

SPOTLIGHT EAST

Newsletter for The East of England Area of NAFAS



GOOD NEWS - FLORAL FOAM

Oasis has introduced the latest generation of Bio Flora Foam Maxlife - the world's first biodegradable foam.

The product has been shown by ASTM D5511 to biodegrade 51.5% within 365 days in biologically active landfill conditions. Appropriate facilities may not exist in your area. Additional information can be found at: www.smithersoasis.com/sustainability



We are delighted to announce that at our Summer Area Council meeting held on Wednesday 13th June 2018 Mrs Sue Britton was made a Life Member of the East of England Area of NAFAS in recognition of her outstanding service and dedication to our organisation. Area President Mr Lionel Clark presented Sue with her

**Professor Sir Stephen Hawkins Service
14th/15th June 2018**

As East of England Area Chairman I was privileged to be invited to stage the High Altar pedestals at Westminster Abbey for the service of interment of the ashes of Professor Sir Stephen Hawking. I was pleased to have Pearl Sandys of Tiptree Flower Club accompany me.

We were both thrilled to be given an opportunity by Jane Rowton-Lee the NAFAS Westminster Abbey Co-Ordinator prior to starting work on the pedestals to tour the new Diamond Jubilee Gallery opened by Her Majesty The Queen on 8th June. An incredible building and feat of engineering and craftsmanship.

Our National Chairman Mrs Jan Law had kindly invited us to stay overnight at Osborne House and we were able to enjoy the beautifully refurbished facilities. In the evening Jan accompanied us to a Graduation display of the work of students taught by Pearl's daughter Catherine at The London School of Design. Their degree incorporated theatre work in set design, costumes, lighting and such like. Many pieces were of great interest to us as floral designers and it was a most enjoyable visit.

After breakfast we were pleased to meet Vanessa Keys the new Administrative Secretary at Osborne House who joined the team in March and she was able to provide us with some publicity material to be used to promote NAFAS at the Ely Flower Festival next week.

Finally, we had the precious experience of attending the service which was very moving as was being able to enjoy the splendour of the singing of the choir and the emotional organ playing.



What a fabulous way to start a week!

Area Officers Lionel Clark, Lesley Fairman and Brenda Evers joined Colchester Group Chairman Sandra Price as guests of the Chelmsford Flower Club on Monday 18 June to help the members celebrate their 65 year birthday.



A packed hall was regally entertained by the delightful Gill McGregor who decided to dress for the occasion! Her demonstration cleverly looked back on how floral art had developed since the days of Constance Spry and "ladies in hats". After three stunning designs there was a break and the committee served a delicious birthday cake accompanied by a glass of bubbly and Area President

Lionel Clark proposed a toast reflecting on the great achievements of the club.

The demonstrators table was beautifully draped with a magnificent hand embroidered cloth and the names of each and every Club Chairman since the Club was formed back in 1953 are embroidered on the hem. Such a lovely tradition.

Three members entered the monthly Club competition and their designs reflected the colours of the Emerald Sapphire anniversary.

All in all a perfect celebration and one that guests and members will remember for a long time to come.

Congratulations Chelmsford - here's to the next 65!





