



HOME COUNTIES AREA NEWS Spring 2026



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN ANNE McPHERSON

With spring officially started it makes such a difference to see the daffodils in bloom bringing promising signs of change, with nature coming back into life.

There is also change happening within our organisation the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS). Richard Abraham took up the post of Chief Executive in January this year. You may be aware there are concerns about membership numbers going down steeply, especially since Covid.



A Renewal Programme has been proposed by the NAFAS Board to make changes to improve how the organisation is run and to help to attract new members. Within the Area we held a special Council meeting to consider how it could potentially affect our clubs and our members. It is natural to feel uncertainty when changes are being suggested until we know more about how they might work in practice.

With all the other Area Chairmen, I have been to meetings held nationally to hear about the Renewal Programme. I have had the opportunity to put forward ideas, and also raise potential issues about how changes might affect how things are managed from a practical point of view. Information from the NAFAS Board has already been made available to our flower clubs, about what is being offered and why. I will be keeping everyone up to date with developments over the coming months as they occur.

Being able to go out and visit clubs as the year began is especially enjoyable. It is always interesting to see clubs re-opening for the year ahead. There are a number of variations on holding an AGM meeting. However, the constant is always members coming back together, and pleased to be there with their friends sharing a common interest in flowers.

In January I attended a fundraising event for the Essex Floral Art Showcase initiative at St Aidan's Church Hall, Leigh-on Sea. It was an outstanding success. The hall was packed. A demonstration, 'Two Friends; One Vision' was given by Tracy Beaumont and Sylvia Kittle producing an outstanding display of floral work using the analogy of pregnancy to illustrate how the idea came about and is now progressing towards 'delivery'. The planning has brought together the Essex clubs working as a team to achieve the vision.

It will culminate in a **Flower Festival, with set up on Friday 3rd July and open to the public Saturday and Sunday 4th & 5th July.** Please hold these dates for your diary and do consider going to this unique event at the Runneymede Hall, Kiln Road, Thundersley, Benfleet Essex SS7 1TF. *(See advertisement for details)*

On 28th April we are holding our Area Members Day. Last year with the wonderful weather it was possible to sit out on the terrace for lunch and enjoy the view across the park. In the morning, Maria Pennington, who is a professional jeweller will be giving a talk about Diamonds. After lunch, a demonstration by Lucy Ellis, a National Demonstrator with the title 'Nature's Embrace'. Richard Abraham has been invited to our April Area Members Day. It will be an opportunity to meet him and to hear directly about the changes that are being proposed. He is keen to be able to meet and speak with members attending the event. I do hope that many of you will be able to come and enjoy a day out with friends. *(See advertisement for details)*

We will be holding an Area Show in the second half of the year. To help finance this event, there will be a Fashion Show and shopping event with lots of your favourite brands to buy on the afternoon of Thursday 18th June, tickets £10. It will involve club members taking part as models of the fashions being shown on the stage. An opportunity not just to indulge in some retail therapy, but to talent spot someone you might happen to know. *(See advertisements for details)*

The Fashion Show is on the same week as NAFAS National Flower Arranging week. **Friday 19th June has been designated the official Flower Arranging Day.** It is also British Flowers Growers week. The Area will be looking to do something to celebrate that might well be part of the Fashion Show. Clubs can join in and do a localized activity to promote their club and perhaps encourage new people to join as members.

Irrespective of the changes being planned nationally, the Area will continue to provide opportunities for members to come together to enjoy the world of flowers and floral art. I look forward to seeing many of you in the months ahead.

With my very best wishes to you all.

Anne

Home Counties Area of NAFAS



A warm invitation to our
Area Members' Day

Tuesday 28th April 2026
Marford Memorial Hall, Marford Road,
Wheathampstead AL4 8AY

Doors open at 10am

Stalls to browse and drinks available

11am

A talk by Maria Pennington

'Diamonds'



