

Claygate Floral Club March 2024 Newsletter

Affiliated to Surrey Area, NAFAS



WELCOME TO THE MARCH EDITION OF YOUR NEWSLETTER

WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH CLUB NIGHT



Welcome to the first Newsletter from your new Committee and we are all looking forward to welcoming back Graham King as our first Demonstrator of 2024 on **Wednesday 6th March** whose demonstration is entitled “**How Bizarre**”.

Graham is well known to the Club for his beautiful flower arrangements and equally stunning self-crafted containers.

We would love to kick off 2024 with record numbers of entries for our club competition. Please, even if you have not entered before, just give it a go! It’s fun being creative. This month's competition title is “**Out of the Ordinary**” and as the title suggests why not utilise out of the ordinary things from milk carton containers to unusual flowers.

2024 AGM - A HUGE THANK YOU



At the AGM on 7th February we sadly said goodbye to 2 long standing Committee members. Tracey, retired as our club Chairman after devoting huge amounts of time and effort into running the club very successfully. Jenny, our Programme Secretary (ably assisted by Lynne Eales) has ensured that we have a continuous stream of amazing Demonstrators throughout the club year. We will miss both of them on the Committee and are very grateful for all that they have done for the club. They will both continue to be valuable and very welcome members.



Thank you so much to Lin Marsh for an entertaining and very informative demonstration of Ikebana, to finish the AGM with style.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

As you know, membership fees are due this month and these have been kept at £45 for this year. Your membership fee can be paid bank transfer: Claygate Floral Club 30-19- 22 00392987 or by cheque made payable to 'Claygate Floral Club'. Please use your first and last name as a reference.

If paying by cheque please submit it at the March Demonstration in a sealed envelope with your name on the front. No cash can be taken. Visitors' fees have risen to £8 per evening. Once you've paid, you'll receive a printed 2024 club programme.

If for any reason you are not intending to renew your membership, please let us know.

FLOWER ARRANGER SUBSCRIPTION

Payment for the Flower Arranger Magazine is due now. This is £16 and is also payable to Claygate Floral Club and so can just be added to your fee payment. Vivien, Sue L, Nicola, Shelagh, Liz J, Doreen, Sue C, Anne R, Jackie, Dot and Emma are on the subscribers list for 2024.

INTRODUCING YOUR NEW CLAYGATE FLORAL CLUB CHAIR VIVIEN



Hi - I am Vivien, your new Chairman. I think that most of you know me, if only because I have demonstrated at least a couple of times at Claygate. I can't actually remember when I joined the club but I think it was about 5 years ago. When I first visited Claygate Floral Club, I did not know anyone and it was quite daunting walking into a club where you know nobody. However, I got a sense straight away that this was a friendly and welcoming club, so I decided to join. After a couple of years, I joined the Committee and then set about becoming an Area Demonstrator. The nearest course was Southampton (!!) and after 6 months (and a lot of petrol!) I passed my final test. That was 2 years ago and I cannot believe how fast the time has gone. In the meantime I have visited clubs near and far (mostly far!) giving Demonstrations, meeting loads of interesting people and eating some very nice cakes!

I have a love of Natural History, plants (especially my collection of citrus trees) and flowers. I spend as much time as possible sorting out my large garden, which is hard work but fun. I hold Level 3 & 4 Diplomas in Floristry and have arranged flowers in local churches for over 20 years.

I will need lots of help and guidance initially and I know that everyone will be welcoming and supportive. Here's to a great 2024 for the club!

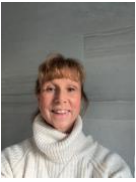
A WHO'S WHO OF CLAYGATE FLORAL CLUB'S COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2024

We are delighted to welcome new committee members Sally Hewlett-Taylor and Caroline Bassett. Please see a Who's Who of Committee Members below.



CHAIR – Vivien Withers

Oversees club co-ordination and running the committee on behalf of the members. Oversees club nights, committee meetings, Open Dem, AGM, liaising with Flower Show Officers.



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER AND VICE CHAIR– Sue Lewin

Produces monthly online newsletter for Club members. Updates the club Website and Instagram with upcoming news and events. Orders printed cards for Membership/Programme and promotion of events. Stands in for Chair when absent.



TREASURER – Nicola Myatt

Oversees all the finances of the club including budget planning, financial reporting, record-keeping and managing incoming and outgoing funds.



SECRETARY – Emma Cope

Coordinates and minutes committee meetings. Acts as point of contact with Surrey NAFAS. Maintains rota for attendance of quarterly meetings and NAFAS AGM. Circulates NAFAS correspondence to committee and agrees what should be circulated to members. Responsible for circulating to members. Organises Christmas meal.



PROGRAMME SECRETARY – Sally Hewlett-Taylor

Responsible for booking demonstrations.



