

# Pot Pourri

The South Midlands Area of NAFAS Newsletter  
Spring 2021



## *Chairman's Chat*

Sunday 29th February

Good afternoon everyone.

At last it really could be getting close to Spring, and what a lovely day.

I think I have now managed to chat to nearly all Club Chairmen, and it's been a delight talking to you all. I felt so much more encouraged by your positive attitude and determination that your clubs will ride out this storm and survive.



The first thing I would like to mention is the **National Flower Arranging Day** which is on the **7<sup>th</sup> May**. Obviously this will as all things are at the moment not be normal, but what Katherine is suggesting is that you could mark the day by putting something floral on your front door, front fence, etc perhaps giving details of your local flower club and NAFAS. It will certainly give a little cheer to anyone walking past and perhaps a sign of hope of things to come.

Look out for our Easter celebration online. More information to follow on that.

On **April 16<sup>th</sup>** we have an online **Flower Demonstration** presented by Bev Short titled "A BLOOMING MARVELOUS SUMMER" The link to this will as always be sent out to your club chairman. I am sure it will be a fabulous night so please do join us sitting in your own home with a glass of wine and a bar of chocolate!!!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Flowers from the Heart of our Homes video, the arrangements were so good. Many thanks to all our wonderful flower arrangers who took part.

**The National Chairmans Challenge** this month is **A SPRING BONNET** I am sure there will be many very clever ideas and I look forward to seeing them.

We have had notification that the World show due to take place in New Zealand, has now been cancelled and moved to 2024.

Many congratulations to Janet Cooper who achieved a VHC in the February competition of International Friends of Floral Art and Design.

Stay safe and well everyone and I hope to see you all very soon.

*Annette*



**Our Demonstrators have been busy during lockdown presenting demonstrations from their own homes. Joanna Davis tells us what she has been doing.**

When the first lockdown was announced I knew I would miss flowers, the companionship flower clubs bring and the enjoyment I gain from demonstrating .

I had to think differently! After a chat with my daughter and a few friends I decided to try online demonstrating , something completely new and which would require new skills and thinking, different from demonstrating to a 'live' audience.

Since the first lock down I have created and delivered four online demonstrations , run from my kitchen and inviting viewers to make a donation to my chosen charity either by donating directly to the charities website , direct transfer into my account or

popping cash in an envelope through my letter box !

Together we have enjoyed 'Strictly Spring ' , 'Strictly Spectacular ' , 'Strictly Summer' and 'The Music of Christmas' and raised a total of £4,000 for St. Giles Hospice a local cancer charity.

The most rewarding part of demonstrating at this time has been the lovely comments from viewers who have been glad to watch something positive and have welcomed the spirit of togetherness the demonstrations have created.

As to what has happened to the flowers after the demonstration.....

After the first demonstration I delivered the arrangements to volunteers at the local hospice to thank them for all they were giving. At one of the Christmas demonstrations we secured sponsors for the arrangements which ranged from £25.00 to £100.00 per arrangement. This meant we raised much more than we had anticipated.

Altogether as ever, we have enjoyed fun and friendship through flowers whilst raising money for good causes through these difficult times .

As Claude Monet said  
"I must have flowers always and always "

## Chairman's Challenge

Katherine Kear, National Chairman invited each Area to submit one entry into her Chairman's Challenge. The title for January 2021 was 'Burns Night'.

### Congratulations to the winner : Vicki Tuffen

Flower Club of Market Harborough, South Midlands Area



Keeping in Touch!

Please share this newsletter with your friends and club members.

Photographs and news items for the Summer (June) newsletter can be sent to Editor : Carol Farmer

Potpourri2@hotmail.co.uk

## Flowers from the Heart of our Homes

Our Youtube video with designs for the home created by South Midlands Area has now been posted on the National Facebook page for all to enjoy.



JDS&E

### AREA DEMONSTRATORS

Sadly over the last twelve months several Demonstrators have decided to retire from demonstrating and come off the Area List. I would like to thank them for all the wonderful work they have done for the Area. I know it's not their intention to finish until all their Demonstrations are completed.

We now we have to move forward, and look for new candidates to train as Area Demonstrators, if you know of anyone in your club with ambition and talent then please ask them to contact me, so we can have an informal chat.

Email [barbaramcollins@me.com](mailto:barbaramcollins@me.com) Mobile 07428 019790

Congratulations to Janet Cooper member of Bugbrooke and District Floral Society who was awarded Very Highly Commended in the International Friends of Floral Art February Competition.



**Belated Congratulations to Norton Canes Flower Club who celebrated their Golden Anniversary last year.**

**Pictured: Chris Flood Chair of Norton Canes Flower Club and a founder member of the club.**



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**Area Show September  
Wren Hall, Shrewley  
Postponed  
until  
2022**



**NAFAS Virtual National Show April 2021**

Each week for the first three weeks of April there will be a demonstration, talk and 'how to' session viewable on all our various media platforms plus photographs of the winning designs.



Check out our Facebook page and visit our webpage, search for South Midlands Area of NAFAS

We would like to keep your online information up to date and you can email updates to

[secretarysouthmidlandsnafas@gmail.com](mailto:secretarysouthmidlandsnafas@gmail.com)