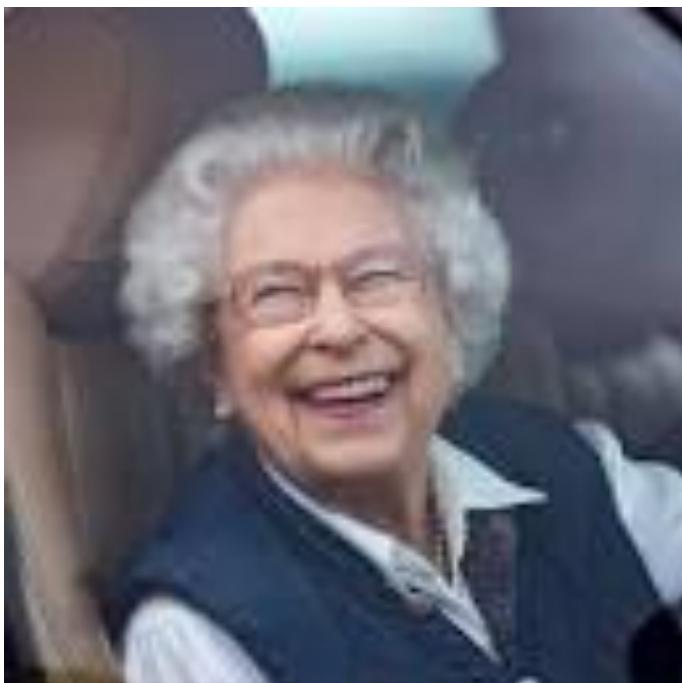


SURREY AREA E-NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2022



It was with deep sadness when the country heard the news of the passing of our beloved Queen Elizabeth II; Her Majesty reigned over us for over 70 years with Commitment and Devotion to everything she took on.

**I know many of you shed a tear or two; I know I shed many.
Thank you for all the service to our country. RIP your Highness; you will be greatly missed by us all.**

WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF THE SURREY AREA NEWSLETTER.

The nights are drawing in fast and the temperature is falling....brrr.
I know many of you have gardens and are in the process of putting them to sleep for the winter, remember to bend your knees and look after your back when lifting.

SOON BE CHRISTMAS>>>>HA HA

Many thanks to all the clubs and individuals that have contributed to this edition; it is greatly appreciated.

The Flower Arranger Magazine:

The cost of the Flower Arranger will increase to £15.00 for next year, the first increase for a long time and worth every penny. Orders are now being taken by your Club, make sure you order yours so as not to miss out.

4 copies a year: Spring; Summer; Autumn and Winter.

Many items for you to enjoy including designs you can copy and wonderful stories and photographs.



At their September Meeting

Ashtead Flower Arrangement Group were delighted to be able to pass over the £4,446.68p to Simon Edmunds from the East Surrey Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association. This amount was amazing considering it had been raised during the past three years when we had been subject to many lockdowns. All members of the club had generously taken part in raising the money through many events including our flower basket stall on Village Day, an Afternoon Tea and a fundraising demonstration by Lee Berrill and the late Alan Smith. The money donated to the East Surrey Branch will be split by them - half of the money raised will go to central research whilst the other half will be used at a local level to provide counselling and equipment for those affected.

Lynis Williams (Chairman).

Malden & Coombe:

Usually Malden and Coombe take a stall at the New Malden fortnight street fair, both to promote our club and help to raise funds.

Unfortunately it was cancelled again this year but luckily our treasurer found out that we could pay a very small fee to run the small coffee bar at the Methodist church in the High Street.

We were able to sell teas; coffees and homemade cakes that our members made and donated and we also sold small flower arrangements. We were able to advertise our forthcoming meetings so we attracted some visitors as well.

We raised £294 so it was well worth our combined efforts and we hope to be able to do it a couple of times a year which will definitely help to cover the rising costs of everything at the moment at our flower club.

Alison Honor

Chairman

Malden and Coombe Flower Decoration Society

Walton & Weybridge Open Meeting.

Flower Club was back with a bang for our September meeting with the truly fabulous Jacqui Arnold. It's a real treat to have a National qualified demonstrator at our club and Jacqui was a consummate professional in every aspect of her presentation. It was quite inspirational to watch her make magic with flowers, the arrangements just kept on coming with commentaries on all of the flower names, and lots of new names for the fabulous roses in a lot of her arrangements, along with a few anecdotes from her wedding flowers business about the characters she's come across. Raffle time was tricky – if your number came out of the basket how to choose which one of those spectacular arrangements to choose!!! What a great way to spend an afternoon – more please!

