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The South Midlands Area of NAFAS Newsletter Winter 2022



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Chairman's Chat

Dear Members



FIRSTLY, LET ME WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

I have had the great pleasure towards the end of last year of actually visiting two clubs who celebrated significant anniversaries. Norton Canes 50 years with demonstration by the John Chennell and Walsall Flower Club with an amazing 65 years and a demonstration by Nigel Wyles (which I have to say, was slightly embarrassing as I won the largest raffle prize but the flowers lasted weeks and it was amazing).

The welcome I received from both clubs was fabulous and made me feel very special and quite privileged.

We now move onto 2022 and we have many exciting events planned during the year, the first being our Members day in March. This is very special as it will be the first time we have all managed to get together properly for such a long time, and we have such a fabulous duo of speaker and demonstrator, Brenda Eyres and Arnaud Metairie. Tickets will be on sale by the time you have received this newsletter.

Hopefully before long we will have some more news on the sale of Osborne House, as soon as I have more information I will let you all know.

Gardeners World Live takes place in June and South Midlands Area will be exhibiting. With the financial issues all clubs have faced during covid we felt it was important to be cost effective so we decided to have a theme of recycling and use mostly foliage from our gardens for the exhibit (so there could be some phone calls to all you members with lovely gardens). It will be challenging and different and I hope members will come along and see what the team has done.

We've also been invited to take part in The Harrogate Spring Flower Show which takes place in April and the theme is 'Eras'. We have been offered the 1940's and again the thought of cost came into the equation but the North of England Horticultural Society will be funding the exhibit so we accepted the challenge, I will keep you up to date with our progress and hopefully success.

There are more events as we move on into 2022 the main ones being our Diamond Anniversary, a very important event in the South Midlands calendar and all details of this will be sent out to all your club Chairman nearer the time, also don't forget the Area Show in September.

Hopefully by the next Chairman's newsletter our world will be back to normal, it will be Spring hard to imagine at the moment I know but it will come.

I really hope clubs have all now managed to meet again and are enjoying this very important part of our lives.

Annette



*Congratulations
to two clubs who
celebrated
significant
Anniversaries
recently*



*Walsall Flower Club
65 year Anniversary*



*Norton Canes Flower Club
50 year Anniversary*



SOUTH MIDLANDS AREA OF NAFAS

MEMBERS DAY

MANOR HOTEL, MERIDEN, CV7 7NH

25th MARCH 2022

10.00am Arrival, coffee and sales tables

11.00am – Speaker

Brenda Eyres – ‘If you want to get ahead...



[This Photo](#) by Unknown

SALES TABLES

1PM Lunch

2.30pm Floral Art Demonstration by

Mr. Arnaud Metairie

‘La Vie en Rose’



Tickets: £39.50 from

Mrs. Elaine Hall

Orchard Cottage, 96 Shrewley Common, Shrewley, Warwick, CV35 7AW

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope when applying for tickets

Other dates for the diary !

17th-20th March - Creative Craft Show (NEC Birmingham) - Area will have a display stall at this Show

25th March - Area Members' Day (as per Elaine's poster)

21st-24th April - Harrogate Spring Show - representatives from South Midlands will be entering the Show.

5th-8th May - Malvern Spring Show - information has been sent out to all.

16-19th June - Gardeners World Live (NEC Birmingham) - Area will have a display stall at this event.

15th July - South Midlands Area Diamond Anniversary Event.

16th-17th September - South Midlands Area Show, Wren Hall, School Lane, Wroxall, Warwickshire. CV35 7NF

News from the Floral Education Association (FEA)

On a lovely sunny September day our Autumn workshop commenced with demonstrator Jayne Edmonds creating 2 designs without the use of floral foam. Firstly, using Cornus or similar twigs held with bullion wire a frame was constructed on the outside of a vase. Test tubes were attached and filled with delicate garden flowers and foliage. The second design cleverly used wooden garden edging and again incorporating test tubes the edging which was twisted and shaped to compliment the autumn flowers and foliage. This soon became a lively and chatty workshop thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.



With the festive season drawing near our November workshop and AGM was the beginning of the season of good cheer. After the formalities of the AGM, demonstrator Bev Short brought colour and good cheer to the hall. With hula and embroidery hoops of various sizes together with brightly coloured Christmas baubles, eager hands, with the help of glue guns to the fore, constructed beautiful designs adorned with flowers and foliage to bring cheer to the festive period.



The hall soon became a vision of brightly coloured Christmas cheer and again thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Our next workshop with Hans Haverkamp is to be held on 19th February 2022. All information re FEA workshops can be obtained via email from vivhandy@hotmail.co.uk



Are your Club details up to date?

Please remember to update the Area Secretary with any change in contact or venue details for your club. This is vital if she is to direct enquiries from interested and possible new members to the right person. Many enquiries arise from our presence at Shows, Facebook and Website and it is important these details are up to date. Also, please send in your club programme as soon as it becomes available in order for it to be added to the Area Website.

Area Secretary—Amanda Burgess

secretarysouthmidlandsnafas@gmail.com

WELLINGBOROUGH FLOWER CLUB

2022 Hurray the start of what we hope will be a more rewarding and happy time for everyone and especially our flower arrangers.

Fortunately we have been able to have 'face to face' demonstrations since we restarted in September when Linda Smith from Nottingham gave us a lovely demonstration called 'Poles Apart' inspired by her travels to both the Arctic and Antarctic regions. Bev Short demonstrated for us in October with a warm and entertaining demonstration entitled 'A Touch of Autumn' which banished any thoughts of winter blues.

We ended the year on a high with a wonderful evening full of sparkle and enchantment for the Christmas season thanks to a splendid demonstration from Alison Suffolk. We tried a new venue this year...always a tricky move especially for an open event but thankfully it was a huge success. Alison's 'A Jolly Holly Christmas' created magical arrangements filling the stage with colour and atmosphere.

We look forward in 2022 to be able to do the things with flowers that we have been denied for almost two years. To be able to meet up, arrange flowers together, hold workshops and enjoy seeing live demonstrations. We are fortunate that we have a loyal membership who have continued to support the club through difficult times and we look forward to a bright future.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month in St. Mary's Church Hall, Knox Road, Wellingborough NN8 1HU for more information call Jackie Prime (secretary) 01933 223137

Meetings start at 7.30 all welcome.

Rugby Floral Art—Change of Venue

As from January 2022 Rugby Floral Art will meet at:

Overslade Community Centre, 68 Buchanan Road, Rugby CV22 6AZ

For Sale

"LOOKING FOR A GOOD HOME" I have a quantity of flower arranging metal stands/glass vases. If anyone is interested in making me an offer please contact Ellie on 07778312886 to arrange to view.

Our Area Publications Officer, Sharon Badger has plenty of stock available for purchase and can be contacted by email—sharonbadgerflowers@hotmail.com or by mobile 07907932185



Useful, inexpensive and informative books which I can highly recommend—Carol (editor)



Two Diaries @ £4.99 each



Officer's badges & long membership, 25year, 40 year & 50 year are available

Plus other badges are available from HQ. If members wish to contact Sharon to order.