

### Hello Everyone!

Happy New Year to you all. As I type this newsletter the sky is blue, the sun is bright, there's a robin splashing around in the bird bath and two great tits are exploring the new bird box. The snowdrops are flowering - Spring must be just around the corner.



### Post Christmas Dinner

We enjoyed the company of 38 members at our meal on January 21 at Fulford Golf Club. The food, service and company were all excellent.

Thank you to Doreen Wilson and Jean Wyatt Gunning for organising the evening and to Mary McNiven for saying Grace. I have emailed Andrew the chef with our thanks.

### More Thanks

We have received a Certificate of Thanks from SASH for our donation of £1,000, made up as follows:

Concert organised by Ish Herd £727  
Rita Pygot's stall, run by Margot Gill £44.80  
Christmas card 2018 £74.50  
Christmas card 2019 £85.70  
(cards kindly arranged by Mary McNiven)  
Donation £20 Margaret Cockerill  
Donation £48 Hazel Hall

We have received a lovely card from Ewan Herd thanking AFG members for the collection, which raised £72.80 for his forthcoming "immersion" trip to Sierra Leone.



### York Minster Arrangements

8 members will be creating all-foliage designs in the Minster on 31 January.



## February Meeting In-House Workshop

At this meeting we welcome 4 of our own members to tutor 3 different workshops. See information sheet below.

Raffle prizes will be provided by Tricia Collins, Catherine Green, Margaret Best and Roisheen Childs. 2-3 helpers in the kitchen are required as no one put their names on the list. Members who are taking part in the workshops are not expected to volunteer.

## Deans Garden Centre

We have received confirmation of our 10% discount for 2020.

Just show your AFG membership card at the checkout to receive the discount. There is a list on the notice board showing which products do/do not qualify for the discount.

## Harrogate Spring Show, 23-26 April 2020

Schedules are available on the information table.

The title of this year's club class is 'Make a Song or Dance About it'.

2 members can stage this exhibit. Please see me if you are interested in taking part.

The spring show  
**23-26 APRIL 2020**  
Great Yorkshire Showground  
Save £2.50\*per ticket  
Book before Tuesday 14 April 2020  
[Buy your tickets](#)  
\*An administration charge applies per order

## New Committee Members

I am delighted to say that Trish Collins, assisted by Margot Gill, has offered to take over from Jean Hawkins as our programme secretary in September when Jean becomes our Chairman. Jean, Trish, Margot, myself and Bridget have had a really good meeting to plan our 2021 programme, which gave Trish and Margot great insight into the role. They will now shadow Jean before they take over at the AGM in September. Speaking of Bridget, our brilliant treasurer is coming to the end of her term of office and the one officer we (or any club) cannot do without, is a treasurer. Please have a chat with Bridget at the club or ring her on 01904 414476 if you are able to take on this role.

## Large Scale Workshop, Saturdays 15 and 29 Feb 2020, 10am-3pm

We have a full class with a waiting list. If anyone cannot attend please let me know asap. Please bring a packed lunch and notebook/paper and pen.

Happy flower arranging,

*Hazel*

## 2020 Diary Dates

28 March Education Day at Wigginton Recreational Hall

23-26 April Harrogate Spring Show

11 July Area Lunch, Parsonage Hotel, Escrick

10 October Members Day at Boston Spa Academy (Note new venue)

All the Area National and Other Events can be found on the Area website

[www.nearea.org.uk/events/](http://www.nearea.org.uk/events/)

## Worksheet Sharing Skills Workshop, 4 February 2020

This is a popular workshop, whereby members of our club share a skill related to flower arranging and members may practice the skill.

This year we have three to choose from; time permitting you may try out more than one. Please bring your scissors!

### 1. **Petite Design, Jan Gardner**

Jan has kindly agreed to supply everyone who does this with all the materials needed, including flowers and foliage. Places will be limited to 10 to 14 but everyone will be able to watch and learn the principles of this design. The cost is £2.50 per design.

### 2. **Broach/Corsage, Julia Weston**

Julia will show us how to create a broach or corsage on a wooden disc. You will need to bring a few tiny flower heads, for example spray carnations, spray chrysanthemums, hyacinth pips, berries, beads, hypericum, few strands of wool, and other decorative bits and pieces. Julia is supplying the disc and the pin at a cost of 50p. If you have cold floral glue please bring it although there will be tubes available on the table.

### 3. **Paper Roses Anne Ryder and Toni Carter**

Anne and Toni will show us how to create beautiful roses using decorative paper. The paper is being provided by Toni so only your scissors are needed. Please bring glue if you have any. There is no charge.