

Arthur Flower Arrangement Society (AFAS)

1986-1992 Mrs Hiroko Murakami, accompanied by her husband, moved to the UK and lived with family in North West London (Brent area). During this time Hiroko became a member of NAFAS in Harrow district.

After returning to Japan in 1992, Hiroko registered as an individual member of London and Overseas. In 1999 Hiroko launched an organisation called 'Arthur Flower Arrangement Society' in Japan and AFAS has been affiliated to London and Overseas ever since.

In 2005 Pat Dibben and Jeannette Bell (both NAFAS members) visited Japan to participate in WAFA. At this time AFAS organised a workshops with the help of Pat and Jeannette which the Japanese participants and audiences enjoyed.

In 2009 AFAS started the elementary flower arrangement course targeting young students every year. The event has so far been well received by the students who find flower arranging interesting and enjoyable.

AFAS meets periodically on dates convenient to members.

home page is <http://afas.web.fc2.com/>

Barbados Association of Flower Arrangers (BAFA Inc)

BAFA Inc was formed in 2002 as the national body to foster participation in international events hosted by the World Association of Flower Arrangers, as attendance and participation at the World Show can only be done under one umbrella organisation. From 2002 members were entering the World Show under the name of BAFA.

At its inception membership was open to flower arranging clubs in Barbados - the only two active clubs, Barbados Flower Arranging Society and Barbados Flower Circle, were members.

In 2009 BAFA formulated a plan to bid for the hosting of the World Flower Show and in 2010 was offered the opportunity to host WAFA 2014–2017. Recognising the scope of the work to host this show, the two member clubs agreed to amalgamate under the name BAFA Inc, to allow them to consolidate their resources and develop a broader profile locally and regionally. In January 2012 BAFA Inc. was legally registered under the Companies Act of Barbados and the Strategic Plan is:

Vision: To be internationally recognized as a model of floral art leadership and administrative efficiency

Mission: BAFA Inc, promotes, fosters and develops an appreciation for excellence in floral art locally, regionally and internationally

Values: Excellence, integrity, creativity, flexibility, service and teamwork

Context: A small island state with limited financial resources during an economic recession competing in a high-income global creative industry

In order to facilitate the amalgamation, seven directors were appointed in February 2012:

- Maurice Webster who carries the portfolio of Chairman and Finance and Fund Raising
- Jackie Ferdinand, Vice President and Education & Training
- Jennifer Weetch, Shows and Exhibitions
- Carol-Ann Brancker, Public Relations
- Etwyn Humphrey, Member Relations
- Trevor Inniss, Asset Management
- Julie Alleyne, Secretary and Secretariat

The Club meets every 4th Saturday of the month at the Bethel Auditorium, Bay Street, St. Michael from 4pm–6pm. Our telephone numbers are 246-234-1383 and 246-234-1385.

At present we issue a monthly newsletter called Floral Art Barbados News, which is emailed to all members with a few hard copies being issued. There is also a Facebook page where information about the club can be found.

Chilliwack Floral Art Club

Friendship Through Flowers

The Chilliwack Floral Art Club, Canada was founded in 2006. We meet each month except December. The club provides an opportunity to learn an art form using flowers as the canvas. We learn and practice both traditional and contemporary floral designs. Members vary in experience from those who are completely new to some who have several years of experience. Lessons are provided for those who wish them.

Our club activities have included an annual spring show, decorating churches, tours of studios and flower growers and a Christmas Gala each year featuring a wonderful professional designer.

Contact: Mrs. Lynne White : email: whitegl@telus.net

Doddervale Flower Club

The Club was founded in 1977 by Phyllis Sheehy. Sadly Phyllis is no longer with us but her legacy lives on in the excellent standards achieved by her pupils and her pupils' pupils. Doddervale has many qualified teachers, demonstrators and judges. The current President is Liz Morris who helped to set up the club with Phyllis and was one of her original pupils.

The aims of the club are to foster the love and care of plant material in all its forms and to encourage Friendship through Flowers.

Doddervale is affiliated to AOIFA, the Association of Irish Floral Artists. We have also been affiliated to the London and Overseas Area of NAFAS since the beginning.