12noon

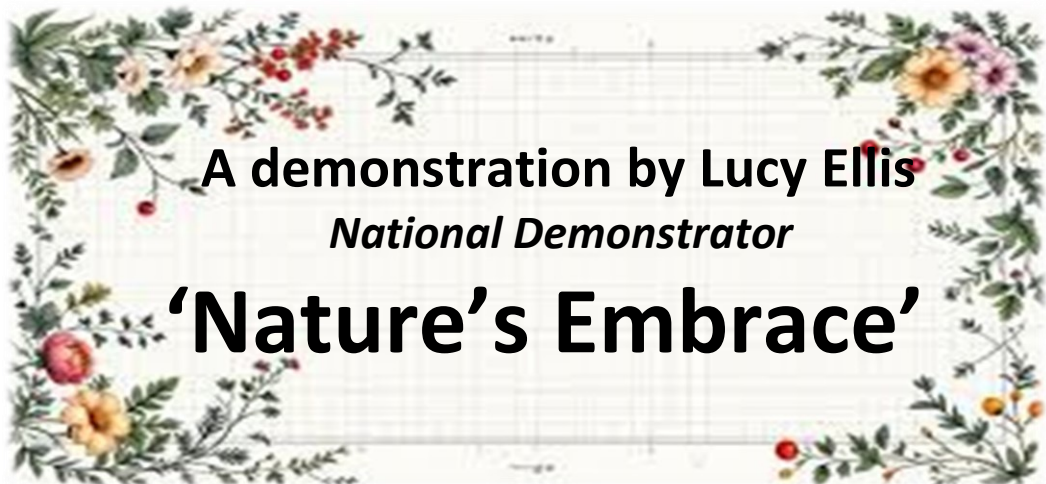
A delicious buffet lunch will be served

1.30pm

A demonstration by Lucy Ellis

National Demonstrator

'Nature's Embrace'



Tickets are £25 and may be ordered through your Club or the Area Treasurer, Celia Thompson c.thompson759@btinternet.com

Please apply no later than by 18th April



Fundraising **FASHION SHOW** & SHOPPING EVENT

YOUR FAVOURITE BRANDS AT UP TO 75% OFF

DOROTHY PERKINS WHITE STUFF RIVER ISLAND NEXT
EVANS NEW LOOK MISS SELFRIDGE TOPSHOP WALLIS
URBAN OUTFITTERS WAREHOUSE MONSOON & MORE!

PLUS FRENCH + ITALIAN DESIGNER WEAR

**SIZES
6 TO 30**

In Association with

Home Counties Area of NAFAS (National Association Flower Arranging Societies)

Thursday 18th June 2026

Doors open 12.15pm

Event starts 1pm

at the Civic Centre, Welwyn. AL6 9ER

Admission ticket £10 includes tea/coffee and cake

Free parking

Raffle

Clothes to purchase

For tickets or queries : C. Thompson 01767 627749 c.thompson759@btinternet.com

A Fundraising event for the Area Show

SOS Charity
Fashion Shows

DEBIT & CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

CHARITYFASHION SHOWS.CO.UK

HOME COUNTIES AREA OF NAFAS ESSEX CLUBS

Present

the Essex Floral Art Showcase

Inspire, Create, Connect

3rd (preview evening), 4th & 5th July 2026

Nine Essex clubs: Benfleet, Blackmore, Canvey, Eastwood, Leigh, Rayleigh, South Woodham, Spectrum & Thorpe Bay are collaborating to bring you a Floral Art Exhibition showcasing the talent of our members. Promoting flower arranging and promoting the benefits of belonging to our fabulous flower clubs.



For such a big event we are all busy fundraising and are blown away by the support and donations of so many of our members. The family of our dear flower friend Janice Swan donated all of her collection of flower arranging treasures. We have been travelling to all the Essex clubs and selling these wonderful items. This has been a great success and a fantastic start to our fundraising efforts. Following these sales, our next big fundraiser in January was a demonstration by us both.

'Two Flower Friends: One Vision'. This flower demonstration and Auction was sold out and created a wonderful buzz of excitement for the Showcase.

We had a fabulous workshop with the talented Terri Potter which added to our funds.

We also have quizzes, a dabble craft day & much more leading up to the event.



**Save the date and join us the first weekend in July at The Runnymede Hall
Benfleet Essex SS7 1TF.**

See advertisement for details
**With love in Flowery Friendship
Sylvia & Tracy**

Home Counties Area of NAFAS



ESSEX FLORAL ART SHOWCASE

Inspire, Create, Connect

An Extravaganza of over 60 Floral Art Exhibits, Workshops, Refreshments, Flowers and Friendship.

