



Hello Everyone

Welcome to the Midsummer issue of our Members Newsletter. It has been a very busy few weeks across the Flower Clubs of Cheshire

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!

Congratulations & Celebrations

Over the past few weeks, Flower Clubs of Cheshire have been celebrating milestone anniversaries, successes at the Cheshire Show and National Flower Arranging Day. Here are the highlights.....

Prestbury Flower Club celebrated their 60th anniversary at the beginning of June with a demonstration by National Demonstrator Sara Barrow, with members and guests also enjoying prosecco and cake.

Marguerite Wahab welcomed Dorothy Irvin, President of Flower Clubs of Cheshire, accompanied by Tracy-Anne Clancy, to Prestbury. Welcome flowers were arranged by club Chairman Pam Dennett and celebratory cake made by club member Lynda Brant.



Congratulations!



Also celebrating their Diamond Anniversary were New Brighton Flower Arrangement Society. Members enjoyed a buffet lunch followed by a very amusing 'anniversary' talk by speaker Kathleen Williams. Welcome flowers were created by club President Edena Joughin and table arrangements by club Chairman Colette Dunkley assisted by Louise Jones. The celebratory cake was created by club member Maureen.



Congratulations are also due to all the prize winners and award winners at the Royal County Cheshire Show. The standard was incredibly high in the 'Theatre of Flowers' with the exhibits being admired by circa 4,000 visitors to the marquee.

The Flower Clubs of Cheshire website displays photos taken of the individual class award winners and entries in every category. You can also access individual class presentation photos and discover who are the trophy and special award winners.

Access all of them at: www.nafascheshire.org.uk/royal-cheshire-show-2025.htm

The Cheshire Show Supplementary newsletter takes a look behind the scenes at the show. Here are our Award Winners for 2025:



The Lowe Trophy - Best Individual exhibit in the show - Eleanor Griffiths.



The Jack Hamlyn Trophy - Runner up to the best individual exhibit in the show -



Norie Eve Memorial Trophy - Best use of colour in any class - Colette Dunkley.



Margaret A Taylor Trophy - Best use of plant material in any class - Dorothy Monks.



Peoples Choice Award Winners - Frances, Susan S, Wendy I



Perpetual Liverpool Festival Goblet - Most points overall in the show - Eleanor Griffiths.



National Flower Arranging Day was also celebrated in June with our Instagram competition. Thank you so much to everyone who entered – we had 15 entries in total and our Instagram following has increased significantly, with followers now in Australia and South Africa! Our winner was a lady who was inspired by all the designs in the ‘Theatre of Flowers’ so went home and created her own design with flowers from her garden in a charity shop jug. She intends to treat herself to a flower bouquet with her voucher and will enjoy arranging those too. Well done!



Around the Clubs



On 29th May **Tarporley Flower Club** enjoyed a private garden visit and afternoon tea at Tirley Garth, Willington, Tarporley the home of Sir Phil and Lady Redmond . The photograph shows Chairman Elaine Meredith presenting The Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, Lady Alexis Redmond with the floral gift designed by member Carole Chia.



Tarporley Flower Club held a successful plant sale during the May meeting. Chair Elaine Meredith opened the meeting giving recognition to the 80th VE Day Anniversary .

Clare Downing from Goostrey Flower Club is involved with the Great Budworth Flower Festival in aid of the church's restoration. They have been fundraising for several months for a significant flower budget, so it should be a wonderful event. [Good luck Clare – looking forward to seeing it]



On Wednesday 4th June we welcomed Gill McGregor to Wistaston Flower Club with her title "Floral Jewels and Artistry". Gill kept us entertained with her stories on her observations of life, not to mention the stunning flower arrangements!

On Thursday 5th June Gill ran a workshop "Trendy Techniques" which was much enjoyed. Fabulous comments were received from the attendees.



Gill, pictured with one of her arrangements

Goostrey's Floral exhibit for Rose Day in Goostrey.



Great Budworth Flower Festival

"The Joys of a Rural Parish"

Friday- Sunday 11-13 July 2025 10-4pm



Each of the floral exhibits will be inspired by a different hymn and are to be created by different village groups, reflecting the vibrancy and diversity of this beautiful village.