AOIFA is hosting the World Flower Show from 18th June-22nd June 2014 in the RDS, Dublin and Doddervale is working very hard to help make this a truly successful Show with the emphasis on Friendship through Flowers. Our club has raised €14,000 through various events and has also collected €1500 in coppers...so far.

We meet at 8pm on the second Friday of each month in Templeogue College in Templeogue, South Dublin. Dublin is the capital of Ireland. Our website is www.doddervale.com

We would love to have some overseas members visiting us.

Estepona Floral Art Club, in the province of Malaga, Estepona, Spain Estapona

The Club began in 1999. Its founder is Past Chairman of East of England Area, Mavis Tolfree who was an active member of NAFAS whilst residing in the UK. Mavis moved to Estepona and saw an advertisement in a nearby village for the Costa del Sol Flower Club. Mavis attended that meeting and met with three members who persuaded her to start the Club on the coast in Estepona.

With the help of the Foreign Residents Office and that of the local government, who offered the use of the government meeting room, Mavis began 'Estepona Floral Art Club' on 20 April 1999, which was attended by the Foreign Residents Officer and Estepona Television. The following evening Mavis was invited to appear on Marbella Television. 34 ladies attended the inaugural meeting and today the club's attendance at any one meeting could be up to 60 ladies. A few ladies from that very first meeting still attend each month. Mavis was the club's very first demonstrator and in the May, June and July of 1999 workshops were also held which proved to be very successful indeed. The workshops are still popular and are always well attended.

The Club has had several moves to different premises, but each time for the better, to accommodate the growth. Our present meeting place is very well situated with plenty of room for expansion. We meet every third Tuesday in each month at 3.30pm at the Tikitano Beach Restaurant & Lounge, Urb. Gaudalmansa, Estepona, Ctra de Cadiz 340 (km 164), with the exception of July & August. We welcome new members as well as visitors to the area from the UK and further afield, our love of all things floral bringing us together.

We now have 50 paid up members and many visitors each month. A committee of nine very hard working ladies continue to help make the Club a success. We give a donation to a charity of our choice at the start of each year. We have an excellent demonstration by NAFAS Area & National Demonstrators, who come over from the UK. Members enjoy two hours of floral education and anecdotal entertainment, seeing how an arrangement can come together from nothing while in the company of friends old and new.

For further information please contact us by email at esteponafloralartclub@hotmail.com or visit us on Facebook.

NHS Floral Design Group of St John's, Newfoundland Canada

The Group's association with the Newfoundland Horticultural Society began in 1966. It has forty plus members that meet the third Tuesday of every month at St David's Church on Elizabeth Avenue except for July and August. Our meetings often include demonstrations of varying topics by a group member or a guest

florist followed by a workshop. Our demonstrations have an educational component on some of the floral design principles and elements. Our members are very enthusiastic to learn and through our workshops we learn from each other with guidance from senior experienced members.

Our Group participates in a spring and summer flower show NL Blooms at The MUN Botanical Gardens along with the Horticultural Society. It is a collaborative effort between the two groups and the shows receive rave reviews from the public.

We celebrate National Flower Arranging Day in May by hosting a Lonely Bouquet Campaign. This is also one of our main group activities giving back to the community as we involve ladies from our local Women's Centre engaging them in designing over one hundred bouquets which are delivered by volunteers around the city. We also have floral workshops at the centre a few other times during the year.

In November the group decorates the St Johns Commissariat House for Christmas. At our November meeting we make over fifty feet of fresh garlands, over thirty wreaths and multiple centre pieces. Members then volunteer to spend a day decorating the house in the period style of 1800's. Certainly a great way to start the Christmas season.

We have executive elections every November where we elect a Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, Hospitality Host, Secretary and Communicating Secretary. See below for contact information
Chair-June Peckham-j.peckham@nf.sympatico.ca

Flower Lovers Tokyo

The club is a society of flower arrangement lovers. Anyone who loves flower arranging is welcome at the club. We meet once in two months on an irregular basis in Tokyo and the venue is changed according to the availability of club activities. We currently have 18 members.

