



Flower Arranging & Design Sussex

# Area News

## - New Year - New name - Flower Arranging & Design Sussex



**International Friends of Floral Art & Design  
International Virtual Competition  
Festive Flair**

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Linda Porrett UK

### **BEST IN SHOW**

Class One A - First Prize

Woody, Woolly and Wonderfully Festive

Linda said "I was really pleased ... and delightfully surprised as there were so many lovely designs in a large class."



Newsletter of the Sussex Area of the  
National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies  
Charity No. 292377

[www.sussexareanafas.org.uk](http://www.sussexareanafas.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/SussexAreaNAFAS](https://www.facebook.com/SussexAreaNAFAS)  
twitter: @sussexareanafas  
instagram: @sussexareanafas



## Noticeboard

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

For the February issue by  
Thursday 20 January 2022

## National News

*Congratulations* to the North Midlands Area who won the November Chairman's Challenge 'Remember, remember the fifth of November'

There are some very exciting events planned for 2022. All details and booking information is available on the NAFAS website [www.nafas.org.uk](http://www.nafas.org.uk)

The **NAFAS Demonstrators' Symposium** is being held at the prestigious four star Telford Hotel & Golf Resort, Shropshire 21 - 24 April 2022.

Join NAFAS National President Michael Bowyer on a wonderful **trip to Ireland** to see beautiful gardens in springtime and meet the designers behind some of the country's best known gardens. 19 - 24 May 2022.

NAFAS National Chairman Katherine Kear will be hosting a special tour, with a two-night stay in **central Bath** and lots of great floral fun 7 - 9 July 2022

A **residential weekend** for NAFAS members is being organised by Michael Bowyer, National President for Friday 9 to Sunday 11 September 2022 at the Leicester Marriott Hotel



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
THE SUSSEX KIDNEY TRUST  
AT  
THE HENFIELD HALLS  
MONDAY 11th APRIL 2022

Please make a note of the date in your diary.

Everyone is welcome to the meeting and to the scrumptious tea that follows.

Members of The Renal Unit will be on hand to chat to and to answer questions.

There will also be a sales table and raffle.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES



**Residential weekend event  
for NAFAS members**

# Together Again

**Leicester Marriott Hotel  
Friday 9th – Sunday 11th  
September 2022**

- Arrive Friday afternoon
- Traders/retail therapy
- Tombola & raffle
- Friday evening – three-course meal plus entertainment
- Saturday breakfast & lunch
- Five design studios
- Innovative demonstration
- Gala Dinner with live band and dancing
- Sunday morning breakfast

Cost £350 per person based on two people sharing or £399 for a single room

**To register your interest and reserve places**

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

A FUNDRAISING EVENT IN AID OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES  
Registered Charity No. 1101548

## Area News

### Area Chairman

Happy New Year! Did you stay up until midnight or retire at half past nine?

When I first moved to London, it was quite a while before I got used to hearing the chimes of Big Ben – I kept thinking I'd left the TV on for the news! After a four-year absence, those chimes were back for new year. Not surprising with engineers working round the clock! That might be a second-hand joke but I bet it took you a minute to get it. At the risk of ticking you off:

*The Italian government is adding a clock similar to Big Ben in the leaning tower of Pisa. Now it'll have the time as well as the inclination.*

Boom boom (or should that be bong, bong). Anyway, I digress.

One step forward then two back, dos à dos and off we go – again! By the time you read this, who knows who you'll be able to meet, have a drink with, whether you can watch sport or not, have a spend-up at the sales, or go to flower club.

Yet, we're in a much better place than this time last year when we had neither vaccinations nor boosters. And let's not mention those tests that made you gag. At least you can just stick the whatsit up your nose these days. How lucky are we that the lateral flow tests are free and readily available? So easy to use before you go out to meet friends and family, taking all other necessary precautions.

This latest Omicron set-back could be a threat to our mental fortitude so let's ensure that we stay safe but that we continue to socialise where we're able. Meeting up with your friends and having a jolly good laugh can enhance your intake of oxygen-rich air, stimulate your heart and other vital organs. Best of all, laughter strengthens your immune system and improves your mood. Big breath now and have a great big belly laugh to help your body produce natural painkillers – but only if you haven't broken your ribs. Go on – split your sides!

Whatever the New Year brings, I send you my very best wishes for a healthy and happy one. Let's do what we do best – fun, friendship and flowers.

