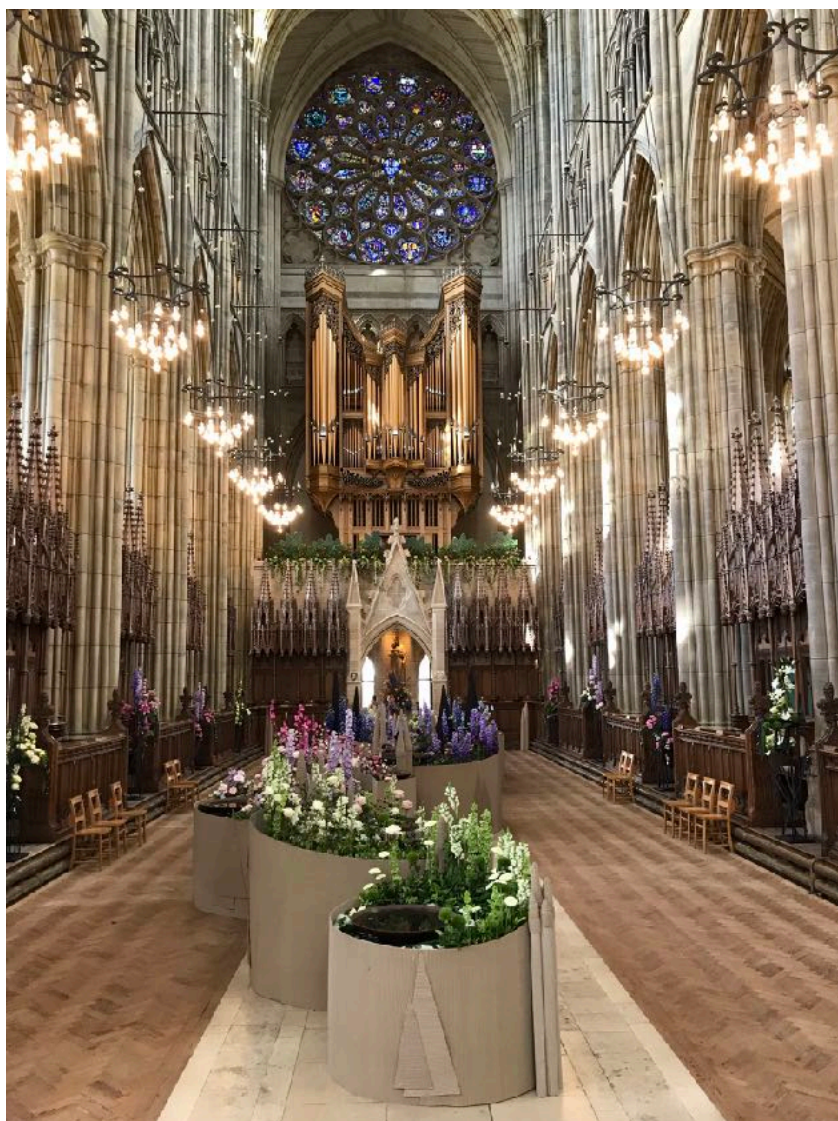


## Flower Arranging & Design Sussex

# Area News

# *Stunning*



# *Sense of Place*



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](mailto:info@boxworthflowers.com)

For the October issue by  
Tuesday 20 September 2022

Flower Arranging & Design Sussex

## Area Workshop

Thursday 6 October 2022

9.30am to 4pm

Henfield Hall, Coopers Way, Henfield BN5 9EQ



Looking to the  
Autumn

Michael  
Bowyer MBE

NAFAS National President  
National Judge, Demonstrator, Speaker and Teacher.  
Wessex & Jersey

Further details from Barbara Tucker

Email: [barb@batucker.go-plus.net](mailto:barb@batucker.go-plus.net)

