



# FLOWER CLUBS OF CHESHIRE

Inspire - Learn - Create

Affiliated to the National Association of  
Flower Arrangement Societies

## MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Issue 40

July 2026



Hello Everyone

Welcome to the July issue of our Members Newsletter. In this issue; we offer congratulations to all our competitors and winners in the 'Theatre of Flowers' @ the RCCS, celebrate National Flower Arranging day, have details of our AGM and afternoon demonstration by Julia Loudon, see what all our Clubs have been celebrating recently, and share information about this year's Education Days. Also, have you entered yet for the Nantwich Show? Don't forget to buy your tickets for the Open Demonstration in Lymm – a chance to see two demonstrators from Ireland (one of whom is our NAFAS National President!) and maybe enjoy a spot of lunch at the hotel beforehand.

We also wish Debbie Davies, our Flower Clubs of Cheshire representative for the WAFA elimination competition, every success at the forthcoming event. If you have some news or photos to share or would like your Club event featured in this newsletter, please send details to [administration@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:administration@nafascheshire.org.uk).

Happy Reading!

### Top Marks @ RCCS



Huge congratulations to Gill Jackson who not only won 'Best in Show' in the 'Theatre of Flowers' @ the Royal Cheshire County Show for her exhibit in 'Knit, Stitch & Weave' but was also awarded the Liverpool Perpetual Goblet for totalling the most points across all her entries. Stunning work Gill and thank you for your support.



Pictured right is Dawn Weaver who was awarded 'Runner Up to Best in Show'. Fabulous work Dawn and thank you for demonstrating in the 'Theatre of Flowers'.



Pictured left to right are: Carol Baker (Best use of Colour) and winner of the People's Choice Award, Denise Hubbard (Best use of Garden Plant Material) and Phil Holland (Best Novice Award). Congratulations to you all – such fantastic designs.



For all the results, awards and photos visit

<https://www.nafascheshire.org.uk/royal-cheshire-show-2026.htm>

# THE NANTWICH SHOW

CELEBRATING AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CHESHIRE

The Nantwich Show takes place on Wednesday 29th July 2026 at Nantwich Showground, Reaseheath College, Wettenhall Road, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 6EL

This year Floral Art can be found in the Garden Pavillion, kindly sponsored by Cheshire Life Magazine.

The overall theme this year is "Through The Decades" to celebrate two significant anniversaries, Nantwich Flower Club Emerald (55 years) and Wistaston & District Flower Club Blue Sapphire (65 years).

The Floral Art schedule is attached to this newsletter. We do hope that you will consider taking part.

With kind regards

Judy Gratton  
Floral Art Secretary  
Nantwich Show

**Keen to compete again in Cheshire? There is still time to enter the Nantwich Show.**

## **SOUTHPORT FLOWER SHOW:**

**Dates:** Thursday 20th – Sunday 23rd August

**Venue:** Victoria Park, Southport, PR8 1RX

**Website:** <https://southportflowershow.co.uk/>

**The schedule is appended to this newsletter**

## National Flower Arranging Day 2026

Thank you to everyone who supported National Flower Arranging Day this year. As this event now falls at the end of our Area Show week, many of the designs, surplus flowers and the publicity display (this year created by Disley & District Flower Club) were re-purposed to promote our Clubs and the art of flower arranging. Here are a few of the creations:



From Christine Leigh (**Stockport Flower Club**): Lisburne Court returned some baskets to us after a workshop. I filled them with a few supermarket roses and cutting from my garden. I had an appointment today at the Academy HQ in Stalybridge. They do not have a flower club in the town and are only a short drive from our club venue. I left one on the reception desk and gave the others to some lovely, and very happy, ladies.



**Tarporley Flower Club** added some floral cheer to the local Post Office

The publicity exhibit in the 'Theatre of Flowers' created by **Disley & District Flower Club** along with other designs from the Show were displayed in venues around Macclesfield to promote National Flower Arranging Day.



