



FLOWER CLUBS OF CHESHIRE

Inspire - Learn - Create

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Affiliated to the National Association of
Flower Arrangement Societies

Issue 28

March / April 2025



Hello Everyone

Spring has officially sprung! Welcome to the March & April issue of our Members Newsletter, where we are looking forward to the 2025 Competition Season. Also featured are demonstrations taking place at our Clubs, to which visitors are most welcome, plus plenty of workshop opportunities. If you are attending the Area Lunch at Lymm Golf Club on 9th April, I look forward to seeing you there – the first of our Emerald year get togethers (Psst: Area Social Day on 14th July at Abbeywood Estate & Gardens – save the date)

If you have some news or photos to share or would like your Club event featured in this newsletter, please send details to treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk.

Happy Reading!

Around the Clubs.....

Stockport Afternoon Flower Club shared a little bit of joy and love earlier this year. Organised by

Christine Leigh, Stockport Afternoon Flower Club held a Valentine workshop for 6 ladies, resident at Lisburne Court Care Home in Stockport.

As the ladies are not allowed to use scissors, all materials have to be cut to size and ready to go. A completed

design is taken for reference and then a step by step demonstration follows. Joan and Mary (Stockport Afternoon Flower Club) and a member of staff, Laura, help the ladies complete the design.

This is the third one we have done. The challenge is that these ladies do not retain the knowledge, so it is new each time and not always the same people. So not classes. - just one-offs.

As well as doing the red rose design in a heart shape bowl, sparkly hearts were added. All the ladies were given a Valentine card and Flower

Arranger magazine. There was a lot of "ooing and aahing" at the designs in the magazines and I noticed ones we left last time were in the reception area and the common room.

(Pictured L-R are: Joan, Christine & Mary – Stockport Afternoon Flower Club) [Editors Note: Well done ladies & thank you – such a lovely event! Very heartwarming indeed]



It's nearly Showtime - Competition Season 2025

Have you entered yet?

**If music be the food
of love..... 'read' on**



This year the Competition Schedule has a musical theme. There are 12 classes in total with opportunities for the novice competitor, a chance to enter as a team, two craft classes, semi imposed, plus classes for petite, hanging and still life exhibits. Please refer to the separate attached document for the full schedule and entry form.

[Note: The description and staging for Class 10 has been revised since the first published schedule]

Royal Cheshire Show

incorporating

CHESHIRE AREA SHOW

in the

'Theatre of Flowers'

TUESDAY 17th &

WEDNESDAY 18th JUNE 2025

**MAKE YOUR OWN KIND
OF MUSIC**



Nantwich Show 2025 - This takes place on Wednesday 30th July at Reaseheath College. The schedule is out now (included at the end of this Newsletter)

British Iris Society Late Spring Open Show - Sunday 27th April at Plumley Village Hall. Poster and Competition Schedule included at the end of this Newsletter.

National Show - 19th / 20th September at Gloucester Cathedral. Poster and details about ticketing and demonstrations later in this Newsletter. ***Don't forget competitor's applications can be submitted between **1st - 15th April via NAFAS website*****

Wishing all our competitors a very successful season.

Club Demonstrations April & May

Can't wait to see another demonstration? Visitors are welcome to attend demonstrations and workshops at all our Flower Clubs in Cheshire, with the Club's annual programme and all the details being available on our Flower Clubs of Cheshire website. Visitor's fees vary from club to club - please check the website www.nafascheshire.org.uk

