



Sussex Area News

Newsletter of the Sussex Area of NAFAS

www.sussexareanafas.org.uk www.facebook.com/SussexAreaNAFAS

Charity No. 292377

The Easter Lily

White flowers like the Easter lily often symbolise purity, hope, innocence and new life. For Christians, this purity and innocence is associated with Christ. Lilies are mentioned in the Bible, both in the Old and New Testaments.

The Easter lily (*Lilium longiflorum*) is a perennial bulb with large, white, trumpet-shaped flowers that have a wonderful fragrance, which makes it the perfect herald for the new season.



Easter Eggstravaganza



How does the Easter bunny stay fit?
Eggs-ercise.

Why did the egg go to school?
To get "Egg-u-cated".

What do you call a sleeping egg?
Egg-zosted!



What's in this egg-citing issue...

NAFAS news

National Virtual Show

Area news

Flower Power

Area Demonstration with Vanessa Wenlock

Area Spring Virtual Show

Fabulous Flowers - Narcissus

Next issue

May, please email your articles and pictures by Tuesday 20 April 2021

Noticeboard

Please send your articles and photographs to the Editor Duncan Ward
email: info@boxworthflowers.com

DIARY DATES - DATE CHANGE

The Constance Spry Exhibition at
The Garden Museum, London
NOW 17 May to 26 September 2021

What do
you call an
egg from outer
space? An
"Egg-stra
terrestrial"

What did
the mummy egg
say to the baby
egg?
You're egg-stra
special!

National News

National Chairman's Challenge

Congratulations to Devon and Cornwall
Area who won the February challenge.

In April we have the National Virtual
Show. The next competition is in May
and the title is "May Day celebrations".
If you wish to enter then please send a
photo of your design to
sussexareaofnafas@gmail.com

by 26 May 2021. All the entries received
from the various Sussex clubs will then
be reviewed and the best one to
represent Sussex will be selected and
forwarded to HQ.

The NAFAS Board will award points and
the Area with the most points at the end
of 2021 will receive a small prize. Please
note that by entering you are allowing
NAFAS to use your photo wherever it
chooses.

National Virtual Show April 2021

*The SpringThe Happy Time of
Singing Birds is Come.*

Look out for a taster on YouTube [https://
www.nafas.org.uk/nafas-youtube-channel/](https://www.nafas.org.uk/nafas-youtube-channel/) from
Sunday 28 March to whet the appetite!

Videos available on YouTube, uploaded on the following
dates:

Monday 5 April

Demonstrator: Angela Turner - *Where Flowers Bloom,
So Does Hope*

Wednesday 7 April

Speaker: Susan Shaw - *You Are Never Too Old*

Friday 9 April

Education: Susie Barwick - *How to Make a Wall
Hanging Design*

Monday 12 April

Demonstrator: Nick Grounds - *Renewal, Rebirth,
Recycle*

Wednesday 14 April

Speaker: Rita Braithwaite - *Drawn to Nature*

Friday 16 April

Education: Jane Rickard - *How to Make a Washi Paper
Ring*

Monday 19 April

Demonstrator: David Ryland - *Awakening*

Wednesday 21 April

Speaker: Simone Squire - *Pass Me That Bulb*

Friday 23 April

Education: Sharon Dower - *Ideas Using Copper Wire
Mesh*

Monday 26 April

Competition - *Springtime* Video of winning competition
images. All other competition entries will be viewable
on Facebook from the same date.

National Flower Arranging Day

Will be going ahead this year on **Friday 7 May** - with changes necessary to fit in with current policies nationwide.

Please encourage all members

you come in contact with to join in. We are using our homes to firstly mark the day but maybe more importantly to give a little cheer and sign of hope, maybe remembering the saying:

"If you hold a flower close to your heart you will see only beauty and hope".

The task is to put 'something floral' on a front door, front gate, front fence..... you will get the picture. Use wherever there is in your home that can be seen from the road and path. We cannot have people picking up posies left in public places so this is our best option.