## What's On

**Chairmen's Forum** – Monday 17 October  
2022, Haywards Heath Town Hall

**Seasonal Sensations and Area Day** -  
Saturday 29 October 2022, Crowborough

**Area Council Meeting** - Monday 21 November  
2022 – 11.15am, at Plumpton Village Hall  
Followed by **AGM** at 1.30pm

Warnham Evening Flower Club  
**Open Meeting**



**Tuesday 18 October 2022**  
**Warnham Village Hall RH12 3RH**  
**7pm for 7.30pm start**

**Tickets £15 from Janet Sharp**  
[janetsharp1961@gmail.com](mailto:janetsharp1961@gmail.com)  
01403 251900 or 07823 331 345

**Flower Raffle    General Raffle**  
**Craft stall**  
**Jean Plaskett's cards in aid of SKT**  
**Light refreshments available**

Hailsham & District Flower Club  
**Open Evening**

Presents a Floral Art Demonstration

**BY MR ROBIN WHITE**

Designer of the year 2019

RHS Chelsea & Hampton Court team: Gold Medal winner

**'A White Christmas'**

Wednesday 16th November 2022

Doors open 6.30 for 7.30pm

Civic Community Hall, Vicarage Lane  
Hailsham BN27 2AX

**Tickets £8 Members, £10 Guests & Visitors**  
**Including a Goodie Bag**  
**Raffle & Stalls**

Tickets & further details  
Contact Chris Campbell-Dykes  
01323 842222



## Area News

### Area Chairman

#### Wow, wow, wow!

Did you go? Did you see it? By the comments I've heard and the emails I've received from near and far, everyone enjoyed *Sense of Place* at Lancing College Chapel. Many have said that it's the best festival they've ever been to.

So, it's hats off, congratulations and a BIG thank you to:

- the *Sense of Place* designers: Linda Porrett, Ann Kennedy & Wendy Parsons
- the festival committee: Chairman Sue Seath, Sheila Cheal, Lesley Etherton, Angie Hyde and Tricia Bridgman
- 120 Sussex Area flower arrangers
- the helpers at set-up and staging (I know Carol Lathleiff and Christine Clark, to name but two, were almost resident at the Barn and in the Crypt),
- all the stewards who were so helpful to visitors and stopped anyone giving those black balloons a quick fondle
- those who manned The Flower Arranger table.

I'm so proud of everyone who took part in this fantastic event which will be talked about for years to come. I'd also like to thank you if you visited. You have contributed to the Friends of Lancing Chapel's maintenance fund for the Chapel of St Mary & St Nicolas (*the Chapel's proper name*). Some visitors have even signed up as a volunteer Chapel Steward.

A festival is always hard work with long hours and frustrating moments (*where did I put those elastic bands? Who's nicked my knife?*), but on the upside: having a laugh, making new friends, and catching up with old friends (or rather friends of long standing) is a real tonic. It was such a privilege to be part of this fabulous event, which will be featured in Flora magazine next year.



#### Flower Arranging & Design Sussex

### Area Training Course

Tuesdays  
13, 20, 27 September and  
4, 11, 18 October

9.30am for 10am to 12 noon

Henfield Hall, Coopers Way, Henfield BN5 9EQ

### Moving on



Looking at the manipulation of foliage and much, much more.....

The course will be led by  
Lyn Constable  
with Barbara Hoy and  
Barbara Caldecourt

£60 to include refreshments

Please register your interest to Gaenor Circus

[gaenor.circus1@gmail.com](mailto:gaenor.circus1@gmail.com)

I'm sure *Sense of Place* has given you some tips and techniques you could use at the Area Show. Entry deadline is Saturday 1 October 2022 so do take part in *Seasonal Sensations*. If *Sense of Place* has inspired you to greater things, remember the Area's Moving On course, led by the lovely Lyn Constable. See the ad above for more details.

September also brings the President's Weekend, which I'll report on next month, as well as my final NAC meeting representing the Sussex Area.

Happy flower  
arranging,



# *Sense of Place*

The stunning flower festival took place at Lancing College on 18 to 21 August, led by festival designer Linda Porrett, Ann Kennedy and Wendy Parsons, together with the committee and many Sussex Area members.

Here is just a taste of the festival.

Congratulations to Linda and all the team, for a stunning festival bringing together the traditional and contemporary.

After years and months of planning and preparation they deserve a rest!