Club	Date	Demonstration / Workshop	Demonstrator
Ashton Hayes & Tarvin	9th April	Demonstration	Tracy Davies
Ashton Hayes & Tarvin	14th May	Pandora's Box	Carron White
Chester F C	16th April	Spring Fun	Dean Sharpe
Chester F C	21st May	What a Wonderful World	Sionedd Hughes
Disley & District F C	9th April	It's a Disaster	Kathleen Williams
Disley & District F C	14th May	Headtales	Alison Cooper
Eddisbury & Sandiway F C	8th April	All Tide Up	Carron White
Eddisbury & Sandiway F C	13th May	Mama Mia	Jo Purdy
Elworth F C	19th May	Lakeland Life	Derek Morgan
Frodsham and District F C	9th April	Demonstration	Heather Hulme
Frodsham and District F C	14th May	Mama Mia	Jo Purdy
Goostrey F C	10th April	A Walk on the Wild Side	Jane Pugh
Hale Barns F C	8th April	Come Fly with Me	Karen Schofield
Hale Barns F C	13th May	Pave Workshop	Joan Wilkinson
Handbridge F C	17th April	Bringing Colour into Grey	Vanessa Wellock
Handbridge F C	15th May	Wood Aye	Ann Morgan
Heald Green F C	17th April	Conquest Plant Nursery	Anthony Norman
Heald Green F C	15th May	Bonne Anniversaire	Margaret Rumens
Hoylake F C	15th April	Under the Influence	Kate Russell
Hoylake F C	20th May	Demonstration	Tracy Davies
Knutsford Floral Design Club	16th April	into the Woods	Judy Watker
Knutsford Floral Design Club	21st May	Around the World	Becca Morris
Leek Floral Art Society	9th April	You're Invited	David Mason
Leek Floral Art Society	14th May	A Floral Dance	Sarah Fenton
Lymm Floral Art Group	28th April	From Dogs to Dogwood	Anne Russell
Lymm Floral Art Group	19th May	Seasonal Sensation	Leanne Williams
Mid Cheshire F C	23rd April	Foam Free Designs	Lieneke van der Veen
Mid Cheshire F C	28th May	What a Wonderful World	Dorothy Monks
Neston Flower Society	17th April	Patisserie of Flowers	Sarah Tomlinson
Neston Flower Society	15th May	Mama Mia	Jo Purdy
Nether Alderley F C	10th April	Let's Imagine	Beryl Cotton
Nether Alderley F C	15th May	What a Wonderful World	Dorothy Monks
New Brighton F A S	8th April	Serendipity	Leanne Williams
New Brighton F A S	13th May	This is my Life	Eleanor Davies
Prestbury F C	2nd April	Colours of Life	Debbie Davies
Prestbury F C	7th May	Winning at RHS Chelsea	Julie Pearson
Romiley F C	14th April	Inspiration by the Masters	Alex Gracey
Sale F C	2nd April	Joy of Spring	Catherine Baines
South Cheshire Floral Society	8th April	A little of what you Fancy	Kate Russell
South Cheshire Floral Society	13th May	Eco Flowers	Cheryl Bolton
Stockport Afternoon F C	28th April	My Journey with Plants	Don Billington
Stockport Afternoon F C	19th May	Going Green	Elizabeth Bishop
Tarporley F C	1st April	Colours of Life	Debbie Davies
Tarporley F C	6th May	A Journey's Tale	Namiye Sianga
The Bramall Hall F C	13th May	Workshop	Dawn Weaver
Upton-by-Chester FC	23rd April	Beyond Mere Words	Sionedd Hughes
Upton-by-Chester FC	28th May	Fairground Attractions	Leanne Williams
Widnes Blossoms	2nd April	Carnival of Colour	Leanne Williams
Widnes Blossoms	7th May	It's not just Black & White	Jane Pugh
Wilmslow Guild F C	30th April	Let's talk about Vivienne	Vanessa Wellock
Wilmslow Guild F C	21st May	Little by Little	Jacqui Owen
Wirral F C	7th April	All Things Bright & Beautiful	Namiye Sianga
Wirral F C	12th May	Demonstration	Becca Morris
Wistaston & District FC	2nd April	Goodbye Winter Hello Spring	Brenda Howell
Wistaston & District FC	7th May	Inspired by Nature	Becca Morris

Education, Classes & Workshops

The Elements & Principles workshop held recently was a great success. Organised by Pam Mosedale, our Education Representative and tutored by Jackie Charnock, delegates enjoyed a very interactive day with lots of participation in small group activities. Everyone brought a floral design to aid learning and the floral design titles were Spring Splendour and Simple Elegance.





