



CHESHIRE AREA OF NAFAS

Club Representatives' Forum

29th November 2023

11.00am @ Owley Wood

Attendance

Area Chairman Administrative: Tracy-Anne Clancy (TAC), Area Chairman NAFAS HQ Liaison: Janet Schofield, Area Chairman Pastoral: Louise Jones, Secretary: Vanessa Lees (VL), Support Officer: Jean Jones, Minutes Secretary: Eileen Fantom, Judges' Representative: Sue Clissold, Demonstrators Representative: Beryl Cotton, Education Representative: Pam Mosedale. Representatives attended from Chester Flower Club, Disley and district Flower Club, Eddisbury and Sandiway Flower Club, Goostrey Flower Club, Heald Green Flower Club, Hoylake Flower Club, Knutsford Floral Design Club, Lymm Floral Art Group, Macclesfield Flower Club, Mid-Cheshire Flower Club, Nether Alderley Flower Club, New Brighton Flower Arrangement Society, Rural Chester Flower Club, Sale Flower Club, Stockport Afternoon Flower Club, Tarpорley Flower Club, Tunstall and district Flower Club, Widnes Floral Art Group, Wirral Flower Club.

1. Welcome

TAC welcomed all to Owley Wood. She related a message which she received from Kathleen Williams who had been going to demonstrate paper flower making after the meeting. Kathleen, an experienced speaker and demonstrator, wishes us all the best and apologises for not being here because of illness.

TAC introduced the team. The Office of Chairman is now filled by a team of three people. Janet Schofield is National liaison representative, Louise Jones has the pastoral role, and Tracy-Anne Clancy is the administrative lead. Vanessa Lees, the new area secretary, used to be Club representative for Lymm. Continuing are Eileen Fantom as minutes secretary, Judges representative Sue Clissold, Demonstrators representative Beryl Cotton, Education and training representative Sharon Nolan (represented today by Pam Mosedale), and Area support officer, Jean Jones.

TAC thanked Eddisbury and Sandiway and Iris Cluster for hosting the meeting. Diane Fair was thanked for the welcome flowers which will be raffled later. Eddisbury and Sandiway Flower Club made the table centres.

2. Minutes

Minutes had been circulated by VL from July meeting. One name has been altered following which they were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

Apologies were received from Sharon Nolan: Education representative, Judy Gratton: Young persons' representative, Catherine Bower: *The Flower Arranger* representative, Nicky Wylie, Pam Fleming-Williams, and Dawn Weaver. The following Clubs sent apologies: Ashton Hayes and Tarvin Flower Club, Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme Flower Club, Elworth Flower Club, Frodsham and district Flower Club, Hale Barns Flower Club, Handbridge Flower Club, Leek Floral Art Society, Prestbury Flower Club, Romiley Flower Club, South Cheshire Floral Society, The Bramall Hall Club, Upton-by-Chester Flower Club, Wilmslow Guild Floral Design Club, Winwick Flower Club, Wistaston and district Flower Club.

3. Updates from the Chairman's Office

Administrative Update – Tracy-Anne Clancy

At the 53rd AGM held at Frodsham, it was agreed that the role of Area Chairman be split into three parts, namely; Administrative Lead, Pastoral Lead and National Liaison Representative. The Definition of Rôles (appended to the Constitution) is currently being updated to clearly reflect the responsibilities within each aspect of the rôle. When complete, this will be published on the website. In order to ensure that the Area finances are independently reviewed throughout the year, this will become a duty of one of the Area Support Officers.

I am delighted to head up the Chairman's office for Cheshire, working with the Area Team. It is also a pleasure to welcome Vanessa Lees to the position of Area Secretary and I very much look forward to working with her over this coming year. There were a number of questions and concerns shared at our AGM and I would like to focus on addressing these, with your help, over the next few months. We are looking to update our image (name and branding) and also address the issue of some members paying several affiliation fees if they belong to several clubs.

The AGM was a success not only financially, reporting a surplus of £1,158 but was also extremely well attended with members enjoying seeing 'someone different'! Thank you to everyone involved in making this event such a success. Thank you and congratulations to our Judges', Demonstrators' and Education representatives for organising the refresher and training days in September and October. Our aim was to break-even. Working within budget constraints and increased hall hire rates, the teams are to be congratulated in delivering professional courses for less than a total net cost of £100. Well done and thank you to you all.

