



CHESHIRE AREA OF NAFAS

Members' Newsletter

Issue 6

March 2023



Hello everyone. Spring has sprung but don't pack away those thermals just yet! As I write this, the snowflakes are just settling on the front drive!



Firstly, huge congratulations to Cheshire's new **National Demonstrator – Dawn Weaver**. Dawn passed her National Test at Frodsham Community Centre last week. Well done Dawn – we're so proud of you! Congratulations also to Sara Barrow (Flowers North West) and Julia Louden (SAFAS) who also passed.

Well done to Lousie Jones (our Area Chair) and Debbie Davies who also rose to the challenge of the National Pre-assessments. We wish you both well for the next stage.

Cheshire Area hosted the two day event at Frodsham Community Centre on 8th / 9th March, with the main organisation being led by Beryl Cotton, Chairman of the National Demonstrator's Committee and also Cheshire's Demonstrators' Representative. Beryl was supported by Janet Schofield and Tracy-Anne Clancy to ensure everything was in place at Frodsham to support the candidates and welcome visitors to the event. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped on the 8th and 9th with front of house roles, raffle ticket selling, refreshments (and washing up!), lunch organisation, looking after the adjudicators, VIPs and helping unload all the candidates' flowers and equipment (in the snow!) and ensuring that the preparation timings were spot on.

Beryl commented: "Everything ran so smoothly - as we had all planned, like a well-oiled clock". "I have already received many lovely letters/emails from NAFAS members who had thoroughly enjoyed the two days". "The event represents a huge amount of kudos for the Cheshire Area and a reflection of the members commitment to NAFAS". "Please convey my thanks to everyone who helped in any way".

Beryl was also supported by the National Demonstrator's Committee, pictured below with National Chairman, Katherine Kear. Katherine thoroughly enjoyed the event saying "it's been a marvellous two days". Adjudicators were led by Alan Beatty and included Margaret Rumens and Kate Kerr. Trainee adjudicators Angela Turner and Jacqui Arnold and National President of NAFAS, Liliias Hoskins, were also present.



Also in this issue; celebrate National Flower Arranging day, opportunity to see Gregor Lersch, plan your trip to Gloucester Cathedral (a new trip added) , can you help in the 'Theatre of Flowers' @ the Royal Cheshire County Show, plus ideas for the younger floral art designers.

Happy reading!

If you would like to feature anything in this monthly newsletter, then please email your information to treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk.

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.

Book now to enjoy some foam-free creativity but be quick!

The February workshop hosted by Ashton Hayes & Tarvin at Tarvin Community Centre with tutor Eleanor Griffiths was a huge success. Thank you to everyone involved in organising this fabulous event and to AH&T Club for all their hospitality. Some fantastic creations – well done everyone! The March workshop will be hosted by Disley Club on 26th March – this is the last one until the Autumn.

Foam-Free Workshop – Final Call

Learn something new, different and exciting!

NAFAS Flower Club members £20. Bring a friend or come as a visitor for £25

Different designs with different tutors at each workshop

No need to worry about a thing, you can be sure of a warm welcome and friendly help. Mechanics will be available on the day, some to purchase and some free

Workshop 3 @ Disley on 26th March

Contact Sharon on education@nafascheshire.org.uk for further information

If you would like to attend a workshop or would like one in your part of Cheshire, please contact Sharon.
education@nafascheshire.org.uk.

NATIONAL FLOWER ARRANGING DAY



.....WHAT WILL YOU CREATE?



National Flower Arranging Day is Friday 5th May (day before the Coronation). Each Club supporting the event will receive £25 from Area. Simply send photos of your design(s) to treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk Your designs can also be featured on our Area website: Contact our website manager, Mike Gallagher, mike.gallagher@btinternet.com to send in your photos, promote your Club & keep your Club details up to date

(These cards are being distributed to all Clubs to use for the event)

Sharing the love of flowers with our younger designers.....

Our Young Person's Representative, Judy Gratton shares an idea you may want to try yourself or share with younger members of your family. A great idea for filling in those Easter holidays when you're on 'grandparent duty' maybe?

Flowers for Easter

An activity to entertain the family!

Flowers – supermarket bunch

Foliage - from the garden

Mechanics – container (e.g. clean, empty tin or jar), double sided tape, tape, wool



1. Using the tape make a grid across the top of the container.
2. Using the double-sided tape, run four strips down the side of the container an equal distance apart.
3. Starting at the bottom wrap the wool around the container.
4. Cut the plant material to length and place into the container through the grid across the top of the container.
5. As the container is filled this will help the plant material to stay in place.
6. Remember to add water.



Flower Arranger Magazine

Summer issue 2023 will be available from 18th April.

Would you like to order future copies of the magazine?

Contact Catherine on

flower.arranger@nafascheshire.org.uk



'Yesterday' vs 'Today'

Our Flower Arranging magazine is quite special to us, evidenced by the number of pristine, back copies we keep. I have recently been gifted some old, pre-loved editions of the magazine from the 1970's onwards. They are a joy to look back through and so many techniques are now back 'on trend'. The oldest one I have is from 1976 – can you better that? I'd love to hear from you. Clearly my mum must have given me instructions from the magazine – this arrangement is still my go-to favourite 50 years on!!!



A Date with Gregor Lersch

(Is it in your diary? 3rd April)

WORLD-FAMOUS FLORAL DESIGNER

Gregor Lersch
at Reaseheath College



**Lecture/Demonstration by world famous floral designer and author
Gregor Lersch**

Monday 3 April 2023 at 7pm (doors open at 6.30pm).