Tea and cakes will be served throughout the day at the village hall and the George and Dragon pub will be serving a special menu for the occasion.

There's also a local art exhibition, trips up the Bell Tower for the amazing views and a musical concert in the church on the evening of 12 July.

Admission is free to the Flower Festival but voluntary donations to the church are welcome.

Contact Maggie Earl 07970 927161 for further information.

Knutsford Floral Design Club were represented (and some members competed) at the British Iris Society late Spring Show. Congratulations to Carole Chia and Felicity Dykstra with your winning designs. It was a great opportunity to collaborate with another society and gave Flower Clubs of Cheshire an opportunity to showcase what we do. Huge thank you to Beryl Cotton, who not only represented Flower Clubs of Cheshire at this event but also created several demonstration pieces using Iris. The designs were subsequently raffled off. The British Iris Society were extremely impressed with Beryl's creations – they had never seen anything like this before. I suspect we will be getting another invite – well done Beryl! (2026 show is at RHS Bridgewater).



Neston Flower Society have had a Blooming Busy Time! A 'Flowered Out' Pat Wood sent us this report:

We were delighted to support the Flower Festival celebrating 150 years of Neston Parish Church's present building which was consecrated in 1875. Beautiful stained-glass windows, all enhanced with fabulous flowers. Stained glass windows were used to add beauty and colour, also to help teach people about religion when most could not read. History coming alive.



1st World War window – a sea of poppies and corn.

Neston Female Friendly Society is 211 years old - the only one in the country, such a long tradition. Young girls and ladies walk through the streets carrying staffs of flowers to the Parish church, still beautifully decorated - then after the service on to 'take afternoon tea.' Panic! No local florists would make the staffs. SOS to Neston Flower Society. We came to the rescue making 40 colourful staffs. Samantha Dixon, our MP, was given time off from Westminster to walk. The Lord Mayor of Chester, the Mayor of Neston and other dignitaries took part. We made staffs for our friends from the Ukraine - they were made so welcome.

[Thank you to Neston Flower Society, for playing your part in the community.]



Wistaston Flower Club

Nantwich Show 2025

Wednesday 30th July 2025
at Reaseheath Old Hall, Wettenhall Road,
Reaseheath CW5 6EL

This year the Floral Art schedule is "Cheshire Delights" to celebrate why our county is fabulous!

There are 6 classes in total including a foam free design, a petite arrangement and a novice class.

Further information and how to enter can be found on
www.nantwichshow.org
or contact

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

The Floral Art section is jointly sponsored and supported by
Nantwich Flower Club & Wistaston Flower Club

The schedule is included at the end of this newsletter.



Stockport & Romiley Flower Clubs created the publicity exhibit depicting 'Wicked' in the 'Theatre of Flowers @ the Cheshire Show. (See Cheshire Show Supplement).

