

Flower Arranging & Design Sussex

Area News

Sensational Sussex Area Show



**Show Special
Edition**



Spooktacular Demonstration



Newsletter of the Sussex Area of the
National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies
Charity No. 292377
www.sussexareanafas.org.uk
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Noticeboard

Please send your articles and photographs to
Duncan Ward email: info@boxworthflowers.com
For the January 2023 issue by
Tuesday 20 December 2022

Area Events 2023

Council:

Monday 27 February - at The Shoreham Centre,
2 Pond Road, Shoreham by Sea BN43 5WU

Area Day:

Monday 6 March - at the Windmill Theatre,
Windmill Road, Littlehampton BN17 5LH

Flower Arranging & Design Sussex

Come and join us for *a bit of a do* at

DOWNTRODDEN



ABBEY

Where we shall be preparing for a Royal visit

Monday 6 March 2023

Doors open at 10.15am for 11.00am start

The Windmill Theatre, Windmill Rd, Littlehampton BN17 5LH

Ticket price: Members £20, Non-Members £22

Demonstration at 11am
Musical matinee performance at 2pm

**Andrew Bernardi
and the many strings to his bow**



Tickets available from Carol calathleiff@yahoo.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming you




RINGMER FLOWER CLUB

You are invited to a demonstration at Ringmer Village Hall

Wednesday
7th December 2022
at 2:00 pm
"Tis the Season"
by Sue Thompson

Visitors welcome



Andrew Bernardi And The Many Strings To His Bow

A graduate of Trinity College of Music, Andrew Bernardi is well known in Sussex and beyond as the founder of the Shipley Arts Festival.



As one of the UK's leading violinists, he has performed with a diverse range of artists, including John Rutter, Rick Wakeman and the late Natalie Cole, and has been involved with TV and film soundtracks such as Mission Impossible, Rogue Nation, Nanny McPhee and Pride and Prejudice.

Andrew has played with a number of orchestras including the Royal Philharmonic, the BBC Philharmonic and Guildford Philharmonic. Andrew will be playing on his 1696 Stradivarius, and a bow which was previously owned by Yehudi Menuhin.

We are delighted to be welcoming Andrew Bernardi to Sussex Area.

Area News

Area Chairman

I would like to begin by thanking Jilly Griffin, on behalf of Sussex Area, for her commitment and service to the Area during her three year term of office and wish her well for the future.



Gaenor is presented with her Chairman's badge by Sue

It is a great privilege to be elected Sussex Area Chairman and I have been especially encouraged by the large number of messages of support I have received. I hope to fully justify your support during my term of office and to be able to give you all the help you need.

We have a lot to be proud of in our area with so many talented members in our clubs throughout East and West Sussex, and members with a very wide range of practical experience which Area can draw on. I am, therefore, in the fortunate position of being able to start my term of office with a great team who will play a very important part in the success of our area. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce them:

Area President - Sue (Seath)

Area Vice-President - Ruth (Collingridge)

Executive Team

Barbara (Caldecourt) – **Area Vice-Chairman**

Lesley (Etherton) – **Area Secretary**

Brenda (Bull) – **Area Treasurer**

Carol (Lathleiff) – **Ticketing Officer**

Margaret (Moore) – **Programme Secretary**

Sue (Oliver) – **Media Officer**

Lesley had already completed the maximum six-year term of office as Area Secretary but has offered to serve for an extra year. I am very grateful to Lesley, and to you all, for appointing her at the AGM to continue for that further year.

The Flower Arranger Officer - Vanessa (Jeffries)

Publications Officer - Jenny (Foster-Smith)

Editor of our Area newsletter - Duncan (Ward)

Area Web Administrator - Christine (Purkess)

Following the AGM, many congratulations are due to Ruth on being appointed as Area Vice-President. Ruth is a member of Crowborough Flower Club and Chaired the very successful **Seasonal Sensations** Area Show in October.

And many congratulations to Angie Hyde for being awarded the Sussex Area Award of Merit. This award recognises Angie's commitment to Area as well as the breadth of roles in Area and her motivation and inspiration.

As we move forward, I would like you to know that I will not forget the tagline of 'Fun, Friendship and Flowers'. And in the spirit of that motto, I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and my best wishes for 2023.

Gaenor
x



Left to right: Sue Oliver, Carol Lathleiff, Lesley Etherton, Gaenor Circus, Barbara Caldecourt, Brenda Bull, Margaret Moore

The Sussex Area Council

The Sussex Area Council is the governing body of the Sussex Area of NAFAS. It elects members of the Executive Committee to undertake the day-to-day management of the Area, together with Non-Executive appointees as appropriate. Members of the Executive Committee are trustees of the educational charity Sussex Area of NAFAS.