The club was founded in 2005. Three Japanese women were fascinated by the British flower arrangement and took classes while they lived in the UK. They wanted to keep learning about it when they returned home and also to make it popular among Japanese people by organising a club in Japan.

Since the early stages of the club, Jeannette Bell, Pat Dibben and Jayne Edmonds encouraged and advised us how to organise a new society. Mrs Setsuko Watanabe has inspired us with the latest information about arrangements since we met her at the National Show at Telford in 2006. We would like to express our special appreciation to them for their professional advice and support. We would feel privileged to be given a chance to welcome any of you to Japan.

Our website address is <http://www.wa.commufa.jp/aflower/index.html>

Some pages are written in English too. Many articles have been sent to us by our friends in the UK and we put them on HP in Japanese language.

The contact persons are:

Chair lady: Mrs Yoko Isa (4-5-2 Naka-arai, Tokorozawa, Saitama 359-0041 Japan Tel:+81-42-943-4091)

Corresponding/secretary: Masako Suzuki masuzuki@qc.commufa.jp

Garden Club Argentino

We were originally founded as the "Buenos Aires Garden Club" in August 1921. About 15 years ago we changed the name to Garden Club Argentino because, although Buenos Aires had 16 groups, the rest of our very vast country had another 35 so our name was a misnomer!

All the groups meet once or twice a month for nine months. Summer here (December to March) is very hot and people tend to go away on holiday, obviously not for the full three. This has always been a problem for us because when we are busiest (June to September) you are off on holidays so sometimes information gets lost.

Each group, which may number 10 to 30 members, has its own profile. There are the horticulturists, flower arrangers, some mixed, and some who meet as a platform to do good in their communities by building green zones, garden therapy and tree protecting etc. They have their own internal structure: ie: President, Secretary, Treasurer etc and respond to the Central Council which meets once a month to cover all aspects of the organisation. We also run design schools, teaching all the principles and elements of design and landscape schools. Each hosting group is responsible for the financial viability of each school so it gives a certain autonomy in the running of them.

We are affiliated not only to NAFAS but also to the National Garden Clubs Inc. whose judging schools and show principles we follow. Since 2002 we have been members of WAFA and have gone to their seminars and shows, exhibiting as honorary exhibitors. We are also members of the RHS and the American Horticultural Therapy Association. We have about 20 shows a year, all over the country. They are always mixed, horticulture and design.

We have a web page www.gardenclubargentino.com.ar We are also on Facebook as Garden Club Argentino. Unfortunately all that is written is in Spanish but the photos are universal.

Geelong Floral Art Group Inc

The Group will be celebrating 50 years in 2014. The group meet on the 3rd Monday of each month at 10.30am, and the venue is the cricket/football pavilion at the Herne Hill reserve in Hilltop St, West Geelong, Victoria, Australia.

The group has a membership of over 40 and holds classes, workshops, demonstrations and competitions during the year.

The contact details for the group are the Secretary, Lenice McCall (03)54487066 and the President, Vicki Russell (03)52821215.

Our email address is geelongfloralartgroup@gmail.com

Kenya Floral Arrangement Society - a tantalizing glimpse into the last fifty years

The club was formed in 1958, during the heyday of the colonial era, by the wives of British expatriates, although only officially registered on 8 February 1962. It is believed that club meetings were first held at the All Saints Cathedral and later moved to St. Andrews Church, followed by the Indian High Commission, then Aga Khan Sports Club. We currently enjoy the modern ambience of Lions Sight First. The last Tuesday of the month has been the meeting day for the past 50 years! Reports in back issues of *The Flower Arranger* mention a membership of over 500 in the early days; however current figures average at under a 100.

The club was a founder member of WAFA in 1981. Before this the club was represented at an international seminar held during the NAFAS National Competitions London 1976, also at the first seminar in Wales in 1982 and the first WAFA show in Bath, UK in 1984. Thereafter the club seems to have been out of touch with WAFA until 1999 when a large contingent competed and visited the show in Durban, South Africa. Since then attendance by the KFAC contingent at the WAFA Shows in Glasgow, UK (2002) and Japan (2005) has been notable. Sadly the 2008 show in Pakistan was called off but members enjoyed WAFA Boston USA in June 2011.