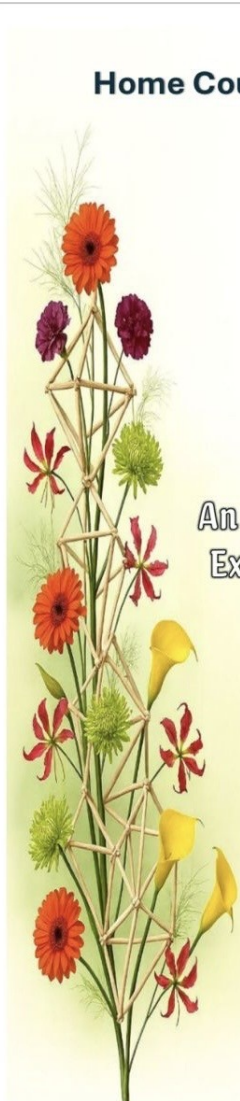
**3rd (Preview Evening)
4th & 5th July 2026**

**Runnymede Hall,
Thundersley, SS7 1TF**

CONTACT:

Showcase Treasurer: Sylvia Kittle

Email: thorpebayflowers@gmail.com



‘Joyful Reflections’ Flower Festival, Stanborough Park Seventh-day Adventist Church, October 3rd to the 5th 2025

In 1981 I had recently joined Watford Floral Society and was befriended by a long-time member, Freda Rawlings. She suggested that my church, Stanborough Park, would make a good venue for a Flower Festival and that she would help me organise one. It was a big learning curve for me. At that Festival ‘All Things Bright and Beautiful’ we raised £750.00 for a Lazer Coagulometer for the Peace Memorial Hospital. After that first Festival I used to organise one every two or three years, always raising money for various charities. In 1996 we raised £5,500 to equip the 'Stanborough Room' in the newly commissioned Peace Hospice.

The Festival in 2017 'Soli Deo Gloria' at which we raised £14,000.00 for Keech Cottage Hospice and the Church Development Fund, was to have been my last Festival because all my helpers said they were too old, or too tired to do another!

Covid came and since then our church congregation has become even more diverse than it already was. Earlier this year, with so much doom and gloom in the news, it was suggested to me that we should think positively instead of negatively. I realised that most members of the congregation had never seen a flower festival and so I suggested to my helpers that we do another 'last one'. I decided on the title 'Joyful Reflections' on God's love, blessings and grace, and it seemed appropriate to raise funds for the Peace Hospice.

Unfortunately the timing of the Festival coincided with the sudden ill-health of my friend Peter, who has been my back-up for every one of my seventeen previous Festivals. He and my late husband, David, were best friends and the lack of both of them has made the logistics of the Festival difficult. David died in 2010 and Peter took on even more responsibility. Peter used to design and print all my publicity materials as well as working out all the mechanics - especially for things like 'flying angels.' In 2017 I had the outlines of six angels made in gold metal. That year we had three angels 'flying' above the platform on one side and three on the other. With huge scaffolding and his meticulous eye for detail Peter had the angels flying in formation.

This time I only wanted two angels, plus a central arrangement. Jim, my new husband, is also meticulous, but had never done anything like this before. He rose to the challenge, however, and managed to work out a pulley system so that the angels could be used in the future, without having to put up scaffolding again. It was important that the pulleys could not be seen by the congregation!

Yolanda Campbell, a NAFAS teacher and demonstrator and I, have worked on many projects together and she offered to design coverings for the angels. As she lives in Herefordshire she took one of the angels home with her to work on, earlier in the year. During the year she had to change her car and the week before the festival we discovered that the angel wouldn't fit into her new car. A quick trip to Hereford had to be fitted into a very busy timetable.

As anyone who has taken part in a Festival will be aware, an enormous amount of planning has to go into such an event and in the end many people are involved. Once we had agreed on a title and theme I contacted potential flower arrangers, all of whom were happy to help. Carolyn Cranswick and I had collaborated on the successful Home Counties Area Flower Festival in Hitchin and Carolyn offered to help with this one and, as always, her help was invaluable. Some of the arrangers were from our church, others from Watford Floral Society and yet others from other NAFAS Flower Clubs in the Home Counties Area. There were some who were new to flower arranging, others who were enthusiastic arrangers and others who were very experienced. In all there were 41 arrangements, with each having a title, scripture verse, and brief description beside each arrangement.