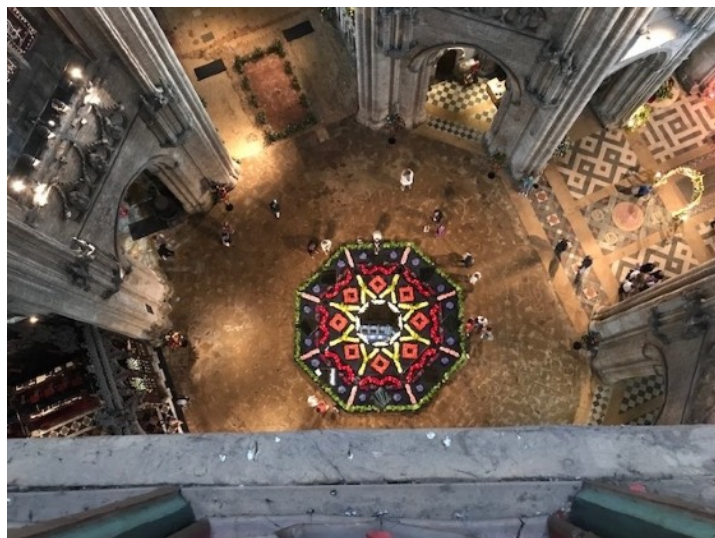
ELY CATHEDRAL FLOWER FESTIVAL “KALEIDOSCOPE OF LIFE”. JUNE 2018

Day one

If you have a head for heights you can climb the stairs and get a birds-eye view of the spectacular centre piece designed by Roger Woolnough. On the other hand if you don't like heights or can't manage the stairs here is a shot of what it looks like.

We've got so many familiar faces from our flower clubs on duty stewarding again today. The NAFAS stand is in the Floral Marquee where the demonstrations are being held. Today Sue Horne and a Jean Crane will be on stage.

There is plants of opportunity for a bit of retail therapy and we are pleased to see Artichoke here where Sarah has lots of new



**KALEIDOSCOPE PATTERN SEEN FROM ABOVE
AND ON THE LEFT AT GROUND LEVEL**

Saturday 23 June and the third day of the Ely Cathedral Flower Festival. The hottest day so far and being the weekend we had lots of local visitors and especially children as well as NAFAS coaches. The queue for ice creams was enormous. We had many visitors to our stands asking about NAFAS including some overseas visitors who were wondering if their home country had such an organisation.

In the afternoon there was a choral performance by a ladies choir - many known to us as Flower Club members. The Lady Chapel was packed to capacity to hear them sing many beautiful and well known songs from musicals as well as pop songs. Who do you recognise?

City of Ely ladies continued their flower arranging marathon making numerous designs which sold quickly. The lovely Savanna came along with her Grandma and spent the whole day helping with the designs and made one for the Area Chairman.

So off we go for our fourth and last day. How sad to think that everything will soon be dismantled.

VISIT FACEBOOK (East of England Area of NAFAS) and go to the Area Website:

nafas-east.com where you will find many more photographs of the festival.

DEBEN FLOWER CLUB
FIRST EDUCATION INITIATIVE
WORKSHOP BY JDS&E

Saturday 30 June 2018
Congratulations to Wendy Adams, Chairman of Deben Flower Club on holding the first of our JDSE Free Workshops under the recruitment initiative launched at our March 2018 Area Council Meeting. The Club worked very hard to promote the event producing posters and leaflets. It was featured on the Area stand at the Suffolk Show in May and got lots of interest.

Our determined and inspirational JDSE Chairman Adele Kent led the workshop (held on 30th June 10.30 - 15.00 hours) and there were 25 attendees of which 20 were completely new to flower arranging and the remaining 5 were Deben Flower Club members. Two designs were created and we are delighted to feature some of them here. What fabulous work for a first class. The best news is that Deben, one of our smaller clubs had just 38 members first thing today but the membership went up by 5 this afternoon, and more of the people attending are expected to join.

This is a very exciting and positive start to our Recruitment Initiative and we look forward to publishing more details of future club events.

To register for a workshop visit nafas-east.com website



CLEMATIS



Plantswoman FIONA EDMOND, who owns the award-winning Green Island Gardens in Ardleigh, shares her gardening tips. Today she is looking at Clematis.

Clematis are amongst the most popular climbers, however not all varieties are without their problems to grow. Many people struggle with pruning them, siting them so as to get the maximum flowers, and pests such as slugs munching the tender new growth as it emerges in spring.

There are many different varieties of Clematis. One can be found flowering virtually every month of the year, but the most popular remain the large showy hybrids flowering in early summer. Most are deciduous however Clematis armandii is evergreen and a vigorous grower. It is covered in vanilla scented white flowers from February through to April. The Clematis montana varieties are also rampant and perhaps best suited to growing over an old stump, flowering in late spring. Both the above varieties can be pruned vigorously after flowering....even back to the ground.