Members' Workshop
Facilitated by Julie Pearson
National NAFAS Teacher
The designs are inspired by her book
'Floral Design Innovation & Craft'
Sunday 11th May 2025
Tarvin Community Centre
CH3 8LY
10.00am – 3.30pm
£25



Bring your own lunch – tea, coffee and homemade cakes provided
To find out more and to book your place email Pam at
education@nafascheshire.org.uk

Members' Workshop with Julie Pearson on Sunday 11th May at Tarvin

Julie Pearson, National Teacher from Bolton will be running the next Members' workshop. The designs are inspired by her book 'Floral Design Innovation & Craft'.

There will be a choice of designs using wax bases to create the foundation for the designs and a table setting using a collection of log slices. To reserve a place email education@nafascheshire.org.uk payment by BACS prior to the event is preferred.

Save the Dates in 2025

❖ Sunday 19th October – Frodsham Community Centre 10-3.30pm Education Day with Vanessa Wellock

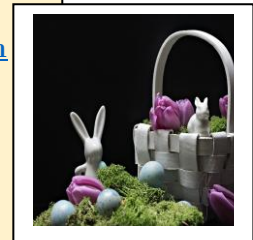
Bespoke Classes @ Eleanor's Studio (WA6 6XH)

Monday 31st March 1.30pm – An Easter Wreath £30

Saturday 12th April 10 – 12pm – An Easter Wreath £30

All materials included

Message for a place 07761 022871 Email griffithseleanor96@gmail.com



2025 Basic Flower Arranging Classes @ Eleanor's Studio (WA6 6XH)

Saturday 10 am - 12 noon

5th Apr

£25 a lesson - everything included

This is for everyone, including children (accompanied by an adult)

Message for a place 07761 022871 Email griffithseleanor96@gmail.com



**DISLEY & DISTRICT
FLOWER CLUB**



2025 Workshop Dates Open to non members

20 th March	Spring Tulips & Twigs
16 th Oct	Autumn Door wreath
04 th Dec	Christmas Centrepiece

JOIN US: 7pm for 7.30pm, High Lane Village Hall,
Windlehurst Road, Stockport SK6 8AB
Enquiries@ddfc.org.uk





READY, STEADY, ARRANGE

Start your flower arranging journey with us!



Learn about Elements & Principles of Design
Explore Vertical, Parallel and Triangular shapes
Learn how best to use that Supermarket bunch!



A simple vertical design with supermarket flowers



A buttonhole for a wedding

No-floral foam design



Contemporary wire bouquet holder

Classes take place fortnightly at the URC Community Hall, Moorside Lane, Neston CH64 6UZ. 10.30 to 12.00

Starting on February 11th 2025 Cost: 6 sessions £45
email: nestonflowersociety@gmail.com for more info.
or call Pam on 0151 342 2060

Registered Charity No. 1161124

Knutsford Floral Design Club

Spring Fun with Flowers
with Joan Wilkinson

Wednesday 2nd April 2025, 2-4pm,
at Plumley Village Hall, WA16 0TR

£25 for all materials and refreshments,
just bring your scissors.

Tickets from Linda Clowes:
01477 532266



Wistaston Flower Club

Workshop with Gill McGregor from Hertfordshire

Wistaston Memorial Hall and Community Centre
Church Lane, Wistaston CW2 8ER

Thursday 5th June 2025
9.30 for 10.00am start finishing at approx 4.00pm

We are delighted to welcome Gill McGregor to Wistaston. Gill is an International Floral Art Designer, Author, National Demonstrator and Teacher.

Come and enjoy a special day with Gill and her

"TRENDY TECHNIQUES"

Gill has two innovative arrangements to share,
a distinctive free standing design and
a contemporary vertical tied design

Cost £45 including refreshments
Please bring your own lunch

To find out more and to book your place please contact:

Carol on 07989880679 or cazc47@gmail.com OR

Judy on 07506022709 or judy.gratton@live.co.uk

NUMBERS ARE LIMITED AND WILL BE ALLOCATED
ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS

Knutsford Floral Design Club Open Demonstration and Workshop with Ioachim Erema



Save the dates :

Demonstration: Friday 10th October
2025 at 7:30pm (doors open 6:45pm)

Workshop : Saturday 11th October,
10am start (doors open at 9:30am)

Venue: Chelford Village Hall,
SK11 9AS More details to follow.

