**Bradford on Avon Flower Club Newsletter June 2015**

Well I think we can say our Chelsea trip was a big success. 48 members, friends and family went on the day the sun shone and the icing on the cake was to see the SW Area display and the Gold Medal it was awarded. Special congratulations to our club’s members Lucy and Cath who were on the team.

 Some of our members entered competitions at the Bath and West show. So congratulations to all of the following

 Jan Jones who got a first in “Nature’s Unspoilt Palette” plus the Scammell Trophy and Floral Art Challenge and Best in Show. She also got a VHC in “Waking Earth”

 Margaret Murray got a 1st in “Waking Earth” also a 3rd in “Nature’s Unspoilt Palette” and “Utopia”

 Cynthia Booth got a 2nd in “Waking Earth” and Ann Narraway a VHC in “Potting Shed”

 Our last meeting was a demonstration by Julia Russett who grew up with florists as parents and she had lots of tales of her life before coming back to floristry.

 The informal competition – judged by the numbers of coins put alongside the arrangements by our members- was won jointly by Ans and Jilly. The money put by the arrangements will be given to charity later in the year.

 The club are donating £20 to the URC Church in Holt towards their refurbishment of the Hall. The club use the hall for their practice class so felt we would like to make a donation.

 **Garden Tea party Wednesday 10th June**

 This will actually be starting from 3.30pm not 4pm as previously stated.

 It is being held at the home of Jilly Heath at “Huckshards”, The Gravel, Holt BA14 6RA.

 The weather forecast has improved and looks as though it will be sunny and about 17 degrees so a good afternoon for being in the garden enjoying a nice tea. You will have a plate of scones, jam and cream- some of Jilly’s wonderful sounding sandwiches and some cake as well.

 There will be a plant stall and a Bric-a-Brac table so please bring along any unwanted plants/ seedlings – unwanted presents etc. There will be a raffle – Merle has collected some good prizes including a voucher from Whitehall Garden Centre.

 If you are thinking of coming please give Jilly a ring on 01225 782385. The cost is £7.50 and is open to non-members

**Wednesday 24th June practice class 7.30pm at URC Hall in Holt**

The theme of this class will be a “Summer Glory” pedestal. If you do not have a pedestal there will be spare ones to use available on the evening.

 For further information about what to bring etc please phone Rosemary on 01225858751,

**Thursday 2nd July Demonstration  by Lucy Ellis 7.30pm at Holt Village Hall “The Lives and Loves of a Demonstrator”**

Fresh from working with the South West Area team at Chelsea and the Gold medal awarded- Lucy will also be talking about being a demonstrator during her demonstration, and what it involves.

As Lucy is a member of our club we know how entertaining this evening will be so hope to see lots of you there.

The Competition will have the title “Summer Glory” It has been a pleasure to see the entries to the competition and to collect money towards a charity. At this meeting the winner will be the person who has most money put beside their arrangement rather than just the number of coins. From the September meeting we will keep a record of how much everyone has beside their arrangement and whoever has had the most money put beside their arrangements for the rest of the year up to the AGM can choose which charity will be given all of the money donated.

**Thursday 6th August Garden Outing to Yeo Valley Organic Garden at Blagdon**

Following our Chelsea trip this is a more relaxed visit. We will meet at Yeo Valley at 2pm. The cost of entry is £5 and there is a tea shop there. As we do not have to have a definite booking you can take along friends/ family. If you need a lift on the day (travel time is about an hour) please see Cynthia at the July meeting (or phone on 01225 863640) and we will organize it for you.

Visit [www.theyeovalleyorganicgarden.co.uk](http://www.theyeovalleyorganicgarden.co.uk/) for more details.

**Flowers at the Doctor’s surgery.**

For the past year members of the committee have been putting an arrangement in the Doctor’s surgery every second week. This has been funded by the committee member doing each arrangement so thank you to them. The surgery has then been promoting the club allowing us to put information by the arrangement and putting up posters about meetings on their information board and also a slide on their rolling screen. They apparently get a lot of nice comments about the flowers and hopefully this has raised awareness of the club. Our contact in the surgery has now suggested they put photos of the arrangements  plus some information about the club on their website with a link to the club’s newsletter. If you would like to see what is on their website please go to [www.boamhp.co.uk](http://www.boamhp.co.uk/)  and then click on latest news.