**Neston Flower Society** created these designs from the Show flowers and gifted them to: Left to Right – The Doctor's Surgery, Flowers for a poorly member, The lovely Keith on the cheese stall at Neston Friday market and Wirral hospice St Johns. Thank you ladies - Beautiful



# Area Events 2026

Tickets now on sale



Flower Clubs of Cheshire



## 56<sup>th</sup> AGM

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2026

@ Frodsham Community Centre

Fluin Lane, Frodsham, WA6 7QN

AGM: 11.00am until 12.30pm

1.30pm floral art demonstration by:

**Julia Loudon**

National Demonstrator from SAFAS and  
Northumberland & Durham

## ‘A Floral Scottish Tapestry’

Tickets £25 or early bird £20 before 31<sup>st</sup> August

Email [administration@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:administration@nafascheshire.org.uk) to  
book your tickets

Members & guests are welcome to attend the demonstration  
even if not attending the AGM

# Area Education Days in 2026



**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October at Plumley Village Hall WA16 0TR**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October at Tarvin Community Centre CH3 8LY**

10.00am until 3.30pm

**£35 each day**

**An opportunity to learn some contemporary design skills and techniques from the very talented**

## Helen Hare



**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October at Plumley – some simpler designs**

A fun, relaxing day learning new contemporary techniques to arrange flowers ready for Christmas using natural materials such as bark, wood shavings, logs and phormium weaving. Not suitable for absolute beginners, but everyone with some hands on experience is welcome.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October at Tarvin – more complex designs**

Aimed at experienced floral designers. The topic will include contemporary designs using circles and copper pipes.

Photo of the optional designs, a list of materials, inexpensive flowers and foliage will be sent out prior to the events.

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](mailto:education@nafascheshire.org.uk)

## Spotlight on the Area Website

Like most organisations, Flower Clubs of Cheshire has an informative website: [www.nafascheshire.org.uk](http://www.nafascheshire.org.uk) with a series of drop-down menu options. If you want to find out more about who we are, what we do, what's going on at Area and Clubs or need to find a demonstrator, here's your answer.....

### Are your Club details up to date on our Website?

Don't forget to send your information to Mike Gallagher (or Vanessa our Area Secretary) 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](mailto:webmaster@nafascheshire.org.uk)

### Flower Arranger Magazine 2026

Please place orders for additional copies via your Club Flower Arranger Officer

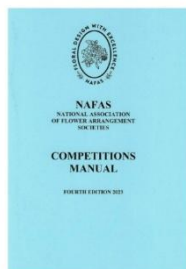


Our Flower Arranger Magazine co-ordinator is Sharon Hooper. Sharon can be contacted via email on: [flower.arranger@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:flower.arranger@nafascheshire.org.uk). If you would like to increase your order or have a change of delivery address to advise, please let Sharon know as soon as you can.

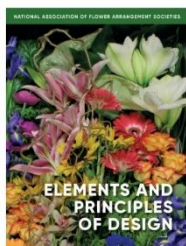
NAFAS News which used to be included inside the Flower Arranger magazine can now be viewed online, on the NAFAS website. [www.NAFAS.org.uk](http://www.NAFAS.org.uk) / About / NAFAS News

## NAFAS Publications

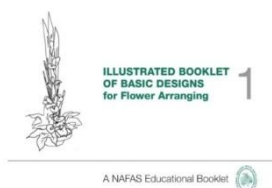
Flower Clubs of Cheshire have these books in stock and can be bought / collected at our meetings to save postage. Alternatively, email [administration@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:administration@nafascheshire.org.uk) and we can arrange to post one to you.



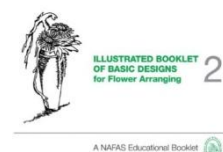
£5



£9



£5.50



£4.50

Blue Forms are available from [treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@nafascheshire.org.uk)

priced £1.50 for 10 plus postage

# Around the Clubs

Lymm Floral Art Group  
invites you to our Emerald Anniversary  
**We're 55!**  
**Let's Celebrate!**  
with  
**James Burnside  
and Alan Beatty**  
NAFAS National Demonstrators  
Flower Arranging Demonstration  
**Monday 21 September 2026  
at 2.00pm**  
**@ Statham Lodge Hotel, Lymm**  
(Warrington Road, Lymm,  
WA13 9BP)  
Tickets £30 (Early Bird £25 before 31<sup>st</sup> July)  
Email [lfagzoom@gmail.com](mailto:lfagzoom@gmail.com) to book

## Congratulations!

### Wistaston District Flower Club - 65<sup>th</sup> Blue Sapphire Anniversary Celebration!

Wistaston Flower Club have recently celebrated 65 years of Blooming Together and Friendship. Celebrations started in April with a Workshop, when 15 of our members joined together and created a Pot et Fleur.

