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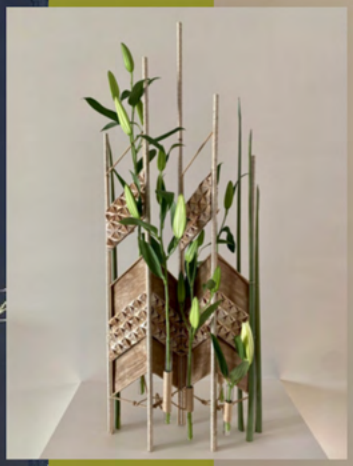
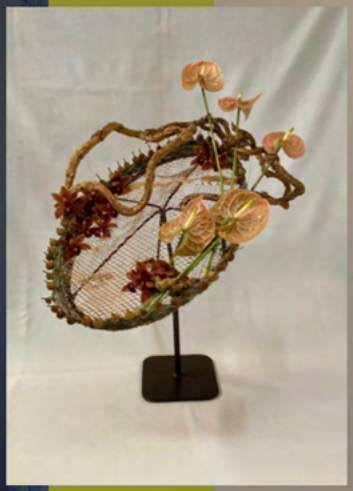
Special Issue
July 2022

AUSTRALIAN FLORAL ART ASSOCIATION

FEATURING ITEMS

From Our Groups Around The Country Celebrating
Friendship Through Flowers





COME VISIT US

www.ausfloralart.org.au
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WELCOME

I'm delighted to bring you this "Special Edition" of the Australian Floral Art Association's magazine.

A huge thank you to all the groups who provided so many interesting insights to their activities and the co-ordinators who sent though the information and images so promptly after the call went out.

This edition is a celebration of our art in its many forms. The future of the magazine is going to be discussed by members at our gathering in Perth in September.

Now it's time to sit back with your favourite beverage and be intrigued by the floral design work from around our great country.

ENJOY

Kim Baillie
President, National Management Committee

BOX HILL FLORAL ART GROUP

Box Hill Floral Art commenced in 1951 at The Box Hill Town Hall under the auspices of Box Hill Horticultural Society. In 1953, The Society hosted a Fruit and Flower Show occupying three halls in the Town Hall celebrating 100 years of fruit growing in the Box Hill and Doncaster District.

In January 2014 we separated from the garden club and became Box Hill Floral Art Incorporated, running the Floral Art Group as a separate identity.

On Thursday 6th May 2021, we celebrated 70 years (Platinum) of The Box Hill Floral Art Group, Glenise Parsons-Smith has been President for several years and each past President has been supported by a very willing and competent committee. We held a luncheon for 60 people and enjoyed demonstrations by Betty and Toula Karanikolopoulos from the Sogetsu Ikebana School of Design.

We have managed to get together several times during the past couple of years, although COVID has certainly changed the way we are able to meet and organise demonstrators.

VFAA - BOX HILL FLORAL ART GROUP

BALLARAT FLORAL ART GROUP

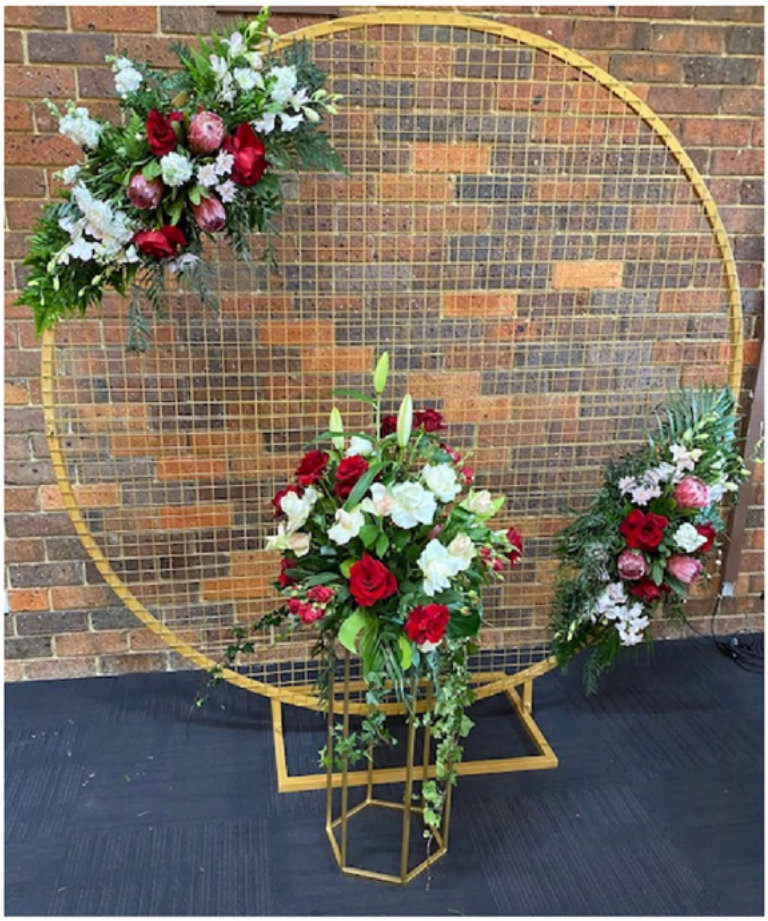
We are back meeting again & have had several new members join over the past few months. Attendance at meetings is around 20.

We had a display at the Begonia Festival in March which was well received by all visiting the gardens.

GEELONG FLORAL ART GROUP

Covid has certainly had an impact and the Geelong Floral Art Group are progressing cautiously. We have 9-12 members members attending our meetings and have not committed to a 12 monthly schedule or planned any special events. We have a monthly Newsletter that is sent out to all members keeping us all connected, informed and positive.