Staging days at Flower Festivals are very happy times - but are not without their 'challenges' at times.

Yolanda, having 'dressed' one angel at home was happy to do the other in the church. She filled in the trumpet with gold Craspedia and the wings with feathers. She added a 'skirt' to part of the angel and a band where the arm met the trumpet. Unfortunately none of us realised that both angels were facing the same way! Fortunately we decided to pull them into position, only to find that once they were in the air all that could be seen were the trumpet, skirt and sleeve - the outline of the angel disappeared! Both angels had to be dis-robed and a solution found. Yolanda is very resourceful and a great designer and in no time, it seemed, both angels were dressed and flying majestically on either side of the cross, with an arrangement of Longiflorum Lilies and Gypsophila in the centre, depicting Christ descending from heaven through the 'clouds'.



At a short opening ceremony on Preview Evening we had wonderful music, An Ambassador from Rennie Grove Peace Hospice spoke briefly, as did Professor Nicola Ranger, General Secretary and Chief Executive of the Royal College of Nursing. Nicola is a former pupil of Stanborough Secondary School, attached to the church. She spoke movingly about what the Hospice means to families. Peter Taylor, the Elected Mayor of Watford, spoke warmly of the involvement of Stanborough Church in the Watford community before officially opening the Festival. A delicious finger buffet was then served to those who sat at decorated tables in the adjoining room.

The arrangers had been well fed during the staging days and after the Preview Evening, 'Pat's Pantry' was set up, providing light lunches and refreshments during the weekend. Visitors appreciated the pretty tablecloths and china cups and saucers.

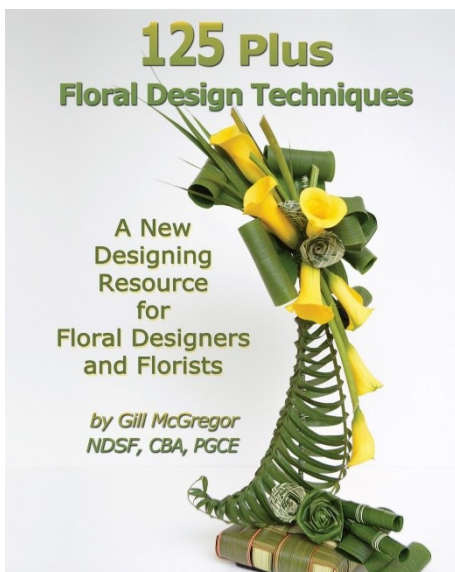
Pupils from the Stanborough College of Music provided live music using a variety of instruments all the time the Festival was open to the public. Being sited in the concourse meant that the music was never intrusive but provided a soothing background.

On Saturday evening, October 4, three choirs and the orchestra of the Stanborough College of music treated us to a most wonderful Gala concert. The following evening the Festival closed with a 'Songs of Praise' type programme which, again, was of excellent quality.

The aim of the Festival was, first and foremost, to reflect on the goodness of God and also to raise funds for the Peace Hospice. In these days when everyone is having to be careful we wondered how our fund raising would go. All of our arrangers were very generous and those who could do so, declined the allowance allocated for their arrangement. Many visitors who came once, came back again and brought friends and family with them. The tea shop was very popular - especially on Saturday when tea and cakes were free, but visitors gave donations, as they did for the free programmes at the Gala Concert and in the collecting 'buckets.'

We can still hardly believe how blessed we have been. On Saturday 15th November a cheque was presented to Gemma Norris, Fund Raising Manager of Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care, for £14,500.00. Thanks be to God and to all who took part in this wonderful event!

Audrey (Balderstone) Huzzey



Look out for Gill McGregor's new book '125 Plus Floral Design Techniques'.

This new book illustrates 140 design techniques using placements, mechanics and decorative elements. Featuring Gill's own original techniques with step-by-step instructions.

£19.99 available from nafas.org.uk

HARPENDEN EVENING FLORAL GROUP'S DAZZLING DIAMOND FLORAL DISPLAYS IN HARPENDEN LIBRARY AND MUSEUM



Harpenden Evening Floral Group (HEFG) celebrates its Diamond Anniversary this year and is planning on celebrating 60 years of the club in style. With a boat trip down the Grand Union Canal scheduled for June, the club have commenced celebrations early by creating diamond dazzling floral displays in Harpenden Museum at the Eric Morecambe Centre (EMC) with a shop window style display and glass display units in Harpenden Library documenting the history of the club and how flower arranging has changed over the years.