On Club day, members enjoyed a wonderful demonstration by Lorena Dyer from Coventry – titled 'Are You Sitting Comfortably'. Celebrating with Tea and Cake also each member was presented with a gift from the Club of a Lavender plant – 'Lavender is for devotion, friendship and 65 years blooming together!' What a wonderful celebration!



Jonathan Moseley visited  
Goostrey Flower Club recently –  
what a fabulous demonstration!



Carole Chia represented Tarporley Flower Club at the recent Flower Show held at St. John and Holy Cross Church, Cotebrook. Carole created a beautiful foam free design depicting "Flowers for Nature" whilst advertising Tarporley Flower Club.



Congratulations to  
Shiona Fosh (Sale  
Flower Club) who  
has achieved her  
Level 5 Master  
Diploma in  
Professional Floristry  
from Reaseheath  
College.





Iris Cluster met at Tarporley Garden Centre recently for a coffee and chat session. A passing stranger took this photo! Six Clubs from the Cluster were represented and we had a pleasant time, sharing thoughts and ideas. Thank you to everyone for their support for the Cluster and contributions to the discussions – Anne Walton (Iris Cluster Lead).

### Disley & District's Open Demonstration

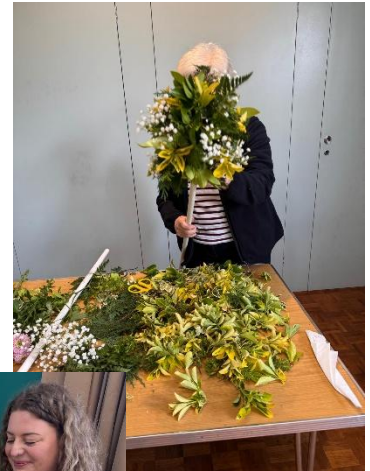
Visitors, members, friends and flower lovers got a real treat earlier in the month when French demonstrator Arnaud Metairie entertained a full house at Disley & District's open demonstration with his beautiful designs and witty banter. Receiving a standing ovation at the end of a lively, colourful Open Demonstration, he takes pride of place on the roster of all round floral artists



Members and friends of Neston Flower Society made over 30 floral staffs for children and adults to carry in the traditional Neston Ladies Day Walk on 4<sup>th</sup> June. A unique event since the Neston Female Society was formed in 1814.

Pam F-W (Chairman of Neston Flower Society) displays 2 of the finished staffs





## Eleanor's Flower Classes, The Studio, Tarvin Road, Frodsham WA6 6XH

### Basic flower arranging

All take place on a Saturday between 10-12 costing £35 with all materials provided

September 12<sup>th</sup>

October 3<sup>rd</sup>

October 31<sup>st</sup> 



### Bespoke classes

Classes cost £45 with all materials provided from 1:30pm-3:30pm

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November



### Christmas classes

Classes cost £45 with all materials provided

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 1:30-3:30pm

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 10:00-12:00 noon

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 1:30-3:30pm

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 10:00-12:00 noon

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 10:00-12:00 noon

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December 10:00am-12:00 noon



Please contact Eleanor on 07761 022871 or

[griffithseleanor96@gmail.com](mailto:griffithseleanor96@gmail.com)

Note that any cancellations with less than 48 hours notice require payment of 50% of the class amount