Christmas is fast approaching, and everyone is flat out fine tuning Christmas events and demonstrations. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for all your hard work this year and your ongoing support and encouragement. It means a lot.

Wishing you all the very best for the Christmas season and 2024.

TAC went on to thank all for the support she receives from the Clubs. She thanked to Joan Wilkinson for storing CAN possessions free of charge. Joan was presented with a bouquet. TAC requested that Club Representatives pass on booklet to the person who is attending. It is only sent to one person in Club and should be passed to the person attending and all interested parties. **TAC stressed that it doesn't matter which committee member attends to represent their Club.**

Pastoral Update – Louise Jones

It seems a little while since we met at Frodsham for our AGM. We had a lovely day – our demonstrator Cherie Nummey from Northern Ireland arranged many beautiful flowers and talked about her interesting life.

Since my last Area Representatives Forum report in July, many of you have been busy competing at flower shows and agricultural shows in and around our area, in particular Southport Flower Show, Nantwich Show and Shrewsbury Flower Show. Many congratulations to those competitors who were successful but also a big thank you to all those who flew the flag for NAFAS Cheshire far and wide. Thank you to those who have helped to put on these shows.

In September we were privileged to be invited to demonstrate at the InterFlora World Cup held in Manchester. It was a very exciting three days ... Cheshire Area was represented by me, Beryl Cotton, Julie Pearson and Debbie Davies. A huge thank you to the whole team for all their hard work in putting together so many beautiful exhibits and promoting the role of NAFAS on the International stage.

I am sure that everyone who attended enjoyed the fantastic show. On our stand we had been promised 27 chairs – I don't know why it was 27 – they never materialised but that would never

been enough. At many times, those watching the demonstrations were six or seven deep. We had many enquiries about NAFAS and hopefully new members will come from that. On to October, and we were delighted to have our own Nicky Wylie with us, who has now taken up the role of National Chairman of NAFAS. Well done, Nicky and thank you for taking on this rôle. We hope that you will really enjoy your time as our National Chairman. Our Christmas Demonstrations and Workshops have already started, and I hope you're all enjoying the stunning flowers and being covered with glitter! Finally, I hope to see many of you in the next few months as I will be visiting as many clubs as possible. I hope you have a blessed Christmas. Take Care, Louise.

National Liaison update – Janet Schofield

I have nothing to report at the moment but my next meeting with National will be the two-day National Advisory Council face to face meetings at Leamington Spa on 15th and 16th January, 2024. Please send to me any questions, comments or other matters which Cheshire Area would like me to raise at National level.

4. Area Secretary's Report – Vanessa Lees

Thank you to all of you for accepting me into the role of Cheshire Area Secretary and I look forward to meeting and working with many of you over the course of the next few years. Morag will be a very hard act to follow, and I would like to thank her sincerely for the help and advice she has been giving me this far. I'm sure I will be asking for her expertise a few more times before I feel I know what is required of me. I am also grateful to have Eileen as our Minutes Secretary. It certainly lifts a load off the Secretary's role. Thank you, Eileen.

It has now been arranged that all Area contact with me will be via the email address secretary@nafascheshire.org.uk This will be my Inbox and Outbox and I will monitor it daily. The rationale behind this is to keep all the correspondence in one place so that in the case of the Secretary being ill or unavailable, or when a new Secretary is appointed, there can be a seamless transfer. I'm sure you will all get used to seeing me pop up in your Inboxes.

I have now begun to deal with correspondence received from HQ, clubs and the website. The Area anniversaries for 2024 have been sent to Head Office now.

We have been working on the diary dates for 2024, reducing the workload as much as we can for the Area Team, and leaving June meeting-free so that we can all enjoy our flowers at that busy time. The dates will be ready to send out for the beginning of 2024. Club Representatives Forum meetings will now all be face to face, with different venues being trialled.

I would like to check that the Officer information I hold for each Club is up to date so I would be grateful if you could have a look at your latest return today and let me know of any amendments. In the future I will be sending you a new Officer form to fill in immediately after your AGM beginning in January 2024. It would be incredibly useful to have that returned to me as soon as possible after your AGM. I have circulated all of you with my postal address but please ask if you need it.

I will be relying on each Club contact representative to circulate relevant information amongst your Club members. I know I can count on you all to keep your members 'in the know'. Thanks to everyone for helping her to get to know everyone.