Una Watson, Lisbe Stewart & Irene Humphries exhibited on behalf of Kenya at the NAFAS Westminster Abbey Flower Festival June 1981 and had the honour of being presented to HM Queen Elizabeth II. Other members, especially Kamlesh Bhasin, won many awards in the craft/collage classes at the NAFAS National Shows in the 1980s/1990s.

The mainstay of the activities is demonstrations with the emphasis more on teaching than entertainment, compared to demonstrations given in other countries. Over the years members have lovingly and painstakingly executed floral presentations to the highest standards on a voluntary basis, with a modest flower allowance.

A typical club meeting begins at 9 a.m. with members staging their exhibits, glancing through the meticulously maintained photo albums and modestly stocked library. The main feature starts at 10 a.m. and ends around noon. Other activities include workshops where a more hands-on approach is adopted. The imposed class is a popular feature of the club calendar. Garden meetings with a demonstration and high tea are looked forward to by one and all. Members have traditionally been very keen on exhibiting at the annual shows but sadly these are now held once every three years or so. The 2012 Show 'Florimania' held at Oshwal Centre attracted 160 entries and 1,000 visitors. Members have always exhibited in the floral art section of Kenya Horticultural Society's Shows.

In 1998/99 leading names in the South African flower arranging world (Althea Higham, Barbara Bamber and Beryl Hansen) were invited to conduct intensive judges and demonstrators training courses, as a result of which the Kenyan Panel of Floral Art Judges and the Demonstrators Forum were formed. In 2007 NAFAS National Judge and seasoned competitor, Ann Blunt, was invited to judge the show to enable the existing KPFAJ members to renew their competitive and judging skills. The Demonstrators Forum was incepted with the aim of professionalising demonstrating techniques. Both groups have their own meetings and provide valuable services to the general membership of the club.

It is believed that a newsletter existed in the early days and was revived as '**Floral Inspirations**' in 2003 by Pritesh Shah. Priya Shah is the current Editor of the e-newsletter. Club reports and photographs are regularly featured in international flower arranging magazines. The club website is www.spanglefish.com/kenyafloralclub and its Facebook page is facebook.com/kenyafloralclub

Marina Alta and Costa Blanca Floral Club

Our Club was started by Mary Carpenter some 20 years ago, together with other enthusiastic and gifted flower arrangers. Within the club we have a NAFAS qualified judge, demonstrator, speaker and teachers. We are a vibrant, friendly and forward thinking Club and have held many outings and social fundraising events such as traditional English tea parties, usually held on Flowers Arrangers Day, Strawberry Teas, Pimms and Ploughman's Lunches. Whilst having fun, we raise considerable amounts of money for charity.

Our demonstrators are mainly from the UK and we meet at 3pm every fourth Thursday in the month (although this may change according to the time of year i.e. Christmas and fiestas) at the Salon de Actos Espai Senieta, Moraira from September through to May. We hold workshops which are run by our visiting demonstrators and welcome anyone who wants to come and join in.

Membership is open to anyone and we guarantee a warm welcome to both members and guests. For more information on our Club and demonstrations, visit our website: www.marinaaltafloralclub.com

Royal Horticultural Society of New South Wales Inc

In 2012 The Royal Horticultural Society of NSW Inc. celebrated its 150th anniversary (sesquicentenary).

During the year, special events were planned for members and visitors to enjoy. A celebratory rose, BENNELONG GOLD and Louisiana iris, BENNELONG RUBY, were launched by Mr Don Burke on behalf of the Society in May 2012.

The Society comprises approximately 38 affiliated Floral and Horticultural Societies, located all across the state of New South Wales, plus individual members. Affiliated Societies have either specific interest areas (Australian native plants, floral art, dahlias, roses, irises, hoyas and bromeliads) or are country town-based Societies with interests in all things horticultural. The Society speaks for many thousands of individuals who love horticulture.

A not-for-profit Association, the Society provides an annual floral/horticultural display at the Sydney Royal Easter Show and is involved with other events during the year.

