



## NATIONAL SPEAKERS COMMITTEE

### AUTUMN 2017 BULLETIN

#### The National Speakers Committee

Chairman	Susan Shaw	Kent
	Alan Beatty	NIGFAS
	Susan Horne	East of England
	Philida Irving	Northumberland & Durham
	Kathy Stangaard	London & Overseas

#### Farewells

At the AGM both Carolynne Sorrel and Sheila Smith completed their term of office on the National Speakers Committee. Thank you to both of them for their valuable contributions.

At this time of year, many Areas are holding their AGM's which can mean that Area Speakers Representatives may change. Please let the Chairman of the National Speakers Committee know, of any changes to Speakers Representatives as soon as they occur.

#### National Show 2017

The Festive Flower and Food Show returns to the fabulous Blackpool Winter Gardens on 9-11 November 2017. A great start to the Festive Season. Check out details at [www.festiveflowerfoodshow.co.uk](http://www.festiveflowerfoodshow.co.uk). Apart from the floral competitions there are a number of other events such as talks and demonstrations which are included in the price of your entrance ticket.

A member of the Speakers committee will be in the Talks Theatre in the Empress Ballroom, during the presentations so please watch a show and introduce yourself. (They will be wearing a gold flower.) If you or any of your speakers, (qualified or potential), would like to meet up for a coffee and chat at the show, please get in touch. We have some bookmarks to promote our discipline within NAFAS.

#### Speakers Representatives Day

The Representatives meet every eighteen months to share information, express views and receive updates. The next meeting is at HQ, at 10.30am on Tuesday 24 April 2018 when we hope to meet a representative from each Area.

#### Diamond Card

The purpose of this initiative is to allow NAFAS to quickly share, news, information and offers, directly with members. Please encourage members to sign up. An application form is on the members section of the NAFAS website.

#### YouTube Videos

We now have four videos on the NAFAS YouTube channel; Introductions, Votes of Thanks, What is a NAFAS Speaker, Warming up the voice. There are links from the Speakers page of the NAFAS website.

[www.nafas.org.uk/speakers](http://www.nafas.org.uk/speakers)

NAFAS has a number of floral videos on YouTube too. To get notification of future videos all you have to do is open an account and subscribe to the NAFAS YouTube channel. It is easy and does not cost anything.

## **Handy Hints**

A number of help sheets have been published by the National Speakers Committee this year which are on the Members page of the NAFAS website. They are -

### **Handy Hints for Members**

- Building Confidence
- Introductions
- Introducing Test Candidates
- Reading Reports
- Votes of Thanks

### **Handy Hints for Trainee Presenters**

- Impromptu Speaking
- Preparing to Walk on Stage
- Projected Images
- Vocal Variety – The Pause
- Warming Up Voice & Body

The Members page of the NAFAS website has a huge amount of information to help clubs and members. Take a peek at [www.nafas.org.uk/members](http://www.nafas.org.uk/members) and spread the word.

## **Testing and Training**

Congratulations to the candidates that recently passed their Area Speakers test in the NIGFAS and Cheshire Areas. These were both very successful; 100% of the candidates passed. Congratulations also to the instructors and organisers who must be thrilled with the results.

Speakers training not only provides a different option for clubs; it also means that our organisation is helping members to become better communicators and be more confident which is of benefit to clubs and their Areas.

The Speakers page of the NAFAS website is constantly being updated with training and testing opportunities. Please continue to keep me informed of training and testing happening in your Area.

Often it is possible for Areas to do joint training days or testing, so please communicate with your local Areas as well. NAFAS needs members to come forward in all the disciplines, so please look around your clubs and consider who needs encouragement and support to step forward. IF NOT YOU, WHO?

## **Next National Test**

Currently a date is not known for the next test. A preliminary day of guidance and mock test is needed before doing the National test. All potential candidates are advised to make the Chairman National Speakers Committee aware of their intentions as soon as possible. Any Area Speaker who has been qualified for two years and is interested in finding out about the National Test should write to the Chairman National Speakers Committee, at Headquarters, as soon as possible. It is hoped to run a preliminary day of advice on Wednesday 26 September 2018.

## **Speakers Residential Course**

Following the success of previous symposiums we have started to plan for the next one in 2019. Further information will be published as soon as we have it.

## **Finally**

If you have any questions, requests or suggestions please get in touch.