*Jilly*

## Area Events 2022

### Council:

Monday 7 February - at Shoreham Community Trust Hall,  
Monday 9 May,  
Monday 8 August and  
Monday 21 November (Council & AGM)

### Members' Days:

Monday 7 March - at the Windmill Theatre, Littlehampton,  
Monday 13 June (President's Day)

### Club Chairmen's Forum:

Monday 4 April

### Sussex Area Show:

Friday 28 - Sunday 30 October

## Area Workshop 2022

**Thursday 3 February 2022  
9.30am to 4pm**

**Lesley Sturdy -  
A contemporary still life  
themed workshop.**

**Henfield Hall, Coopers Way,  
Henfield BN5 9EQ**

Lesley Sturdy from the Three Counties and South Wales Area, is a National Teacher, and National Judge.

Further details from Barbara Tucker.  
Email: [barb@batucker.go-plus.net](mailto:barb@batucker.go-plus.net)

# *Sense of Place*

LANCING COLLEGE CHAPEL

As you have probably heard by now "*Sense of Place*", the flower festival is to go ahead this year in August, after being postponed due to the pandemic.

Linda Porrett, the designer has already contacted all clubs and members who originally put their names forward to assist in 2019, but we should be delighted if further members would like to take part, we can always find room for more.

It is not often that we get the opportunity to show off our skills and arrange flowers in such a beautiful cathedral-like iconic building such as Lancing College Chapel, which is so renown. The planning has started in earnest and we will keep you all informed as we progress.

Now, let us all look forward to this wonderful event, and the flower clubs of East and West Sussex come together to make this a festival to remember.

Sue Seath, Chairman

*Sense of Place* Committee



Lancing College Chapel  
Lancing, West Sussex BN15 0RW

# *Sense of Place* *Flower Festival*



by the Sussex Area of NAFAS  
*in aid of*

The Friends of Lancing Chapel

**18–21 August 2022**

**10am–5pm**

**TICKETS £15**

Booking and information:  
[lancingcollege.co.uk/events](http://lancingcollege.co.uk/events)



Friends of Lancing Chapel is a Registered Charity No. 241403  
Sussex Area of NAFAS is a Registered Charity No. 292377

## International Friends of Floral Art & Design Virtual competition 'Festive Flair' December 2021

### CONGRATULATIONS

Class One A - 'Woody, Woolly and Wonderfully Festive'  
FIRST & BEST ON SHOW - Linda Porrett

Class Three - 'Gleaned from Nature, Bedecked for the festivities'  
SECOND - Linda Porrett

Class Four - 'Bauble -y Bark'  
FIRST - Ann Kennedy

Class Five B - 'Stylishly Slender and Sparkly'  
COMMENDED - Ann Kennedy

## Club Anniversaries

### Congratulations

Patcham Flower Club  
55 years in January 2022

Pevensey and Westham  
50 years in March 2022

Plumpton Green Flower Club  
55 years in March 2022

*Please share with us your celebrations, it's great to hear what our clubs are doing.*

## CLUB News

*What have you been up to?*

### Bexhill Finale

After 70 years of being a successful and highly-esteemed NAFAS club in the Sussex Area, Bexhill Floral Group has finally closed down.

Although this is a sad time for many of the club's members, the last meeting which took place on 2 December 2021 was a most enjoyable event with a delightful festive and colourful demonstration by Alison Gillott, followed by a delicious tea-party.

Each member attending was given a free raffle ticket to win the lovely arrangements and was also presented with a charming take-home 'goody' bag, all of which contributed to making the whole afternoon such a memorable and enjoyable occasion.



*Pictured from left to right:* At the final demonstration meeting of the Bexhill Floral Group are Barbara Harris, President; Susan Yearwood, Chairman; Penny Pollard (a long-serving member of the Group); Christine Madeley, Secretary and daughter of founder, the late Doris Madeley; and Alison Gillott, demonstrator for the afternoon.

Barbara Harris, President  
Bexhill Floral Group

## A Christmas treat

A wonderful day was enjoyed by those attending the December workshop in Henfield.

The very lovely Jane Rickard inspired us all, giving us the chance to create two different designs. Her title for the day was *'It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas'* and it certainly was.

The first one was a Palisade design which challenged us all working out how to make our mechanics fit our various containers, Jane was there with us making sure that each and everyone of us achieved something really stunning. We then filled the designs with little bits and pieces of Christmas, such as candles, cones, baubles, foliage and really anything our imagination could run to.



The designs took shape and everyone was chuffed with having made something that would definitely last for our Christmas table.

After lunch and a cup of Christmas cheer served by Gaenor Circus and Barbara Tucker, we set about making design number two which started as a polystyrene cone and a long stick and ended as an array of modern looking Christmas trees.

