

SURREY AREA NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023

Welcome to the last edition of the Surrey Area Newsletter for this year.

Winter has certainly arrived with a bang, I hope you are keeping warm and staying safe in the icy conditions.

With Christmas fast approaching I hope you are looking forward to seeing family and friends over the festive season.

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

On behalf of all the Area Officers may I take this opportunity to wish every member of the Surrey Area: a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2024.

See below a lovely photo of the Area JDS&E Officers at a thank you afternoon tea for retiring Chairman Jackie Squance:



Oxshott Flower Club:

Today the above club held a workshop. The keen members learnt how to make swags. The coat hooks down the side of the village hall enabled the swags to be displayed for all to see.

Photos below:



Bookham Flower Club held a member participation meeting in November. Small groups of members were provided with similar flowers and foliage and were asked to design and create a brick for a tapestry. The hall buzzed as everyone set to work and the resulting tapestry shown in the photograph was produced. Experienced and non- flower arrangers alike were encouraged to place flowers and foliage and it was a joyful afternoon.



Walton & Weybridge Flower Club were delighted to host an early festive workshop in November, led by club member Marlene Davis. A delicious lunch created by Valerie Saint ensured everyone had a cosy glow and plenty of creative energy to build their own 'Christmas Cracker', a versatile piece suitable for a variety of locations around the home. Experience level was totally irrelevant as Marlene's excellent instruction broke down the process into easy to follow steps and the results were utterly individual and unique. We were equally delighted to welcome lots of visitors to this event, it was a great chance to introduce ourselves and flower arranging as a fun activity. Lots of happy smiles at the final presentation said that a good time was definitely had by all."



AFDC Annual Show:

Once again AFDC held another wonderful show at Normandy Village Hall on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th November: Both halls were filled with magnificent designs which awed all the public that came to see it.

Below are the Gold Award winners from the show.



Class 1: "Ever Decreasing Circles" Gold: Jacqui Arm



Class 2 "Master Chef" Gold Janet Arm.



Class 3 "Strictly Come Dancing" Inter-Society Class: Guildford Flower Club (Brenda Fox & Cynthia Bromwich)



Class 4 "Absolutely Fabulous" Gold: Jacqui Arm.



Class 4 "Absolutely Fabulous" Gold: Nina Eglington.



Class 5 "The Great British Sewing Bee" Semi-Imposed Class: Barbara Walton.



Class 6 "Upstairs, Downstairs" **Best in Show** and Gold: Linda Brown



Class 6 "Upstairs, Downstairs" Gold Jacqui Arm.



Class 7 "Last of the Summer Wine" Gold: Kathryn Austin.



Class 7 "Last of the Summer Wine" Gold: Emma Beard.



Class 8 "Coast" Gold: Anne Blunt.



Class 9 "You've Been Framed" Gold: Jane Price.



Class 9 "You've Been Framed" Gold: Linda Lloyd.



Class 10 "Pot Black" Men Only Class (Voted for by the General Public) Peter Lloyd.

Surrey Area Workshop 29th November sent in by Kathryn Austin.

The Area Workshop with Helen Hare was full of Christmas colour and inspiration.

Over 20 attended from Clubs throughout Surrey and after Helen demonstrated her designs, they went on to create some beautiful work.

See Photos below:







Area News:

Events:

2024:

There will be a Surrey Area Workshop led by Mark Entwistle from Cheshire on **Wednesday 13 March 2024**. It will be held at the Barn Hall Bookham. Bookings will be taken from 8th January.

Ashtead are holding a Charity Open Meeting on 20th March 2024. Stephen McDonnell will be demonstrating.

Exciting News: Our Next Area Show: The next Surrey Area Show will be on Saturday July 13th 2024, (Staging on Friday 12th). The Show Schedule will be released online in January 2024. Watch this space for more details; but please put this date in your diaries so you do not miss it.

Area Council Meetings 2024:

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

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.

Have fun with your arranging.

Dee Kelly, **NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: deeandpatkelly@sky.com**



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April 2024

An Exclusive tour for NAFAS with Graham Parker as Tour Ambassador

The tour will also include visiting the annual Keukenhof parade



Historic Gardens of the Netherlands ~13 - 16 June 2024
Discover the Splendour of 17thC Dutch Garden

Celebrate the arrival of summer on this four days/ three nights garden-themed tour includes visits to secret- private gardens in Amsterdam, the baroque gardens of Palace Het Loo, a guided tour of Hortus Botanicus, Leiden - home to an extraordinary plant collection - and the magnificent Kasteel de Haar.

Now Booking!



What tour would you like us to create?

We are always happy to work with you to create a bespoke tour programme for flower clubs and flower friendship groups. Gardens in the UK or a city break and flower adventure in Europe? We can make it happen.

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