The large flowering hybrids such as 'The President' and 'Nelly Moser' will require pruning in early spring and again after flowering to encourage a second flush, however they can be left unpruned and a third of the old growth taken out at the base each year. It is the pruning of this group that is most confusing but my general rule is that if it flowers before June then don't prune it, and if it flowers after June then prune it in Spring.

Later flowering varieties such as *C. texensis* and *C. viticella* which flower on the current years growth are ideal for growing as climbers through trees, shrubs and other earlier flowering climbers as all the old growth can be cut to the ground in early spring and removed without fear of losing future flowers.

My favourites are *C. texensis* Princess Diana, *C. viticella* Etoile Violette, and *C. v. Ville de Lyon*

Even later flowering varieties such as Clematis rhederiana with its pretty scented yellow bell shaped flowers in Autumn can also be pruned to the ground in spring.

Finally one of my favourite varieties of Clematis are not climbers at all. In fact they are herbaceous perennials, shooting from the ground in the spring, and flowering on the new growth from June onwards.

In order to flower well Clematis like a sunny site, with their roots in shade. They prefer an alkaline soil so if your soil is acidic then plant them near the house walls where the mortar from brickwork will neutralise the acidity. Alternatively, clematis can be grown in containers and pots. Take care to site the pot out of direct sunlight and to water and feed regularly during the growing season.

I have today been to the funeral of a wonderful member of our club (Werrington) and formerly **Deeping Flower club**.

Mrs Jo Moore who, with her daughter **Cheryl Nuttall**, supported us and the Area and regularly provided sales table at Area and group events.

She also competed at National shows winning first prize at Nottingham and other shows too. She was a teacher and also judged local village shows and club competitions.

She will be greatly missed and always remembered fondly.

Gill Shanks. 23rd June 2018



Loddon Flower Club celebrates it's 60th Anniversary this year and on 1st May we invited **Wendy Munnion** along with her demonstration "**Cause for Celebration**" to mark the occasion. Our Chairman Diane Blyth raised a toast to the Club's milestone and members also celebrated with a cake made by member **Anne Baker**. We are fortunate enough to have one of the Founder members **Eileen Leathers** still in the Club and Eileen, along with some of our longer standing members, cut the cake. Also on the evening we held a competition entitled "Diamond Celebrations" which was kindly judged by Wendy. Well done to Tricia Godfrey, Tricia Loades and Janet Morgan for taking part. We celebrate our anniversary further with a Flower Festival over 21st to 23rd September at Holy Trinity Church, Loddon with the title "The 1950's".



FRAMLINGHAM FLOWER CLUB

“OPEN” MEETING JULY 2018



Framlingham Flower Club were delighted to welcome **Lee Berrill** to their July Open Meeting. In his demonstration entitled “**Imagine**” he created fantasy gardens for us and invited us to imagine all kinds of extraordinary floral possibilities. Despite the overwhelming heat, his flowers & garden foliage were in excellent condition, unlike his audience who were wilting fast. As for his mechanics – they were fiendish! masterpieces of upcycling car boot finds & building skip treasures! On this occasion the club met in the evening which enabled a number of local people to come along who wouldn't normally be free in the afternoon. We were also pleased to welcome visitors from **Colneis & Woodbridge Flower Clubs**. Lee was assisted by **Alan Smith** who made sure all the right flower boxes were to hand (most of the time anyway...)

MILDENHALL & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB CELEBRATE 50 YEARS. (2018)

This year has seen the golden anniversary of Mildenhall and District Flower Club. The Club was started in July, 1968, with just a few members and has now grown to a membership of over 40.

To mark this anniversary we have had three main events. In May we held our Open Evening at the Jubilee Centre, Mildenhall, where over 120 guests were treated a fantastic buffet provided by the members of the Club and a wonderful demonstration of flower arrangements by **David Thomson**.