VENUE BOOKINGS OFFICER – Shelagh Burke

Books the Church Hall for club nights and Village Hall (for Open Dem) Responsible for Opening up and locking up at club nights.



CHRISTMAS OPEN DEM OFFICERS – Caroline Bassett

Coordinates and plans the Open Dem



ANNUAL OUTING CO-ORDINATOR – Sue Shackel

Decides on venue(s)/dates with Committee and arranges outings/lunch venues/coach/timings. Liaises with the Treasurer re collection of payments/paying venues and transport. Oversees co-ordination on the day.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM:

Lynne Eales, Anne Roberts (Claygate Flower Show Officer) and Carolyn Woodrow

SURREY NAFAS NEWS [Click Here](#) to catch up on the latest news from Surrey NAFAS.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 20th March 2024: Ashtead Flower Arrangement Group “Absolutely Fabulous” Stephen Mc Donnell: Charity Evening in aid of Alzheimer’s Society.

Doors open 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall, Woodfield Lane, Ashtead, KT21 2BE Tickets available from Di Stirling - £20 (including refreshments) 01372 279501

Stephen has been successful at many shows including the Chelsea Flower Show, winning gold medals & twice Best in Show. He has also represented the Sussex Area at The Designer Show of The Year Competition.

Sunday 14th April 2024 (NGS): Dunsborough Park Tulip Festival and Spring Garden Opening. Bookings must be made on line and all information can be found on Dunsborough Park’s website <https://dunsboroughpark.com>

Wednesday 17th April 2024: Barbara Newell Workshop, Cobham Pavilion GU24 8AL 10am to 2pm



BARBARA NEWELL WORKSHOP

CHOBHAM PAVILION GU24 8AL

10.00am – 2.00pm

Here is your opportunity to get all the help you need to enter the Area Show

The Barbara Newell FREE workshop is designed to encourage **inexperienced** members to compete in competitions, particularly in larger shows. A condition of acceptance is that participants enter the upcoming Area Show in July 2024 either in the specially designed Barbara Newell Class or any other class of their choice.

Chairmen of each Surrey Club have been asked to nominate members to join us at this free workshop Courtesy of the late Barbara Newell.

The free workshop will be held on:

WEDNESDAY 17TH APRIL

PLEASE CONTACT JANE RICKARD IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THIS FREE WORKSHOP.

CHAIRMEN, PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR ANYONE IN YOUR CLUB WHO WOULD BE ELIGIBLE AND WOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS FREE WORKSHOP

Jane Rickard 01483 282899 janer.163@btinternet.com

Saturday 15th June 2024: The Hidden Garden of Dreams, Francine Thomas, King Georges Concert Hall Blackburn

Flowers North West presents

"The Hidden Garden of Dreams"

A floral and musical extravaganza by internationally renowned designer and internet sensation from New Zealand

Francine Thomas

Saturday 15th June 2024
King Georges Concert Hall Blackburn.
Tickets £20.00
Floral demonstration commences 2.30 pm
Ticket hotline - Brenda Caslake 01704 821464
b_caslake@hotmail.com
Reg'd charity No.517215

Saturday 13th July 2024: Surrey Area Show (Staging on Friday 12th). The show schedule is detailed on Surrey NAFAS website. [Click Here](#)

Surrey Area of NAFAS
Presents the
Area Show 2024

GREEN PLANET

12th - 13th July 2024
at **The Dell Centre**
Park Lane, Ashted, KT21 1EJ

Staging 12.7.24, 8am - 12noon
Preview evening 12.7.24, 7-9pm **£12**
Tickets will be available at the Council meeting in March
Show Open 13.7.24, 10am - 4pm **£5**

Schedule now available on the Surrey NAFAS website Surreynafas.com

MEMBERS NOTICE BOARD



You might have noticed the table at the back of the hall each month with vases and containers for sale, with Sally standing there hopefully!

Sally (our new Programme Secretary) has been volunteering for the charity Debra for a few years now, and can be found on Saturdays manning the Chessington branch. Each month she brings a selection of vases and interesting containers for members to buy from the charity.

These are items that have previously been on sale at the shop but have not sold.

Members have the opportunity to buy a container for just £1 each . . . sometimes they are quite valuable pieces . . . so be sure to have a few pound coins in your purse on club night.

Debra is a lovely charity that is raising urgently needed funds to help children suffering from the rare genetic blistering skin condition EB (epidermolysis bullosa). The fine folk at the charity are currently funding drug repurposing, where well-established existing drugs for other conditions are trialled for their effectiveness against EB. The charity is also acquiring a small selection of holiday homes suitable for whole families where the children are affected by EB.

Every pound you spend on a funny old vase or pot at the back of our church hall will go directly to the charity, and is very much appreciated. Thank you!