## Flower Arranging &amp; Design Sussex

## Sussex Area of NAFAS Show

Saturday 29 October 2022

9.30am - 5.30pm

Crowborough Community Centre, Pine Grove, Crowborough TN6 1FE

Judges: Pat Dibben and  
Gill SmaggasgalePresentation of Prizes  
1.45pm in the main hall£2 to view the show only,  
payable on the door

You can also enjoy  
Selection of Trade Stands and Raffles  
Refreshments - Tea, Coffee, Cake and Light Lunches  
(Cash only please)

## Area Day

Speaker Tony Strange as Henry VIII 11am - 12.15pm  
Demonstration at 2.00pm

National Demonstrator Dr Christina Curtis  
"ALCHEMY"

Tickets £20 for the day please contact  
Carol Lathleiff at email: [sussexareashow2022@yahoo.com](mailto:sussexareashow2022@yahoo.com)  
Tel: 01903 817187

## Flower Arranging &amp; Design Sussex

## Sussex Area of NAFAS Show

Saturday 29 October 2022

9.30am - 5.30pm

Crowborough Community Centre, Pine Grove, Crowborough TN6 1FE

Area  
Photography  
Competition

Class 1. The Magic of Nature – a colour image, subject unspecified

Class 2. Sunset (or Sunrise)

Class 3. My Favourite Flower – a close-up image

Photos to be a maximum of 8" x 6" (approx. 20cms x 15cms)  
Please enclose an entry form with your details and the classes  
entered.

Judge: Raymond Beckwith  
Presentation of Prizes 1.45pm in the main hall

For the schedule and entry forms please go to the  
Sussex NAFAS website

[www.sussexareanafas.org.uk/event/area-show-28th-30th-october/](http://www.sussexareanafas.org.uk/event/area-show-28th-30th-october/)

The **CLOSING DATE** for both the **AREA SHOW** and  
**PHOTOGRAPHY** competitions is now

SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER 2022

ENTER NOW - places going quickly!

Club Anniversaries  
Congratulations

Ringmer, 45 years in September.

Ninfield, 45 years in October.

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

Coming Soon *Sense of Place*

Souvenir Brochure of the  
stunning arrangements

## Sussex Kidney Trust Tombola

Margaret, you left 'to collect later'  
two prizes at the Tombola stall at Lancing on Friday.

Please call Jean Plaskett on 01403 255690

## CLUB News

### *What have you been up to?*

## Sapphire plus 1 Anniversary

Lancing Flower Club passed its **65<sup>th</sup> anniversary** in 2021 but because of Covid we did a special '**65 +1**' celebration this July instead. Having used '**65 +1** years ago' as the theme for our Flower Show in May we decided to do a members' demonstration of past decades of flower arranging and design styles with some dressing up! Plus we would celebrate with tea and the ceremonial cutting of a special cake.

Of course Monday July 18 was one of the hottest days of the year but the



*Gill and June*

Our demonstrations were of 1950's, 60's and 70's and one contemporary arrangement. June Kearsley our competitions secretary started off with a triangle arrangement representing the 1950's using Julia Clement's style. Traditional plant material as we would have had then was used. She looked just the part in her blue and white spotted dress and sporting a 50's hairdo tied up with a red spotted scarf. Gill Davey moved us on into the 60's Flower Power representing the use of brighter colours in her arrangement. Caroline



*Gill cutting the cake*

Griggs in a splendid ABBA disco outfit represented the 1970's with a colourful vertical arrangement of gerberas and gentians. The final contemporary arrangement was done by Annette Quelch showing the use of structures,



*Caroline with 1970*

members came and the Methodist Hall was reasonably comfortable. Our Chairman Gill Davey had made some delicious cakes for us to have with our tea and a superb **65+1** decorated fruit cake which she cut surrounded by all the members present.



*Annette with contemporary*





natural willow and blocking and massing of material. Much of the foliage and flowers were from plants which we have become familiar with but which originate in other continents and countries such as South Africa, New Zealand and Australia, none of which would have been available to our predecessors. How much has changed in flower arranging over the last 65 years of the Club's existence. What would our earlier members have thought of the

mechanics, materials and arrangements of today?