Area appointments (Non Executive)



Sue Seath
Area President



Ruth Collingridge
Area Vice-President



Jenny Foster-Smith
Publications Officer



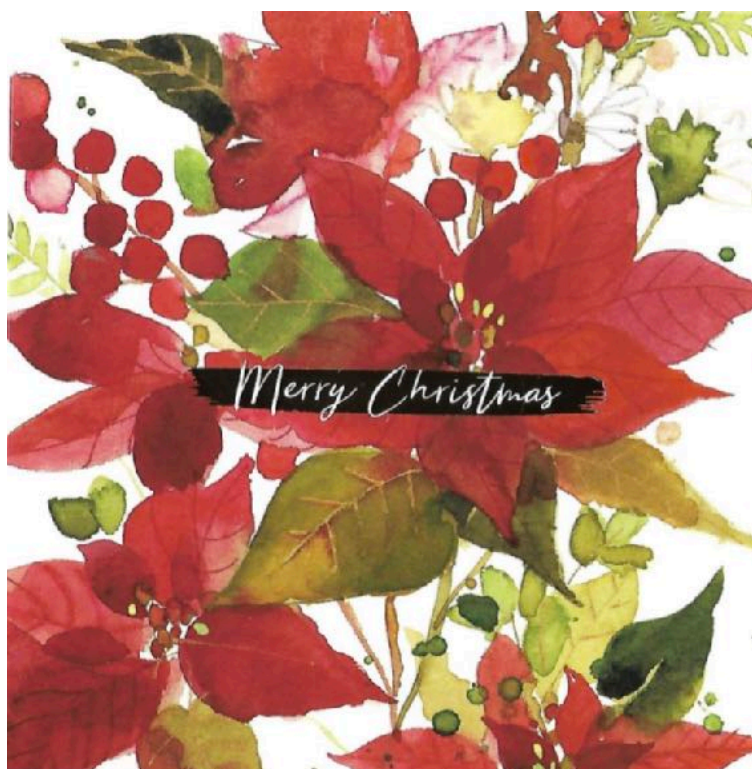
Vanessa Jefferies
The Flower Arranger
Officer



Christine Purkess
Website Administrator



Duncan Ward
Editor of our
Area newsletter



To all our Sussex Area
members,

Wishing you all a
Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year

Gaenor
x

Wesley x Paula x

Margaret
x

Doreen

She

Barbara x

THE EXECUTIVE TEAM



Sussex Area Show

Best in Show

West Wittering Cup
Stephen McDonnell, Peacehaven & Telscombe.....Class 6

Runner Up to Best in Show

Jose Allen Trophy
Wendy Parsons, Lewes.....Class 7

Best Use of Colour

Sussex Area Perpetual Challenge Cup
Duncan Ward, Seaford Evening.....Craft Class

Best Use of Plant Material

Nancy Boobyer Trophy
Ann Kennedy, New Visions.....Class 7

Most Innovate Exhibit

Jean Gordon Salver
Ann Kennedy, New Visions...Class 3

Award for Crafts

The Brenda Forrester Award for Crafts
Duncan Ward, Seaford Evening

Flower Arranger Award

Vanessa Bradford,
Crowborough,
Novice Class



Flower Arranger Award
Vanessa Bradford



Best in Show
Stephen McDonnell



Runner up Best in Show
Wendy Parsons



Best use of Colour
Duncan Ward



Best use of Plant Material
Ann Kennedy



Most Innovate Exhibit
Ann Kennedy



Award for Crafts
Duncan Ward



1. First Prize
Myra Lister

Class 1. Trick or Treat (Petite)

1st Prize Myra Lester, Tunbridge Wells
2nd Prize Sandra Fleming, Little Common
3rd Prize Amanda Pinder, East Grinstead

Class 2. A Bit of This and That (Imposed)

1st Prize Barbara Hoy, Lindfield and New Visions
2nd Prize Jennifer Collett, Ninfield
3rd Prize Barbara Caldecourt, New Visions
Very Highly Commended
 Carole Down, Horam & Heathfield
Highly Commended
 Theresa Fennings, Horam & Heathfield



2. First Prize
Barbara Hoy



3. First Prize
Myra Lister

Class 3. Colourful Explosion (Pedestal / Floor Design)

1st Prize Myra Lester, Tunbridge Wells
2nd Prize Stephen McDonnell, Peacehaven & Telscombe
3rd Prize Ann Kennedy, New Visions
Very Highly Commended
 Carole Down, Horam & Heathfield
Highly Commended
 Duncan Ward, Seaford Evening
Highly Commended
 Jill Kitchenham, Crowborough