At our Annual General Meeting on 17th July, we had our “birthday” cake and to finish off the celebrations 33 ladies enjoyed a dinner at the Riverside Hotel.

The Club meets on the **third Tuesday of the month at Barton Mills Village Hall**, except for August, December and January. We have a mixture of workshops run by our members, and demonstrations given by NAFAS registered demonstrators. **Annual membership is £25**, but you can come along as a **visitor at a cost of £5 per visit**.

CONTACTS: If you are interested and would like more details please contact Jean Cornell on 07926031196 or Julie Wright on 01638717703.



BEST-IN-SHOW
Congratulations
To
SUSAN HORNE
East of England
Demonstrator
And Speaker



Photo: Beverly Moore

HYDE HALL
RHS
FLORAL ART
COMPETITION
AUGUST 2019



Photo: Beverly Moore

The Norwich Group celebrated their Diamond anniversary at the Atrium, North Walsham in August. The morning's entertainment was the multi talented Bradwell Buds Junior Flower Club. Aided by Julia Knights they showed us how they can sing, dance and flower arrange with the theme of girl power through the ages. A delicious summer picnic lunch followed with the celebration cake being cut by Area 2nd Vice Chairman Barbara Collins. Neil Whittaker then gave an innovative and inspiring demonstration in the afternoon. The 'Diamond Celebration' was very well supported. The winner was Group Chairman Amanda Seales - a very worthy winner A day to remember.



COMMITTEE OF NORWICH GROUP Left to right. Jane Boulton (Group Vice Chair), Sue Bloomfield (secretary), BARBARA COLLINS (Area 2nd vice chair), AMANDA SEALES (Group Chairman), Ann Hammond and.



Norwich Group Competitions.

Left - Petite. "Little Gem". Amanda Seales First Prize

Right - Exhibit. "Diamond Celebration". Amanda Seales. First Prize



BRADWELL BUDS JUNIOR CLUB

Morning entertainment under the guidance of JULIA KNIGHTS

NORWICH GROUP 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Demonstrator Neil Whittaker



WINNERS OF THE RHS DRAW AT OCTOBER AGM 2018 AT MILDENHALL

Holt & District Flower Club were the lucky winners of the free club trip to an RHS garden and would like to thank Nafas and the East of England for giving us the opportunity of a great day out at Hyde Hall. We arranged the trip to coincide with the RHS flower show and 40 members enjoyed a wonderful day in the beautiful gardens, plenty of opportunities for retail therapy and a visit to Jonathan's British Flower Bus.



**EAST OF ENGLAND AREA OF NAFAS
OFFERING TEACHERS' TRAINING CERTIFICATE**

**NAFAS/ OCN
Credit4 Learning Level 3 Teacher Training
Certificate**

**VENUE: Recreation Way, Mildenhall, IP28 7HG
COMMENCING 2019**

nafas-east.com

Email:

education.nafaseast

@gmail.com

· Colne Valley members celebrated an amazing 65 years on Wednesday 18 July 2018 with a magical demonstration by National Demonstrator John Chennel. The finished stage was wonderful with a centre piece to take your breath away which perfectly reflected an Emerald Sapphire Anniversary.

At the opening of the meeting **Area Chairman Brenda Eyers** was delighted to present a 25 year badge to **Anne Parsons**. The evening finished with delicious handmade cakes and champagne.



MASQUERADE WEEKEND 10th - 12th August 2018 East of England members attended and had an enjoyable time with the wider NAFAS family. Do you recognise any of them?
Our candidate for the WAFAs elimination was **Kathy Doggett**, no award but what a fabulous exhibit. Our congratulations and thanks to Kathy.



Thursday 16 August 2018 saw **Great Baddow Flower Club** celebrating their **Golden Anniversary**.

The club has been celebrating each month with some special activity to mark their 50th year culminating in an amazing party called "Let's Celebrate". The members were welcomed with a beautiful pedestal, a delicious buffet and drinks and had the opportunity to browse stalls and plants as well as supporting several raffles and games.

