



## EAST OF ENGLAND AREA OF NAFAS

**“APRIL”**

# **CHAIRMAN'S MONTHLY CHAT**

April has arrived with a few days of colder weather. After the glorious sunny days we had over the weekend of Mother's Day, it came as a shock to see snow last week.

I have travelled many miles in the last two weeks, a few trips to Mildenhall and down to Sussex to visit family. It is such a delight to see all the daffodils that have appeared on the roadsides, just makes me smile.

I would like to thank all the members who attended the Spring Council Meeting at Mildenhall; we had a good day apart from the arrival of the Sahara dust on the way home.

The hall was decorated with pots of daffodils, sunflower seeds were given out for planting as this is the National Flower of Ukraine.

Brenda Evers had made a request for members to donate to the appeal for items to send to Poland for the Ukrainian refugees. Brenda and friends filled their cars with the donations, so thank you to everyone who donated.

It was a pleasure to see all the members, some we had not seen for a while. It was good to hear all the chatting and laughter, everyone was enjoying the chance to socialise with friends.

The Inter Group Competition took place, with one competitor representing each Group in the Area.

The title was “Go Platinum” and was interpreted in five completely different ways. Judy Wynn was our judge and she explained to us all how she had judged each exhibit, a very good way for us to see how the judging works.

The winner was Yvonne Wagstaff, representing King's Lynn Group.



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The next Council Meeting takes place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

The members who attended the March Meeting were asked for their ideas for the meeting in June, after the Area business is completed in the morning.

These ideas will be discussed with the Executive Committee to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee and details will be forwarded to all clubs in May.

Please come and join in, or you will not know what you have missed!!!

The Demonstrators Mock Test took place on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, another occasion where members were able to meet up.

The four candidates all did well on the day and were well received by the audience. Margaret Rumens was the adjudicator and will be tutoring their final training day in April. The candidates were all nervous and they received comments from Margaret which they will take on board for their Demonstrators Test on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May. All clubs have been sent details of the test and the tickets are available now, limited to 2 tickets per club.

As we only had four candidates for the Mock Test, the afternoon was a demonstration by five members of our Area committees. Stephanie Laing, Roger Woolnough, Gloria Goodley, Sue Brinton and myself. It was light hearted and Fun, Friendship and Flowers.

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On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2022 the JDS&E Committee have organised a Judges' and Competitors' Refresher Day at the Jubilee Hall, Mildenhall. The tutor for the day will be Valerie Best.

Please send for your tickets as soon as possible. Details are on the Area website. [nafas-east.com](http://nafas-east.com)

If you would like to compete in the NAFAS Virtual National Show "Chasing Rainbows" the applications should be in between 23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

All details and forms are on the Area website.

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National Flower Arranging Day is on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

Members may wish to leave a small posy of flowers in a public space for a passer-by to take home, add your club details to the attached card. You may encourage new members to your Flower Club. Cards were available at the Council Meeting or from your Group Chairman if not collected.

I am sure that many of you will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Why not ask a local shop or business if you can place an arrangement in their window and leave some flyers about your Flower Club and a contact number.

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Sadly over the last two years we have said goodbye to some members and friends. Two very well known ladies in the Area are being remembered at services organised by their families.

Janet Elmy on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 3pm.

Alan Road Methodist Church, 161 Rosehill Road, Ipswich, IP3 8EX.

Janet's Daughter, Jane, requests that friends dress casual and colourful.

They wish us to remember Janet's smiles.

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Ann Knight on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 2pm.

St. Nicholas Parish Church, Lynn Road, Gayton, PE32 1PF

"We miss them all"

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To end this month these are the Hepaticas in our garden, the best they have flowered for years.

I look forward to seeing many of you at President's Day

Take care everyone and hope to see you soon!

Barbara 01733 560000

beecollins@btinternet.com