With respect to diary dates for 2024, work done to reduce workload. There will be four club-reps meetings plus the AGM. At the AGM we agreed there would be mainly face-to-face meetings. Some meetings are less well attended than others but we are aware that there are diary clashes,

and bad weather which may put people off. Planning ahead, the next meeting is on 1st February. A vote was taken by show of hands of those present to decide the format and face-to-face won. There is a meeting scheduled for 5th December, 2024. A further vote was taken and face-to-face won. Meetings are scheduled for different days in order to attract a wider audience. There is a possibility that the face-to-face meetings might also be streamed by Zoom to those who can't travel.

Questions to the secretary:

Heald Green – are the dates fixed? TAC: No, not set, no venue yet. In order to fit in the meetings there have to be some in the winter. Meetings ought to be spaced throughout the year. VL: we try to avoid dates when there is a Club meeting, 1st Thursday has no Club meeting.

Knutsford – can we go down to three meetings plus AGM? TAC – It's a possibility but it makes the gaps quite big. RCCS schedule is printed Jan / February so good to meet then.

Chester – Zoom will help those who are reluctant to travel if a face-to-face meeting is also streamed.

TAC – if there are fewer meetings there will be less glue in CAN.

5. Area Treasurer's Report – Tracy-Anne Clancy

Our financial year runs from 1st August to 31st July.

Bank Overview. The balances on the accounts as at 31st October are as follows:

Barclays Bank - Current Account £15,357¹

Barclays Bank – Savings Account £22,350

Barclays Bank – JDS&E Account £7,570

Barclays Bank – Flower Arranger Account £2,407

Income & Expenditure (Budget vs Actual)

Our main source of income is from the Affiliation Fees (£4.50) paid to Cheshire Area. Thank you to all the Clubs who have already paid – your support is very much appreciated. We also collect fees on behalf of National @ £7.50 per member which we will transfer to HQ at the end of December.

It is anticipated that our income will be circa £8,000 and as such the budget for 2023/24 is as follows:

	£	£
Facility Costs (website / storage / licences)	3,500	824
Publicity & Promotions	1,000	-
Cheshire Area Show	2,000	-
Meetings	1,000	250
Other	500	-
Total	8,000	1,074

Since the commencement of our financial year, there have been a number of events, the financial details of which are presented below:

¹This includes £7,380 to date which is in respect of National Affiliation Fees which will be paid out at the end of December.

Foam Free Workshop – Lymm

Income		£	£
8 participants @ £20 (BACS)		160	
1 participant @ £25 (BACS)		25	
4 participants @ £20 (Cash)		80	
			265
Expenditure			
Hall Hire		112	
Tutor Fee		120	
Travel		20	
			252
Surplus on Workshop 1			13

Demonstrators Refresher Day

Income		£	£
11 participants @ £20			220
Expenditure			
Hall Hire		85	
Tutor Fee		100	
Other		41	
			226
Surplus / Deficit		-	6

Education Day

Income		£	£
13 participants @ £20			260
Refreshments			3
Expenditure			
Hall Hire		134	
Tutor Fee / Mileage		200	
Hall Set-Up		5	
Refreshments / Other		7	
			346
Surplus / Deficit		-	83

Judges Refresher Day

Income		£	£
15 participants @ £25			375
Expenditure			
Hall Hire		165	
Tutor Fee / Mileage		135	
Expenses S Clissold		44	
Refreshments		44	
			389
Surplus / Deficit		-	14

AGM (Business & Demonstration)

Expenditure			
Hall Hire		86	
Microphone Hire		10	
Gifts		32	
Refreshments / Other		147	
			275
Net Cost of AGM		-	275
Demonstration			
Income		£	£
138 Attendees @ £15		2,070	
5 Attendees @ £20		100	
Raffle		438	
Stalls		35	
			2,643
Expenditure			
Hall Hire		164	
Demonstration		1,238	
Refreshments		53	
Miscellaneous		30	
			1,485
Net Surplus on Demonstration			1,158

There were no questions put to the treasurer.

At the AGM, TAC was keen that there would not be a conflict of interests between her rôle as Treasurer and her new position in the Chairman's office. Judy Gratton, young people's liaison officer, will step up to Area Support Officer with responsibility for financial overview. She will continue with young people's liaison.