Many Thanks to Sylvie Mellersh for this Report and lovely Photographs below.



RHS Wisley Show:

Many thanks go to all the competitors who put on such a wonderful Show again. Our Wisley Show team are real troopers, they work so hard on our behalf; Congratulations and a BIG Thank you to them all.
Below are the Competition Results:

RHS WISLEY RESULTS 2022

CLASS 1 "FANTASIA" INTER-SOCIETY CLASS

1 st	VICKIE HOLLANDS & ANGELA NORMAN	BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB
2 nd	CLAIRE BRYANT	SOUTHERN DEMONSTRATORS GROUP
3 rd	JANE RICKARD	ASHTead FLOWER ARRANGEMENT GROUP
VHC	MARGARET TREPANT	FOCUS GROUP 2000
HC	VALERIE CLARK & JANET ARM	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
HC	CYNTHIA BROMWICH & JANICE GODDARD	GUILDFORD FLOWER CLUB

CLASS 2. "WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOWERS GONE"

1 st	JANET ARM	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
2 nd	SUE SLARK	BOOKHAM FLOWER CLUB
3 rd	DALLAS TAYLOR	REIGATE FLOWER CLUB
VHC	CHRIS BROWN	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
HC	DUNCAN WARD	HORLEY FLOWER CLUB

C	ANNE BLUNT	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
C	BARBARA COLLIER	SOUTHERN DEMONSTRATORS GROUP
C	LYNN STREET	ST. JOHN'S FLORAL ART GROUP
		<u>CLASS 3. "PIZZAZZ"</u>
1 st	CHRIS BROWN	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
2 nd	HELEN SINCLAIR	LONDON & OVERSEAS AREA
3 rd	JACQUI ARM	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
VHC	DEE KELLY	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
HC	BUNTY STANNARD	INDEPENDENT NAFAS MEMBER
C	RICHARD TWISTLETON	SOUTH MIDLANDS AREA
		<u>CLASS 4. "FLIGHT OF FANCY"</u>
1 st	JACQUI ARM	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
2 nd	RICHARD TWISTLETON	SOUTH MIDLANDS AREA
3 rd	BARBARA COLLIER	SOUTHERN DEMONSTRATORS GROUP
VHC	ANGELA NORMAN	BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB
HC	BRENDA SMITH	REIGATE FLOWER CLUB
		<u>CLASS 5. "ALL IN A WHIRL"</u>
		<u>ADULTS</u>
1 st	MELLISSA FLETCHER	B B & O AREA
2 nd	FRANCES GAWTHROP	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
		<u>JUNIORS</u>
1 st	RUBY WIGG	SURREY YOUNG FLORAL DESIGNERS
2 nd	KARINA OAKLEY	SURREY YOUNG FLORAL DESIGNERS
		<u>CLASS 6. "FAN-TAS-TIQUE"</u>
1 st	DALLAS TAYLOR	REIGATE FLOWER CLUB
2 nd	JENNIFER THOMPSON	ASH FLORAL ART CLUB
3 rd	ANGELA STREET	OXTED & LIMPSFIELD FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
VHC	BARBARA MEINECK	EWELL FLORAL ART CLUB
HC	NICOLA MATTHEWS	BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB
C	ALISON GALLANT	BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB
C	CHERYL CASWELL	GODALMING FLOWER CLUB
		<u>CLASS 7. "FAIRY MAGIC"</u>
1 st	HELEN SINCLAIR	LONDON & OVERSEAS AREA
2 nd	DAWN HEWETT	BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB
3 rd	LYNIS WILLIAMS	ASHTead FLORAL ARRANGEMENT GROUP
VHC	RACHEL SHERWIN	ASHTead FLORAL ARRANGEMENT GROUP
VHC	JACQUI ARM	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
HC	DEE KELLY	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
C	EMMA HARDIE	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
		<u>CLASS 8. "PEARLS OF WISLEY"</u>
1 st	YAN SKATES	BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB
2 nd	ANN SINCLAIR	LONDON & OVERSEAS AREA
3 rd	PENNY HUGHES	INDEPENDENT NAFAS MEMBER
VHC	DI HENDERSON	STAINES FLORAL ART GROUP
HC	LYNNE MOORE	DAISY TUFFEN FLOWER CLUB
C	DEE KELLY	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
		<u>CLASS 9. "FIESTA"</u>
1 st	ELIZABETH WAIT	REIGATE FLOWER CLUB
2 nd	LINDA TRAVIS	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
3 rd	JEANNIE OSBORNE	BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB
VHC	YAN SKATES	DORKING FLOWER ARRANGEMENT GROUP
HC	SANDY HINE	