You can make of it what you choose, a single bloom and bow, posy on a gate, baskets on a gate post, swag on a fence or a wicker ring on the front door. The latter proved so popular when we did our 'Rings of Hope' last summer for the NHS. Some clubs told their local newspapers so the same could be done this time.

Have fun creating and please share your creations with us!

Katherine Kear
National Chairman

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES

National Flower Arranging Day

7 MAY 2021

These flowers have been arranged by member(s) of a local flower club in recognition of National Flower Arranging Day.

The National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS) is a warm and welcoming floral association with clubs countrywide. Our members enjoy:

- workshops on how to create wonderful floral designs
- demonstrations from accomplished designers
- entering shows and competitions
- qualification opportunities
- fun, friendship and a whole lot more

If you love flowers, look on the NAFAS website to find a flower club near you. Visitors are very welcome.

www.nafas.org.uk



Registered charity no. 12204

Area News

Area Chairman

Blooming Spring? I reckon it's Zooming Spring! Zooming Area Workshops, Zooming Members' Day, and Zooming Zooming for Everyone session! It's all virtual reality and there's more in store.

The Sussex Area Virtual Spring Show.

Classes to inspire so read the schedule, check the competitions manual, design your work of art and get your camera ready. For more details see page 4. You don't have to Zoom for this one!

Club Officers' Week: a session for every role on your committee. We hope to inspire your committee to kickstart getting back to live meetings. What a joy that will be.

If all goes to plan, one live event I'm looking forward to is **Flower Power** to celebrate the Sussex Area's 60th anniversary. Remember there are electric buggies to ferry the needy around, as well as a few wheelchairs if necessary. Let us know in advance and remember to get your tickets before 9th June so that the revenue from ticket sales goes towards financing our party. After June, ticket money goes to Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens, who have been so very supportive to the Area.

Finally, we mustn't forget the very first virtual National Show with virtual dems, talks and of course the competition itself. Fingers crossed for all our Sussex competitors – GO SUSSEX!

There's so much going on, I think I might need a second screen for my computer. Is there a term for watching two things at once – visual stereo?

I hope you enjoy everything on offer this month and wish you a happy and peaceful Easter.



Gilly



The Sussex Area of NAFAS Diamond Anniversary 2021

Area Future Events

Thursday 15 April 2021 - Virtual Workshop "Raised Rose Bed" Our tutor for the day will be Vicky Hease who is a national teacher from Suffolk with expertise in both contemporary floral design and floristry. Further details from Barbara Tucker. Email: barb@batucker.go-plus.net

Monday 17 May 2021 - Area Council Meeting at 2pm by Zoom

Monday 14 June 2021 – Members' Day will be virtual via Zoom. A talk from Katherine Kear, whose title is 'Tales from an Elizabethan Still Room' which will be followed by a demonstration by Cherie Nummy. Her title is 'One for the Money'.

Club Officers Week 29 March to 1 April

Monday - am & pm Club Chairmen and Vice Chairmen

Tuesday - am Flower Arranger Officers / pm Club Treasurers

Wednesday - am Club Secretaries / pm Club Programme Officers

Thursday - am Club Publications Officers / pm Media

Club Anniversaries

Congratulations go to:

Tunbridge Wells Flower Club
(65 years in April 2021)

Warnham Flower Club
(60 years in May 2021)

Area Virtual Spring Show - IT'S SPRING AGAIN

Our virtual Spring show schedule is published and I've gone a bit poetical now that March is here and the weather, generally, is warming up. Our winter show was a great success so we are hoping you will enter this one too, and celebrate the season with the colour and the freshness it brings.

The panel of Area Judges are Jilly Griffin, Ann Kennedy, Brenda Bull and Linda Porrett.

Closing Date for Applications
Saturday 28 March 2021.

Linda Porrett
Sussex Area Judges
Representative

For further details see :
www.sussexareanafas.org.uk

Virtual Spring Show Schedule April 2021

IT'S SPRING AGAIN

Class 1. "And now that winter's gone".
The Spring: Thomas Carew
An exhibit. Measurements: Optional
To feature Garden plant material.

