.com



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES AGM 2023

The 64th NAFAS AGM was held virtually on 4th October.

Our Area Secretary, Emily, had the honour of presenting the meeting.

CLICK HERE to watch the AGM on YouTube