CLASS 10. "IN MY IMAGINATION"

1 st	YAN SKATES	BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB
2 nd	ALISON GILLOTT	ASHTead FLOWER ARRANGEMENT GROUP
3 rd	SUSAN TAUSIG	COULSDON FLORAL ARRANGEMENT GROUP
VHC	RACHEL SHERWIN	ASHTead FLOWER ARRANGEMENT GROUP
HC	SHIRLEY DAWE	GUILDFORD FLOWER CLUB
C	MELISSA FLETCHER	B B & O AREA
C	GILL HOMER	WEST BOGNOR FLOWER CLUB
C	LYNIS WILLIAMS	ASHTead FLOWER ARRANGEMENT GROUP

CLASS 11. "HANGING AROUND"

1 st	BRENDA SMITH	REIGATE FLOWER CLUB
2 nd	SUE WHITTAKER	ASHTead FLOWER ARRANGEMENT GROUP
3 rd	LYNN STREET	ST JOHN'S FLORAL ART GROUP
VHC	BARBARA MEINECK	EWELL FLORAL ART CLUB
VHC	JANE PRICE	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN GROUP
HC	JENNIFER THOMPSON	ASH FLORAL ART CLUB
HC	JEANNE RIVETT	BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB
C	CHERYL CASWELL	GODALMING FLOWER CLUB
C	FRANCES GAWTHROP	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
C	VALERIE CLARK	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
C	CHRIS BROWN	ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB

BEST IN SHOW

JANET ARM

ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB

CLASS 2. "WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOWERS GONE"

BEST USE OF COLOUR

HELEN SINCLAIR

LONDON & OVERSEAS AREA

CLASS 7. "FAIRY MAGIC"

JUDGES CHOICE

JENNIFER THOMPSON

ASH FLORAL ART CLUB

CLASS 7. "FAN-TAS-TIQUE"

POPULAR VOTE

VAL CLARK AND JANET ARM

ALDERSHOT FLORAL DESIGN CLUB

CLASS 1. "FANTASIA"

Pat George (Wisley Show Committee) very kindly sent some of the comments that the members of the public left on the Voting Slips for the Popular Vote (These will make you smile):

Judges need to get a life.

Justice for Lucy.

Brilliant harmony of colours and using limes for flowers.

Just beautiful.

I like the spider because it is symmetrical.

The Castle.

Reflects the mood today over the loss of our lovely Queen.

Simple, bright, effective, lovely.



Guildford
Cathedral
July 30th

Stella Phipps and Ann Lillywhite placed this arrangement in the Lady Chapel on behalf of Bookham Flower Club.

Focus Group 2000 Trip to Alden Biesen:





Our group left the UK on a wet Friday morning and headed out via the Channel Tunnel; our destination was our hotel; Radisson Blue in Hasselt in Belgium, we arrived early evening and all had dinner together.

Saturday morning after a great breakfast we were off; our Driver Richard and Tour Guide Pascale were superb the whole trip. We arrived at the Castle and queued up for our tickets and then we were off. So many beautiful flowers and designs to see; the castle had each room decorated by top Designers and there was also Students work to look at; stars of the future. Each room caused a wow and the Chapel was a delight to behold; over 2500 flowers were used and it took 40 people to complete the staging. Although it was grey and chilly it only rained a little which was a bonus. After a quick rest when we got back to the hotel, we each went our own ways to sample the delightful restaurants around the hotel; so many to chose from and the food served was delicious.

Sunday dawned and we had another wonderful day at the Show; the fashion parade saw many ladies and one man dressed all in flowers and they looked stunning.