The club was founded by Maureen Randell, whose passion for flowers and flower arranging led her to start an evening flower club in 1966. She served as Chairman for a record 36 years. *Right: AA shelf dedicated to Maureen's memory*

Using technical, historical, social and contemporary references, club committee members thoughtfully contributed ideas,



books, floral arrangements, artefacts, photographic records, and gave their time to put the displays in place.



The displays highlight the history of flower arranging through the ages, showing how techniques have developed from the 60s to the present day. It shows the journey of how an array of items such as floral pin holders and chicken wire were used back in the day to the more modern use of floral foam, which has been used for decades for creating beautiful flower arrangements. However with sustainability and the chemical composition of foam being key we are seeing the return to traditional methods of chicken wire and pinholders.

The display also includes a variety of flower arrangements, again highlighting the change in styles over the years with a traditional design in a vase designed by Constance Spry, to floral arrangements in modern styles of bold coloured containers and minimalistic designs such as the Japanese art of Ikebana.



Using photographs from the club's archives, it highlights how members have competed at Chelsea Flower Show, have decorated the shrine of St Alban as part of St Albans Flower Festival at the Cathedral and includes a photo of the inaugural meeting of HEFG in 1966 and a photo of our current club members at a floral demonstration in October 2025 with Morag Bennett when she demonstrated 'Fairies at the Bottom of her Garden'.



Helen Manuel, the Club's Chairman said, "It was a joy to create the display and a great team effort of the Committee and was lovely to look back at the club's rich history. Special thanks go to Pamela Doran and Roger Butterworth at the Museum, and David Keen of the Local History Society who allowed us to use the display cabinets in the library. They couldn't have been more supportive or helpful. It was hard work, but fun and I encourage everyone to come and see it"

Two days after the installation of the display at the museum, the club was invited to take part in welcoming the Deputy Mayor, Kirsti Wenn, on her visit to the Museum. She said, "I recently visited the fascinating WW1 Exhibition at the History Society's Museum at the EMC and was delighted to see, as part of their 'shop window' feature, a beautiful floral display by the Harpenden Evening Floral Group celebrating their 60th Anniversary As a former florist in my youth, I was particularly impressed with the creativity and hard work that had gone into making it and the ongoing activities of the Floral group. I congratulate them on their 60th anniversary and hope they continue to flourish for many years to come."

Harpenden Evening Floral Groups meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at All Saints Church Hall, Station Road, AL5 4UU at 7.30pm. The year is shaped by

the seasons, providing themes for demonstrations, workshops, competitions and visits.

Our next floral demonstration will be held on Thursday 23rd April where Catherine Holness will create beautiful floral arrangements based on the title 'Afternoon Tea'. Visitors are most welcome to join us at a cost of £8 payable on the door. You will receive a warm welcome, with pleasant company and refreshments guaranteed. Come join us for flowers, fun and friendship!

For more information email HarpendenEveningFloralGroup@outlook.com or follow us on: Facebook @HarpendenEveningFloralGroup, Instagram @HarpendenEveFloral

2025 – A HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR LEIGH FLORAL GROUP

Leigh Floral Group (LFG) held its first meeting of 2025 in a new location and as an afternoon Club! Having been an evening club for many years, we listened to what our members told us and realised an afternoon meeting time would be welcomed. We needed to change venue to achieve this, so at the end of 2024 it was all change for LFG!!

We now meet on the last Friday of each month at St Aidan's Church Hall in Leigh, at 2.15 pm. During the year we gained 10 new members and regularly welcomed lots of visitors from our sister clubs. We ended the year 'in the black' and the committee is filled with hope and confidence for even better things in 2026.

During 2025 we had 7 demonstrations, 2 workshops, a plant sale, a bring and buy sale, a cake sale, afternoon tea at a lovely local garden centre and lunch at restaurant in Leigh.



But by far the main event was our 70th Anniversary celebrations. We thank everyone from within the Home Counties area and beyond who attended our event at Runnymede, Thundersley, Essex, on 31 October 2025. With a Halloween theme and 2 amazing demonstrators (David Thomson and our own Linda Kingcott) the flowers were simply glorious!

