

# SPOTLIGHT EAST

Newsletter for Members of The East of England Area of NAFAS



## BRADWELL BUDS JUNIOR CLUB

Waving goodbye to the snow and cold weather, **Bradwell Flower Club** held their March meeting on Monday **5th March** with the Juniors (The Buds) meeting earlier in the evening. The Buds were busy making Mother's Day designs using recycled jam jars. The membership has grown to 18 children and membership is expected to rise further which is exciting news.

The **Bradwell Flower Club** had their "home team" demonstrating last night including guest appearances by two of the youngsters, much to the delight of the audience.

Last month the Area Secretary had received a request for details of membership of the Bradwell Flower Club via our website, and this resulted in the lady being invited by the Club as their guest. We were delighted to receive an email from her telling her how much she enjoyed her first visit; that she was joining and planned to bring her granddaughter to join the Buds in the future.

So, another successful evening for both adults and youngsters with many more to come! We are delighted to include pictures of the Buds designs and know their mothers will be thrilled to receive them on Mother's Day.

If you would like your child to join the **Bradwell Buds** or if you would like to join the Flower Club contact [secretary.nafaseast@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.nafaseast@gmail.com) for further details.

**\*\*\*STOP PRESS\*\*\***

**DATA PROTECTION ACT 2018 COMES INTO FORCE 1st MAY 2018. ARE YOU READY??**

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS - FOR FURTHER DETAILS REFER TO [nafas-east.com](http://nafas-east.com) WEBSITE  
CONTACT DETAILS FOR EACH CLUB ARE IN THE AREA ADDRESS LIST**

- April 18th 2018 at 7:30pm GT BARTON & DIST FLOWER CLUB 'OPEN' MEETING
- April 20th 2018 Norwich Group Meeting
- April 25th 2018 Holland-on-Sea OPEN MEETING & LUNCHEON
- May 2nd 2018 Stour Valley Flower Club
- May 3rd 2018 City of Ely Flower Club
- May 7th 2018 Holt & District Flower Club
- May 10th 2018 Burwell & District Flower Club
- May 12th 2018 Judges & Competitors Day at Mildenhall - Contact:
- May 14th 2018 Executive meeting at Mildenhall
- May 15th 2018 Mildenhall & District Flower Club Anniversary
- May 17th 2018 Saffron Walden & District "OPEN" meeting
- May 31st 2018 North Walsham & Bradfield "OPEN"



**TIPTREE & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB**

We held our club night last night, which was almost to the day **45 years** ago that the club started. So we had a few photos and a cake for all the members.

We will be holding our official **gala evening** for our **45th Anniversary** in **October**, when invitations will be going out to clubs and dignitaries invited to attend.

**BRECKLAND FLOWER & GARDEN CLUB**

Congratulations to Breckland Flower and Garden Club members who have spent the past year fundraising by putting pennies in jars, raffles, flowers festivals and much more.

This enabled them to present at their AGM on Thursday 8th March a cheque for £1,000+ to help the volunteer bike riders who transport vital bloods, baby milk, medical notes, etc.

Keith Grisedale of Norfolk Blood Bikes who received the cheque gave a very informative talk and film show on their work.

8TH MARCH 2018





The wait is almost over. Her Majesty will take centre stage in The Forum, Norwich from Monday 12th March 2018 and she is anxiously awaiting your arrival. This will be the main exhibit for “Makers Month” and definitely worth a visit. You can even have the opportunity to take a selfie with Her Majesty!

Many of our members, but particularly talented retired National Demonstrator, Speaker and Judge, Lois Gill have been involved in this wonderful project. In fact, Lois is the Artistic Director and would be delighted to visit NAFAS Clubs to talk about the knitting projects that have taken our Area by storm over the past few years with the “Blossom & Yarn” festivals held in six parish churches in the Wayland benefice of Norfolk raising thousands of pounds. You can contact Lois for further details via the contact option on [nafas-east.com](http://nafas-east.com) website.

Just look at this glimpse of Her Majesty in all of her regal splendour! England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales are all represented on the Queen’s Coronation gown but in June 1953 she has also got the commonwealth in her hands. Resplendent in her coronation attire many people took the opportunity to view this stunning work of art.



Congratulations to **Peterborough Flower Club** Members on raising a magnificent £500 for the Peterborough & Stamford Sands Charity.

**Dorothy Clare** presented the cheque at their AGM on Thursday 1st February as she completed her term as Chairman.





9.2.2018

**Herts & Essex Boundary Flower Club** members were able to experience what is it like to exhibit at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show at their AGM meeting. Following the usual business Beverly Moore gave a visual presentation of the design that she & Leoni Braz had produced for the class "Cutting Edge" in 2017

The presentation showed all aspects of their exhibit, from the initial concept based on the Pantone Colour of the Year in 2017 'Greenery' to that moment they heard they had received a silver medal.