Are your Club details up to date on our Website?

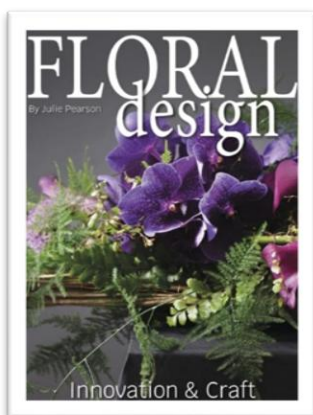
Don't forget to send your latest **2025 Club Programme** to Mike Gallagher for inclusion on our website. Additionally, if you have classes to offer, please let us know so that we can include them on our 'Flower School of Cheshire' classes page / advertise for free!

webmaster@nafascheshire.org.uk

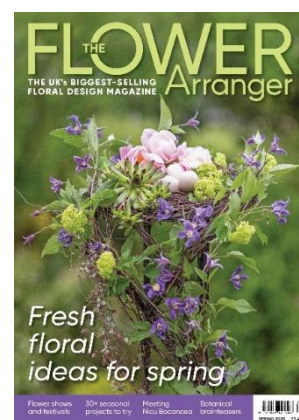
Publications

The NAFAS publication 'Leaf & Plant Techniques Part Two' is available from treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk priced at £4.75

Blue Forms are also available from treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk priced £1.50 for 10 plus postage.



Julie Pearson's new book 'FLORAL design'. The book retails at £29.99.



Orders should be placed via your Club Flower Arranger Officer who will notify Catherine on the email below.

Flower Arranger Magazine 2025

To order your copies or for more information contact your Club Flower Arranger representative who will liaise with Catherine on flower.arranger@nafascheshire.org.uk

2025 Orders to Catherine Bower - no later than 9 November 2024

	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
Any Changes to Catherine no later than	Saturday 9 November	Saturday 15 February	Saturday 17 May	Saturday 16 August
Club Deliveries guide date	Thursday 9 January	Wednesday 9 April	Thursday 10 July	Thursday 9 October

NEWS FROM NATIONAL

National Show

Competition Schedule

This is now available to view on the NAFAS website www.nafas.org.uk

Click on 'About' 'Latest News'

Competitors applications are to be received between 1st – 15th April via the NAFAS website

Stewards required for the National Show – see later

National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies

Autumn Appassionato

*Inspired by a season - an evening of
flower arranging and fun
with innovative National demonstrators:*

**Emily Broomhead
Elizabeth Graham**

**Friday, 19th September 2025
at 7.30 pm
Doors open: 6.30pm**

Gloucester Guildhall,
23, Eastgate Street, Gloucester GL1 1NS
T: 01452 503050
E: guildhall.boxoffice@gloucester.gov.uk

 www.nafas.org.uk

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER
ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES
PRESENTS

NATURE'S CHALLENGE



NAFAS

NATIONAL SHOW
2025

SEPT 19&20 | GLOUCESTER
CATHEDRAL

PURCHASE TICKETS AT WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM

 WWW.NAFAS.ORG.UK
CHARITY REGISTRATION NO. 1101548



Tickets for Show

www.trybooking.com

PREVIEW EVENING TICKETS on sale 1st March 2025 @ £20

Thursday 18th September, 6.30-8.00pm

Visitors receive a glass of bubbly or soft drink

Ticket does not give access to the prize giving

Trading stands will be open

DAY TICKETS on sale 1st March 2025 @ £30

GROUP TICKETS on sale 1st March @ £25 (minimum 10)

TWO DAY TICKETS on sale 1st March 2025 @ £50

2025 Club & Area Events

TARPORLEY FLOWER CLUB

'FLORAL JEWELS AND ARTISTRY'

DEMONSTRATION BY GILL MCGREGOR, INTERNATIONAL DEMONSTRATOR

at

TARPORLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Tuesday, 3rd June 2025 at 1.30pm

TICKETS £15

including refreshments

available at the door

For more information contact Carole Chia (carolechia59@gmail.com)



Wistaston Flower Club

Demonstration with Gill McGregor from Hertfordshire

**Wistaston Memorial Hall and Community Centre
Church Lane, Wistaston CW2 8ER**

**Wednesday 4th June 2025
2.30pm (doors open at 1.45pm)**

"Floral Jewels and Artistry"

We are delighted to welcome Gill McGregor to Wistaston. Gill is an International Floral Art Designer, Author, National Demonstrator and Teacher.