Afternoon tea was served to 111 ladies and money was raised for our club and 3 local charities. Our own Linda Kingcott drove this project and delivered such glorious floral treats - we are very lucky to have Linda's expertise so willingly shared with us all.

At the end of the year we presented cheques to a local Radiotherapy Unit charity, and to 3 other health related charities. We raised these funds through sales of refreshments and raffle tickets.

In December we delivered 3 large bags and a box full of gifts to HARP – a local homelessness shelter charity. As ever, these gifts were greatly appreciated causing an immediate ripple of excitement among HARP service users who saw them arrive!

Our 2026 programme is varied and busy, with 8 demonstrations, our usual bring and buy – or 'Attic' sale, a plant sale, a cake sale and, in April a quiz night. In December we will hold a festive arrangement workshop so everyone can make something beautiful to decorate their home.

As a club we are also closely supporting the 2026 Essex Floral Art Showcase, 3-5 July at Runnymede. This initiative, led by Sylvia Kittle (Thorpe Bay) and Tracey Beaumont (Canvey) this will be a grand event and you will all surely hear more news each month as fundraising and planning events pick up pace.

Leigh Floral Group is looking forward to a busy, happy and positive year of fun, friendship and flowers.



CONGRATULATIONS

We celebrated 65 years of Bedford Flower Arranging Society/Bedford Floral Art Society with a celebration cake - there were 200 members in the first year and the annual subscription was £1.1s! Times and costs have certainly changed but we look forward to the Society continuing to move forward.

Fundraising FASHION SHOW & SHOPPING EVENT

It was a very different activity for the Bedford Floral Art Society on a Saturday afternoon in September when we hosted a Fundraising Fashion Show and Shopping Event.



Tea and delicious cake welcomed the audience as they arrived as did a very attractive raffle table (we were fund raising after all!) – including several flower arrangements to emphasise we were a flower club, a generous token from SOS Charity Fashion Shows (the company running the show) and a wide variety of prizes kindly donated by members and friends including a voucher for £50 worth of ironing.

Eleven rails filled with garments suited to all ages, sizes and occasions (with many high street brands together with some from France and Italy) gave our models plenty of choice from which to choose the items they wished to wear. Then ten members and friends were brave enough to venture onto the cat walk – to much applause.



After the 'show' it was very busy as everyone was keen to buy – the majority of items priced with considerable savings off the in-store RRP. Most of the clothes are direct from the factory and are a result of producing more than the original order from the stores.

A very successful and really enjoyable afternoon, both financially and socially – we had a chance to advertise the club's activities in a different light and to appreciate and marvel the talents of our members and friends – models, cake makers, kitchen organisers, general helpers – thank you to everyone who contributed in any way.

Home Counties Area of NAFAS



Area Show and Competitions

'Changing Seasons'

Saturday 26th September 2026
10am - 5pm

Marford Memorial Hall,
Wheathampstead. AL4 8AY

Show Chairman
Carolyn Cranswick
carolyncranswick@hotmail.co.uk
07923876634

Show Secretary
Brenda London
brenda.london@ntfworld.com
01582 594694



FUN WITH FOLIAGE

A very successful Education Day 'Fun with Foliage' was held in October last year at Marford Memorial Hall, Wheathampstead with 72 members attending. All mechanics, foliage and containers were supplied together with all drinks for the very reasonable price of £20.



Gill McGregor was inspirational as usual demonstrating different forms of leaf manipulation and how to use the results. Over 30 designs were created by participants working in pairs.

Everyone also had the opportunity to try some judging interpreting the title Fun with Foliage presided over by our own National Judge Lesley Sturdy. It was also an opportunity for Judges and Teachers to refresh their skills. These sessions are extremely helpful for those contemplating competing at shows and particularly with our own Area Show taking place in September.



An enormous amount of preparation by the organisers goes into these days including the supply of foliage and equipment and was very much appreciated by everyone who attended.

CHRISTMAS AT CANVEY

In December Canvey Floral Art Club took part in a Christmas Tree Festival at St Nicholas Church Canvey Island, a community event with trees from a variety of local clubs, groups and schools. The Festival raised money for church activities and the food bank.