5. First Prize
Vanessa Bradford

Class 4. Masquerade (Craft Class)

1st Prize Duncan Ward, Seaford Evening
2nd Prize Annette Quelch, Lancing
3rd Prize Nina Tucknott, New Visions
Very Highly Commended
 Jane Mills, Seaford Evening
Highly Commended
 Sandra Fleming, Little Common



4. First Prize
Duncan Ward

Class 5. Nature's Contrasts (Novice)

1st Prize Vanessa Bradford, Crowborough
2nd Prize Christine Connolly, Crowborough
3rd Prize Anne-Marie Newby, East Grinstead
Very Highly Commended
 Janie Hooper, Crowborough
Highly Commended
 Rhona Green, East Grinstead

Class 6. Season's Bounty (Exhibit)

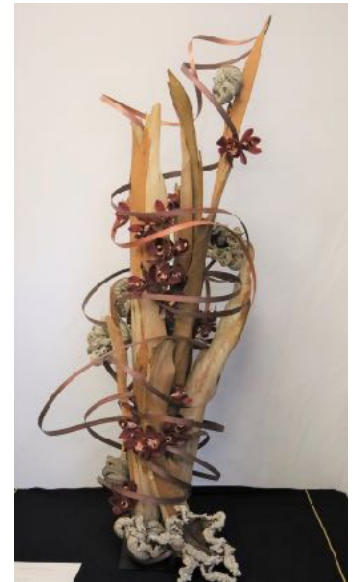
- 1st Prize** Stephen McDonnell,
Peacehaven & Telscombe
- 2nd Prize** Theresa Fennings, Horam &
Heathfield
- 3rd Prize** Annette Quelch, Lancing
- Very Highly Commended**
Barbara Cooper, Crowborough
- Highly Commended**
Helen Cunliffe, Ninfield



6. First Prize
Stephen McDonnell

Class 7. Autumn Winds (Contemporary)

- 1st Prize** Wendy Parsons, Lewes
- 2nd Prize** Marion Matharu, Ashford
- 3rd Prize** Margaret McSheehy, Lewes
- Very Highly Commended**
Ann Kennedy, New Visions
- Highly Commended**
Paula Richardson, Lindfield



7. First Prize
Wendy Parsons

Photography Competition 2022

Class 1. The Magic of Nature

- 1st Prize** Nina Tucknott, New Visions
- 2nd Prize** Joyce Skeet, Warnham
- 3rd Prize** Theresa Fennings, Horam & Heathfield

Class 2. Sunset or Sunrise

- 1st Prize** Eileen Parnaby, Ninfield
- 2nd Prize** Joyce Skeet, Warnham
- 3rd Prize** Theresa Fennings, Horam & Heathfield

Class 3. My Favourite Flower a close-up image

- 1st Prize** Duncan Ward, Seaford Evening
- 2nd Prize** Joyce Skeet, Warnham
- 3rd Prize** Theresa Fennings, Horam & Heathfield



3. Best in Show
Duncan Ward

Best in Show

Class 3 Duncan Ward, Seaford Evening

Let's do the competition....

Madness? Stupidity?
Idiotic? And finally panic!
What had I let myself in
for?

My good friend, Anne-Marie Newby, Chairwoman of East Grinstead Flower Club, had convinced me to join the Club in April and then, there she was saying *"let's do the competition"*!

So that was how the journey began and how, just 6 months later, I came to be arriving at the venue for the **Seasonal**

Sensations Sussex Area

Show at Crowborough. Definitely madness, ticked that box.

I entered *"Nature's Contrasts"* Novice class and *"A Bit of This and That"* the Imposed class. Part of my thinking had been attending Dr Christina Curtis's *"Winning Ways with Competitions"* workshop (a review of this appears in the January 2023 edition) which was principally for those who wanted to know more about the requirements for entering competitions. *Nature's Contrasts*, as a title, can be interpreted in so many ways. I decided to use a pumpkin to display my fresh and dried flowers, which was my interpretation of the title together with the colour of my display. The autumn colours work well with the fresh and dried flowers and I'd also got some bulrushes from our pond together with miscanthus which was just something slightly different, I hoped. I didn't sketch anything out beforehand or even think about what I was going to do until the day and certainly I didn't want to do a dummy run.

Being the first competition I've entered, it was daunting. To be given a small area and told this is both your work area and your display area was not what I was expecting. Naively I thought we would be working in one area and moving elsewhere for display, as had happened at the workshop but always expect the unexpected! I now know if there is insufficient room at the venue, that isn't what happens, you have to

work and display at the same work area. For me I have learnt that keeping my work area tidy and concentrating on the task in hand are priorities. Finally, after about an hour and a half, my display was finished. I remembered to just stand back, look and see if anything needed tweaking, but really not to carry on adding, as that can definitely be a mistake.