Visitors will be made very welcome £15.00

For more information or to book your ticket please contact

Carol on 07989880679 or cazc47@gmail.com OR

Judy on 07506022709 or judy.gratton@live.co.uk

Visitor numbers are limited so don't delay book today!



Save the Dates

Celebrating 55 Years of 'Cheshire'

Our Social Day is on 14th July @ Abbeywood Estate & Gardens

Our Emerald Anniversary AGM Demonstration will be by

Nick Grounds

(National Demonstrator)

2nd October @ Frodsham Community Centre

(All Details to Follow)



Instagram

Our Instagram page is 'Flower Clubs of Cheshire'. Type in: [flowerclubsofcheshire](#) to find us. We would like to help publicise / share information about your Club on our Instagram page – future events, activities, workshops, designs, anything Flower Club related. Please send any photos and a brief description to treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk

From All of Us

@

Flower Clubs of Cheshire

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

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.



THE BRITISH IRIS SOCIETY

The British Iris Society is a Registered Charity No. 261896

Show Secretary: Sharon Evans
Email: shows@britishirissociety.org.uk

2025 LATE SPRING Open Show Sunday, April 27th at Plumley Village Hall, Plumley nr Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 0TR

STAGING exhibits may take place from 8.30am until 9.45am
Doors open to the public from 10am until 4pm

- Class 1. One spike of a bearded iris, to be staged in a BIS vase.
- Class 2. One - three spikes of beardless iris, to be staged in a BIS vase.
- Class 3. A pot, pan or vase of species iris or other Iridaceae.
- Class 4. A photographic exhibit of an iris flower mounted or unmounted but not framed.
- Class 5. Iris or Iridaceae inspired art work.
- Class 6. A floral arrangement which must include irises or Iridaceae. Natural plant material and accessories allowed. Width up to 60cm.
- Class 7. Any food item, sweet or savoury, inspired by the iris/Iridaceae (decoration or ingredients), made by the exhibitor.
- Class 8. Childrens Class: age 4-7. A piece of art work depicting irises.
- Class 9. Childrens Class: age 8-13. A piece of art work depicting irises.

Rules:

The show is open to anybody with no age limit!

- For classes 1-3 the irises must be grown by the exhibitor.
- Vases will be provided for the first two classes and they must be used.
- No floral foam is to be used.
- All exhibits must be ready for judging by 10.00am.
- Judging will take into account the quality of cultivation, health and presentation of plant material exhibited.
- The award of any prize is at the discretion of the judges.
- Any complaints concerning the Judges' decisions must be made in writing and lodged with the Show Secretary before 12noon on the day of the Show. The Judges decisions are final.

Prizes. A National Garden Centre Gift Voucher will be awarded to the winners of classes 1-7 and Amazon Vouchers will be awarded to the winners in Classes 8 & 9.



THE NANTWICH SHOW 2025

Wednesday 30th July 2025

FLORAL ART SECTION

(Supported and sponsored by Nantwich Flower Club and Wistaston and District Flower Club)

Secretary: Mrs Judy Gratton
487a Crewe Road, Wistaston, Crewe, Cheshire CW2 6QP
Tel: 01270 650341 or 07506022709
email: judy.gratton@live.co.uk

Entry Fee: Each class £1.00

Closing Date for Entries: Friday 25th July 2025

Judge: Mrs Sioned Hughes

“CHESHIRE DELIGHTS”

Class 1. Gardens of Cheshire: An exhibit.

Space allowed: width 80cm, depth 60cm, height optional.

Class 2. Festival of Food: A foam free exhibit

Space allowed: width 80cm, depth 60cm, height optional.

