



# CHESHIRE AREA OF NAFAS

## Members' Newsletter

Issue 12

October 2023



Hello everyone.

The Cheshire Area newsletter is celebrating its 'First Anniversary'! How quickly the year has flown. The first issue initially went out to the 37 Club representatives and since then the distribution list has grown to several hundred! October has been a very busy month with the appointment of a new National Chairman of NAFAS (Cheshire's own Nicky Wylie – congratulations Nicky and we wish you every success in your role), the Area AGM followed by the demonstration by Cherie Nummy, Judges Refresher Day and Education Day. In this issue there is an opportunity to 'meet the Cheshire team', catch up with News from National, choose your Christmas cards (if you haven't already done so) and look forward to Club Christmas demonstrations, coming soon. If you would like your Club event featured in this newsletter, please send details to [treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk).

Happy reading!

### 53<sup>rd</sup> AGM @ Frodsham Community Centre



Cherie Nummy (pictured left)

The meeting took place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October at Frodsham Community Centre. A huge thank you to the members of Rose Cluster who volunteered to meet and greet, sell raffle tickets, provide / serve refreshments, man the publications and Christmas trading table and wash up! Group 2000 kindly provided the welcome and stage flowers – which looked stunning (thank you). The meeting was chaired by Beryl Cotton our Area Demonstrator's Representative and Chairman of the National Demonstrators Committee. It was also the debut meeting for our new National Chairman – Nicky Wylie, who was on hand to answer some members questions at the end of the meeting. This year's demonstrator was Cherie Nummy from Northern Ireland. Cherie was thanked by Dorothy Irvin who congratulated her on the fabulous designs and a most enjoyable afternoon. [Thank you also to Frodsham Flower Club for sorting out the microphone and headset at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour!]

It was, of course, Morag McCord's last meeting as our Area Secretary. Thank you for all your hard work over the last 7 years, Morag – we'll miss you (and the chivvyng!). We extend a very warm welcome to our new Area Secretary – Vanessa Lees. Vanessa is programme secretary for Lymm and has been the Club representative for several years so is no stranger to Cheshire Area. We wish her well in this role and look forward to working with her.

There was also a little surprise for Pam Fleming-Williams as she was awarded the accolade of Area Associate of Honour in recognition of everything she has done both for Area and at National level. Congratulations Pam!

Also announced were a few changes within the Area team, which were ratified at the meeting. Who's who, roles and responsibilities are outlined below:

The role of Area Chairman has been split into three areas of responsibility:

Tracy-Anne Clancy will head up the Chairman's Office organising all 'meetings & admin' including retaining the role of Area Treasurer. An assistant treasurer will review the finances throughout the year, to ensure a segregation of duties. Tracy-Anne will also be the point of contact for newsletter information, publicity, blue forms, publications, badges etc.

Louise Jones will complete her 6 year tenure this year and will support the team, sharing her knowledge and also providing a pastoral role for Clubs.

Janet Schofield will be our National Liaison representative, attending NAC meetings, reporting back and (hopefully) getting answers to our questions.



Tracy-Anne Clancy



Louise Jones



Janet Schofield

Vanessa Lees is our newly appointed Area Secretary and Jean Jones continues as Area Support Officer.



Vanessa Lees



Jean Jones

**The wider CAN Team** (or to give it its full title; **Cheshire Area of NAFAS Team**) includes Judges Representative (Sue Clissold), Demonstrators Representative (Beryl Cotton), Education Representative (Sharon Nolan), Young People's Liaison (Judy Gratton), Cluster Leads who represent several Clubs (Anne Walton, David Mason, Collette Dunkley, Jean Jones, Tracy-Anne Clancy) and the Area Show Team (Carol Baker & Sylvia Bower). Pam Mosedale has also volunteered to work alongside Sharon this year with a view to being nominated for the role of Education Representative in 2024.

The whole team works together to provide information to Clubs, organise / support events and training, provide a website (for all Clubs to use), actively pursue publicity opportunities, provide help and advice to clubs if required.

## Club Representative's Forum

The next Club Representative's Forum (a face-to-face meeting) will take place on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November** at 11am (arrive from 10.30am onwards) at Owley Wood Recreation Club, Weaverham, CW8 3LS. Iris Cluster are kindly supporting the organisation of this event – thank you so much ladies. The original Zoom meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> is therefore cancelled.

## OTHER AREA EVENTS

Judges Refresher Day took place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October at Plumley – thank you Sue C for organising and Pam F-W for tutoring. This was an opportunity to examine the changes to the Competitions Manual (£5 available from Area), test your judging skills, extend plant knowledge, explore comment card writing and having a go at Schedule writing. Participants created some stunning designs for 'judging'.