I achieved a *"Very Highly Commended"* and for me, first attempt, I was and still am very pleased with that. The judges' comments too, are extremely useful as they give you further guidance. Just when I thought all my worries were over, we had to be in the café area at 1.30 for the Imposed class. I knew it would be a challenge, and I wasn't disappointed! To be given a number of items and have to

use all or some of them focuses your mind but all entrants were all in the same boat. Also with an imposed entry you can only take in a limited amount of equipment (*which is better than 'Bake Off' where you can't take anything!*).

Once again for me, I knew I had to concentrate on the task.

After a couple of hours I did have something to show (and it wasn't cup cakes!). I did get a comment that my *"leaf manipulation was exemplary"* so I am very pleased with that. We had to vacate the venue around 4.30 and the judging took place after that.

Would I do it again – yes, it really wasn't the idiotic or stupid decision I thought I had made. I'd encourage everyone to have a go and just enjoy the experience.

Rhona Green
East Grinstead Flower Club



Nature's Contrasts



A Bit of This and That

Spooktacular Demonstration



The morning's entertainment at the Sussex Area Show was Tony Strange with the tales from Henry the Eighth and his many wives. The laughs started as soon as he appeared with his memorable attributes, including his many quips

and.....his codpiece.

The merriment rolled throughout the morning.

How could the day get any better?

Well it did, with National Demonstrator Dr Christina Curtis dressed as the 'Fallen Angel', who put on a spooktacular demonstration *Alchemy*, with many oohs and aahs when Christina used her favourite flower, the orchid.



With a mixture of spells, potions and a little assistance from Graham, the stage was filled with floral gorgeousness.

We were all spell bound!





Show Prize Winners

Presentations made by Sue Seath, President of Sussex Area of NAFAS

Best in Show



Stephen McDonnell

Best use of Colour, & Award for Craft



Duncan Ward

Runner up to Best in Show



Wendy Parsons

The Flower Arranger Award



Vanessa Bradford

Best use of Plant Material, & Most Innovative Exhibit



Ann Kennedy

CLUB News

What have you been up to?

Emerald Anniversary

On 16 November, 49 members and invited guests, Area Chairman Jilly Griffin and Vice Chairman Gaenor Circus battled through floods to enjoy a delicious lunch at Ham Manor Golf Club to celebrate **East Preston Floral Club's Emerald Anniversary**.

Chairman June Savory and long standing committee members Sue Seath (Area President), Val Adams, Sheila Cheal and Barbara Garnell were helped by Jilly and Gaenor to cut the cake which was made by club member Anne Mathias, very delicious it was too.



The beautiful flowers and corsages for the table were arranged by Val and helpers.

While the weather outside continued to rain, we had wall to wall sunshine inside.

Margaret Moores
East Preston Floral Club

Last chance....

Back in the September 2022 edition of this newsletter Barbara kindly offered a large globe. This is still available to anyone who would like it, with a small donation to the **Sussex Kidney Trust**.

Part of an exhibition staged by **East Preston Floral Club** in June. On the stage was a large globe of the world, which was made by me and took well over 100 hours to construct out of a very large balloon and many many layers of papier-mâché.



Barbara Garnell
East Preston Floral Club

Please contact Barbara Garnell on 01903 787243 (Buyer collects)

Mini Dem

Four members of **Lewes Flower Club** gave a mini demonstration to the Ringmer Blind Club in October.



The arrangements were then raffled and those members that didn't win a prize, were each given a posy of flowers to take home.

Wendy Parsons
Lewes Flower Club

PATRICIA GREEN RIP

29 April 1932 – 15 October 2022

It is with great sadness that we heard of the death of Pat Green who had suffered with 'Dementia' for the last couple of years. She passed peacefully away, in a nursing home, on 15 October 2022 at that age of 90.

Pat was a member of Lewes Flower Club since 1981 taking on several posts including secretary, treasurer and welfare officer. She was organised and carried out her duties in a caring and calm way. She also sat at the signing in desk at Area Council Meetings, firstly with Janet Thomas and then with Marguerite Lilley. She was a friendly face and welcomed everyone with a big smile. In her later years she also joined Ringmer Flower Club.

A service to celebrate her life was held at Ringmer Church on Wednesday 16 November where family and friends gathered to remember a loving wife and mother. May she rest in peace.

Sally Blake Chairman
Lewes Flower Club

And finally

Merry Christmas!

Thank you to all who have given such lovely feedback on the newsletters during the year. Thank you to all contributors of articles and photographs, and for your continued support.

Several articles received for this month are held over to next month.

Have a peaceful and Happy Christmas

Duncan