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month except for January and December at 9.45am and usually conclude at 12.30pm. Easter can cause a meeting to be cancelled as our members are involved with the Sydney Royal Agricultural Society 14 day show. Our meeting venue is Beecroft Bowling Club, 128, Copeland Road, Beecroft, NSW 2119. Monthly meetings comprise both a horticultural guest speaker and a floral art demonstration on most occasions. Special themed meetings ('all things pumpkin', for example) add to the friendly atmosphere of our monthly meetings.

Visitors are always welcome.

Oman Flower Arranging Group

Information to follow

São Paulo Garden Club

The Club is located in São Paulo, Brazil. The club was founded in 1939 by nine British ladies. It is an international English-speaking club whose aims are to share and stimulate interest in horticulture, floral design, environmental and civic responsibility.

The Club comprises four groups each with a maximum of 30 active members, each group meeting monthly in private homes. The whole club meets four times a year for general meetings in March, May, August and November. Our Annual Flower Show, usually held in September, is the most important event of the year and open to the public.

A group of our ladies won the Silver Medal at the Chelsea Flower Show in 1994 and the following year we came away with the Gold Medal for tropical and sub-tropical gardens.

Apart from NAFAS, the club is affiliated to National Garden Clubs, Inc. USA, Comaai, RHS - Great Britain and is a member of WAFA – World Association of Flower Arrangers and BRAFA – Brazilian Association of Flower Arrangers (Brazil).

Our website address is www.saopaulogardenclub.com.br

Singapore Flower Club

The Club was set up in 1971.

We generally meet every second Friday morning in the month for a workshop/demonstration or flower related activity. Our membership is small, a mixture of expats and Singaporean and ranges from beginners to floral designers. Apart from L & O we are also affiliated to FDSS (Floral designers Society (Singapore)).

Membership is open to anybody who is interested in flowers and floral design. Workshop or demonstrations are conducted by our experienced members or by local floral designers and occasionally by visiting overseas floral designers. Guests are always warmly welcome.

If demonstrators/floral art teachers visit Singapore, please let us know in advance. And if you are here long enough to do a demonstration or workshop for us we would be delighted if we could arrange that. Please contact us at singaporeflowerclub@hotmail.com

To learn more about us please visit www.facebook.com/singaporeflowerclub, www.singaporeflowerclub.com

Tasmanian Floral Art Society Inc

The Society was formed on 15 January 1989 following many years of informal co-operation between groups and individual flower arrangers from many parts of the State.

The aims of the Society are:

- To promote and encourage the art of flower arrangement within Tasmania, including its educational, social and cultural aspects
- To promote the training of judges of floral art and the improvement and uniformity of judging standards both within Tasmania and interstate
- To promote co-operation between other societies, clubs and groups with similar interests so that there may be an exchange of ideas within Tasmania, interstate and internationally.

Usually six workshops are held yearly in various parts of the State as well as fundraising and social events and a bi-yearly seminar. Workshops and seminars cater for all levels of interest and expertise on both an artistic and social basis. Judges training is available to those who wish to participate.

New members are most welcome. Join the society and share with others in enjoying the art of flower arranging. (President, Mrs Norma Gordon, 10 Balaka Street, Rosny, Tasmania 7018, Australia. Tel/fax: +61 (0) 3 6244 1271).

The Rose-Gate Flower Arrangement Society

Our club was founded towards the end of 2000 for the purpose of enhancing and deepening flower arrangement skills. Its *raison d'être* was depicted in the September/October and November/December 2006 issues of *Flora International*. It has 50 members and Chiyoko Tomooka has been its President since its foundation. She was initiated into flower arranging in English style by Mrs Marguerite Drewe in 1987-1988 and further instructed on arranging styles full of imagination and originality by Anna Steven in 1999-2000, in Oxford where Chiyoko stayed with her family. Luckily she was blessed with young ladies who showed clear-cut aspirations towards learning flower arranging in a different style to Ikebana and agreed to organise a club where mutual criticism and encouragement can be made possible.

The headquarters of RGFAS is located in Nagoya and where the AGM and a brush-up meeting are held on the same occasion in the autumn or spring every year (venue and relevant subjects are decided three months ahead and invitation letters are sent out to all members well before the date). At the latter meeting one pre-designated member demonstrates her arrangement and explains the theme and design ideas to the participants, who discuss the achievement from a variety of viewpoints, sometimes sarcastic and sometimes evaluative. It is heated and, all the more so, the meeting reveals in the end an inspiring and encouraging occasion.