6. Representative's Reports

6.i Judge's Report – Sue Clissold

Area Report

A very successful day was held on the 14th of October at Plumley Village Hall tutored by Pam Fleming-Williams on the additions and alterations made in the new blue 2023 Competitions Manual. 18 people enjoyed a very informative day which also covered Plant identification and Comment Card writing.

Minutes from the National Judges committee held on the 13th September mentioned the following:-

A review on the Conference held in August felt it had been very successful and a synopsis of the evaluation papers returned stated that sessions on Botanical, Period, Comment cards, Dior and the Open Forum generally were rated as good and those on Pedestals and Still Life, excellent.

A possible article on Meadows has been suggested for The Flower Arranger.

Barbara Harris has stated that she will retire as a National Judge with effect from January, 2024.

Thanks were expressed to both Joan McGee and Lesley Sturdy for their sterling work on the Committee. Alan Beatty has now taken over as Chair.

All current Area judges have been approached to see if they would like to sit the National Judges exam to be held next year and two have agreed so far!

It is hoped to arrange an Area Judges taster day in February 2024 to encourage people to come forward and see what it entails. Please publish this amongst all your members and demonstrators

and ask them to contact me directly: 07879 833925. There will be further details in due course. It is a great opportunity for keen competitors to understand how Judges make their decisions.

Sue Clissold
Cheshire Area Judges Rep

6.ii **Demonstrator's Report** – Beryl Cotton

Area Report

The Area Certified Refresher Day in September went exceedingly well. It was held at Frodsham Community Centre. It was agreed that January or February was the best time of year for a demonstrator refresher day so we will be looking at early 2025 for the next date.

Our Area and National Demonstrators are all very busy currently undertaking Christmas Demonstrations to delight our flower clubs. We wish them all safe travels.

The Area are planning Area demonstrator training commencing early 2024 and I would be delighted to hear from anyone who is interested in finding out more about demonstrating or who wants to take the course. Dates will be circulated as soon as possible but it is envisaged that instruction will take place once a month on Sundays. My email is: berylcotton06@gmail.com Please encourage any talented flower arranger to join the course. Sometimes people need a little encouragement so please always be on the lookout for suitable candidates in your clubs. Dates will be announced in due course regarding training days along with the Test Day when we will be looking for your support. This is a great opportunity to see new talented Area demonstrators, especially for your club programme secretaries.

National Report

The National Demonstrators Committee met in September 2023. James Burnside completed his term of office at the National AGM 2023. Two new committee members were invited to the September meeting and will officially join the committee from October 2023. They are Margaret Rumens and Cherie Nummy. Several National Demonstrators have retired from Demonstrating. A new National Discipline Book will be available from January 2024. Several amendments have been made to the Demonstrator Forms (D Forms) which have been circulated to the appropriate parties.

Hot off the press: The next National Demonstrator Tests / pre-national assessments will take place at Frodsham Community Centre on **30th and 31st October 2024**. Audience tickets will be on sale in due course. Please make a note of the dates in your diaries. Another wonderful opportunity for talent spotting. The committee will meet again at the end of January 2024.

Beryl Cotton

Beryl reiterated that the budget had been approved for Area Demonstrating Tests. Training will start in New Year. She went on to stress the pre-National assessments on October 30th, 31st in Cheshire next year too. This event will be especially good for programme secretaries.

6.iii **Education Report** – Sharon Nolan

Education Day

We had an excellent Education Day in October, tutored by National teacher Dawn Weaver.

Members' Days

There are Members' Days booked for March and May, 2024. The poster for the March workshop with Alison Cooper will be distributed ASAP. [This has now been circulated in the CAN Newsletter.]

It will be hosted by Eddisbury and Sandiway Club. The workshop in May will be hosted by Ashton Hayes and Tarvin Club.

There is a paper out for discussion before possible agreement by Area Officers to decide an approach to Education and Training in 2024 through to 2025, to look at the bigger picture of how we cater for all levels of ability and link initiatives across the full spectrum of education, demonstrators and judges. As an Area, we are not in a position to progress the NAFAS certificated courses for a number of reasons. Hence, the importance of establishing and publicising our own plans.

Pam Mosedale and I have made a good start in handing over responsibilities for Education in the Cheshire Area. Sharon Nolan

Pam Moseley spoke and explained there is an educational review of activities to increase number of events. First members day is on 3rd March at Weaverham with Alison Cooper.

6.iv Young People's Liaison Report – Judy Gratton

Preparations have started for Nantwich Show to be held on Wednesday 31st July, 2024.