Terri Potter welcomed guests including Area President Lionel Clark, Area Chairman Brenda Eyers and Colchester Group Chairman Sandra Price and visitors from eleven other clubs. We were then introduced to three founder members who were presented with gold corsages.

The National Demonstrator Emily Gordon Broomhead then entertained a capacity audience with stunning designs and hilarious stories. It was an evening that will be remembered for years to come and we congratulate Great Baddow and wish them continued success.





Sudbury Flower Club celebrated the end of another very successful year for the club with a celebration organised by member Kim Brooks.

The club is essentially workshop based with varied and interesting hands-on projects each month. Occasionally large open demonstrations are held at the beautiful Quay Theatre in the town centre.

24th August 2018

A COMPLETE FLOWER ARRANGING COURSE - INTERESTED?

COMING IN 2019 A CERTIFICATED COURSE AT MILDENHALL

GO TO EAST OF ENGLAND AREA OF NAFAS WEBSITE

www.nafas-east.com for costs and other information



THE CIRCLE (NORFOLK) FLORAL ART AND DESIGN GROUP. www.thecirclenorfolk.wixsite.com

A Group with emphasis on hands-on practical flower arranging workshops

The Circle are coming to the end of their first year and will soon have the timetable for next year.

A club that moves venues and is open to all. Any enquiries please email: thecirclenorfolk@gmail.com

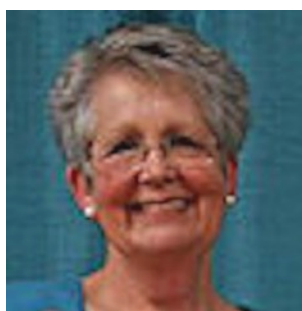
These photographs were from an exhibition of members work and show the variety of designs.



ONE TERM OF OFFICE ENDS AS ANOTHER BEGINS

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER 1 SEPTEMBER 2018

HOW TIME FLIES WHEN YOU ARE HAVING !



BRENDA EYERS

CHAIRMAN

Well some seven years ago I was contemplating the 2013 Area AGM when I would be elected as the Area Second Vice Chairman. A year later, Jean Crane finished her term as our Area Chairman and Anne Bridge stepped into the role and I became Area Vice Chairman. For the last three years I have had the enormous privilege of being the East of England Area Chairman and have the opportunity to travel far and wide representing our amazing Area at many events. And yes, time does fly! The last seven years seem to have sped past at an amazing pace and now I have just a few weeks left before I hand over the gold badge of office to Lesley and Barbara takes on the role of Area Vice Chairman. I wish them both every success and know that they will make a wonderful team and the Area will move forward in good hands.

The last few months have been the usual whirlwind of activity. There have been numerous shows where our members have shown what a talented bunch of designers they are. The Ely Flower Festival Kaleidoscope was simply breath-taking and glorious and to be a part of it for so many of our members was just the most magical experience. We congratulate Judy Winn and Roger Woolnough the festival designers on their success and look forward to Judy's report at our Autumn Area Day at Mildenhall next month.

My final Area Day at Mildenhall on Saturday 7th July was another excellent day for members. In the morning we enjoyed "*Miss Savige Moves her House*" presented by accomplished speaker Christine Adams from Wells. Christine held the audience in the palm of her hand for over an hour, and held court for another half an hour over lunch. At the end of the afternoon demonstration, people were still wanting to speak to her! Jacqui Arnold's demonstration "*Summer Splendour*" was a delight to the eye with sumptuous colours and the huge roses that Jacqui is so well known for using. Her standing ovation was well deserved.

A very large contingent travelled to Leicester for the *Masquerade* weekend and Kath Doggett staged the most immaculate exhibit in the WAF A Elimination on behalf of the East of England. There are some lovely photographs of the event on our Facebook and website, so do take a look.