The Area Education Day took place on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 at Tarvin – thank you Sharon for organising and Dawn W for tutoring.



**Save the Date:** The next Member's Day workshop will be held on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024, at Weaverham, hosted by Sandiway and Eddisbury Flower Club. A further day will be held in May at Tarvin. More details to follow in due course.

## **ARE YOUR CLUB DETAILS UP TO DATE ON OUR AREA WEBSITE?**

Would you please ensure your Club details are kept up to date on our Area website. Check at [www.nafascheshire.co.uk](http://www.nafascheshire.co.uk) or scan our new QR code which will take you straight to the website.



Mike, our website manager can help you [webmaster@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@nafascheshire.org.uk)

### **Flower Arranger Magazine 2024**

**Order forms for 2024 magazines have been sent to Clubs.**

**Price for 2024 is £16.**

**Deadline for orders is 7<sup>th</sup> November**

**To order and for more information contact Catherine on**

**[flower.arranger@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:flower.arranger@nafascheshire.org.uk)**



# SHOWTIME

**Southport Flower Show** – Congratulations to Graham Weaver (member of Handbridge Flower Club) who achieved a second place for his exhibit at this year's show. Apologies - this should have been included in last month's newsletter.

## Nantwich Show 2023

Despite a rather wet run up to the Show we were greeted with a blue sky and warm weather on the day. This was the second year at our new venue Reaseheath Old Hall Farm and proved to be just as busy.

Within the Floral Art marquee we had three competitive classes, judged by Sionedd Hughes from Oswestry, two primary school exhibits, demonstrations by Kathryn Cronin (Fierceblooms) and hands on flower arranging for children. It was a very busy day, supported by Wistaston & District Flower Club, Nantwich Flower Club and volunteers provided by Nantwich Show.

Cheshire area members were very successful in the competitions, Sylvia Bower was awarded first place for her interpretation of "Whispers" a foliage only class, Carol Baker first place in the petite class "Magic Potion", and Judy Gratton was awarded three second places including "Spellbound".

A massive thank you to everyone who supported the Show this year. [Congratulations Ladies!]



1<sup>st</sup> Place 'Whispers' Sylvia Bower



1<sup>st</sup> Place 'Magic Potion' Carol Baker



3<sup>rd</sup> Place 'Spellbound' Judy Gratton

## NEWS FROM NATIONAL

### Blue Forms

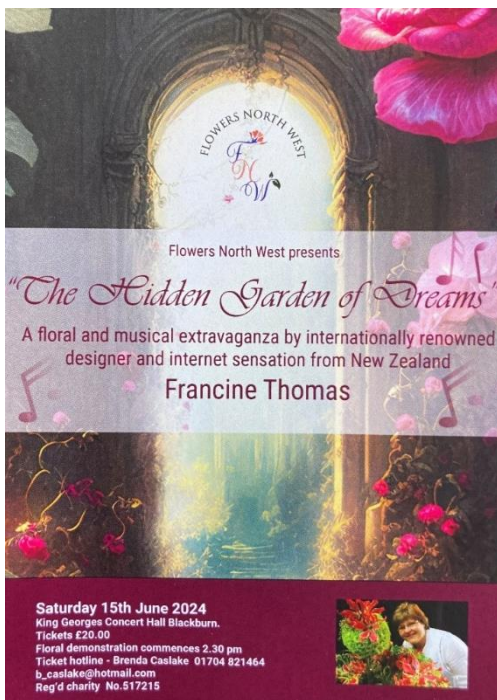
I emailed Steven Lane on 16<sup>th</sup> October for an update on progress. His reply was: 'We have decided to shelve this initiative. Despite partnering up with YOTI, who are leaders in their field of online documents, we could not find a way to simplify our process'.

Therefore, the paper blue forms have been re-stocked and can be obtained from [treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk).

## Insurance

I also asked Steven Lane for an update regarding insurance, as most Clubs renew in January and the paperwork should be coming out soon. His reply was: 'Our insurers came back with a quote for individual clubs, which was higher than clubs are currently paying, and the umbrella policy came in at £90K and involved a high level of administration as we would have to supply detail about every club. So, we have decided not to pursue either option'.