It is always a pleasure to take part with the added advantage of advertising our lovely Floral Art Club, giving us the opportunity to showcase floral art on a larger scale and share our passion with others. There were 29 amazing trees, some unique, some traditional. Ours was deemed to be 'stunning' which we were very happy with.



The judging was by pennies and we were thrilled to get 2nd place.

We are already looking forward to the next one.....

Tracey Beaumont



NAFAS CERTIFIED COURSES ARE NOW LIVE

Available courses:

- Flower Arranging Part 1
- Flower Arranging Part 2
- Flower Arranging Part 3

Enquiries & enrolment:
courseconsultant@nafas.org.uk

ENROL NOW

Courses available across the UK



London and Overseas Area in conjunction with Home Counties Area invite you to attend a **Competitors', Judges' and Demonstrators' Refresher Day: "Refresh, Renew, Reinvigorate"** at Canons Hall, Stanmore HA7 2DU on 27th May 10.30 to 3.30 pm. Observers welcome. Ticket price to be advised. If you are interested please contact Anne McPherson or Lesley Sturdy for more details.

WHAT'S ON 2026

11th to 16th April – Hampton Court Tulip Festival

7th to 10th May: RHS Malvern Spring Festival featuring 150 floral art exhibits inspired by the title "Great Exhibition" in the new Great Pavilion of Art and Flowers

6th June: BB&O Area Show: 'Music & Movement' at Windsor Great Park

15th to 19th September: "Wild" a foam free Festival of Flowers and Nature presented by Angela Turner and her "Wild Team" at Winchester Cathedral

25th to 27th September: Feerie Floral Flower Show, Alden Biesen For further information contact sales@ecttravel.com or call 01225 333747 Bespoke tours can be created for flower clubs

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – 2026

(N) = National Demonstrator

(A) = Area Demonstrator

FB = Facebook Page

WS = Website. I = Instagram

1st April Welwyn Floral Group. 2 pm **Lorena Dyer (N) Colour My World**
Welwyn Civic Centre, Prospect Place, Welwyn AL6 9ER
Enquiries: 01438 815599

7th April Bedford Floral Art Society 7 for 7.30 pm Visitors £10 **FB WS**
Alison Suffolk: Oh So Nautical. Addison Centre, Kempston
MK42 8PN. www.bedfordfloralartsociety.co.uk

8th April Hatch End Flower Arrangement Group 7.30 pm **FB WS I**
Linda Kingcott: Spring – A Time to Twitter
Pinner Village Hall, Chapel Lane, Pinner HA5 1AA
Large free car park adjacent to hall. www.hefag.uk

- 10th April** Thorpe Bay Floral Arrangement Group 2.30 pm **FB**
Sylvia Kittle: Let's Party. Visitors £7
 St Augustine's Church Hall, Johnstone Road, Thorpe Bay,
 Essex SS1 3HX Enquiries: thorpebayflowers@gmail.com
- 11th April** Designer 3 Group. **Workshop with Rekha Naidoo**
 Leverstock Green Village Hall, HP3 8QG just off M1, J8
 9.30 for 10 am start to 3.30 pm
 Enquiries: email daphne.grant20@gmail.com Visitors £35
- 15th April** Hitchin Flower Club 7 for 7.30 pm **FB**
Jennifer Thompson: Let There be Music and Flowers
 Church House, Hitchin SG5 1HP
 Enquiries: jennystutley308@btinternet.com
- 21st April** South Stevenage Flower Club. 7.15 pm **WS FB I**
Rekha Naidoo: Inspirations of India. The Roaring Meg Arts
 Pavilion, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN.
 Enquiries: southstevenageflowerclub@yahoo.com
- 23rd April** Harpenden Evening Floral Group 7.30 pm **FB I**
Catherine Holness: Afternoon Tea
 All Saints Church Hall, Station Road, Harpenden AL5 4UU
 Enquiries: harpendeneveningfloralgroup@outlook.com
- 23rd April** Hertford Flower Club. 2 for 2.15pm Visitors Welcome
Lee Berrill: New Beginnings. Sele Farm Community Centre,
 25 Perret Gardens, Hertford SG14 2LW. Large car park
 Enquiries: gillianbudworth@btinternet.com
- 24th April** Leigh Floral Group. 2.15 pm **FB**
Janet Dye; Re-use – Recycle. St Aidan's Church Hall, 78 Moor
 Park Gardens, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 4PY
 Enquiries: karenjcobb@gmail.com
- 28th April** **Area Members' Day** See advertisement for details
- 6th May** Hatch End FAG. Details as April
Arnaud Metairie: From Ekhaya to You
- 6th May** Stoneycroft Flower Club. 1 pm for 1.30 pm
Kathryn Austin: Child's Play. Warners End Community Centre,
 Northridge Way, Hemel Hempstead HP1 3QG
 Enquiries: stoneycroftflowerclub@hotmail.com
- 8th May** Thorpe Bay FAG. Details as April
Trudie Easton: Walk on the Wild Side