RGFAS also has several branches in Wakayama, Hirakata (Osaka), Imabari (Shikoku Island), Utsunomiya (in North Kanto area), et.cet., and through them is actively engaged in propagating how to be pleased and charmed with arranging flowers in the English style. All RGFAS members have the thesaurus entitled *Flower Arranging in English Style, Basic and Practical* (written in Japanese and its ISBN is 4-96428-23-2) edited by me and contributed to by the original eleven members for a springboard to develop.

RGFAS has its home page at: <http://www.page.sannet.ne.jp/trosa/> which is updated from time to time and gives some phases of RGFAS activities.

**The Royal Horticultural Society of New South Wales Inc
PO Box 6070 Baulkham Hills BC NSW 2153**

This society was established in 1862 as a not-for-profit association under the patronage of the Governor of NSW. It has been involved in maintaining the standards of horticultural specimens and floral art for most shows in New South Wales. The Society's Specimen Standards and Floral Art Show Guides are used as the basis for most exhibiting in NSW. Our accredited Judges are always available to travel to Shows throughout NSW - details are listed on our website www.rhsnsw.org.au.

Working with plants and flowers brings horticultural art to life and eases the inner being!

Come along and visit with us at one of our meetings on 4th Wednesdays of each month from February to November at Beecroft Bowling Club 128 Copeland Road Beecroft 9.30 to 12.30. There is usually a guest speaker and a floral art demonstrator. All welcome to attend. \$5 entry for members and visitors alike including morning tea so call by and chat with likeminded people while enjoying the specimen & floral art exhibits.

Hon Secretary: Sharryn Place - mobile 0418 692003 or sharrynwhite@gmail.com.

Torrevieja Flower Club

The Club was started 25 years ago by some enthusiastic British flower arrangers. Meetings are held every 3rd Wednesday of the month, except July and August, at 2pm at the New Asturias Restaurant (this is a new venue starting March) on the N332 at Punta Prima from September through to June.

We usually have UK demonstrators each month and other social functions. We also enjoy outings such as treasure hunts, coach trips and fashion shows.

Membership is open to anyone who would like to see and learn flower arranging, or simply join in for the social experience. New members and guests are welcome.

Our website address is: www.torreviejaflowerclub

Victoria Flower Arrangers Guild

For more than 60 years the Victoria Flower Arrangers Guild has flourished providing knowledge and inspiration to hundreds of creative individuals who love floral design. The Guild originated in 1949 when twelve individuals formed a judging and arranging group within the Victoria Horticultural Society.

In 1969 the flower arranging group separated from the Victoria Horticultural Society and became an independent club, the Victoria Flower Arrangers Guild. In 1970 the Guild held its first Christmas Show, *Holiday Magic*, an event that continues to be held biennially.

Over the years, novices have honed their skills in design through demonstrations and workshops in traditional design taught by experienced designers. Both novice and experienced designers have participated in judged and non-judged shows within the club and at affiliated club shows such as the Lily and Iris Show, Orchid Show and Dahlia Show.

The Guild has continually integrated the latest trends in floral design into its programming. The introduction of contemporary design workshops has kept members up-to-date with the latest trends, using new elements and materials in design. In addition, demonstrations and workshops on duo designs, collages, haute couture floral jewellery, Ikebana, land art and art interpretation have supported members in pursuit of their individual interests and the expansion of their creativity.

In 2009, land art was successfully introduced to the public at the Coast Collective Art Centre and at the Horticultural Centre of the Pacific. The same year a Guild member created a haute couture wearable flower bracelet for the Empress of Japan during her visit to Victoria. Since 2009 members have executed floral designs for the Victoria Art Gallery House Tour with a positive response from the public.

In 2012, the Guild executed both floral and land art designs for BC Blooms at Government House, a celebration in honour of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

For more than 30 years select members of the Guild, on a volunteer basis, have executed floral designs at Government House.

<http://victoriaflowerarrangersguild.wildapricot.org/>