Class 3. Time for a G & T: A petite exhibit

Space allowed: width 25cm, depth 25cm, height 37cm.

Class 4. Bee Friendly: A parallel exhibit.

Space allowed: width 80cm, depth 60cm, height optional.

Class 5. Woodland Walk: An exhibit. Foliage to predominate

Space allowed: width 80cm, depth 60cm, height optional.

Class 6. Mad as a Hatter: An exhibit.

Space allowed: width 80cm, depth 60cm, height optional.

This is a novice class and is only open to exhibitors who have not been placed first at a previous Nantwich Show Floral Art competition.

School Entries

Land Art (can be a craft item)

In the style of Andy Goldsworthy

Please contact the Floral Art Secretary for further information.

IMPORTANT

All sizes are approximate.

1. All classes are to be brought in prepared and ready to assemble.
2. All classes are to be staged on tabling approximately 75cm high.
3. The staging cloths are of a mushroom colour.
4. Exhibits will be viewed and judged from the front.
5. Nothing is to be attached to the marquee.
6. The use of aerosol sprays inside the marquee is not permitted.
7. Only one entry per class.
8. All exhibits left at owner's risk.

While we do not prohibit the use of floral foam, we ask that you respect and be mindful of the environment and sustainability.

RULES

All exhibits will be judged in accordance with NAFAS 'Competitions Manual' Fourth Edition 2023. The judges' decision will be final.

An exhibit is composed of natural plant material, with or without accessories, contained within a space as specified in a show schedule.

Exhibits must be staged at the show venue unless otherwise stated in the show schedule.

Disqualification will take place for the following reasons:-

- Failure to comply with any specific requirement of a class as stated in the show schedule e.g. the measurements or the components.
- Inclusion of fresh plant material that does not have the roots or the cut ends of stems in water retaining material. Exceptions: Air plants, cacti, fruits, fungi, grass turf, lichen, moss, succulents, vegetables and long-lasting plant material WHICH WILL REMAIN TURGID FOR THE DURATION OF THE SHOW. (Definition of turgid – the state of firmness of plant tissue relating from adequate moisture causing the plant cells to be fully expanded).
- Inclusion of artificial plant material (unless specifically allowed in the show schedule).

For further details and definitions, please refer to the NAFAS Competitions Manual Fourth Edition 2023, in accordance with which all classes will be judged.

STAGING

Exhibits may be staged between 1.00pm and 3.00pm on Tuesday 29th July 2025.

Exhibits may be removed after 5.30pm on show day and must be cleared by 6.30pm.

JUDGING

Judging will commence at 3.30pm on Tuesday 29th July 2024.

In addition, Class 1 "Gardens of Cheshire" will also be judged as "People's Choice" and voted on by the general public. Voting to close at 3.00pm on show day.

Prizes for all classes: 1st £10, 2nd £7, 3rd £4

THE NANTWICH SHOW - FLORAL ART SECTION

Entries Close: Friday 25th July 2025

Class No	Description	Secretary's Comments

Name _____

Address _____

Contact No. _____

Email _____

Completed entry forms can be posted to:

Floral Art Section Committee

c/o Mrs Judy Gratton, 487a Crewe Road, Wistaston, Crewe, Cheshire CW2 6QP or email:

judy.gratton@live.co.uk

The entry fee per class is £1.00 to be paid (cash only) on Tuesday 29th July 2025, when staging exhibits.

NAFAS NATIONAL COMPETITIONS 2025

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

Friday 19th September to Saturday 20th September 2025

REQUEST FOR PEOPLE TO ACT AS STEWARD

If you are planning to attend this prestigious event, would you please consider extending your visit and do a 2 hour stint as a Steward for one of the classes?

**Stewards are required for 2 hour stints between
10.00am and 6.00pm on the Friday and Saturday.**

**Stewards will also be required for the staging session on
Thursday morning 18th September between 7.00am and 12.00noon.**

There will be a secure area for Stewards' personal belongings.

Light refreshments will be available.

Unfortunately, we are not able to offer any parking facilities.

If you are interested, would you please send the following information by email to:

bob@darklight.net

Full name Email address Date available Hours available

Correspondence will be handled by email for the most part.