Class 2. Layers of Spring.
A Montage exhibit. Measurements: Optional

Class 3. "There is no time like Spring, When life's alive with everything".
Spring: Christina Rossetti. An exhibit.
Measurements: Optional To include any contemporary techniques. (See pages 12-14 in the 2015 Competitors Manual for suggestions).

Class 4. Simply Spring
An exhibit. Measurements: Optional

March Members' Day

A Day of Firsts

It was our first ever members' day via Zoom, quite something to organise.



Our morning speaker was Susan Horne. A lovely lady whose talk was titled 'Oh I do like to be beside the seaside'. It was Susan's first attempt at delivering her talk via Zoom and she had worked so hard adapting a talk that would have come with a stage full of large props and benefited from audience participation. Susan took us all to the seaside telling us the history of sea bathing and summer holidays. She was wearing a full Victorian style bathing suit complete with woolly tights that sadly was not able to be seen in its full glory.



We all appreciated that Susan included many references to the coast line here in Sussex.

The first part of her talk was rather stilted due to

her internet playing up, something of course that was totally out of our control, however it did clear and Susan coped and carried on and it finished well. We then attempted another first for us, putting lots of people into breakout rooms. It became rather



comical as most people seemed to leave for lunch so we had members bobbing in and out of rooms trying to find someone to talk to. The plan didn't quite work, but it seemed worth a try.

In the afternoon we welcomed Vanessa Wellock for our demonstration. Vanessa is a Yorkshire lass from Ilkley. Her demonstration was titled 'Spring Forward' She had set up a Zoom friendly place in her workshop that had two cameras, one for close ups. Of course this had worked beautifully during the rehearsal, but such is life, it didn't on the day !



That said, Vanessa's designs were beautiful and very inspiring. She did a wonderful demonstration using all kinds of plant material from garden foliage to exotic orchids, even some stunning early peonies. Vanessa has been a florist for 30 years and her confidence in her work showed

through, even via Zoom. She demonstrated an array of stunning designs which we were able to observe clearly, more so than if we had been in a theatre setting.

After she had completed her arrangements, Vanessa left us for a moment whilst she created a wonderful finale picture and staged all of her designs together in the lovely Yorkshire sunshine. It was a fabulous sight to see and made a super ending to our very first Zoom members day .

Words by Stef Maynard
Area Programme
Administrator



Flower Power

Thursday 9-Sunday 12 September 2021

I am pleased to announce that we are now releasing the 'Flower Power' tickets for the Preview Evening to be held on Wednesday 8 September from 5.30pm-7.30pm in the Courtyard at Leonardslee Lakes and Gardens.

The tickets, on limited availability at £35 each, provide access to a special bubbles and canapes reception accompanied by a leading Sussex harpist. This will be followed by a tour of the exhibits around the lakes and gardens of Leonardslee. There are only 70 tickets available for this prestigious introductory event, so early application is advised.

Tickets are available through Carol, our 'Flower Power' Ticket Officer sussexflowerpower@yahoo.com

Also available through Carol are the normal day tickets which are selling very well.

Opening times:

Thursday 9 - Sunday 12 September 2021 inclusive 9am - 5pm daily (last entry 3.30 pm)

Adults 'Early Bird' discount to include brochure £12.00 (if purchased on or before 9 June)

Children aged 5-16 years - £5.00 (if purchased on or before 9 June)

Exhibitors: One complimentary ticket for their chosen day (to include brochure)

Stewards: Half-price ticket for a stewarding slot of 2 hours or more for their chosen day (to include brochure) £6.00

We are all delighted with the response received regarding stewarding. If you wish to be a steward, please contact Joyce, our Stewarding Officer, joyceskeet@gmail.com

We much appreciate all the hard work members have put into knitting roses and making spheres.

Meanwhile, if you have access to Phormium leaves it would be great if you could make some roses using these leaves. For those not familiar with the techniques involved, set out on page 7 is the relevant extract from one of the NAFAS publications - 'Leaf Techniques', Part One.