We are planning to run drop-in hands-on sessions for our younger visitors and also encouraging local primary schools to participate in their own individual competitions.

An article has been submitted to Cheshire Area Newsletter to make a mini wreath to hang on a Christmas Tree.

If anyone is interested in running floral activities for their own local schools or children's out of school activities please do get in touch.

Judy Gratton 07506022709 or email judy.gratton@live.co.uk

7. Flower School – Jean Jones / Tracy-Anne Clancy / Judy Gratton

“Where can I go to learn how to do floral designs like this?”

This was the question asked so many times as we mingled with the public in the ‘Theatre of Flowers’ at the Royal Cheshire County Show. We are pleased to share with you that plans are currently being formulated to introduce a ‘Flower School’ as part of our Cheshire Area offering. We are mindful that there are many tutors within the Area with their own businesses / studios etc. and we are not attempting to become a rival or tread on any ones toes! The intention is to embrace and promote all our collective expertise and to ‘share the creative use of flowers through education, to bring joy and inspiration to all’ (National Mission Statement). The Flower School, will effectively be the over-arching team who will organise classes (with various tutors) not only for the absolute beginner but also for the more experienced including those looking for something a bit ‘stretching’ and ‘different’.

We are looking to organise a ‘round the table discussion’ with our Judges’, Demonstrators’ and Education representatives in January, to put all the pieces together. Classes will be rolled out during 2024. It is hoped that by offering classes to the general public, it may also lead to increased membership for Clubs.

This will be an all-encompassing term for everything that is taking place. This needs to be visible. People will be part of “Cheshire Flower School”

Questions to the team:

Stockport Afternoon – “What is floral art?” Public don’t associate this term with flower arranging, it is a flower painting, so what do we call it? TAC explained that this would be covered in part in agenda item 11.

8. Publicity / Events Update – Tracy-Anne Clancy

8.i Website & Social Media

The website is a great asset for the Area but not with out-of-date information! With 2024 fast approaching and many Club programmes being finalised for next year, would you please ensure that your Club’s information is sent to our website manager Mike Gallagher for him to update the website accordingly. If you have had an AGM recently and your committee has changed, please don’t forget to send details to Mike so that the Club contact details are accurate. Email webmaster@nafascheshire.org.uk

If anyone is willing to do a new ‘How To ...’ would you please contact treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk We have so many talented designers within Cheshire we could benefit from some new input onto the website please. Pam Mosedale will photograph the “How to ...” for website. Contact Pam Mosedale directly pmmosedale@btinternet.com 07876 176501

8.ii Newsletter

The Area newsletter celebrated its first anniversary in October, with the latest Area newsletter having just been published. The distribution list has grown significantly from the Club contacts only initially to now include members who wish to subscribe individually. Any Club with information about events to share across the Area can be sent to treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk for inclusion. Please forward the newsletter on to all Club members. The readership is wide and includes large areas of the North West as well as some further afield.

8.iii Flower Arranger Report – Catherine Bower

Flower Arranger update November, 2023

The 2023 Winter edition was due to be delivered within five working days of 12th October. I presume all OK, as I've not received any notifications re missing or damaged copies.

2024 Subscriptions

- 336 editions ordered by 16 November. This compares to 385 for Spring 2023. Additional club closed. As in past years, four clubs have not placed an order.
- I completed area order by date requested by Sylvia at HQ
- Full comparison forwarded to Tracy-Anne for information.
- Additional copies can be placed at any time through the year.
- Some payments to follow, but clubs emailed numbers.

2024 dates:

Spring edition	club order 11 th November	delivery 11 January
Summer edition	club order 17 th February	delivery 10 April
Autumn edition	club order 18 th May	delivery 11 July
Winter edition	club order 22 nd August	delivery 10 October

The club order date is the date clubs should notify any changes, especially to delivery address. Changes after this date cannot be guaranteed. HQ staff now work part time, so reducing the opportunity to make late changes, though Sylvia does her best.

NB, as notified in various communications, **the FA Bank Account was closed in August** and BACS payments have to be made to the main Area Account either by BACS or by cheques payable to Cheshire Area of NAFAS.

I remain your contact for Flower Arranger magazine queries and orders – some have been unclear, as not noted as part of the area team in AGM papers.