Club Demonstrations July & August

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 July	Inspired by Ceramics'	Jane Tully
Chester F C	16th July	A walk on the Wild Side'	Jane Pugh
Disley & District F C	9th July	A'A Walk in the Woods'	Tracy Davies
Eddisbury & Sandiway F C	8th July	Jewels of July'	Catherine Gledhill
Elworth F C	21st July	Green Spirit'	Catharine Baines
Frodsham and District F C	9th July	Demonstration	Mark Entwistle
Goostrey F C	10th July	My Journey with Plants'	Don Billington
Hale Barns F C	8th July	Workshop	Kathleen Williams
Hale Barns F C	12th August	Beyond mere Words'	Sionedd Hughes
Handbridge F C	17th July	Around the World'	Becca Morris
Heald Green F C	17th July	Summer is Here'	Catharine Baines
Holt F C	15th July	Seasonal Sensations'	Leanne Williams
Hoylake F C	15th July	A Wonderful Life	Dorothy Monks
Knutsford Floral Design Club	16th July	Patisserie of Flowers'	Sarah Tomlinson
Leek Floral Art Society	9th July	A little bit of this, that and the other'	CaSu
Lymm Floral Art Group	21st July	Triangle' Workshop	Joan Wilkinson / Dorothy Monks
Mid Cheshire F C (Hartford)	23rd July	Seasonal Sensations'	Leanne Williams
Mid Cheshire F C (Hartford)	27th August	Woodland Walks	Derek Morgan
Neston Flower Society	17th July	The Gift of Flowers	Clare Downing / Maggie Earle
New Brighton F A S	8th July	Botanical Art'	Mark Entwistle
Prestbury F C	2nd July	A Slice of Summer	Andrew Grisewood
Romiley F C	14th July	Summer Fun	Dean Sharpe
Sale	2nd July	Let's Celebrate'	Kathleen Williams
South Cheshire Floral Society	8th July	Dedicated Follower of Fashion'	Cynthia Preston-Jones
Stockport Afternoon F C	30th June	A Florist's Tale - 30 years at the Thorny End'	Linda Hardman
Stockport Afternoon F C	28th July	Traveller's Tails	Denise Hubbard
Tarporley F C	1st July	It's a Wonderful World'	Sionedd Hughes
The Bramall Hall F C	22nd July	Workshop	Led by Dawn Weaver
Widnes Blossoms	2nd July	A Florist's Tale - 30 years at the Thorny End'	Linda Hardman
Wirral F C	7th July	The Wonders of Wales'	Delyth Price
Wistaston & District FC	2nd July	Midsummer Madness'	Andrew Lloyd

Education, Classes & Workshops



Knutsford Floral Design Club Open Demonstration and Workshop with Ioachim Erema

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

Early bird Ticket £25 (paid before 31st August),
£30 from 1st September.

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

Early bird Ticket £45 (paid before 31st August),
£50 from 1st September

Venue: Chelford Village Hall, SK11 9AS

For Tickets (non refundable)
Email : Treasurer@Knutsfordfloraldesign.co.uk



NESTON FLOWER SOCIETY INVITE YOU TO A CHURCH FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP

CALLING all Church Flower Arrangers and all members of the congregation who have a passion for flowers and would love to 'have a go'

Do you find arranging Pedestals scary?.....Fonts a bit tricky....arranging Wedding Flowers a bit overwhelming?..... Then come to our **Church Flower Arranging Workshop** on Tuesday, 16th September 2025 between 10am and 3pm and develop your arranging skills using a pedestal and flowers of your choice. There will be a small charge of £15 for the day. We can also explain how to use more sustainable methods of arranging and save our planet!



We will show you how to best use flowers and foliage cheaply, and in season, to help you achieve a traditional or modern design – all in time for **Harvest Festival!** The workshop will be run by our qualified NAFAS teachers (National Association of Flower Arrangers Societies) and expert flower arrangers, to offer you a really fun day. Why not bring a friend?

If you would like to attend the workshop or find out more about Neston Flower Society please contact: The Secretary, **Barbara Fisher** on **07919983209** or email **barbfish54@gmail.com**.

Save the Dates in 2025

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



Do you enjoy competing?

Wondering how the judge chooses the prizes?

Want to learn more?



Join us for this step-by-step modular course to find out how the Elements & Principles are put through their paces.

A certificated Introductory Day will be held at Tarvin Community Centre on Sunday 7th September. 10am—3pm
The cost for each of the four modules will be £25

Further days:-November 2nd, February 22nd, May 17th
For more details, contact Pam—p.fw@btinternet.com

Party Time.....

When your 8 year old grand-daughter asks you for a flower arranging activity as part of her birthday party how could you refuse? Jean Jones, of Eddisbury & Sandiway Flower Club, was delighted to teach 6 girls and 1 boy the art of flower arranging. They absolutely loved it!!



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.

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



Any Changes to Catherine no later than	Autumn	Winter
		Saturday 16 August
Club Deliveries guide date	Thursday 10 July	Thursday 9 October

NEWS FROM NATIONAL



Save the Date

Celebrating 55 Years of 'Cheshire'

Our Emerald Anniversary AGM Demonstration will be by

Nick Grounds

(National Demonstrator)

2nd October @ Frodsham Community Centre

(All Details to Follow)



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

FLORAL ART SECTION

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.