Please keep up the good work. Best wishes

 Show Chairman
'Flower Power'



The Sussex Area
of NAFAS
presents

Flower Power

An extravaganza of floral design
set in the beautiful grounds
of this Grade 1 listed garden
to celebrate the Sussex Area's
Diamond Anniversary

**Thursday 9 September
to Sunday 12 September 2021**

Leonardslee Lakes and Gardens
Brighton Road, Lower Beeding, Horsham
West Sussex RH13 6PP
9am to 5pm (last entry 3.30pm)

Trade stands * Raffles * Tombola * Refreshments

Early Bird Tickets purchased on or before 9 June 2021
Adults £12 to include brochure
Children 5-16 years £5

Email Carol at sussexflowerpower@yahoo.com

Sussex Area of NAFAS Registered Charity No. 292377

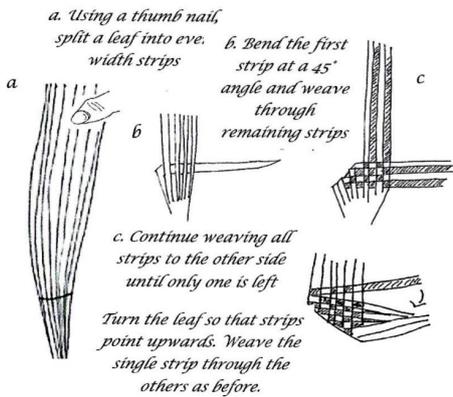
Phormium Rose - how to do

Extract from the NAFAS publication – ‘Leaf Techniques’, Part One.



d. Turn to the left again when there is only one strip left and continue turning until the weave becomes a square

Continue to part 2



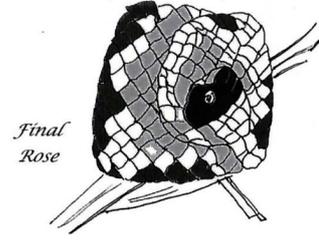
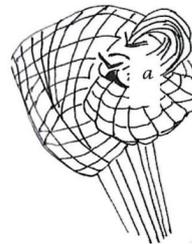
a. Using a thumb nail, split a leaf into even width strips

b. Bend the first strip at a 45° angle and weave through remaining strips

*c. Continue weaving all strips to the other side until only one is left
Turn the leaf so that strips point upwards. Weave the single strip through the others as before.*

e. Twist each section with a circular motion towards a central gap which appears quite naturally

f. An average leaf will produce two or three layers. Push the remaining ends through the central gap and tie off



Final Rose

10 Questions to.....

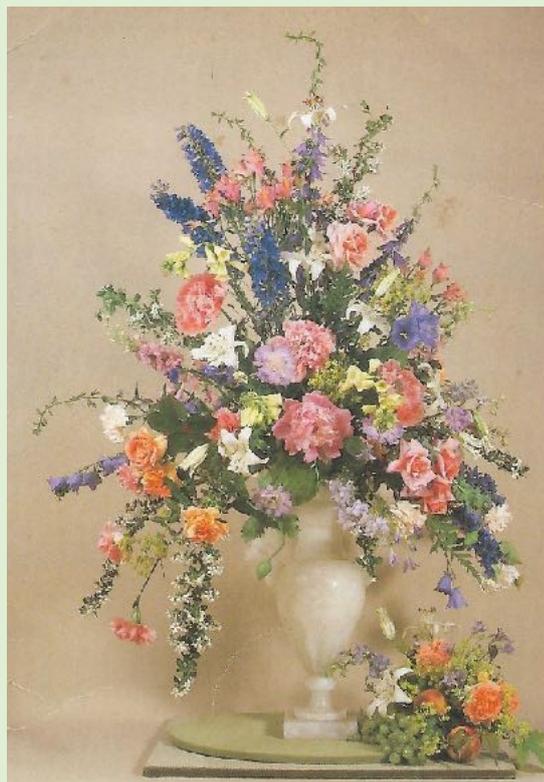
this month José Allen, Area Life Vice-President.

