

# Claygate Floral Club March 2026 Newsletter

Affiliated to Surrey Area, NAFAS



## WELCOME TO THE MARCH EDITION OF YOUR NEWSLETTER



It has been a long, wet Winter but it seems to be finally raining slightly less and the days are getting longer. It must nearly be Spring!

A big thank you to everyone who attended our AGM in February. Everyone who did attend will be aware that we have some major changes on the horizon next year (2027). 2026 will be my last year as Chairman and Nicola has also announced that it will be her last year as Treasurer. **WE NOW URGENTLY NEED TO FIND A TREASURER FOR NEXT YEAR, AS THE CLUB CANNOT RUN WITHOUT ONE!**

The club can run for a year without a Chairman so long as there is a Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. **IF ANYONE ENJOYS FIGUREWORK AND IS INTERESTED IN BECOMING PART OF OUR FRIENDLY COMMITTEE PLEASE CONTACT MYSELF OR NICOLA FOR FURTHER DETAILS, ASAP.**

Membership fees of £45 are due this month, as is the subscription to Flower Arranger Magazine, which is £17 this year. All members will also need to complete a new Membership Form, which will be given to you at the March club evening.

Please see further details below.

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees are due this month and remain at **£45** for the year.

Payment can be made at the **March 4th Demonstration Evening** by debit or credit card. Our Treasurer, Nicola, will be available to take contactless payments.

Alternatively, you may pay by cash or cheque.

- Cheques should be made payable to **“Claygate Floral Club”** and placed in a sealed envelope with your name clearly written on the front.
- Cash payments should also be placed in a sealed envelope with your name clearly written on the outside.

Once your membership has been renewed, you will be able to collect your 2026/27 Club Programme on the evening.

If you do not intend to renew your membership, please let us know.

## FLOWER ARRANGER SUBSCRIPTION

Payment for the Flower Arranger Magazine is due now. This is £17 and preferred payment is by bank transfer:

**Claygate Floral Club**

**Sort Code: 30-19- 22**

**Account No: 00392987**

**Reference: First Name/Last Name**

Or if this is not possible, by cheque made payable to ‘Claygate Floral Club’. Please make your Flower Arranger subscription fee separately from your membership fee and reference your transfer or cheque with your first and last name.

## WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH: Mig Kimpton: “In The Floral Potting Shed”



We are very much look forward to seeing everyone at our first demonstration of the year on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March: Mig Kimpton: “In The Floral Potting Shed”**

Mig is a longstanding friend of Claygate Floral Club and it’s wonderful to welcome him back to kick off our 2026 Programme in style.

Our March competition is **“Growing Tall”**. Participating and getting creative is a lot of fun so please consider kicking off the new year by giving it a go and entering!

## 2026 AGM

The AGM was a very productive evening. The Chair and Treasurer reports were well received and this year’s Committee members elected.

Our annual awards were presented as usual at the AGM. For the first time we presented vouchers instead of cups and trophies as they are more useful and they do not need cleaning!!

These were the annual winners for the following monthly Club Competition categories: -

**Novice** – Sheila Burke - 47 points - promoted to Intermediate

**Intermediate** - Emma Cope - 41 points - promoted to Advanced

**Advanced** – Sally Hewett Taylor - 54 points

**Senior Advanced** -Steve Wall - 50 points

**Highest Number of Points awarded** - Sally

**Outstanding Service Award** - Irene Mallinson

A special thank you to Irene Mallinson too who makes the organisation of our monthly competitions look so seamless due to her meticulous organisation. Thanks Irene ♥

It was also a very great pleasure to announce 2026's honorary members are Lynne Eales and Nina Paterson and our unsung heroes are Dana Hodshon.

A huge congratulations and thank you to all of the above for being such active members of our Club and contributing all they do in various ways.

To round off the evening we were all treated to Sally's excellent demonstration "From Trash to Treasure"

## **SITUATIONS VACANT**

### **Committee Chair and Committee Treasurer**

This is the final year for our excellent Chair, Vivien Withers, and Treasurer, Nicola Myatt, before they step down from their roles. They have both carried out their duties with dedication and professionalism, and the club is extremely grateful for all their hard work and commitment.

We are now seeking two members to take on these important roles and join the Committee.

If you would like to join the Committee or are interested in becoming our next Chair or Treasurer, please contact Vivien Withers at [withersv@gmail.com](mailto:withersv@gmail.com) or Nicola Myatt at [Nicola@ndmyatt.co.uk](mailto:Nicola@ndmyatt.co.uk). Members are also very welcome to attend one of our committee meetings

### **COLLECTING TINS AND PLANTING FOR CLAYGATE FLOWER SHOW – SATURDAY 11 JULY 2026**

Next year, Sue Shackel will be coordinating our table at the Claygate Flower Show. Our theme for the 2026 show will be **recycling and upcycling**, with a focus on using environmentally friendly materials and plastic-free oasis alternatives.