Catherine Bower

Area Flower Arranger Officer

9. Cluster Updates

Peony Cluster – Jean Jones

The Peony Cluster has been unable to meet since our last meeting at Astbury Garden Centre in August due to my ill health, but we have kept in touch with occasional email and some of us were able to catch up at the AGM. We hope to meet up again at the Club reps' forum at Owley Wood later in the month.

Best wishes to you all,

Jean Jones

Iris Cluster – Anne Walton

Iris Cluster were going to meet in October but due to the proximity of the Area meeting it was decided to cancel. There has been a good response from the Clubs in the cluster to offer help and support at the Area meeting. This is much appreciated. We will arrange a meet up for coffee after Christmas.

Lily Cluster – Colette Dunkley

No written report received, this cluster communicates verbally. In the Wirral there is to be a large exhibition on 26th, 27th September at Heswall URC.

Rose Cluster – Tracy-Anne Clancy

The Rose cluster meets on a regular basis and shares information about our individual club events. We are looking forward to Hale Barns' Golden Anniversary demonstration by Mark Entwistle on 14th December. Tickets @ £20 still available at time of writing (contact Kate Hughes).

Regular meetings have certainly helped with developing friendships within the group. This facilitates open and honest discussions on various current topics. Rose cluster stepped up to support the running of the recent AGM at Frodsham namely, setting up, meet and greet (signing in), raffle, refreshments, Christmas card stall, demonstration tickets admin, washing up, tidying. Thank you, ladies, for all your ideas, support and encouragement – it's very much appreciated.

Sunflower Cluster – David Mason

No written report was received.

All members present reported that they were happy with the cluster.

10. Forthcoming Meeting

A schedule for this meeting was included in the booklet.

11. Proposals

i. Re-Branding of CAN – see Appendix 1

At the recent AGM, the name of our 'organisation' was questioned, particularly the acronym NAFAS which is meaningless to members of the general public. The proposal is to discuss and decide on a new name to replace 'Cheshire Area of NAFAS' with a title that explains what we actually do. For example; Floral Art and Design Clubs – Cheshire. This would be our 'working title' which our branding / banners / business cards etc. would display. The wording 'Affiliated to NAFAS' with the National logo (for the time being) would feature but not be the main headline. Members will be requested to spend time at the forthcoming meeting to suggest a new name etc. Ideally, we would like to have all our new publicity materials ready for use at the 2024 RCCS at the latest. At the AGM members said that "NAFAS" is a term not known by the public and sounds "naff". We will still quote NAFAS but need some new publicity material.

Ideas for name were received from the clusters: Flower Arranging Community – Cheshire; Flower Arranging Brigade "FAB"; Cheshire Flower arrangers affiliated to NAFAS; Flower Clubs, Cheshire; Cheshire Flower Creations; Cheshire Floral Design Bunch; Creative Flowers; Cheshire Floral Design Enthusiasts. Further ideas were put in writing and will be considered by the Chairman's office.

ii. Affiliation Fees – Can Members of multiple clubs pay once? See Appendix 2

This was also raised at the AGM. The membership of Cheshire Area will be requested to work with the Area Treasurer to develop a system such that members of multiple clubs only pay their Affiliation Fees once. At the forthcoming Club Representatives meeting, we will commence the discussion, such that all the potential complications can be aired and then subsequently addressed. The process will be fact finding initially with implementation in October 2024 if possible.

Knutsford think we need a Cheshire database. We could pay to Area directly and then join a Club. Disley disagrees with a database because it would be heavy on administration.

Jean Jones thinks it is a major undertaking once but then could be low maintenance. TAC realises there is a GDPR issue but there is an established way to deal with this. Neston would like Club treasurers (or secretaries) to be involved in creating a database. Heald Green realise that there are different dates for each Club's year and this might be complicated because there are 35 Clubs in Cheshire.

12. AOB

Neston said there used to be a big show in Cheshire representing the various Clubs apart from RCCS. Could this happen again? Diane Fair (who had been involved with a previous Show) explained that last time this happened there was a large loss on the event. TAC said we may participate in other events as well as RCCS and be a presence for the County. Chester – there is staging available for a Club which Diane Fair would like to get rid of. It is advertised on their website.

The table decorations were awarded after a game of heads-and-tails and the raffle was drawn. The sales table raised >£50 for St Luke's hospice.

Tracy-Anne wished everyone a safe journey home and a Merry Christmas.