If anyone would like to help the committee by doing an occasional arrangement at the Doctor’s surgery to promote the club please contact Ans on 01225 755140 or by e-mail at stannich@blueyonder.co.uk

**Calanders, Diaries and Christmas Cards**

Hard to believe I have to mention these already but the orders have to be in by the 14th of August. Pam Ditte will have samples of these at the July meeting with the order form so if you are interested please bring your cheque book along to that meeting. Otherwise contact Pam on 01225 865700

 **EVENTS IN THE AREA**

**Garden Festival at the Bishop’s Palace in Wells 20th-24th June**

For more information:-  [www.bishopspalace.org.uk](http://www.bishopspalace.org.uk/)

**Burbage Flower Club near Marlborough**

This club has sent us information about 2 events

Thursday 11th June at 7.30pm a talk by Julia Webb “Blowing in the wind” on how pollen helps to catch criminals. Cost is £5.

Thursday 9th July 7.30pm Demonstration by Coral Gardiner ”Put your Garden on a Pedestal” Cost is £10.

For more information and tickets please contact Julia Russett on 01672 810829 or julia.russett@gmail.com

**Strawberry Fayre and Flower Festival at Crudwell Sat 11th and Sunday 12th July**

North Wilts Villages Flower Club is decorating  All Saints Church in Crudwell with a preview on the Friday. The tickets for the preview are £10 to include Pimms, fizz and canapés.  For tickets contact :-sales@crudwellstrawberryfayre.co.uk

There are also lots of events around the village on the Saturday and Sunday. As I used to live near there and went to the Strawberry Fayre I would recommend it as a day out especially as this one includes some lovely flowers.

**President’s Day Friday August 14th**

This is celebrating the Diamond Anniversary of the South West Area of NAFAS and will be held at the Springfield Community Campus in Corsham.

It starts at 11 with coffee and stalls to look around followed by a 2 course lunch. In the afternoon there will be a demonstration by Pam Lewis.

Tickets are £21 and are available from Pat Hazelhurst 01249 447929 or Glynis Lockhart 01985 212584

**Saturday 12th September Holt Village Show**

Advance warning that there will be a Flower Arranging Competition at this show. We will publish the schedules when they become available but all classes can be brought along ready prepared.

**Saturday 19th September “Ready, Steady, Demonstrate” Ross on Wye**

This is a fun taster day costing £10 introducing some basic skills required for members interested in the possibility of demonstrating.

For more information contact either Janet Davies on 01873 852112 janetandgordon@talktalk.net or Ann Thewlis 02920 193063 annthewlis@hotmail.com

**Osbourne House “Open House Weekend” Sat 19th- Sun 20th Sept**

The headquarters of NAFAS will be taking part in this event which means hundreds of buildings across London are open for viewing. NAFAS is asking for members to volunteer as stewards. If you might be interested in doing this the details will be on the board at the next meeting.

**Country Baskets and Jonathan Moseley 14th October**

Advance warning of this popular event held at Country Baskets, Nova Way in Avonmouth so you can get the date in your diary! Tickets are £5 from Jenny Payne 01666 577455 or jenn.pyne23@gmail.com. All funds from tickets sales will go to Breast Cancer Care and Prostate Cancer UK

**S W Area Education Day 7th November**

A long way ahead but applications have to be in by 31st August. The tutor is Laura Leong- Title “Advent Inspirations”  The cost is £20. Application forms are available on the South West Area web site or contact me.

To apply for a place send a cheque for £5  as a deposit made out to SW Area NAFAS and a SAE to Maureen Faraway, 30 Belcombe Road, Bradford on Avon BA15 1LZ. Successful applicants will be informed, others will have their cheques returned. Requirements lists will then be available on payment of the balance.

Remember you can view photos and information about the club on Facebook just search for the Bradford on Avon Flower Club.

 Thank you for reading the newsletter. If you would prefer not to receive it just let me know and I will remove your name from the list.

 Helen

(on behalf of the committee)