Insulation board for mechanics, Finland moss passed through a blender, just two of the processes used to complete the design. A fascinating insight into just what goes into exhibiting which we hope will encourage more of our members to take up competitive challenges in

**DOES YOUR CLUB MEET WITHIN 50 MILES RADIUS OF BISHOP'S STORTFORD? BEVERLY SAYS:**

As you know I'm not an official speaker just have a passion for flower arranging & competing. The presentation also shows costs involved, points criteria for judging as well as process from concept to medal award. If you think any clubs would be interested I'm happy to visit and share the experience.

Thank you Beverly, it looks a very informative talk. Any interested clubs, and you don't know how to contact Beverly, we will put you in touch.

**HAVE YOU EVER VISITED NAFAS HEADQUARTERS AT OSBORNE HOUSE?**

I attended the NAC meeting in London in early January 2018 with my 20 fellow Area Chairman and we were all delighted to hear National Chairman say that any member who wished to visit headquarters and be shown around would be most welcome. They would appreciate a telephone call or email in advance so that someone is on hand to meet and greet and give you the guided tour.

Its more than our headquarters - it's our building and its very beautiful and the staff and officers are warm and welcoming. So if you are due to visit London in 2018 why not make time to visit Osborne House? Just make sure to let them know you are coming.

**Brenda Evers**  
Area Chairman – East of England Area of NAFAS





Two beautiful pedestals:  
 Left hand by **Adele Kent & Tina Carr**. On the right the pedestal is arranged by **Joanne Randall**.

We had the most wonderful day, such a privilege , but quite overwhelming (probably the first time I have ever felt sick when doing flowers)  
 The High Altar was just magnificent and so many visitors watching. So pleased to have been asked.  
 Adele Kent

## LODDON FLOWER CLUB

Our Chairman, Margaret Turner, presented a cheque for £645 to Jackie Greenfield from East Anglian Air Ambulance at our November 2017 meeting. This money was raised from a coffee morning, various stalls and quiz entries, raffles and events during 2017 by our members. (sorry, we don't have a photo)

**Great Baddow Flower Club** had the honour of providing the entertainment for the Great Baddow Parish Council Community Celebration held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 14 April. The history of Great Baddow Flower Club and what happens at club nights was explained and then Club President Terri Potter (an East of England Area Demonstrator) and floristry tutor and Club member Jane gave an outstanding demonstration of how to create designs with a bunch of supermarket flowers.

Terri explained that as a flower arranger she loves to create and experiment with flowers for the home, shows and competitions. Jane explained that as a florist she arranges flowers as a business, focussed more on weddings, funerals, gifts and events. They answered questions from the audience about how to condition flowers, how to revive drooping roses and how to take care of the flowers to make them last.

Raffle tickets were distributed amongst the guests and some were fortunate enough to take home one of the beautiful arrangements.

Congratulations to Great Baddow on this successful community event.



Great Baddow Flower Club from the Colchester Group of East of England Area of NAFAS

It is with great sadness that we announce the death on Wednesday 4 April 2018 of Kevin Gunnell, National Associate of Honour, National Demonstrator and judge and a very popular visitor to our East of England clubs for many years.

Kevin and his late partner Nick were members of Fulham Flower Club (London & Overseas) for many years prior to moving to Shropshire. He was currently Area Chairman of Mercia & North Wales Area (holding the office for a second time). He loved garden plant material and won many awards at National Shows. Kevin was leader of the Mercia & North Wales team that won a Gold Medal for NAFAS at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show a few years ago.

We will remember Kevin for his friendship and support to many in NAFAS and for his lovely sense of humour.

The East of England send our sincere sympathy to his family and also the team from Mercia & North Wales who are exhibiting at the RHS Orchid Show in London. They are dedicating their exhibit to Kevin's memory.... a delightful and fitting tribute.



**DIAMOND CARD - HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR YOUR FREE CARD? APPLY**



## EAST OF ENGLAND AREA OF NAFAS

### **CLUB ANNIVERSARY DATES 2018**

The Area President, Area Chairman and Officers send their warmest congratulations to Clubs reaching milestone anniversaries in 2018. We are proud of our heritage as the Number One Area of NAFAS and for all that these Clubs and their members have done for our Area for so many years.

#### **65 YEARS - DIAMOND SAPPHIRE**

Aldeburgh Flower Club  
Aylsham Flower Club  
Boston & District Flower Club  
Chelmsford Floral Club  
Clacton Flower Club  
Colne Valley Flower Club  
Wisbech & District Flower Club

#### **60 YEARS - DIAMOND**

Loddon Flower Club  
North Walsham & Bradfield Flower Club

#### **55 YEARS - EMERALD**

Haverhill & District Flower Club  
Horning & District Flower Arrangement Club  
King's Lynn Flower Club  
West Mersea & District Flower Club

#### **50 YEARS - GOLDEN**

Bocking Flower Club  
Gorleston Flower Club  
Great Baddow Flower Club  
Mildenhall Flower Club  
Terrington St Clement Flower Club  
Wymondham Flower Club

#### **45 YEARS - SAPPHIRE**

Tiptree & District Flower Club

#### **40 YEARS - RUBY**

Great Barton & District Flower Club  
Lakenheath Flower Club

#### **35 YEARS - CORAL ANNIVERSARY**

Walton-on-The-Naze Flower Club  
Werrington & District Flower Club

#### **30 YEARS - PEARL ANNIVERSARY**

Blackwater Flower Arrangement Club  
Hadleigh & District Flower Club



### **NORWICH GROUP OF FLOWER CLUBS**

Amanda Seales (Norwich Group Chairman and Ann Hammond spent a very enjoyable day at the Norfolk & Norwich Horticultural Society's Spring Show at Easton College promoting flower clubs in the area.