Appendix 1 Re-Branding 'Cheshire Area of NAFAS'

At the Club Representative's Forum on 29th November, members present were asked to think of a new name for 'Cheshire Area of NAFAS' which is meaningful to the general public and states what we actually are / do. Limited number of people know what NAFAS actually stands for.

The following suggestions were noted on 'post-its', are as written and are in no particular order:

- Cheshire Flower Arrangers
- Cheshire Floral Design Groups
- Cheshire Floral Fellowships
- Cheshire Flower Design Collection
- Cheshire Floral Design Bunch
- Cheshire Floral Collective
- Cheshire Floral Designs
- Floral Design Coalition
- Cheshire Floral Design Syndicate
- Cheshire Floral Design Consortium
- Cheshire Working with Flowers
- Cheshire Flower Design Groups
- Inspired Floral Design Cheshire
- Floral Design Groups of Cheshire
- Contemporary Flower Design Groups of Cheshire
- Floral Inspirations of Cheshire
- Cheshire Flowers for All
- Flowers for All UK
- Flower Arranging Community – Cheshire (4)
- Community Flowers
- Flower Arranging Brigade (FAB !!!)
- Flowers GB (Great Britain)
- Say it with Flowers
- Flowers for All

- Cheshire Flower Creations
- Flowers
- Flowers in Action
- Love Flower Clubs – Cheshire
- Love Flower Clubs
- Cheshire Flower Clubs (2)
- Flower Clubs Cheshire
- Flower Arrangers of Cheshire
- Cheshire Floral Design Enthusiasts
- Don't use NAFAS but use the full title
- Cheshire Flower Designer Clubs
- Creative Flowers
- Flower Designs of Cheshire
- Design with Flowers
- Cheshire Flower Arranging with Friends
- Cheshire Flower Arrangers – Affiliated to NAFAS (Emblem)
- Flower Clubs Cheshire (Best results from search engines on google etc)
- Flower Clubs of Cheshire

Notes:

- Don't let it sound like we are selling flowers
- We are thinking about the next generation
- Colours – could be multi-coloured logo so that a colour palate doesn't go out of fashion
- We all do different things with flowers – FLOWERS is central to it all
- Flower Arranging sounds old fashioned – Floral Design sounds more modern
- Not all Club members are arrangers or floral designers
- Clubs welcome people to watch, learn, enjoy – so not all floral designers or arrangers but still a Club
- Needs to include the word Flower or Floral and Cheshire

Appendix 2 Members should pay their Affiliation Fee only once per annum.....

At the Club Representative's Forum on 29th November, members present were asked to think of the issues / problems which would need to be addressed to ensure that members, who belong to multiple Clubs in Cheshire, only paid their Affiliation Fee once per annum.

The following points were noted on 'post-its', are as written and are in no particular order:

- Each Club will need to report on multiple memberships i.e. Card presented for exemption to Affiliation Fee
- Need an Area database to contain a list of multiple memberships – Area card for these only
- Members of multiple Areas (e.g. Cheshire & Flowers NorthWest) still pay multiple Affiliation Fees (as we can't tell others what to do)
- Need a database of all Area members so that all members have an Area membership card
- Year is calendar e.g. Prestbury AGM Feb, Disley Feb, Group 2000 Apr – 1st AGM in year pay and not subsequent
- Database – Multiple members have a Club number (to be issued by Area) . E.g. Member number Club 13 Member 5 would be 1305
- Data Protection implied by paying
- Each multiple member must identify their Primary Club. Primary Club to issue card and pay the Affiliation Fees

- No problem with Affiliation Fees going up to compensate
- Will this feed back to National – National will get less fees
- Members maybe members of Clubs outside the Cheshire Area – eg Mercia & N Wales, Flowers NorthWest
- Could members pay a Club subscription and a separate Affiliation Fee (the Affiliation Fee would be sent direct to Cheshire Area)
- Club years are all different e.g. Jan-Dec, Feb-Jan etc. Need to be clear which year the Affiliation Fees are for
- Not compulsory – members should have a choice of paying more than once if they wish to
- Cheshire Area have own database. Fee paid direct to Area who then send off HQ monies. Emailed a card. New member goes on website, pays Affiliation Fee for card then can join any Club with proof of fee paid. Affiliation Fee number.
- Dual memberships like WI
- GDPR issues?

18. Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 24th April 2024 at Lymm Golf Club

Meeting finished at 12.45pm

Signed.....

Date.....