Q What is your favourite flower?
Cymbidium
Orchid

Q Where was your last holiday destination?
Spain

Q When did you first join a flower club? 1959

Q What was the last garden you visited? Nymans Gardens, Handcross



José Allen

Q Have you entered Chelsea?
Club Exhibit for Henfield Flower Club

Q Which club do you belong to?
Henfield Flower Club

Q How long have you lived in Sussex?
was born in Sussex

Q Where is your favourite Sussex place? At the top of Devil's Dyke with the view across the Wield

Q Name a famous person you have met Prince Charles.

Q Who would you like to receive some flowers from
It is always a joy to receive flowers. One of my grandsons sends me flowers at the beginning of each month.

What have the Area Executive got to show us ?

Members of the Executive were asked to send in their favourite design that they have done, here - Sue, Jilly and Lesley share their designs.

This was done during "lockdown" for our club's virtual monthly competition which we have kept going. Having a small garden the title "Go Green" - foam free suited me, I did not need to shop for flowers and used greenery from the garden.

The harpene is homemade and painted, and overall reasonably satisfied with the result.



Sue Seath, Area President

I did this design for the Sussex Area Judges' test in 2019. The brief was to use paper, so I made Kusudama flowers in shades of pink in varying sizes. The Philodendrum leaves followed the line of the circular container and sprayed cardoon heads added a different texture and form. Pink Hypericum berries continued the round theme and their shine contrasted with the matt paper flowers. The base of the circular container and the edge of the box frame were covered in black corrugated card which also softened the hard edges, as did the Amaranthus clusters.



Lesley Etherton, Secretary

A Good Match?

I love a workshop, not only for the learning opportunity but for the camaraderie too. I'm happy to travel far and wide for them. One club I belong to is Beyond the Norm with Wendy Howden, near Romsey in Hampshire. Given the name you can imagine what we get up to.



One season, a couple of years ago, we covered The Elements. We work to half a table with height unlimited. This was the brief:

Fire. An Exhibit. No wood in any form allowed.

Living in London with no great access to natural plant material, I gravitate towards abstract work.

This particular piece is an interpretive abstract as the design interprets the class title.



It is made entirely out of plant material in all its forms with the exception of a tiny piece of blue organza. A match made in heaven or firing blanks?

Jilly Griffin, Area Chairman

How did the eggs leave the theatre?
They went through the "Eggs-it"

What did the egg say to the clown?
You crack me up!

CLUB News

What have you been up to?

Michelle King's Zoom Debut, 'The Four Seasons', for Horsham Flower Club

Michelle had been booked for February 2021 since April 2019, with the expectation of demonstrating onstage. To my delight Michelle, prompted last November, did some 'behind the scenes' practice and finally agreed to Zoom for the first time on her planned date. Members and visitors very much enjoyed Michelle's first demonstration and I wish her further success with Zoom in the future.

**Nancy Hubbard,
Programme Secretary**

Review by Anne Runcorn

Ensnored in our cosy homes, Michelle cheered us with her 'four seasons' presentation by showing her free flowing terracotta pot representing summer. In Greek mythology, roses symbolised the tears of Aphrodite and the

blood of her lover, Adonis.

Using ecologically safe dry foam she dropped into autumn, mentioning Keats' poem and planted



Autumn



Spring

wheat, statys, Chinese lanterns and Billy buttons, which are native to New Zealand. These were tantalisingly placed over sedum and teasels.

Pot et fleur, with a parlour palm and spider plant represented winter. Flowering blooms of spray carnation and hypericum were placed in plastic tubes so they could be changed easily.

Shelley's Trumpet blasted winter into spring. Tulips with pussy willow and other greenery were the welcome herald of spring.

With a touch of Vivaldi's Four Seasons we should thank our whole committee and Michelle for creating such cheer at this time.

Anne Runcorn on behalf of all the members and visitors.

Michelle's notes:

- The arrangements were on a smaller scale to reflect the fact that this was a home-based demo;

- one of my aims was to encourage those on the call to have a go themselves at making an arrangement at home.

Michelle King kindly agreed for this review and photos to be published.