To help with this, Sue would be very grateful if you could start collecting the following items and bring them along for her. Hopefully, after the Christmas celebrations, you will have a few of these to contribute:

- **Tins** – Panettone tins, old toffee/biscuit tins, tea caddies, etc.
- **China storage jars or jugs** – e.g., Stilton pots
- **Seed heads** – Teazles, hydrangeas, poppy heads

Sue would also be very grateful if you would consider **planting some seeds** so we can harvest the flowers next July

## NOTICE - ST MARY'S CHURCH, EWELL – VOLUNTARY OPPORTUNITY

St Mary's Church, Ewell village are looking for someone to join their flower rota. This would involve helping out with flowers in the church approximately once every three weeks on a Friday morning.

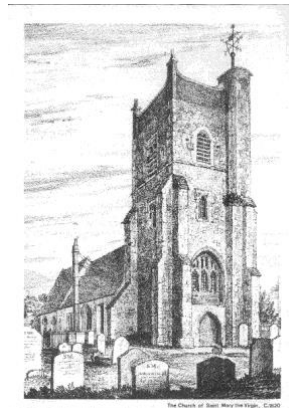
I have been doing the flowers for about 4 years now and although I don't attend church I really enjoy helping out as it gives me a good flower fix. Louisa has recently begun helping too and as one of the older members of the team is leaving, we need a replacement.

If anyone is interested perhaps they could phone or what's app me and I can talk to them **07811 629845**.

Best wishes

**Kim**

Claygate Floral Club Member



## OUR ANNUAL JANUARY MEAL AT AVERNA

What a lovely evening! It may have been raining and cold outside but inside it was a warm and happy gathering of friends. A huge thanks to everyone who helped with the organisation headed up by Emma. It really was a very special evening.



Averna 2026

*Photos courtesy of Sally*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH 2026 ANGELA TURNER WILL PRESENT “YOLO –YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE!”** To take place at Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall KT21 2BE 7.00 pm (doors open 6.30 pm) Tickets £25 (including a glass of wine & canapes) All arrangements will be entered into the raffle For further details please contact: Diane Melton 01372 801899

**Surrey Area of NAFAS**  
invites members to a workshop with  
**Helen Hare**  
Teacher and Demonstrator from  
Kent Floral Art

**SPRING THEMED WORKSHOP**

on  
Wednesday 22nd April 2026  
10.00 for 10.30am - 3.00pm

at  
The Old Barn Hall  
Great Bookham  
KT23 3PQ

Cost £40

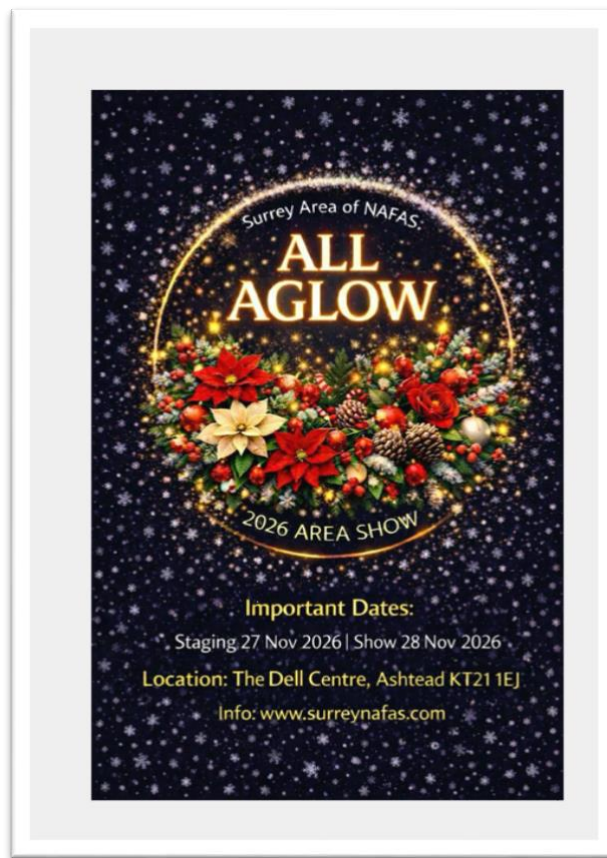
Booking for this workshop will open on January 31st 2026 when a form with full information (including on line payment details) will be available on the Surrey Area of NAFAS website

Enquires to  
[aeillott@gmail.com](mailto:aeillott@gmail.com)  
07811 088949

**SATURDAY 11 JULY 2026 CLAYGATE FLOWER SHOW- CLAYGATE**

**MONDAY 31 AUGUST WISLEY SHOW ‘THAT’S ENTERTAINMENT’** – Schedule to follow in April.

**SAVE THE DATE** - Surrey Area Show 27/28 November 2026 at the Dell Centre, Ashtead. Schedule to be released in June 2026



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