

SURREY AREA NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

Welcome to the December Edition of the Surrey Area Newsletter. This is the last Newsletter of 2025.



Many thanks to all the Clubs and Individuals that have contributed to this edition; it is very much appreciated. The email address to send any photos and articles to is: **Dee47nafas@gmail.com**
I look forward to receiving them and thank you in advance.



MONDAY 26th January 2026
FLORAL ART BRIC A BRAC sale
At the Surrey NAFAS council meeting
Book a table for your club
Sell floral art items for your club or a
designated charity
See your County Events Officer
Bookings taken at AGM Nov 24th
Please bring your own table cloths
CASH Preferred

We have 10 tables booked; 4 tables left; Tables are free. If our club would like one, there should be many bargains for you to purchase: CASH ONLY. So come along and pick up a flowery delight.
Please contact Di Henderson on merlinscrafttime@gmail.com

Festive Greetings:

On behalf of all the Surrey Area Officers may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2026

AREA TREASURER NEEDED URGENTLY:
IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP; LET US KNOW; PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD.....

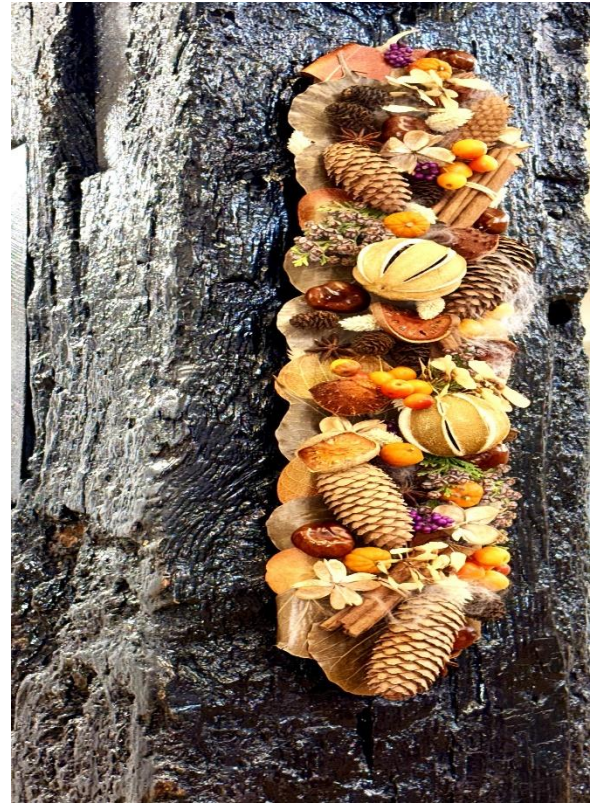
Bookham Flower Club.

The amazing members of Bookham Flower Club supported their biennial Floral Design Show in so many ways to make it a wonderful community event. There was an excellent number of entries and support from three clubs in the Inter-Society Class, all creating a beautiful spectacle against the backdrop of the Old Barn Hall in Great Bookham. There was a family atmosphere on the Friday evening as the entrants worked to produce their works of floral art, and a very welcome cup of tea and biscuits were delivered by the catering team. The event opened to the public at 1.00pm on Saturday and the hall was soon buzzing with visitors admiring the designs, buying raffle tickets and enjoying tea or Prosecco and cake which was served in the rear hall. A big thank you goes to all those, including husbands, who set up the hall, supported the judge and recorded the results, decorated the hall, organised the raffle and teas, organised the 'You be the Judge' vote and manned the entrance table and, of course, to those who entered. The Highest Number of Points Award went to Sue Slark. The success of the show made all the work of the show committee well worthwhile. The photographs are of the class winning designs are as follows:

1. "Autumn Glory": (Inter-Society): Aldershot Floral Design Group
2. "Fireworks" (Novice): Lesley Palmer
3. "Ode to Autumn": (Imposed): Gill Funnell
4. "Tranquillity": (Cascade): Pamela Askew (Best in Show and Most Innovative Awards)
5. "Reflection": (Mirrored): Carole Baker (Best Use of Plant Material Award)
6. "Charming": (Petite): Sue Slark, (You be the Judge and Runner up to Best in Show Awards)
7. "On the Same Lines" (Parallel): Carole Baker, (Best use of Colour Award)
8. "Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness": (Swag): Sue Slark
9. "Over the Top": (Decorated Hat): Liz Rosser, (Judges Choice Award)







Area Workshop:

The Area Workshop was held on 12th November; the class was tutored by Christine Picton; see below photos taken by Kathryn Austin and Alison Gillott on the day (Thanks to them both); looks like they were all beavering away; heads down.





IMPORTANT:

The Surrey Area Banners and Flags on poles have gone missing from the storage at the Ashted Peace Memorial Hall. There were 4 items in long black canvas bags.

We originally had two of each and now there is only two, one has returned. If you or your club have them tucked away somewhere or know someone who used them this year could you please let a member of the Area Committee know asap as they are needed.

Many thanks.

Area Council Meeting 24th November

The Officers asked Members if they would like to bring a seasonal design along to this meeting; we had a great display; many thanks to all those who made a design. Photos below:







JDS&E- Our Year 2024 – 2025

Richard Twistleton gave us a wonderful Christmassy Workshop on 27 November 2024. Our Area Workshops are organised by the JDS&E's Workshop Co-ordinator Alison Gillott.

In March 2025 our Workshop was at the same venue with Tutor, Morgan Douglas Nuth. This was another enjoyable day with his innovative designs and mechanics.

On 21 May 2025 we hosted a Judges' Refresher Day. The Adjudicator was Lesley Sturdy. This was also open to anyone interested in becoming a Judge.

On 24 September 2025 Jane Rickard led a very interesting event to help clubs get the best possible workshop. The majority of club workshops are led by faithful club members generously giving their time. This event was for these workshop leaders doing a great job but have *no teaching qualifications*. The day delivered the basic theory of teaching so that attendees could lead their workshops and classes with confidence.

There was also an Education Day on 8 October 2025 which was for Qualified Teachers in the Area.

Our Christmas themed Area Workshop on 12 November 2025 completed our year. It was tutored by Christine Picton from East of England Area of NAFAS and she gave us an inspiring day.

Throughout the year the "Demonstrators Rep" Claire Bryant has liaised with Demonstrators and Clubs when any queries have arisen.

The JDS&E Committee, especially our Secretary Susan Hay, refined and updated the Surrey Area Online Booking Form so that more detail can be included when booking a Judge, Demonstrator, Teacher or Speaker. The guidelines to help you use the form have also been updated.

Following on from the November Area Council meeting, Claire Bryant, Demonstrator's Rep, reminded members that the Surrey Online form is only to be used when booking Judges, Demonstrator, Speakers and Teachers from the Surrey Area.

There have been a few changes to the Online form; a Public Liability Insurance Statement is now included and also emergency contact details for the contracted party. It is dated October 2025, so please use the latest version.

I am sure you'll agree that the JDS&E have played a part in making your year in Surrey Area of NAFAS enjoyable & fulfilling.

Kathryn Austin (JDS&E Chairman).

Winkworth Floral Designers

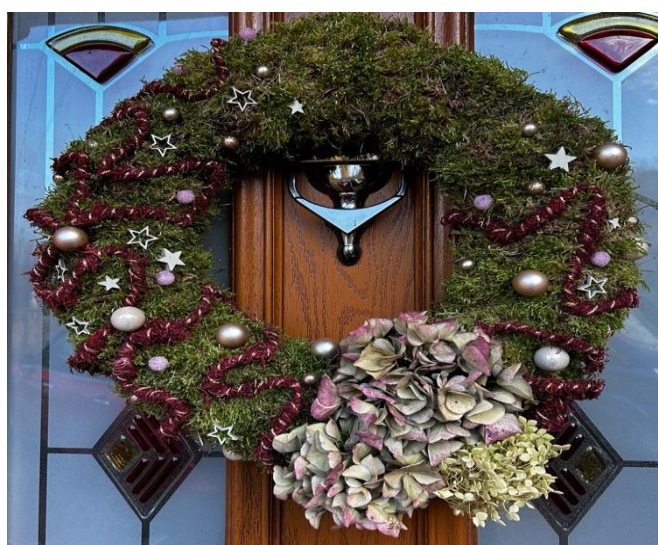
In November; Jane Rickard came to show us how to make an alternative wreath for our front doors.