It was such a great day and so worth attending. It was suitable for all levels of experience from the very beginner to the more advanced and I would thoroughly recommend trying one of these fun days out if you can.

To sit with like minded people and just make time to have a day for yourself with your hobby has to be a treat we should all find time for.

Stef Maynard  
Media Administrator



## Getting to know your area demonstrator... this month Gaenor Circus

### *How long have you been a demonstrator?*

For ever – at least that’s how it feels sometimes. No, seriously, I have been an Area demonstrator since 2014... and ‘it don’t seem a day too long!’

### *What made you become a demonstrator?*

It’s all thanks to the doyenne of Sussex Area, Jean Plaskett. I was a relatively new member of Storrington Flower Club when I first met Jean



and the conversation touched on what was involved in becoming a demonstrator. At that stage, I had no intention of becoming a demonstrator and was simply making polite conversation. But one thing led to another and within a month I was on a training course.

### *Where do you get your inspiration from for your demonstrations?*

Life, as simple as that!

### *Please tell us about a demonstration that went really well and why*

It’s rather a question for the clubs I visit as their assessment is not necessarily the same as mine!

### *And in the tradition of ‘it’s all right on the night’, something that didn’t go as planned*

One demonstration sticks in my mind. Just before the demonstration started, I popped to the loo, sat down, looked up at the window and saw a poster ‘Smile you are on CCTV’. I have never jumped off a loo seat so quickly and had to hold myself until I had finished the demonstration and returned home!



### *What do you enjoy about demonstrating?*

There are many rewarding aspects to demonstrating. Apart from being able to meet members, there is the ability to share one’s enthusiasm for the subject and one’s knowledge and experience. There is the mutual banter with the audience. Above all, it is the sense that your efforts have been well received which makes it all worthwhile.

*Pictured left to right: Gaenor Circus, Joyce Skeet, Jean Plaskett*

## Birth Flower of the month January



**Carnation** - Genus : Dianthus, from the Greek '*dios*' divine/God and '*anthos*' flower, or heavenly flower.

The worlds best selling flower, seen by some as being old fashioned. Single headed, spray or dwarf. Native to Southern Europe and Asia. National flower of Spain, Monaco, and Slovenia. In South Korea children present their parents with bunches of red and pink carnations on Parents' Day as a sign that they love them.

The Carnation is so universal and versatile, as it comes in a range of colours, tones, shades and tints. Edible it can be used to decorate bakes or used in a salad. Also believed to have medicinal properties to treat skin problems, hair loss and muscle tension. Reliable, good value for money as they are long lasting and available all year.

Flower meaning: devotion, fascination.  
Symbolise: love and distinction.

The flower of first wedding anniversaries.

Sweet William are a type of carnation.

## Birth Flowers

Did you know that each month has its own birth flower which corresponds to the month you were born. It is thought that this will give you vital clues to your personality.

Each month this year we shall explore a birth flower - do you know yours?

The Ancient Romans used to celebrate the new born and birthdays with flowers which reflected the traits of those born that month.

If you send flowers to someone on their birthday, it will add special meaning if you use their birth flowers, and you can tell the meaning behind them.

There are both British and American versions of the list, and we shall concentrate on the British.

## Flower anagrams

yaisd

fox voelg

rncoflerow

liput

diloffad

pppyo

ttbupucer

sore

flerowsnu

mulapri

getrof - em - ton

answers on page 12

## Style of Exhibit

### Plants and Flowers



Renamed *Plants and Flowers* in the Competitions Manual 2015, the *Pot et Fleur* was termed in the 1960s, from the French for 'pot' and 'flower'. The style stems from the Victorian times combining living house plants with cut flowers. Creating sustainable arrangements without the use of floral foam.

Any container can be used, traditionally punch bowls and large soup tureens were used. Today for a more contemporary look you could use terracotta bowls, willow baskets, or metal boxes. Care will need to be taken to line containers which are not water tight so that they do not leak. Within this you can use another container - jar, vase or tubes to hold the cut flowers. There are a couple of ways to create your arrangement. With your container you could either line it to prevent leaks, pop in some crocks at the bottom for drainage and then fill with soil/compost, planting in the compost the plants and making space for the cut flower container. Or you could keep each plant in its own pot, place in the container and fill around the pots with moss, although the pots do take up room. Arrange the cut flowers in the container. Suitable for both internal and exterior display. Each time you change the cut flowers it will take on a different look.