So now, my Officers are hard at work finalising the year end accounts ready for our October 17th AGM. I do hope that many of you will join us – but if you cannot make it, can I take this opportunity to thank you for all your support and help during my time as your Area Chairman. It has been an absolute pleasure and privilege and one that I will cherish for ever.

Brenda

1ST SEPTEMBER 2018



LESLEY FAIRMAN

VICE CHAIRMAN

Message from the Vice Chairman

My name is Lesley Fairman and at the October Council and AGM 2018 I shall be taking over from Brenda Eyers as the East of England Area Chairman for the next 3 years.

During my previous 3 years as Vice Chairman working with Brenda, I have aquired, thanks to Brenda, a good grounding of the principles of the Chairman's role.

In the course of my time as Chairman I hope to meet as many of you as possible on my future travels around our Area.

I am looking forward to the role and we have some exciting times ahead together.

2019 is the Area's 65th Anniversary year. This is known as the 'Blue Sapphire' Anniversary and we will be celebrating with an Area Show. The show will be held at Mildenhall over 3 days in July and will be in lieu of the Summer Area Day.

In the same year we also have coming up the National Diamond Anniversary. The Floral Art and Design Show being held at the Islington Business Centre, with the Diamond Dinner taking place on the 9th of August at the Grosvenor House Hotel.

There will be many more exciting things to come during the next 3 years and I look forward to the future with great expectations.

Wishing you all happy Floral Fun and Friendship everywhere.

Yours truly

Lesley

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

FOR FURTHER DETAILS REFER TO "DIARY PAGE" of
nafas-east.com

CONTACT DETAILS FOR EACH CLUB ARE IN THE AREA ADDRESS LIST

Sat 15th September 2018 KINGS LYNN GROUP CELEBRATION

Mon 17th September 2018 EXECUTIVE MEETING

Mon 17th September 2018 NORWICH FLOWER CLUB 'OPEN' MEETING

Fri 21st September 2018 FLOWER FESTIVAL "THE 1950'S" THEME .

LODDON FLOWER CLUB

Sat 22nd September 2018. WORKSHOP "WORKING WITH KYOGI"

Wed 26th September 2018. Haverhill & District Flower Club Emerald Celebration

Wed 10th October 2018. WYMONDHAM FLOWER CLUB "OPEN" MEETING

Sat 20th October 2018. AUTUMN AREA DAY

Wed 24th October 2018. Stowmarket and District Flower Club

Thurs 25th October 2018. Kings Lynn Autumn Group Meeting

Thurs 25th October 2018. West Mersea Emerald Anniversary

Sat 27th October 2018. CAMBRIDGE GROUP AUTUMN DAY & AGM

Sun 28th October 2018. DISS FLOWER CLUB OPEN MEETING

Mon 29th October 2018. EAST SUFFOLK GROUP MEETING

Mon 29th October 2018 Autumn Shopping Day in LAVENHAM

Fri 2nd November 2018. COLCHESTER GROUP MEETING

Fri 2nd November 2018. NORWICH GROUP MEETING

Mon 5th November 2018. HOLT FLOWER CLUB OPEN MEETING

Thu 8th November 2018. CITY OF ELY FLOWER CLUB "OPEN" MEETING

Fri 16th November 2018. LITTLEPORT & DISTRICT OPEN MEETING

Mon 19th November 2018. WISBECH & DIST. FLOWER CLUB 'OPEN' MEETING

Wed 21st November 2018. GT BARTON & DIST FLOWER CLUB (1)

Mon 26th November 2018. Cringleford & Hethersett Flower Club 'OPEN' Meeting

Wed 28th November 2018. STOWMARKET OPEN MEETING

Tue 4th December 2018. Herts and Essex Boundary Club OPEN MEETING

PLEASE SEND ANY PHOTOGRAPHS OR ARTICLES FOR
PUBLICATION IN THE EAST OF ENGLAND AREA NEWSLETTER
"SPOTLIGHT EAST" TO: media.nafaseast@gmail.com

WINTER NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED 1ST DECEMBER 2018

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