- 19th May** South Stevenage FC. Details as April
Sandie Draper: An African Adventure
- 20th May** Hitchin FC. Details as April
Helen Temple: My Family and Animals of Celebration
- 28th May** Harpenden Evening FG. Details as April
Graham King: Beauty in Sculpture
- 28th May** Hertford FC. Details as April **Lorraine Gagen: Into the Wardrobe**
- 29th May** Leigh Floral Group. Details as April. **Helen Hare: Down Under**
- 2nd June** Bedford FAS. Details as April. **Sharon Badger: Floral Medley**
- 3rd June** Welwyn FG. Details as April.
Barbara Collins: Summer in the Garden
- 3rd June** Stoneycroft FC. Details as May. **Sam Jackson**
- 8th June** **Area Council Meeting.** 11 am to 2 pm
The Pavilion, Ottway Walk, Welwyn AL6 9AS
- 10th June** Hatch End FAG. Details as April
Rekha Naidoo: Festivals of India
- 12th June** Thorpe Bay FAG. Details as April
Rekha Naidoo: Treasures of India
- 16th June** South Stevenage FC. Details as April
Gill McGregor: June's Floral Flowers
- 18th June** **Area Fashion Show** See advertisement for details
- 19th June** National Flower Arranging Day
- 26th June** Leigh Floral Group. Details as April.
David Wright: Those Summer Nights
- 1st July** Stoneycroft FC. OPEN MEETING. Details as May
Lee Berrill: Summer Daze
- 1st July** Welwyn FG. Details as April. **Janet Dyes: Recycle and Reuse**
- 3rd to 5th July** **Essex Floral Art Showcase** See advertisement
- 4th July** Designer 3 Group. Details as April. **Workshop with Gill McGregor**
- 8th July** Hatch End FAG. Details as April.
Jennifer Thompson: Music & Flowers

10th July	Thorpe Bay FAG. Details as April Sandra Price: Summer Surprise
15th July	Hitchin FC. Details as April. Naomi Wells: Miss Cullimore
23rd July	Hertford FC. Details as April Rachael Borenkover: Let's Go to the Flower Shop
31st July	Leigh Floral Group. Details as April Jane Cowell and Janet Thurgood: Those were the Days
14th August	Thorpe Bay FAG. Details as April. OPEN MEETING Mig Kimpton: Floral Icons
19th August	Hitchin FC. Details as April. Lorraine Gagen: Into the Wardrobe
1st September	Bedford FAS. Details as April. Barbara Collins: Shades of Autumn
2nd September	Welwyn FG. Details as April. Mig Kimpton: Autumn Collection
2nd September	Stoneycroft FC. Details as May. Fiona Harrison: A French Affair
9th September	Hatch End FAG. Details as April Renata Petrauskiene: Flower Mission
11th September	Thorpe Bay FAG. Details as April Helen Hare: TBA
14th September	Area Council Meeting. 11 am to 2 pm The Pavilion, Ottway Walk, Welwyn AL6 9AS
15th September	South Stevenage FC. Details as April Angelikka Mead: Sunset in September
25th September	Area Show See advertisement for details
25th September	Leigh Floral Group. Details as April Ellouise Hasler-Stott: Autumn Leaves

FORWARD PLANNING

WAF A AUSTRALIA: LAND OF CONTRASTS

Tuesday 16th to Tuesday 23rd March 2027. Sydney Olympic Park Precinct

You can sign up to a newsletter from ECT TRAVEL on their webpage: ecttravel.com

9th to 10th July 2027 NAFAS National Show “Wide Horizons” at Lincolnshire Showground