

# Claygate Floral Club

## March 2025 Newsletter

Affiliated to Surrey Area, NAFAS



WELCOME TO THE MARCH EDITION OF YOUR NEWSLETTER

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*Welcome to your first Claygate Floral Club Newsletter of 2025!*

*We have a wonderful year of floral design and inspiration ahead of us. I am so sorry that I am unable to attend the first club night of 2025 due to giving an evening flower demonstration (that was organised before I became Chairman!)*

*Membership fees of £45 are due this month, as are the subscription to Flower Arranger Magazine, which has risen slightly to £16.50.*

*Vivien*

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees are due this month and these have been kept at £45 for this year. Please pay your membership fee by bank transfer before the March 5<sup>th</sup> Demonstration. The Club's bank transfer details are:

**Claygate Floral Club**

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

**Account No: 00392987**

**Reference: First Name/Last Name**

Please don't forget to use your first and last name as a reference.

If you cannot pay by bank transfer, please pay by cheque made payable to "Claygate Floral Club" and submit it at the March Demonstration in a sealed envelope with your name on the front. **No cash can be taken.** Visitors' fees are £8 per evening.

Once paid, you will be able to collect your 2025/26 Club Programme on the evening .

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 £16.50 and preferred payment is by bank transfer (details same as above) 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 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH: KATHRYN AUSTIN'S "FLIGHTS OF FANCY"



We are very much look forward to seeing everyone at our first demonstration of the year on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March: Kathryn Austin's "Flights of Fancy"**.

Kathryn is a long standing member of the Surrey Area NAFAS and currently serves as Chairman of JDS & E as well as an Area Demonstrator.

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

## 2025 AGM

The AGM was a very productive evening. The Chair and Treasurer reports were well received and this year's Committee members elected. The Committee also bid a very fond farewell to Shelagh Burke who is stepping down this year. We are very grateful for all the work Shelagh has put into the flower club and are delighted we will continue to see her at our demonstration evenings and events going forward.

If any members would like to join the Committee or help with the ladies who work on the Claygate Flower Show please do contact Vivien Withers on [wITHERSV@GMAIL.COM](mailto:wITHERSV@GMAIL.COM). Why not come along to one of our committee meetings to see what we get up to and discover if it is something you would like to get involved in.

It was also a lovely opportunity to present our annual Club Awards for competition categories:

**Novice** – Emma Cope – Doreen Rhodes Cup

**Intermediate** – Sally Hewlett-Taylor

**Advanced** – Anne Roberts – Mrs Brabban Cup

**Senior Advanced** – Steve Wall

**Vice President's Cup** (*awarded to the member with the highest no. of points overall*) – Anne Roberts

**Mrs Burton's Rose Bowl** –awarded on behalf of the Chair to Lynne Eales for years of outstanding service to the Club

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 ♥

## Congratulations



It was also a very great pleasure to announce 2025's honorary members are Tracey Norbury and Jenny Dunn and our two unsung heroes are Steve Wall and Lynne Eales.

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 of suggestions for foam free flower arrangements using sticks, beads, wire, string, knicker elastic and curlers! In April you will be able to give it a go yourselves as the competition is "Fantastic Foliage" – An arrangement without foam.



## FLOWER ARRANGING LESSONS

I would love to run some more flower arranging lessons this year, for anyone who is interested. They are held at my home studio in Weybridge. The sessions are relaxed, sociable and fun. We enjoy exchanging ideas and being creative.

I am running 2 sessions initially on 8<sup>th</sup> April and 6<sup>th</sup> May. Ideas for sessions include – Fresh creations with Spring flowers, Working to a theme and Contemporary designs. If you have any particular ideas that you would like sessions on then please let me know.

The price is £32 for 2 x 2hrs sessions (7pm – 9pm). I will send full instructions with details of the flowers and sundries you will require, before each session.

I am also happy to run some basic beginners sessions, if anyone is interested. Please email me to reserve a place or request more details - [withersv@gmail.com](mailto:withersv@gmail.com)

*Vivien*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025: Salisbury Cathedral Flower Festival “The Spirit of Water”**

[Click here to learn more](#)

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025: Area Day of Celebration**

To mark the Area’s 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Blue Sapphire). There will be 6 demonstrations and cooked lunch as well as many other special items throughout the day. Ticket price will be £42.00 (Tickets are not on sale yet, so watch this space).

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025 (Staging Monday 1<sup>st</sup>): RHS Wisley Flower Show “Wish You Were Here”**

Show Schedule will be available in March. If you would like to help any day, please contact the new Chairman of the Wisley Show Alison Honor [alisonhonor@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alisonhonor@hotmail.co.uk)

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025: National Show “Natures Challenge”**

To be held at the Gloucester Cathedral. [Click here to learn more](#)



**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025: Surrey Area Workshops**

November's workshop will be with Christine Picton (details to follow)

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