Lots of corsages were made and handed out and a very popular (Gill McCree) vegetable design was demonstrated.

The flower arranging competition was very well supported with Patricia Loades of Loddon Flower Club winning best in show with her beautiful 'Springwatch' design. Louise Brock of Holt & District Flower Club was runner up to best in show with her design in the class 'Inspired by Music'.



### **1.3.2018 CAMBRIDGE GROUP – GROUP CHAIRMAN VALERIE PHILLIPS**

Our last event for 2017 was our AGM and Autumn Day on 4 November. It was an extremely successful day hosted by Haverhill & District Flower Club on behalf of the Group. The day was a complete sell out.

Several members of the Group exhibited and received awards at the Festive Flower & Food Show Blackpool, Christopher White, Moira Neville, Susan Horne and Valerie Phillips.

### **1.3.2018 COLCHESTER GROUP – GROUP CHAIRMAN SANDRA PRICE**

The Group held an Afternoon Tea on the 27 October 2017 at Marks Tey, and this was attended by 100 guests. The Demonstrator was Brenda Tubb and despite feeling under the weather she did an excellent demonstration. The funds raised were used to purchase flowers in order that members of the Group and invited friends could decorate Mistley Hall at Acorn Village for their Winter Wonderland Weekend. An amazing £10,000 was raised for this local charity and we were delighted to have played a part.

In November we held our Group Meeting followed by our AGM. A Christmas Demonstration was given by Susan Horne and Sandra Price. We held a raffle and tombola and Christmas refreshments.

### **1.3.2018 EAST SUFFOLK GROUP - GROUP CHAIRMAN PETRINA MILES**

At our AGM, the current serving office holders were re-elected for the coming year. The results of our Photographic Competition were also announced. There were 25 entries in the two classes entitled 'Beauty of the Garden' and 'It's all in the detail'. The overall winner was Gilly Thomson who was awarded the Pat Barr Trophy.

Our meetings for 2018 will be held on 26 March, 18 June and the AGM on 29 October, all at Wickham Market Village Hall.

On Thursday, 13 September 2018 we are organising a luncheon and demonstration at Debenham Community Centre. The catering is once again in the capable hands of Chaplin Catering. We are delighted to be welcoming Coral Gardiner from Bath as our demonstrator with the title 'The Wow Factor'.

### **1.3.2018 KINGS' LYNN GROUP – GROUP CHAIRMAN GILL SHANKS**

At our last Group Meeting hosted by Wisbech Club we had a good turn out from members. We have an exciting programme to look forward to in the year ahead with our two-day workshops tutored by Vicki Hease and Anne Bell respectively, as well as our special event for our Diamond Anniversary. This is to be a lunch followed with a demonstration by Vanessa Wellock from Ilkley. This is her first visit to the East and promises to be a fun day with friends and flowers. Tickets will be available (cost £25.00) after our next Group Meeting on the 27 March and we look forward to welcoming friends from other Clubs and Areas too!

Following the Group Meeting we held our AGM when we welcomed Caryl Fidler as our new President and wish her happy days as our President. A heartfelt thanks to Sue Cooper too for all she has done for the Group during her term as President.

The Group held our two-day workshops in November with Lee Berrill as tutor. A great couple of days with enthusiasm and fun from all. Lee gives not only in expertise, but also with his friendship and willingness to pass on his knowledge.

### **1.3.2018 NORWICH GROUP – GROUP CHAIRMAN AMANDA SEALES**

Norwich Group Chairman Amanda Seales tells us that at their 2017 AGM in October, Jane Boulton from Bungay Flower Club was elected Group Vice-Chairman. The meeting was then followed by a lunch and workshop with Joy Tunmore which was very much enjoyed by those attending.

One of the clubs in the Norwich Group (Thorpe Floral Design) has recently changed their name to Petals & Textures and their venue to St. David Church Hall, Thorpe End. They are still affiliated to the Group and the Area.

Our Diamond Anniversary Celebration with Neil Whittaker will be on the 3 August 2018 at the Atrium in North Walsham. The Group Officers decided to cancel the planned workshop the following day but there will be a flower arranging competition at the Atrium on the 3rd along with entertainment by Julia Knights and the Bradwell Buds.

The Royal Norfolk Show competition schedule is now available and organisation is progressing well. We look forward to another successful year showcasing our clubs at the event.