Save the Date



FLOWERS NORTH WEST  
Flowers North West presents  
*"The Hidden Garden of Dreams"*  
A floral and musical extravaganza by internationally renowned designer and internet sensation from New Zealand  
Francine Thomas

**Saturday 15th June 2024**  
King Georges Concert Hall Blackburn.  
Tickets £20.00  
Floral demonstration commences 2.30 pm  
Ticket hotline - Brenda Caslake 01704 621464  
b\_caslake@hotmail.com  
Reg'd charity No.517215



Mercia & North Wales Area of NAFAS  
Charity No 518523  
nafasmw.org.uk

You are invited to attend  
**The Area Demonstrator Tests**

Sunday 5 November 2023  
10am – 4pm  
Doors open 9.30am

At The Millennium Hall, Cockshutt  
Ellesmere SY12 0JE

A good audience is vital, so please come and support the test candidates  
Tickets are now available, £10  
Tea/coffee available, please bring your own lunch  
Raffle

**50/50 Sales table!**  
Bring your unwanted items for sale, clearly marked with your name and the price. If sold, 50% goes to Area funds, 50% goes to you.

For tickets contact: Carron White – [2carronwhite@gmail.com](mailto:2carronwhite@gmail.com), giving your name, club, which date you require and number of tickets  
You will then be sent details of how to pay

**ROMILEY FLOWER CLUB**  
Open Demonstration  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024  
'Out of the Orient'  
By Julia Loudon  
At The Carver Theatre, Marple  
Tickets £15  
Contact David Mason, chairman Romiley Flower Club  
[david55mason@gmail.com](mailto:david55mason@gmail.com) or 077480 73117




## Christmas Cards / Diaries / Calendars

If you wish to order anything, please email [treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk) with your order. Payment details will be provided on receipt of your order. There will be an opportunity to buy at the next Club Reps. Forum on 29<sup>th</sup> November or to collect your order. Here's a selection of this years' goodies;

Item	Description	Size	RRP
	Christmas Candle (Pack of 10)	150mm x 150mm	£3.50
	Festive Pyramid (Pack of 10)	128mm x 128mm	£3.50
	Seasonal Ring (Pack of 10)	128mm x 128mm	£3.50
	Wire and Roses (Pack of 10)	150mm x 150mm	£3.50
	Festive Cornucopia (Pack of 10)	118mm x 174mm	£3.50
	NAFAS 2024 Diary	170mm x 90mm	£4.50
	NAFAS 2024 Calendar	300mm x 300mm	£5.50

**Christmas is coming....**

As we get ever closer to the Festive Season, here are a few Club events which you are welcome to attend.....


**Christmas Demonstration By  
Sue Maddocks**  
**"Let's Sparkle"**  
 Wednesday November 15<sup>th</sup>  
 at Plumley Village Hall, WA16 0TU 1:30 for 2pm  
 Visitors Welcome £8




**Christmas Workshop**  
**Saturday 25th November 2-4pm**  
**Plumley Village Hall**  
**All materials provided plus tea or coffee**  
**Just bring your scissors**  
**Ticket £25**

**ELWORTH FLOWER CLUB PRESENTS**  
**TWO**  
**Christmas Wreath Workshops**  
**The Workshop Cheshire**  
**School Farm**  
**Alsager Road Sandbach CW11 4SR**  
**Wednesday 29th November 1-4pm**  
**Friday 1st December 7-10pm**  
**Price £45 per Workshop**  
**Book Now Places Limited**  
*All materials provided, but you can bring your own special pieces to make the wreath unique and personal to you.*  
*Workshop lead by NAFAS Demonstrator Denise*  
*Supported by the Club Flower Arranging Ladies*  
**FIZZ AND SEASONAL REFRESHMENTS**  
**CONTACT-07791456962 OR-07971513290**  
**Come Along For A Great Time**



**TARPORLEY FLOWER CLUB**  
**'CHRISTMAS SPARKLE'**  
 Demonstration by  
**CATHARINE BAINES**  
 at  
 Tarporley Community Centre  
 on  
 Tuesday, 5th December, 2023  
 at 1.30pm  
 TICKETS £10  
 including tea and mince pie,  
 available on the door  
 For more information ring Ann on 01829 730501



**PRESTBURY FLOWER CLUB**  
**'SPARKLES & LAUGHTER'**  
**Xmas Demonstration by**  
**Catherine Gledhill**  
**Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December**  
**12:15 pm for 1:45pm**  
**Prestbury Village Hall**  
**Macclesfield Road, SK10 4BQ**  
**Door wreath & Xmas sale**  
**Raffle Refreshments**  
 Advance guest tickets call Pam:  
 01625 613001 £10 All welcome

If you are organising a trip or event and would like to publicise it here, please let us know.

Please email your information to [treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk).

To receive this newsletter directly to your inbox, please send an email to [newsletter@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@nafascheshire.org.uk) and we'll add you to the distribution list

With best wishes from all of us

@ Cheshire Area

You are receiving this newsletter because you are the named Club contact or have subscribed individually.

Please share this newsletter with as many members as possible – thank you.