The base was traditional moss but instead of using seasonal foliage we did something quite different! Have a look at our photos below.

Winkworth is a flower club with a difference instead of having monthly demonstrations we only have workshops where we try out different ideas and technics. Visitors are always welcome have a look on the Surrey NAFAS website for our details, we would love to see you.

Cynthia Bromwich.





WALTON & WEYBRIDGE FLOWER CLUB

On 27th November, we enjoyed a workshop entitled "A Winter's Tale" with Ellouise Hasler-Stott which got us all thinking about Christmas arrangements.

As usual, Ellouise was utterly charming and unbelievably creative and inspired us with two beautiful designs.



For the first design which was foam free, she used some Christmas tree balls to hold some of her flowers, and these were arranged with a candle and other decorations on a round charger plate. This is Ellouise's own design with some beautiful orchids, lisianthus and hypericum berries. Our members rallied to the call, and produced their own lovely interpretations - all very different, and very creative.



We then stopped for our soup and sandwich lunch, and thus fortified moved to the afternoon session which was to create a long table centre arrangement. Once again, Ellouise made it look wonderful with white roses, silver balls, a superb selection of foliage and beautiful purple clematis. Our members used all their creative skills to produce some fabulous Christmas table arrangements - so we hope their guests appreciate all their hard work!



It was a happy day getting into the festive spirit!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Dates for 2025

3rd December:

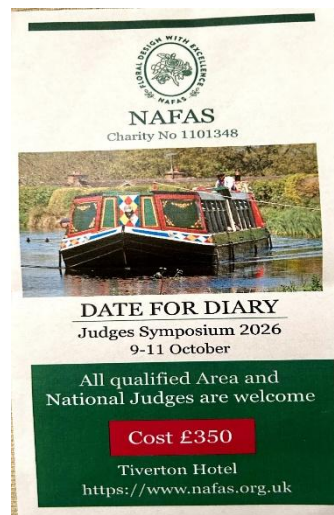
6th December:

Ashted FAG is having a Christmas Demonstration with Lucy Ellis "The Colours of Christmas". (See Poster Above).

AFDC Christmas Open Meeting. "Twas the Night Before...." Mark Entwistle. Doors open at 1pm; 2pm start. £20. Normandy Village Hall, GU3 2DD. (See Poster Above)

2026:

Area Council Meetings: 26 January (Change of Date), 23 March, 22 June, 21 September and 23 November including the AGM.





**ALDERSHOT FLORAL
DESIGN CLUB**

Present an open meeting
with national demonstrator

Mark Entwistle
with
'Twas the night before....'

on **SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER**
Doors open 1 pm for 2 pm start

NORMANDY VILLAGE HALL
Manor Fruit Farm, Glaziers Lane, Normandy, GU3 2DD

Tickets £20
including a welcome festive drink, mince pie, tea and cakes.

Contact: jane.randell55@gmail.com



Ashtead Flower Arrangement Group
Wednesday 3rd December 2025

**NAFAS National Demonstrator,
RHS Chelsea & Malvern Gold Medallist
Lucy Ellis**
will be demonstrating
"The Colours of Christmas"




Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall KT21 2BE
2.00 pm (doors open 1.30 pm)

Members Free - Visitors welcome £10 on the door
Tea & biscuits included
All arrangements will be entered into the raffle

For further details please contact:
Di Stirling 01372 279501

Please send me articles and photos of what your club is up to for the Newsletter, then other clubs can see what a thriving Area we are.

Dee: Dee47nafas@gmail.com

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL.