

# SPOTLIGHT EAST

Newsletter for Members of The East of England Area of NAFAS

Welcome to the Autumn edition of Spotlight in which we attempt to convey the excitement & creativity of our East of England members throughout the summer months. We start back in June with the Suffolk Show; coming as it does after the late May Bank Holiday it always narrowly misses our June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

**The theme the 2023 Suffolk Show was “Colour My World”** with the class titles reflecting this emphasis on the use of colour. Although there were opportunities for subtle colourways, the resulting overall impression was that the Floral marquee was an exciting blaze of colour. And this year the sun shone too!

The Club Class “Carnival Time” gave wonderful scope for using exotic flowers, tropical foliage, feathers, decorated masks and so on. Stowmarket & District Flower Club represented by Julie Head & Ann Ross, were the winners. They were presented with the Diane Alexander Silver Salver by Sarah Norris from Glasswells, who sponsored the Floral Marquee.



“Carnival Time” 1st Stowmarket & District Flower Club

Susan Street, Clare Flower Club, was awarded Best in Show for her entry "In Harmony" and was awarded the "Perpetual Challenge" trophy. She was later featured in the "Haverhill Echo" and photographed with her exhibit.

Pauline Squirrell, Stowmarket & District Flower Club, was awarded Runner Up to Best in Show for her entry in the same class.



Pauline was also awarded the Rosemary Black Trophy for the Best Use of Colour, for her "Natures Palette" entry. (below right)



"Creative Impact" 1st Jill Clarke



"Pale & Interesting" 1st Mary Deeks



"Nature's Palette" 1st Pauline Squirrel



"Ring of Colour" 1st Mary Deeks



"Splash of Colour" 1st Pauline Brackenbury



"All Things Bright & Beautiful" 1st Christine Hayward



Words & Pictures – Lindi Carrington

**Royal Norfolk Show June 2023 Floral Art – Jacqui Aldous & Gloria Goodley report:**

The Norfolk and Norwich Horticultural Society and Norwich Group of Flower Clubs get together to put on a show in the Horticultural Marquee. After a hesitant start last year due to a change of location on the showground, entries were up this year. This year's overall theme was "The Carolean Era"

Well done to all who entered the Floral Art Competitions the results are printed below. Patricia Scott judged the Flower Arranging competitions. The most entries were in the Floristry Class with tutors from Easton College encouraging students to enter. This was judged by Kaye Souter, a Floristry judge from Ipswich. She was very impressed by the level of work produced by the students.



Class F1 Sitting Pretty (Club class)

1st Bradwell Flower Club who also won the Anita Bridge Memorial Salver and Jocelyn Steward Trophy for Club Class winner (pictured above)

2nd Dereham & District Flower Club who also won the Valerie Hodds award for best use of Colour

3rd Costessey Flower Club

HC New Creations



Class F2 "The King and I" A Pedestal Exhibit

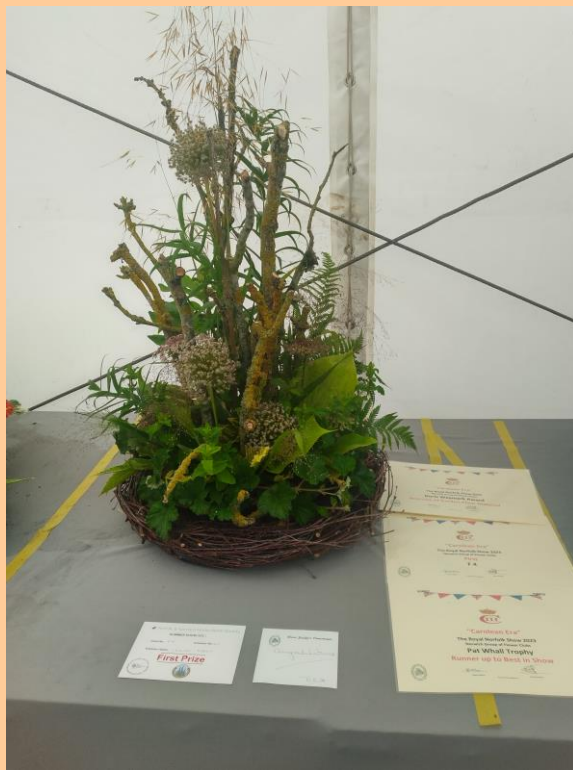
1st Maggie Morton (picture above) also Norwich Group Trophy & Joyce Wright Trophy for Best in Show

2nd Diane Randell 3rd Linda Knights HC Helen Evans



Class F3 Necklace to be worn by a celebrity (Floristry Class)

1st Amy Emons (pictured above) 2nd Simone Reynolds 3rd Frances Cook



Class F4 The Environment - Eco Friendly (No Foam)  
 1st Crystal Dyball (pictured above) Also Pat Whall Trophy Runner up to Best in Show & Doris Waymark Award for Best Use of Garden Plant Material  
 2nd Naomi Wells 3rd Linda Knights HC Anna Cook C David Baker



Class F5 Book Title (Novice Class)  
 1st Susan Astle (pictured above) also Norwich Group Novice Trophy, Noller Trophy & Linda Knights Award for Most Innovative  
 2nd Frances Cook 3rd Anna Cook HC Naomi Wells C Linda Claydon

Junior section A Bookmark under 12's

1st Sophie Cooper 2nd Riley Skeet 3rd Isla Skeet HC Henry Flynn and Callis McMahon  
12-16 years

1st Lola Skeet 2nd Laurel French-Shepherd 3rd Poppy French-Shepherd HC Sienna High

This year we had Floral Art Stewards on hand to answer queries from the public. Easton College students decorated a large chair with flowers to give members of the public a lovely place to sit and have their photo taken.

Once again floral headbands were made by visitors to the marquee.

Our next Floral Art Competitions are at the Late Autumn Show. Please take time to look at the website for details and submit your entries.

Well done to everyone who took part. As far as we are concerned you are all winners and we hope to see you again next year.

**Gloria Goodley & Jacqui Aldous Floral Art Coordinators**



“Sitting Pretty” - from left Jenni Baker, Gloria Goodley & Jacqui Aldous busy at the show.

## Sandringham Flower Show - the King's Estate

Lavinia Pirret

The annual Sandringham Flower Show in Norfolk, held on the last Wednesday in July, is an event for families and people of all ages to enjoy. Not only are there competitions for flowers, vegetables, baking and gardens, but stalls and showground exhibits are there for people to purchase products, eat a variety of food and drink and take a ride on the popular Carousel.

I have had the privilege and honour to participate in judging the Floral Art section of the show since 2012 when the lead judge, Susan Elliott for 26 years and remembers the Queen Mother, asked me to be her assistant. Susan herself was a qualified Women's Institute judge which is linked with NAFAS. The main reason for asking me was to provide guidance on the floristry aspect of the competitions as well as for the flower arrangements as I have a City and Guilds qualification in floristry.



Susan Elliott and Lavinia Pirret

Meeting the then Prince Charles and Princess Consort, Camilla, was a joy to experience; witnessing the gradual excitement from the crowd as the Royal couple appeared.



Prince Charles & Princess Consort Camilla greet Susan Elliott & Lavinia Pirret.

After 11 years, which has included 2 years as lead judge for the Floral Art section of the show, it is a pleasure for me to continue with the aid of my assistant, Corinne Steward, who is an experienced flower arranger.



Corrinne & Lavinia with garden designer Chris Beardshaw in 2022

The day for me usually begins by rising at 5am to prepare and arrive at the estate by 7.30am to begin judging the Floral Art competitions. The judging for all competitions must be completed before 11am before the arrival of the Royal couple. After meeting the Royal couple, a timely coffee time break is welcomed in the committee marquee



Corinne Steward and Lavinia Pirret, 2023



The Sandringham Show 2023

It's always thrilling to get an award when you compete in a flower arranging show, whether it's at Club, County or National level. Sometimes you're disappointed; perhaps you're surprised by the judges' decision. It's important to understand what the judge is looking for. With this in mind **Herts & Essex Boundary Club** invited judge Kathy Stangaard to share her insight. **Beverly Moore** explains:

When we moved from Bishop's Stortford to our current venue, Manuden Community Centre, we added an extra meeting to our programme. The decision was to try and offer something different to our members at the new August meeting. In the past few years we have put on a competitive show which our members really enjoy; and even during covid times we had a virtual show; again our members supported this with their exhibits all be it virtually. Last year Kathy Stangaard was invited to be our judge for the evening; there was not enough time for a full critique so this year we invited her back to give a more in-depth presentation and critique on what the judge is looking for.

Exhibits were brought ready assembled - Staged on open tabling covered on cream fabric.  
Space allowed: width 60cm, depth 60cm, height optional.  
To be viewed and judged from the front.

Kathy gave three classes:-

#### 1. Meadow

This is a new one in the competition manual

Which says:

Meadow: definition

- Characterised by vegetative placement of plant materials.
- Usually lighter/less dense towards the top of the design.
- Becoming more dense/visually heavy at the base.



2: interpretive

Title: Forces of Nature, to include dried materials.



### 3: Mirror Image

A two placement design.



We offered the challenge to our members and we had 4 brave exhibitors in each class.  
Meadow - Jane Green, Naomi Wells, Milena Bailey, Pat Woodward  
Forces of Nature - Nicky Thompson, Sue Astle, Naomi Wells, Beverly Moore  
Mirror Image - Hannah Shine, Naomi Wells, Lorraine Gagen, Christina Chalk.

We welcomed five visitors that evening (three had seen our post on the area Facebook page!) and whilst everyone enjoyed refreshments Kathy was left to judge the exhibits undisturbed.

Everyone was really looking forward to the evening.

It was excellent, Kathy firstly explained the process of taking a judges test & all that entailed. She then went on to explain her decisions on the exhibits displayed.

First to be critiqued was 'Mirror Image', then 'Forces of Nature' & finally 'Meadow' each exhibit Kathy explained in detail the criteria of Interpretation - Artistic Merit - Practical Merit - The Elements & Principles Of Design - Innovation - Creativity - Perfection.

Members had the opportunity to ask questions and this was well supported.

Kathy had given out a printed summary of the changes to the Nafas Competitions Manual 2023 (4th edition). Several of our members had already ordered and received this latest manual. She also had printouts of judges criteria. Members were given the opportunity to write comment cards which proved a good talking point.



Photos Beverly Moore

The Fourth Edition of the NAFAS Competitions Manual 2023 was published earlier this year. Available on line from the NAFAS website or contact East of England publications officer – Patricia South [diamondlass@icloud.com](mailto:diamondlass@icloud.com)

Keen to improve your competitive skills ready for next year's show Or even train to be a judge?

**Area Social Day on 7<sup>th</sup> October** at Mildenhall promises a "You be the Judge" session... and much more. All the details are on East of England Facebook page; poster & application forms are available from your club.

## Area Day July 22<sup>nd</sup> at Isleham

For the morning session we welcomed back Maria Pennington, a highly qualified gemmologist, who presented us with amazing facts about diamonds. Did you notice the way the diamonds in the Crown Jewels sparkled in the sunlight at the late Queen's funeral? Maria explained the scientific reasons for this. She pointed out that each diamond is unique, created 3-5 billion years ago in environmental conditions that will never be replicated. We certainly were impressed - both by the facts and her well-structured presentation. Maria has several more talks to offer, so we hope to see her again before too long.



After lunch, retail therapy & a good catch-up chat, we settled down to be entertained & inspired by demonstrator Arni Metairie - he exceeded our expectations on both counts!

His title –“La Vie en Rose” – gave him the opportunity to weave together the life & music of Parisian singer Edith Piaf; combining his reminiscences of growing up in France and his subsequent journeys to the land of his birth. Along the way we learnt about his life in Britain, the splendidly huge gardens he manages and his passion for flowers. His designs covered the whole range: from classic, dramatic, exotic to naturalistic & whimsical ... but always with his striking use of colour unifying the presentation. All this, and a wickedly mischievous sense of humour too.

**Lindi Carrington**



Arni Metairie "Moulin Rouge"



Arni Metairie "La Vie en Rose"

### June Council Meeting

You would be forgiven for thinking that the highlight of the June Area Council Meeting at the Jubilee Centre Mildenhall was the tea & cake served after the morning's business. But no, it was the Inter-Group Competition, in which the 5 Group teams of 2 people tackled a challenging foam free imposed class entitled "Summer Solstice". In just two and a half hours they had to create a design using all the flowers supplied and anything they needed from the mechanics & sundries supplied. They could choose from an amazing list of items which included wire mesh, coloured test tubes, a trough, 3 engineering bricks, hessian, bark, stones, willow sticks.... The competitors were only allowed to bring wire cutters, scissors, a knife & secateurs



The winners were Kings Lynn Group, represented by **Wendy Harman & Maria Gordon** (photo next page) from Werrington & District Flower Club. In Second Place was East Suffolk Group represented by Sue Astle & Naomi Wells from New Creations Floral Design Club.





In Third Place was Norwich Group represented by Helen Evans & Penny Howes from Dereham & District Flower Club. Colchester Group represented by Dianne Leggett & Sandra Price (Walton on the Naze Flower Club) were awarded Highly Commended, and Cambridge Group represented by Sue Street & Pat Hammond from Clare Flower Club received Very Highly Commended. The competition was judged by Lionel Clark; we were delighted to welcome him back to Council once again.



Gill Shanks, Chairman Kings Lynn Group



Flowers by Norwich Group



Pat South, Flower Arranger Officer



Words & Pictures – Lindi Carrington

### **Berenice Moll**

It is with great sadness that I announce that Berenice Moll passed away on Sunday 16th July 2023.

Berenice was well known in our Area and to many members all over the country. Berenice started her 53 year NAFAS journey by joining St. Neots Flower Club, Peterborough Floral Decoration Society and Werrington and District Flower Club. She was a florist, teacher, competitor and organiser of numerous Flower Festivals, Exhibits and Events and a regular visitor to the National NAFAS Shows with husband David.

Berenice joined the National Publications Committee in 1998, after serving as Area Publications Officer in the East of England Area from 1990 – 1998. Berenice was King's Lynn Group Chairman 2001 – 2003, and King's Lynn Group President 2008 – 2010.

At Peterborough Floral Decoration Society Berenice was on the Committee for many years, was Club Publications Officer and a brilliant sales person for "The Flower Arranger". Berenice was Club Chairman 1994-1996.

**Barbara Collins, Area Chairman**

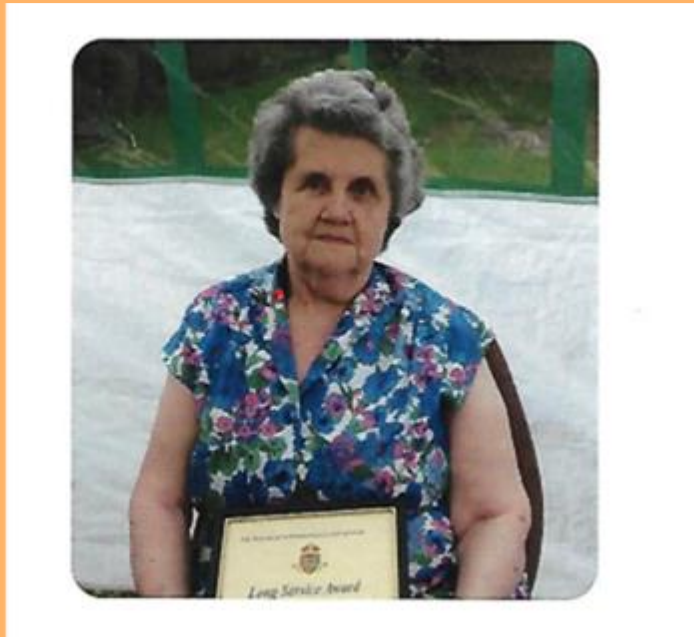
East Suffolk Group were saddened to learn of the death of one of their longstanding members.

### **Katie Ellis 1929 – 2023**

Katie and her husband moved to Harleston, near Stowmarket in early 1960's. She soon became involved in village and church life and started attending Stowmarket & District Flower Club in late 1960's. When the position of Treasurer became vacant she agreed to take this on in late 1970 and continued in this role until 2010.

She was Treasurer for East Suffolk Group from 1982 until 2007. Elsie Leeding and other Group committee members remember working together on several large events like the Flower Show in Christchurch Park in 1985 and 1996 when a flower festival was staged at Framlingham College. Elsie and Katie remained good friends.

Katie also acted as a steward for the Flower Arrangement competitions at the Suffolk Show from mid-1970's until 2003.



Stowmarket Flower Club made her an Honorary Life Member on her retirement. She is fondly remembered by many club members for her constant presence at the back of the hall counting the money and completing her calculations on scraps of paper. Although she hadn't attended meetings for many years several members kept in touch with her.

### **Petrina Miles, Chairman Stowmarket & District Flower Club**

Several clubs have celebrated milestone anniversaries during the summer.....

### **Aldeburgh & District Flower Club – Afternoon Tea to celebrate 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

After welcoming the guests - Barbara Collins, Area Chairman, Lindi Carrington East Suffolk Group Chairman and six past Chairman of the club, and thanking the committee & members for their support & hard work, Chairman Roger Woolnough delivered an entertaining history of Aldeburgh Flower Club, quoting the words of Dorothy Anstey, written in 1974 when the club was 21 years old:

*“ 1953 was a time when flower arrangers were still looked upon as slightly dotty. It was rumoured that we did peculiar things with a couple of flowers or, following our mentor Mrs Spry with a bunch of wildflowers from the hedgerows.*

*The flower arranger knows what she wants and follows her own line of beauty and no longer does one speak of a flower arranger as “she”! The men have invaded our province and overtaking both in demonstrating and arranging.”* She could have been writing in 2023 !

The proposed club first met in October 1953 in Saxmundham with 100 people turning out and most joining with a subscription of five shillings. The demonstrator was Beth Chatto and the success of the first meeting was largely due to her. Over the years the club has found ways to continue – in 1962 the sherry & coffee mornings were introduced; raising funds by the sale of Christmas decorations went on for many years. The club continues to take part in the many functions and festivals in the locality, particularly decorating the historic Moot Hall for the Aldeburgh Carnival in August.



After raising our glasses for a toast to the future of the club, Roger & Moira Neville (Area Demonstrator & club member) presented an overview of the changes in flower arranging since 1953. Roger talked us through his Constance Spry inspired pedestal exhibit. Moira assembled the separate components of her minimal contemporary exhibit. Interestingly Moira chose to wear a vintage dress with ankle boots, accessorised with a veiled pill box hat & matching gloves. But then Mrs Spry always did insist on hats..



### **Tiptree Flower Club – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

A brilliant time was enjoyed by our members and visitors at Tiptree Flower Club on Thursday 8th June. We were at last able to celebrate our 50th Anniversary which had been postponed from earlier in the year. Also we were pleased to welcome our original Chairman and Secretary - Janet Edwards and Maureen 'Mo' Thyeson.

Fabulous flowers were demonstrated by Brenda Eyres to whom we give a big thank you.

Our President, Daphne Warren, was also at that first meeting and during the proceedings was presented with her 50 Year badge by Past President Lionel Clarke.

(photos next page)



A glass or two of fizz and a wonderful buffet - provided by Members and Committee - was a fitting end to a lovely evening.

Jill Hornsey - Tiptree Flower Club.

## Loddon Flower Club 65 years

For our June meeting we invited Pat Barton along with her demonstration entitled 'Where in the World'. We also had a competition for members of the same title which Pat kindly judged for us. **Then in July Terri Potter came along with her demonstration entitled '65 Floral Years'**. At this meeting we had a celebratory cake and drinks to celebrate the Clubs formation 65 years ago in 1958. Also, in July we had an outing to Sandringham Flower Show where we watched a flower arrangement demonstration by local florist Scent with Love. And we saw the famous pie of King Charles! (photo next page)



In August our Vice-Chairman Tricia took part in a flower festival at Carleton St Peter Church in Norfolk entitled 'Rock and Pop' where she depicted Elvis.

Also, in August we held our Annual General Meeting where our Secretary Alex Pinder, stood down. Alex has been Secretary for over 20 years and was presented with some flowers and a voucher for an afternoon tea. We also presented the winners of the competitions with trophies. The winner of the Novice Class was Jean Madgett, Intermediate Class, Penny Mills and Advanced Class Tricia Loades. So well done to them.



top left :Chairman Tricia Godfrey presenting Alex Pinder with some flowers on her retirement

top right: Tricia with Penny Mills

bottom left: Tricia with Jean Madgett bottom right: Tricia with Tricia Loades



We are getting excited and making last minute plans for September when we are holding a flower festival entitled 'Hobbies and Pastimes' which is to celebrate our club's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday.

For more details of events and meetings and photos from our meetings take a look at our website at [www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk](http://www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk).

Tricia Loades, Vice Chairman

### **Ely Cathedral celebrated an anniversary of a different kind ...**

2023 marks 1350 years since St Etheldreda first established a monastery in Ely in AD 673. In mid-June the cathedral celebrated her life in flowers with arrangements throughout the building, including the Nave, Lady Chapel and at her shrine.

East of England Flower Arrangers, Lesley, Christine, Ann and Veronica are The Wisbech team of The Flower Guild at Ely Cathedral and together they created an original fen scene in The Lady Chapel for the Etheldreda celebrations.



Saint Etheldreda was born in Exning, Suffolk, the daughter of Anna, King of the East Angles. She was married to King Ecgrith of Northumberland and for a long time asked the king to allow her to relinquish the affairs of this world and to serve Christ, in a monastery. She founded the 1st

monastery at Ely in 673. Ethelreda was renowned as a miracle worker and was the most popular female saint in Anglo/Saxon times. Many churches were dedicated to her. After her death, in 679, her shrine attracted pilgrims from near and far for over 800 years until the Reformation. A slate in the Cathedral marks the spot where it once stood.



Ann also created the remarkable Crown arrangement to acknowledge that Saint Ethelreda had been a Queen.

Newly qualified demonstrator **Doreen Robinson** tells us how she's getting on...

As I mention in most of my area demonstrations, I am 'The new girl!' It was a very memorable, out of our comfort zone kind of day, when all four candidates passed our NAFAS area demonstrators test, May 2022. The JDS and E committee encouraged us throughout our training, and we were very grateful for their time and support.

I live on an organic farm in Lode Fen, where we grow organic vegetables. We ran a box scheme where bags of vegetables were delivered to Cambridge, and then a bike delivery service distributed them throughout Cambridge. A friend has taken this part of our business over while my husband and myself produce organic veg for the wholesale market.

Our fields are next to a Polo Club, where just a few years ago Prince William played a charity match. It was such a contrast, there we were armed with hoes, while next to us horses and riders were racing around chasing a ball.

We share our land with much wildlife. The way we farm is conducive to creating a balance, where you have an environment for insect populations to thrive and the rest will follow. I love to see hoverflies, dragonflies, numerous moths and butterflies as well as a wealth of birdlife.



When time allows, I tend to a small cut flower patch of annuals, bulbs such as tulips, narcissus and alliums; as well as perennials and a few roses.

Unfortunately the *Eucalyptus gunnii* that I had sowed from seed died, when temperatures plummeted to -9 degrees C. I have since read that *Eucalyptus parvifolia* and *Eucalyptus parvula* will tolerate colder temperatures.

I use Chiltern seeds, Moles, Sarah Raven, and Seedaholic, as well as Peter Nyssen and Harts Nursery.

I add more to the cut flower patch each year, and will include some into my designs, always looking for something a little different.



Workshops are always popular during the summer months when there are plenty of flowers and foliage available in members' gardens

### **Sudbury Flower Club**

Helen Hare, a popular demonstrator from Kent Area who is often featured in The Flower Arranger magazine, spent a day in early June leading a workshop with the ladies of Sudbury flower club. Helen said that the ladies are very talented and they all went home with two beautiful designs - an arrangement with a bamboo structure and a hand tied in a handmade wire mesh structure with rolled cork around the edge.

Here's some of their beautiful work, which Helen shared on social media.



### **Dereham & District flower club Summer workshops**

Following on from the success of our Summer workshops last year, we again held six Committee-led workshops for our members in July and into August. We strive to provide as many hands-on sessions as we can throughout the year and these events are always well attended and enjoyed.

The workshops covered non-foam, crescent, Hogarth curve, asymmetric triangle, pin-holder and pedestal designs. With an informal atmosphere, together with tea and cake, we had great fun and learned techniques, hints and tips from our Committee members.

Below is a selection of the arrangements produced over the six weeks. We're already collating possible designs and subjects for 2024 based on what our members would like to try.

**Helen Evans, Chairman**

(photos next page)



Dereham members' summer workshop designs

Many clubs organise an outing rather than a club meeting in August

**Breckland Flower & Garden Club**

Our annual garden visit - 42 members and guests enjoyed. Cambridge Botanical Gardens ...  
Weather was fabulous....

...



## Stanway & District Flower Club

Huge thanks to our hard working Committee Member Linda Fell who organised the most wonderful coach trip for our members to visit Peter Beales Rose Nursery and gardens on 6th June.

Everything about the day was perfect, from the wonderful coach and driver to the delicious two-course lunch served in our own private marquee, a guided tour by the most knowledgeable rose expert and the company of great friends. Oh and of course the retail therapy!



Although dry the sun hid from us all day but at least it didn't rain.

On the return journey we were thrilled to see a life size sculpture of a metal work horse. We wonder if our lovely East of England demonstrator David Wright has been busy!

## Herts & Essex Boundary Flower Club – Visit to Myddelton House – Beverly Moore

In mid-July, 18 of our members enjoyed discovering all that this gem of a garden had to offer; the weather stayed dry and the sun even popped out for a while.

The art exhibition by D'Arcy J Sallion was fascinating to hear & see how the artist used recycled items to create fabulous artworks.

At the end of our tour we enjoyed an afternoon tea with scones & jam beautifully served by the friendly cafe staff. .



The garden of Myddelton House originated in the 19th century, but owes its present form to E. A. Bowles, who created it in the early-20th century. It decayed after his death, but has recently been restored. The site covers about 2.5 hectares

The house was built by Henry Carrington Bowles, a successful printer and mapmaker who worked at St Paul's Churchyard in London. The new house replaced an earlier Elizabethan property known as Bowling Green House. Bowles chose to build in white brick imported from Suffolk, which was then very fashionable. He named his new residence after Sir Hugh Myddelton, the engineer who created the nearby New River navigation system.



The estate was passed through generations of Bowles descendants until it came to Edward Augustus Gussie Bowles, Edward had originally trained to enter the church, but a series of tragic family accidents made him change his choice of career; he remained at Myddelton to run the family estate. It was here that he taught himself horticulture, and became in time an internationally recognised expert.

Bowles was known as The Crocus King and was heavily involved with the Royal Horticultural Society and the Botanic Gardens at Kew.

When E.A. Bowles created the current garden, he diverted water from the New River to feed ornamental features in the garden.

One of the things that make Myddelton gardens so interesting is that E A Bowles was a passionate collector of historic artefacts, and many of these interesting historic pieces are carefully arranged around the garden. These include Enfield Market Cross, which he rescued from a builder's yard, where it had been removed by the council in 1901 to become rubble, and which now stands in the centre of the Rose Garden.



Many of E. A. Bowles's original plants remain in the grounds, together with a range of plants named after him. There is a glorious wisteria floribunda, 'Macrobotrys' which flowers in May This was grown from a seed by Mr Bowles and planted in 1903. There is a handsome variegated form of Philadelphus coronarius (mock orange) 'Bowles Variety' and the Bowles Mauve Erysimum (wallflower).

**Photos by Beverly Moore & Lorraine Gagen**

## Deben Flower Club

The first weekend in June, Deben Flower Club presented their highly successful fundraising flower festival "Musicals in Flowers". The church of St Mary's & St Martin's at Kirton, near Felixstowe was full of glorious arrangements, but there was a twist to the presentation – the designers were credited, but there were no titles! The visitors had to guess those themselves and write their suggestions on the sheets of paper provided to enter the competition. This was a clever idea, as people stayed longer and looked more closely at the displays. Inevitably they decided to get refreshments in the adjoining village hall whilst they pondered over the titles, often going back into the church for another look. There was a good selection of cakes, there were posies on the table with information about the club, and a plant stall – the organisers had thought of everything.



Chairman Debbie Doggett told us that they had successfully applied for a community support grant which had enabled them to put paid advertising in the local press, as well as their usual promotions in the free newspapers. This had certainly paid off as the church, in a small out of the way village, was constantly busy on both days of the festival. Personally I was rubbish at guessing the titles, despite the clever interpretations of the club members. My excuse is that I don't often go to musicals, but I even got the ones wrong for the shows I had seen... Photographer Beverly Moore managed 14, but the winner evidently got 22/23.

**Words Lindi Carrington/pictures Beverly Moore**

How many titles can you guess? You will need to look very closely at the details. The answers are on the last page of Spotlight.



Does the idea of joining the East of England Media Team appeal to you? We need someone to administer the Area website <https://www.nafas-east.com> Linda Knights, who for many years kept us updated on news & events, has decided to retire from the job. Ideally you would have technical knowledge combined with your knowledge of NAFAS & flower arranging. Realistically, you may have a family member or friend who has website experience; combined with your experience of the flower arranging world **you'd make a great team – think about it!** You don't know what you can do until you try. I certainly never thought I'd be editing an online magazine.....

### Answers to Quiz on pages 34/35

1. The Wizard of Oz
2. Six
3. Grease
4. The Sound of Music
5. Gigi
6. South Pacific
7. Chicago
8. Hairspray
9. Joseph & the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat
10. The Lion King
11. Miss Saigon
12. Hello Dolly

And finally – thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of Spotlight. The next one is scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> December with a copy deadline of 23<sup>rd</sup> November. It's really helpful though if you submit your news as soon after your event as possible, while it's still fresh in your mind. We hope to include photos of some of the late summer events that narrowly missed the August deadline, together with reports of more anniversary celebrations and some last minute ideas for Christmas.

Email your contributions to me at [newsletter.nafaseast@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.nafaseast@gmail.com) Please send the written part as a simple Word document with no fancy formatting, and include your photos as JPEG attachments.

Items for East of England Facebook page should be sent to [facebook.nafaseast@gmail.com](mailto:facebook.nafaseast@gmail.com)

Enjoy your Autumn flower arranging; with all the seasonal colours, leaves, fruits & seed heads I know I certainly will

Lindi Carrington