Following the raffling of the arrangements we all headed home to cool showers or ice lollies clutching our special **65 +1** pennant biscuits. Hoorah for Lancing Flower Club!

Annette Quelch, Vice Chair  
Lancing Flower Club

## Swap Shop

A fun evening was had at our last meeting before the summer break, where members of the **Seaford Evening Flower Club** had a flower swap shop.

Each member brought along a bunch of flowers (max £5 from the supermarket) and a container. Members drew a person from the hat and then swapped them with that person. Everyone then set to make an arrangement using the flowers and container from the person who they drew. It caused so much fun and laughter. With experienced hands available to assist newer members, everyone completed an arrangement. At the end of the evening they handed over their design.



It was challenging for some as we didn't know whose flowers we were arranging or what container would be used.

Our President Jane, was pleased when she drew my name, she went home happy with her flowers and container.

Duncan  
Ward  
Seaford  
Evening  
Flower Club





## National Flower Show

Back in May we visited the National Flower Show at Hylands House in Chelmsford, Essex organised annually, it is essentially a garden show, however there is a floral exhibition in the big house.

We have visited the show several times, and this year it had returned virtually to pre covid times, so plenty to see, do and purchase.



It was a lovely floral show organised by Mig Kimpton, as each of the ground floor rooms follow the theme. This year it was 'Alice in Wonderland'.



college with their tablescapes, an eclectic mix of flowery items. They were busy demonstrating how to make Kusadama paper flowers.



There was the Mad Hatters Tea Party, White Rabbit, the Jack of Spades painting roses and a deck of cards. It was quite fun. Inspired by the tea party, in the dining room was a beautiful tablescapes set

Back to the garden show, as the saying goes, 'There is always room for a few more plants in the garden', and as ever you never leave a garden show without a plant or two or three, or a bootful!

for dinner. There are many items arranged by local NAFAS members, as there is a competitive element to the show. It was also great to see the local students from the floristry

Duncan Ward  
Editor





## Winning Ways Competition Workshop with Dr Christina D Curtis

This day was a wow experience for all who took part.

It was very pleasing to be able to offer this subsidised learning experience to so many of our members. A large proportion of the attendees had not



entered a floral competition and we had very comprehensive, insightful guidance on how to proceed and also encouragement and help towards taking the plunge and becoming a competitor.

Christina, our excellent

and experienced tutor, welcomed questions and was very generous with her time and knowledge and went to great lengths to explain all the details in her answers.

Many different styles of competition work were shown. The NAFAS competition manual was highlighted, explaining the definitions of styles of exhibits.

We were shown many examples of traditional and contemporary work including small scale designs. These can be seen in the pictures



displayed on the stage with the stage curtains behind.

We learnt about craft definitions and plant material in all its forms, in accordance with NAFAS competitions guidelines.

As this was also a practical day, everyone made an arrangement as if they were taking part in a competition, with space and drapes allotted for each participant to set up their arrangement.

All participants were asked to make a "Summer Basket", an exhibit to be displayed within a given space. This produced a huge variety of finished designs as can be seen from the pictures.

A handout was also given to the participants, which was a very helpful aide memoire for future reference. This day was a great success, and we were able to give everyone a place that applied for one.

Barbara Tucker Workshops Administrator  
JDS&E Committee





## FOAM FREE

Following on from an excellent workshop I attended with Dr Christina Curtis, I was asked to pen a short article regarding the mechanics I used. We were asked to produce a 'Summer Basket' arrangement for judging purposes, so I decided to try and go foam free.

Inspired by Gill McGregor in her book entitled 'How to - go greener floral foam free' I tackled the aluminium wire domed circle, which I secured to a vase and then placed in the basket.

She also used a pin holder, but I adapted and made two circles which I wired together to form a cushion.

So take a coil of aluminium wire and make a circle the circumference of the container you are going to use. Twist the wire around the circle for a second time to make it stronger. Do not cut the wire off. Take a large test tube and wind the wire around it to form a circle, slip the circle off and make a second one twisting in the opposite direction. Continue until you have enough circles to fill the space. Cut off and secure.

Then take some bullion wire and just secure some of the circles together at the edges if needed. Push up into a dome. I then made a second one and wired them together to form the cushion. As I was not using a pin holder it gave extra stability when placing the plant material in the vase.