Another evening eating out and we were all ready for the Monday; Floral Wholesalers !!!! What can I say? We were like children in a sweetshop and each person carried our boxes of goodies back to the astonished Richard to load up the coach for our return journey home. We stopped in Brugge for a quick trip and then homeward bound.

We all arrived back at our pick-up points and our lifts were all there.

We were really tired; but so happy that we went and couldn't wait to start snipping with our scissors with the inspiration we had in our minds.

If you get a chance next year to go; please do; you will not be disappointed.

JAM JAR JAPERY

Jamming flowers into jam jars? It is more complicated than you think!

Over the last few weeks, my husband and I have consumed 12x 600g jars of Bonne Maman Cherry compote! A difficult job, but someone had to do it!

Our son was getting married and the bride wanted jam jar arrangements for the tables. The irony of it is that although there has been resurgence in the popularity of the communal garden jam jar by young brides who like to fill them with flowers for their wedding tables? The brides themselves and the young people demanding them don't actually consume the contents of the jam jars beforehand. It seems that it has been left to us oldies to oblige! The younger generation don't eat toast and marmalade for breakfast anymore. In fact, very few of them actually eat breakfast anymore? They are all trying to avoid carbohydrates and so either like to create washing up by making smoothies or ironically, on their way to work, grab a 2000 calorie cappuccino coffee made out of yak's milk (or whatever milk is 'in' at the time?) accompanied by a muffin the size of a bowler hat!? As a result, sales of jam and marmalade have plummeted and with it, the availability of jam jars! Granny, who used to house hundreds of dusty old jars (some dating back to the war!) in her cupboards for jam making, had put them all into the recycle bin during a clear out!

Whilst discussing the wedding flowers, I asked if jam jars would look appropriate to the decor of the venue which at this stage I had not yet seen. Jam jar arrangements look pretty in a marquee, village hall or rustic old barn but maybe not so appropriate in an upmarket hotel or in a contemporary modern corporate setting?

I went up to South Wandsworth in London to visit the venue. It was a lovely Victorian building with *art nouveau* decorated glass windows and opulent botanical wall paper. The room in which the reception was to be held was like an orangery with a wooden floor, heavy mahogany Edwardian furniture and vintage botanical pictures on the wall.

I suggested small urns or old earthenware vases but the bride wasn't keen. In the end, as the orangery was quite light and rustic, we thought jam jar arrangements would work well on the tables combined with a few large urns dotted here and there? They would also suit the William Morris naturalistic decor vibe; apart from the fact, we couldn't afford to go and buy twelve old art nouveau Doulton Lambeth vases costing upwards of £200 each!!!

Naturally, colour scheme and type of flowers that the bride would like was also discussed. This is always interesting? A commercial florist once told me that some brides when asked what sort of bouquet they would like reply with 'I want a pink one'?! It then becomes apparent that they don't know a dandelion from a daffodil and they need help! Whereas someone like my niece, Laura who married in October, virtually knew the exact colour shade and number on the Pantone chart of every flower she wanted. As for greenery, overnight she seemed to have acquired a knowledge of latin and horticulture that would have even given Alan Titchmarsh a run for his money!

Well, my daughter-in-law-to-be who had been brought up in Canada admitted that she didn't know the names of many English flowers but she knew that she liked peonies and wanted bright mix of assorted colours.

So, jam jars! How straight forward I thought?

How wrong I was! I did my research. Short of loitering around and fishing through my neighbours recycle bins on a Monday, I travelled the aisles of Tesco and Waitrose looking for attractive jam jars. Whereas, ten years ago an entire aisle would be given up to vast array of jams and marmalades, in today's supermarkets, the jam selection has been reduced to a small corner and as for marmalade, which at first I couldn't find, this has now been relegated to the bottom shelf under the jam!

I wanted a jam jar with a large opening to allow flowers to naturally flow over the sides. The problem with a narrow opening on a jam jar is that the flowers have no-where to go apart from bolt upright which looks neither natural nor attractive! There is a fine line with a jam jar arrangement looking beautiful and aesthetically pleasing to the eye and looking as if a five year old has crammed too many plants into it after a nature walk?

No attractive jam jars to be found in Tesco! The Value Strawberry jam jar was too plain and boring. The top of Hartley's jam too small an opening and also boring! The Bonne Maman jam jar although more interesting than most, were again, too small.