The cut flowers should be suitable in scale, with a variety of leaves giving a variation in form, texture and colour. A mixture of plants placed in a pleasing grouping or line, with height - tall, bushy, and trailing plants over the side of the container. Consider space, and the overall harmony between flowers and plants.

## What did you get for Christmas?

Were you given a flower arranger apron?



If you were please send us a picture of you in the apron, hopefully arranging flowers. Let's see how many there are in Sussex.

Over the years there have been plenty of gift items produced by NAFAS.

Whether it's been a china cup, pen, bookmark, note cards, or other items do you have any of these? Send us a picture and story about them, let's see if we can find the oldest item.

Perhaps you have a commemorative rose bush produced for the Golden anniversary, or for one of many other occasions. Or perhaps you have one of the roses named after Julia Clements or Mary Pope.

Please send in your stories and pictures.

## Winchester WOW

It's always a joy to go to a flower festival particularly if it's in a church or cathedral.



I have visited several flower festivals at Winchester Cathedral, and this time it was different as it was all *foam free* and in covid times.

Organised by the Wessex & Jersey area with Pip Bensley as

the floral designer, you knew it would be a feast for the eyes.

From the stunning nave display, to the many side chapels, there was a lot to see.



The popular memorial to Jane Austen is one of the many places often visited in the cathedral and it's no different at the flower festivals. This year the display was simple but effective.

The festival '*Resonance*' was built around celebrating the way that memories are held in our minds and senses.

There was plenty of air, time and space to wander round taking in all the floral delights, particularly important in covid times.



I look forward to visiting the Epiphany Chapel with its Edward Burne-Jones window: the display this time was very creative. I was visiting at the time of pain-staking watering taking place. I felt sorry for the volunteers hunting for all the tubes and taking care in injecting the water into them. A job they said they were doing everyday during the five day festival.





My favourite location in the cathedral is the Anthony Gormley statue in the crypt. I couldn't wait to descend the steps to see what floral treat was there, following a short wait, and an orderly socially distanced queue, there was no disappointment.



One of the eye catching designs was the Himelli display.



Like all floral events, the preparation of the designs had taken a lot of time and effort. From the visitors' reactions it was worth all the hard work.

After a visit to the cloisters book shop, and the cathedral shop it was time for tea and cake in the cathedral cafe.

A very enjoyable visit.

Duncan Ward  
Editor



## Chichester Cathedral's Festival of Flowers

A four day spectacular, taking place from 8 – 11 June 2022.



Sixty spectacular flower arrangements, displayed within the 900 year old Cathedral, created using over 50,000 blooms. The arrangements will respond to the theme of 'Life In All Its Fullness', exploring the benefits of art, nature and music in healing, and will be portrayed as picturesque tableaux, gardens and pedestal arrangements.



If you are designer at the festival, let's hear your story - about your interpretation, your style of arrangement, what made you choose your plant material, tell us about the experience.

Share with us your story and pictures.

### Flower Anagrams answers

daisy  
foxglove  
cornflower

tulip  
daffodil  
poppy  
buttercup  
rose  
sunflower

## Social Media Update

**Social Media** - can be a great place to share and explore, but there is a down side it can be a place where you can innocently click on a link and open up a virus or scam.

"I think you are in this video".... Do NOT click on the link if you get a Facebook message or a text with this title. There have been dozens of these recently, it is a phishing scam.

If in doubt, do not click any links and delete the email, text, message etc.

On Facebook recently Pip Bensley warned flowery friends who are innocently answering so called "fun quizzes" or giving out information about pets or favourite things on Facebook. This information is gathered to help hackers gain access to your accounts by working out your passwords or security questions. Please don't do this, it makes you vulnerable but also it puts your friends and family in your address book at risk too.

Where were you born:	<b>STOP</b>
Your favourite colour:	<b>GIVING</b>
Your first telephone number:	<b>PEOPLE</b>
Your first child's name:	<b>YOUR</b>
Your much loved pets name:	<b>PERSONAL</b>
Your type of car:	<b>INFORMATION</b>
Your mother's maiden name:	<b>TO</b>
Your favourite band:	<b>GUESS</b>
The street you grew up in:	<b>YOUR</b>
Your favourite food:	<b>PASSWORDS</b>
What happened in the year you were born:	<b>AND</b>
Your favourite flower:	<b>SECURITY</b>
Your first job:	<b>QUESTIONS</b>

## And finally ....

Thank you to all contributors of articles and photographs. Don't forget to contribute your designs and articles. Please send them in.

Keep well and stay safe.

Duncan