# Flower Arranging Classes

# News from National

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES



**National President's Northern Ireland Event** FOR NAFAS MEMBERS



*Spirit of the North*

ENJOY A MIDWEEK BREAK OF FUN, FRIENDSHIP AND FLOWERS

**Armagh City Hotel**  
2 Friary Road, Armagh BT60 4FR  
Tuesday 18th – Thursday 20th August 2026

**PROGRAMME**

**Tuesday**

- Afternoon arrival
- Evening meal and entertainment

**Wednesday**

- Breakfast
- Teaching demonstration
- Lunch
- Gala demonstration by two National Demonstrators
- Drinks reception, Gala Dinner and Ceilidh

**Thursday**

- Breakfast
- Talk by a National Speaker
- Close of Conference by NAFAS National Chairman

**Additional attractions**

- Traders/retail therapy
- Tombola and Raffle

**Full event cost**

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Single room        | £399   |
| Two people sharing | £350pp |

**Day delegate cost (Wednesday)**

|                                                   |      |
|---------------------------------------------------|------|
| Teaching Demonstration, Lunch, Gala Demonstration | £100 |
| Above plus Gala Dinner and entertainment          | £150 |

**To register your interest and reserve places**

Please provide your name, contact details and number of places to  
Email: [events@nafas.org.uk](mailto:events@nafas.org.uk)  
Tel: 020 7247 5567

A FUNDRAISING EVENT IN AID OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETIES  
Registered Charity No. 1101348

## WAFA 2027

### Land of Contrasts - 2027 World Flower Show

Taking place in Sydney,  
Australia

March 16th - 23rd, 2027



The **NAFAS National Show** is moving north in **2027** to the Lincolnshire Showground on **Friday 9th and Saturday 10th July**. A full two days of magnificent floral displays by our talented and inspirational members along with tutorials, workshops and speeches.

Best wishes 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](mailto:newsletter@nafascheshire.org.uk) and we'll add you to the distribution list

## THE NANTWICH SHOW 2026

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### FLORAL ART SECTION

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

|                          |                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Secretary:               | Mrs Judy Gratton<br>487a Crewe Road, Wistaston, Crewe, Cheshire CW2 6QP<br>Tel: 01270 650341 or 07506022709<br>email: judy.gratton@live.co.uk |
| Entry Fee:               | Each class £1.00                                                                                                                              |
| Closing Date for Entries | Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2026                                                                                                             |
| Judge                    | Mrs Penelope Harrison                                                                                                                         |

### “THROUGH THE DECADES”

**Class 1. Blue/Green:** A foam free exhibit.

In celebration of Nantwich Flower Club Emerald (55 years) and Wistaston Flower Club Blue Sapphire (65 years) anniversaries.

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

**Class 2. Swinging Sixties:** An exhibit.

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

**Class 3. Let's Disco:** An exhibit

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

**Class 4. The Handbag!:** A petite exhibit

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

**Class 5. www.org.theweb:** A meadow style exhibit.

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

**Class 6. The Great Outdoors:** An exhibit. Foliage to predominate

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

**Class 7. A Royal Wedding:** 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.*

*This class is being sponsored by Flower Clubs of Mercia & North Wales, and the exhibitor placed first can claim a year's subscription to one of the clubs affiliated to the group.*

### School Entries

**Harry Potter** (can be a craft item)

Please contact the Floral Art Secretary for further information.

## **IMPORTANT**

1. All sizes are approximate.
2. All exhibits may be staged or brought in ready assembled.
3. All exhibits are to be staged on tabling approximately 75cm high.
4. The staging cloths are of a mushroom colour.
5. Exhibits will be viewed and judged from the front.
6. Nothing is to be attached to the marquee.
7. The use of aerosol sprays inside the marquee is not permitted.
8. Only one entry per class.
9. 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 or brought in ready assembled between 10.00am and 3.00pm on Tuesday 28th July 2026.

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 28th July 2026.

In addition, one class 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 24th July 2026

| Class No | Description | Secretary's Comments |
|----------|-------------|----------------------|
|          |             |                      |
|          |             |                      |
|          |             |                      |
|          |             |                      |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Completed entry forms can be completed online at [www.nantwichshow.org](http://www.nantwichshow.org) or 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](mailto:judy.gratton@live.co.uk)

The entry fee per class is £1.00 to be paid (cash only) on Tuesday 28th July 2026, when staging exhibits.