Winter

Can you name these plants and flowers?

Submitted by Nicky Harris (daughter of Barbara Harris, Little Common Flower Club) who is a keen member of a Zoom pub-quiz group. Barbara says, "The members of the group did not achieve high scores in this section of their weekly quiz, but the majority of flower arrangers will be able to get most of the answers right."

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10

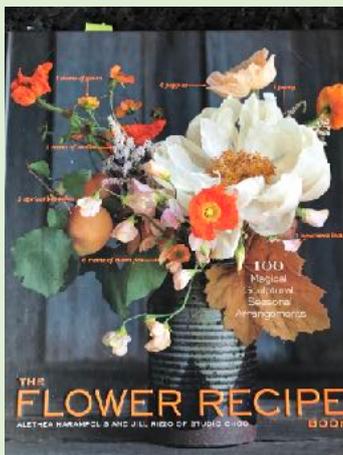


You will need to give the common name and the name of the first part of the botanical genus (not variety) eg. If there was a picture of a foxglove - Foxglove, Digitalis would give the maximum of 2 points.

Answers on page 12.

Why did the egg go to the cricket match?

For the egg-stra innings!



Book review - The Flower Recipe Book by Alethea Harampolis

This is exactly like a cookery book. Full of enticing recipes that blend a number of floral delights together, to create some wonderful arrangements. All the creations are foam free, using ingredients of foliage, base, focal, secondary and 'bits' flowers.

A delightful book, pictured with full colour photos and clear descriptions. Easy arrangements with some basic tips. This would be an ideal book for a starter or someone developing their skills.

RRP £17.99

Fabulous Flowers

Narcissus



A burst of sunshine, bright, spring flowers in an amazing range of forms, from the favourite Daffodil with its well-known trumpet to the more unusual that look like an orchid - split corona. They are single headed, double headed, or multi headed. They come in yellow, white, cream, orange, peach, pink, bicoloured and many have a strong and sweet fragrance.

They show the signs of spring and fill our gardens and countryside with joy and cheerfulness when they appear. It is accepted that the daffodil was brought to Britain by the Romans, who used to believe the sap healed wounds. In fact the sap can be an irritant, and is poisonous to other flowers, so be careful with them.

In the language of flowers narcissi symbolises egotism, 'you're the only one'. They are closely associated to the Greek youth Narcissus. It was said he was exquisitely beautiful, saw his own image in a pool. He leaned over, and fell in drowning, before becoming the flower.

It is William Wordsworth that people recall when you mention Daffodils-

*"I wander'd lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze."*

Congratulations to Ann Kennedy



Ann recently entered the Garden Club of Toronto "Re-connections", and achieved in

Class 7 "Southern Heat" - '**Honourable mention**' award and '**Best in Show**' for her entry in Class 5 "Enough Already!"

Congratulations and well done Ann!



Easter Flowers



Jane Riley Seaford Evening Flower Club

Name these plants and flowers - Answers

Common Name - Family

- 1 Baby's Breath - Gypsophila
- 2 Bird of Paradise - Strelitzia
- 3 Red hot poker - Kniphofia
- 4 Lily of the Nile or African Lily - Agapanthus
- 5 Sugarbush - Protea
- 6 Poinsettia - Euphorbia
- 7 Christmas Rose - Hellebore
- 8 Old man's beard - Clematis
- 9 Cowslip - Primula
- 10 Black eyed Susan - Rudbekia

Why was the Easter bunny upset?

He was having a bad hare day



What do you get if you cross an egg with a vacuum cleaner?
I have no idea, but I bet it's messy!

What did the eggs do when the light turned green?
They egg-cellerated.

What kind of jokes do eggs tell?

Egg yolks!

Can you help?

A reader of *Sussex Area News* asks for more information about arrangements without floral foam e.g with metal spiked products. Have you any designs you can share with readers or suggestions, please send them through to us.

And finally

Thank you to all contributors of articles and photographs.

Don't forget to contribute your designs and articles. Please send them in.

Happy Easter, and don't eat too much chocolate!

Duncan