I then thought I would look in the Branston Pickle aisle? NO expense spared at this wedding! The pickle jars were really ugly, particularly the Branston pickle jar!! Plus, I couldn't put my husband through having to eat a Ploughman's for breakfast, lunch and dinner for the next three months!

Next stop Waitrose: Again, the selection here was unusually limited!

However, as I was walking through the baking aisle, I spotted a larger Bonne Maman jar containing cherry compote. The 600g jar had a wide top - tick! Attractive ridge design in glass - tick! It was on special offer - tick!



Next job was to consume the said contents of the jam jars I wanted to use! Fortunately, my husband and I are rather fond of Morello cherries thinking that combining it with Greek yoghurt made a lovely dessert? However, after eating it nearly every night for three months....

At least it was a healthy dessert we thought? It needed to be healthy as I was also on a mission to lose my pandemic paunch, a result of too many hot cross buns over lock down! Looking for a wedding outfit was depressingly difficult. Front view in mirror okay but turn sideways and I looked as if I was forty weeks term!

Whilst trying to commandeer a friend to help me out in getting through what seemed like a hundred weight of cherry compote, she shocked me when she rightly reminded me of all the sugar I was eating in the process! I knew that jam is essentially fifty percent sugar but surely, this lovely bitter cherry compote did not contain as much as fifty percent? I would never rid myself of the pandemic weight and never find a wedding outfit to fit. Instead of travelling to the wedding in the Jag wearing a Queen Mother outfit, I would instead be travelling to the wedding on a fork lift truck wearing a Demi Roussos kaftan!!!

What the hell was I doing? The gorging of compote had to stop! So, I gave the remaining jars away on the condition that the benefactors returned the jar straight away after consumption.

I eventually gathered the number of jars I required.

Here are some basic tips when using jam jars.....Chelsea gold winners and experienced flower arrangers may leave the room now!

1. You need to plan and give yourself plenty of time to collect your jam jars, particularly if as in my case, the contents need to be consumed?

You are best asking to borrow them from someone who has already done the work (and are now a stone heavier as a result!).

2. Jam jars must be spotlessly clean and shiny! Nothing looks worse than smeary glass! I put mine in the dish washer but you can also just wash them in hot soapy water and dry well.

The water you put in the jar is obviously visual and so ensuring the jar is almost sterilised also has the added benefit of preventing the water becoming dirty with bacteria.

3. Instead of just randomly placing a few flowers into the jar and moving on to the next one, line all your jars up. Pour clean cold water containing flower feed into each jar to about two thirds full. Select the greenery you have chosen and divide into equal number of bundles according to the number of jars. Place your greenery into all the jars first to give you structure.

4. As with the greenery, you need to select your flowers and put into equal bundles according to number of jars. As with any arrangement, uneven numbers of one flower work better than even. With say three to five flowers, you will get a round arrangement but if you use even numbers such as four roses, they will make the arrangement look square which won't look as good, particularly in a round jar.

5. Think about the size of stems you use as you have a limited space. For example, a large sunflower with a stem the size of a hose pipe won't work. By choosing smaller, thinner stems, you will be able to get more flowers in.

6. Jam jar arrangements can look a bit solid and uninteresting and so add some softness, height, texture and movement with a lacy filler flower or foliage. Shepherd's Purse, asparagus fern, *Gypsophila*, *Ammi Majus*, *Ammi visnaga*, wax flower etc. work well.

7. I was fortunate to acquire some miniature *Amaranthus*, the lovely red tassels floated down the side of the jar and picked up on some huge red tassels on the velvet curtains in the room.

8. When you have finished your arrangements, for fun, place them all on the floor in a circle or heart shape and take a photo above them and call it "a circle/heart of love"!



9. To decorate, you may wish to add some ribbon, string, lace or raffia around the top of each jar?

10. So, how did I transport a load of jam jar arrangements in water to the venue in my car, you ask yourselves?

TOP TIP - Go to a Garden centre and ask for discarded plant trays of appropriate size to fit your jars. For strength use two trays inside each other. Make sure you wash them before use as you don't want compost and mud all over your clean jars. Place your jars in trays leaving a pot space between each jar to prevent flowers from snapping and getting damaged. In a flat boot, the jars travelled securely and didn't move!