I found the wire very easy to work with and not so severe on the hands as wire mesh or chicken wire.

It was very successful so do have a go.

Paula Richardson  
Lindfield Flower Club





## A Wonderful present!

With all the 'Flower Events' going on currently it was really lovely to be able to go along to the Hampton Court Flower Festival arranged by the RHS. I have been a member of the RHS for many, many, years and always look forward to the show with anticipation, likewise my lifelong friend whose birthday falls during the first week of the show. I always buy her ticket as a birthday present and we make a real day of it, travelling up by train then boarding the Turk Launch ferry that takes us down stream to the show.

As we meandered around the show having had our lunch, we came across the NAFAS stand bedecked with bunting and beautiful floral arrangements each side of the demonstrators table ready for the next

Demonstration. To my surprise I saw Gill McGregor, well known to many of us for her wonderful innovative designs, leaf manipulation to name but a few of her many talents. Gill came to Storrington Flower Club just prior to lockdown and it goes without saying what a wonderful evening we all had.

I approached her asking when the next Demonstration was having explained who I was (Demonstrators cannot remember every single chairman they meet!) and she replied in twenty minutes. So, Chrissie (Buck) and I settled down, chatting to Ian, Gill's husband about NAFAS and all things floral. Gill began her Demonstration using non-foam, with easily made structures to support her designs. Her

first design was Jubilee themed, red, white and blue, the second design she used a collar to support her design using aluminium wires which supported her green and white arrangement.

She announced that each arrangement would be raffled at the end of the demonstration. The first arrangement was to go to the person whose birthday fell closest to the 5 July (*the day we attended the show*). Well Chrissie's birthday is the 6 July you couldn't get any closer than that!! Gill presented Chrissie with the 'Jubilee' arrangement as you can see from the attached photo. Chrissie said that it absolutely made her

birthday, what a wonderful present!

We stayed to the end of the show, caught the launch up stream to the railway station for our homeward journey, clutching all the goodies we purchased along with the beautiful floral design that Chrissie won. It just goes to show you never know what will happen on the day, a bonus meeting up with like minded floral friends.

Chrissy Desmond,  
Chairman  
Storrington Flower Club



## National Show 2023

Friday 12 to Saturday 13 May 2023,  
the National Show is to be held at  
Gloucester Cathedral,

*'Florilegium, a Gathering of Flowers'*

Further details as they are released will be  
available on the NAFAS website.



## This Wonderful World

This is a part of the exhibition staged by **East Preston Floral Club** during the village festival week in June.



The title of the show was 'This Wonderful World'. On the stage was a large globe of the world, with Fire and Ice depicted on either side, arranged by Sue Seath and Barbara Garnell. Around the hall were twenty other floral displays of natural wonders e.g. rain forest, volcanoes, rivers, underseas, flora and fauna etc.

Barbara Garnell  
East Preston Floral Club



The globe which was made by me took well over 100 hours to construct out of a very large balloon and many many many layers of papier-mâché.

It is available if any one would like it have it. With a small donation to the **Sussex Kidney Trust**.

Please contact Barbara Garnell on 01903 787243 (Buyer collects)

## NAFAS

### Together Again

Weekend 9 - 11 September 2022  
at the Leicester Marriott Hotel

Are you going to the **Together Again** weekend?

Please share with us the weekend, what you did, who you met, what you enjoyed.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES

Residential weekend event for NAFAS members

### Together Again

Leicester Marriott Hotel  
Friday 9th - Sunday 11th  
September 2022

Enjoy a weekend of fun, friendship and flowers

Cost £250 per person based on two people sharing or £270 for a single room

To register your interest and reserve places  
Please provide your name, contact details and number of places to: [enquiries@nafas.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@nafas.org.uk)  
Tel: 0205 7562 5869

A FUNDRAISING EVENT IN AID OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES  
Registered charity No. 101546



Don't forget to enter the

## Sussex Area Show

and the

## Photography Competition

Closing date  
Saturday 1 October

## And finally ....

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

Be kind to each other.

*Duncan*