An exciting and rare opportunity to see the renowned Master of Master Florists demonstrate techniques to create popular contemporary design styles. Suitable for professional florists, floristry students, flower club members, flower arrangers and for those who just love flowers!

In conjunction with [NAFAS Group 2000](#)

Tickets cost £25 (in advance only) and are available from Reaseheath College website (on-line shop)

Why is this so special?

Gregor is a Master of Master Florists, the highest possible accolade, and is an international award winner. He has presented demonstrations and tutored workshops in more than 32 countries and has published 30 books on floral design. He is well known for his trend setting design styles and his lecture demonstrations typically cover contemporary techniques and principals, mechanics, shape and composition, sustainable strategies and organic materials.

Everyone will learn something to take home along with enjoying a very entertaining evening.

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Group 2000 – Unfortunately Group 2000 will be closing this year. After being Cheshire's Contemporary Club for 25 years, spiralling costs and reducing membership led to the decision taken at an EGM recently. Although many members also belong to other Cheshire clubs, we will miss the 'contemporary passion' they had as a Club. Before they close however, visitors are welcome to join Group 2000 for a very special celebration – their Silver Anniversary.

GROUP 2000

Sunday 9th July 2023

A demonstration by Laura Leong, Interflora Florist of the year
and Chelsea winner

at 2.00pm Antrobus Village Hall,
Knutsford Rd, Antrobus, Northwich CW9 6LB



Join us for a very special celebration of 25 years of Group 2000.
Wine, nibbles and cake from 12.30 followed at 2.00 p.m. by a
demonstration by Laura Leong a very talented floral designer and
friend of Group 200.

To celebrate our Silver Anniversary this event will only cost visitors
£10.00 Visitors, tickets available from treasurer@group2000.org.uk or
contact the Chairman by phone 0161 633 5830 or email
chairman@group2000.org.uk.

Royal Cheshire County Show



Royal Cheshire
Show 2023
20th & 21st June

‘The Shape of Things to Come’

in the

Theatre of Flowers

(Cheshire Area Show)

- Will you be competing this year?
- Floral design schedule now available on Cheshire Area of NAFAS Website
- Closing date for entries 1st June
- Volunteers required for both days – are you willing to help? (volunteers will get free entry to the show)
- Please support your Area Show in 2023

Please support your Area show.

The schedule is on our Area website www.nafascheshire.org.uk

Printed copies available at the next Club Representative’s Forum at Frodsham on Monday 25th April



Competitors

Best of luck to everyone planning designs / competing at; Harrogate Flower Show (20-23 April), National Show (12-13 May), Malvern Spring Show (11-14 May) and Royal Cheshire County Show (20-21 June).

Looking forward to seeing some fabulous designs.

Don’t forget we have a Competitor’s Support Group to provide you with guidance and moral support. Contact CANonlineevents@gmail.com for more information. New members are always welcome.

Getting Out & About

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



Wistaston Flower Club

FLORILEGIUM

FRIDAY 12TH MAY 2023

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

Wistaston and District Flower Club invite you to come with us and be amazed at the talent and beautiful creations as a result of the NAFAS National Competitions within the Cathedral.

Pick up at The Brittles bus stop, Wistaston at 8.00am
Military Arms, Sandbach at 8.30am

Leaving Gloucester at 4.30pm

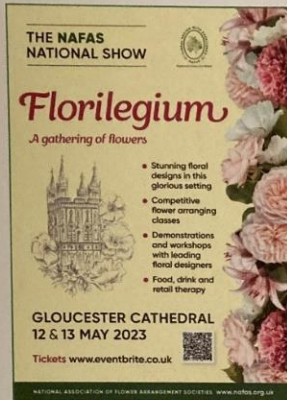
Cost is £46.00 which covers the coach, entry to the Cathedral, drivers tip and parking at the Brittles, Wistaston.

Alternatively, the cost of the coach to Gloucester is £23.50 which includes the drivers tip and parking at the Brittles, Wistaston.

Payment can be made cheque or by bank transfer - Please contact Carol Campbell email cazc47@gmail.com or 07989 880679 for details, as soon as possible.



NESTON FLOWER SOCIETY SPRING TRIP 2023



RHS MALVERN SPRING FESTIVAL



13th and 14th May 2023
£165 per person including coach,
hotel, breakfast and entry to
both the Cathedral and Malvern

Join us for this super trip to two fabulous shows!
Discover the best flower arrangements in the UK and
shop till you drop for accessories and plants.
Coach from Neston or pick up points along the way.

Staying in twin rooms at the Mecure Hotel, just 15 minutes away
from the beautiful city of Gloucester



For further information and a booking form, contact Pat Wood on
0151 336 3170 07803 703 183 or Email frank.wood7@btinternet.com

A private Wirral based company Centenary Leisure and Travel Club is running
a day trip to the **National Show at Gloucester Cathedral on the 13th May.**

The cost of the trip which is inclusive of return travel, on board refreshments
and a contribution to the driver's tip is £40. Admission to the show on a
group ticket is £22.50

Total cost is £62.50

Pick ups from: Wallasey Village, St Andrew's Church Bebington and the M56
motorway services

For booking requests or further enquiries contact ann.shevlin@hotmail.com
or to speak to Ann call 07954 388 745

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

Best wishes to you, from

All of us @ Cheshire Area