Hooray!! Mission accomplished. Now all I have left to do is 3 urns, decorate the cake with fresh flowers, decorate the seating plan frame, make ten corsages and make a few small arrangements to put in the Ladies toilet out of all the odds and sods!

You could never imagine the blood, sweat and tears poured out over something as inane as 'Just a few simple jam jars' Would you?

Jane Price (AFDC)

Thank you so much Jane, a lovely report to which so many of us can relate.

Club News:

- 7/8/9 October: Banstead Flower Club presents a Flower Festival "Floral Gems" to be held at All Saints Church, Banstead. SM7 2NN. Entrance free.
- 12 October: Oxted & Limpsfield Floral Design Club Open Demonstration: Arnaud Metairie "La Vie an Rose" at St. Peters Church Hall, High Street, Limpsfield RH8 0DG. Doors open 12.30 for 1pm start. Tickets for Visitors tickets £10. Email Angela Griffin on angela.joegriffin@yahoo.co.uk or they will be available on the door.
- 3 November: Walton & Weybridge Open Meeting, Whiteley Village Hall, 3A Octagon Road, Hersham. KT12 4EG. Open Demonstration by Angela Turner "The Spirit of Winter". Doors open 12.45 for 2pm start. Visitor Ticket price £16.00 available from valerie.saint@btinternet.com
- 19 November: Horley Flower Club Christmas Show: "It's a Cracker" Held at English Martyrs Church Hall, Vicarage Lane, Horley. RH6 8AR. Doors open 1.30pm – 4.30pm. Admission price £3.00.
- 25 November: Claygate Open Demonstration "Christmas is Coming" by Dennis van Wonderen. Held at Claygate Village Hall, KT10 0JP: Doors open at 7pm. Ticket price £16.00: contact Anne: annieb.4755@gmail.com
- 26/27 November: BB&O Area Christmas Flower Festival "Deck the Halls" Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel, Pangbourne College: check website for further details.
- 26/27 November: Aldershot Floral Design Club Annual Show "A Frosty Morning" to be held at Normandy Village Hall, Glaziers Lane, Normandy. GU3 2DD. Saturday 26th 1-4pm; Sunday 27th 11-4pm. Admission £5.00. Bring & Buy table; Tombola, Tea and Cake; Lunches on the Sunday.

Has your club an Event; Show or Open Meeting coming up? Send me all the details and I will add it to the Area Newsletter.

Area News:

**Surrey Area Show
"FLORAL ALCHEMY"
Sunday 30th October 2022
Open 10am – 4.30pm. Admission
£5**

De Vere Estate Hotel - Horsley Towers Ockham Road South
East Horsley
KT24 6DT

I hope you have received your classes for the Area Show and are now in busy prepping; gluing and beavering away.

The Area Officers wish Good Luck to all the Competitors and many thanks to the Area Show Committee who have been working so hard on our behalf. Please if you are not competing; go along and support the Show; a great day out; take your family and friends along to show them just how much talent is in our Area.

Dates of Interest for your diaries: Area and National Events:

- **29 (Staging Day) and 30 October 2022: Surrey Area Show:** De Vere Horsley Towers East Horsley. Show Entries between Friday 26th August and Saturday 10th September. Schedule and Entry Forms on Surrey Area Website.

The next Area Council Meeting: 28 November 10.30am and AGM at 13.30pm.

Looking Ahead to 2023

2023

Dates for Council Meetings: 23 Jan; 27 March; 26 June; 25 Sept; 27 Nov.

Area Members Day: Tuesday 6th June: East Horsley Village Hall: further information will follow at our next Council meeting.

12 to 14 May 2023: NAFAS National Live Show: Gloucester Cathedral: "Florilegium, a Gathering of Flowers".

12 May: 'Penno and Price' Demonstration – Gloucester Guildhall at 7.30pm.

2024

Area Council Meetings:

22 Jan; 18 March; 24 June; 30 September; 25 November.

If you have never visited the Surrey Area website, go on and have look; lots of interesting pages to browse through with up to date information of the Area and National News and lots of photos to look at from events already held. Well worth a couple of minutes of your time.

As this is your Area Newsletter please forward to me anything of interest that is happening in your club for inclusion so that other club members can read all about it. Just drop me a short resume and photographs if you have taken any of the event to the email address below.....Over to you all.

Dee Kelly
secretary@surreynafas@gmail.com