We have a monthly format of demonstrations and workshops. All members
are encouraged to bring along an "As I Like It" bench display that is
not judged but members may request an analysis. Members are also asked
to give a description of their inspiration and chosen elements. These
free choice designs give a great deal of enjoyment to all those present.



VERMONT FLORAL ART GROUP

Having returned to our Floral Art at Vermont, post Covid, we have all embraced a closer friendship and working bond. With the last couple of uncertain years, we have all realized that to cope and keep our heads in a good space we need to reach out to one another.

This year we have had some beautiful bench arrangements and breathtaking demonstrations.
At Vermont we are so lucky to have demonstrations that we can all take away something that we have learnt on the day.

We have also had many celebrations with a few members reaching milestones, we have had lunches, visitors' day, Easter, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day and so on. All of these have been depicted in our bench arrangements and I may say beautifully presented.

Vermont is a special club, members are enthusiastic, happy to help, friendly and thoughtful.
Halfway through 2022 we have seen member numbers on par with Winter, Covid and ageing we have to expect this.
All in all the floral art demonstrations have been fantastic, the arrangements on the small & large bench have been consistent, and we are all happy we are back to our meetings.

MT ELIZA MORNING GARDEN CLUB

April 22 was our 'Bring and Buy' day therefore Floral Art's contribution to this fun day was a stall demonstrating how to make posies; as May's Floral Art theme was to be a 'Posy of Flowers.' The photographs attached are of the President Meredith Hocking wearing a wire framed Ball Gown made by several members for the Red Hill Show where it was well received by those that attended the Show. Many attendees enjoyed being able to photograph themselves wearing the dress.

Due to an unexpected, but significant upheaval and renovations at the Community Centre where our meetings are held, we were unable to hold our usual meetings so for the next 2 months our temporary home is to be the Uniting Church in Mt Eliza.

Considering the disruptions our club has faced, there still is much interest in Floral Art and we are hoping to build up the number of exhibits.

WAVERLEY FLORAL ART GROUP

The Waverley Floral Art Group have been so fortunate this year having quite a few new people joining the Club. It is exciting to see so many new faces who all want
to learn and participate in "Floral Art" Keeping this in mind we have taken some of our meetings back to the basics in order
to get them on track for the future.

After not having our Show for the past 2 years due to Covid, we are now looking forward
to the Show this year on the 20th and 21st August.

This year the Club will also be celebrating it's 60th Birthday on the 15th October 2022.
We are busy planning our celebrations and shall have a demonstration followed by an Afternoon Tea.

SUNRAYSIA GARDEN CLUB

Sunraysia Garden Club Inc. is located in within the Mildura Rural City Council area in Victoria and the Wentworth Shire Council in NSW.

Evening Floral Design classes held once a month for several decades and many workshops with visiting floral artists has ensured that local enthusiasts are kept abreast of national and worldwide trends in flower arranging.

Sunraysia Garden Club has been fortunate to have had many talented Floral Design convenors over the decades to demonstrate and encourage members in a wide range of designs.

Open, Intermediate and Beginners/Novice evening classes commence with the Open section level being the benchmark for the Intermediate level to construct the following month while the Beginners/Novice level are assigned designs from which they can learn the basics and advance from there.

All are encouraged to exhibit at local Autumn and Spring shows.

Of late, a campaign to attract more numbers to join Floral Design has been very successful by setting up displays at local markets and handing out information leaflets.

BENDIGO GOLDFIELDS CHRYSANTHEMUM ASSOCIATION

This Association started in 1998 and had been a part of Bendigo Garden Club.

In 2006, Lenice McCall joined our club and was a big influence in the floral art section.

Thanks to her, we have kept going and have about 29 members, but not many are floral artists.

You don't have to be a member to enter our Show.

FLORAL DESIGN COUNCIL of SOUTH AUSTRALIA (FDCSA)

'Colourful Creations' was the theme for our fund raiser in June this year, attended by 62 enthusiastic floral designers.

The Guest Demonstrator was Emma Morgan a South Australian floral artist, who in 2010 went to London to further her career, which resulted in her working around the world helping to create extraordinary floral installations for celebrities and Royals. Before returning to Australia in 2020, her last major installation was to decorate the church for Prince Harry and Megan Markle's wedding. All created without using Oasis!

Emma created two beautiful hand-held bouquets and then, using traditional containers and chicken wire showed us some basic techniques to stabilise a massed design without using pin aides or Oasis. Her approach inspired the audience.
As she worked, she looked intently at each piece of plant material, its shape, colour, texture and the natural rhythm, then placed it to enhance these elements, allowing the materials freedom to move within their allocated space.

Emma kindly donated her designs to be auctioned and four very happy people left with a beautiful arrangement

FLORAL DESIGN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (FDCSA)

The FDCSA committee is mindful that members of our country clubs are often not able to attend events that are held in Adelaide. We are constantly thinking of ways to include them and provide opportunities for them to participate.
A new initiative – the Country clubs Photo Competition proved particularly successful at our event.
Members were invited to submit a photo of their 'Colourful Creation'. These were displayed and those attending voted for their favourite.

We hope this will encourage other members from country clubs to participate in the future.

There was a positive buzz all afternoon, and as the event came to a close and people left, it was encouraging to hear comments .

WEST AUSTRALIAN FLORAL ART SOCIETY (WAFAS)

Pene Brunning

The West Australian Floral Art Society is celebrating 70 years of floral art in WA this year, the inaugural meeting of this Society was held on 13 August 1952.

The first exhibition WAFAS put on was in the Perth Town Hall with a fashion parade and numerous floral displays. Following in those footsteps a wearable art fashion show was held at our June meeting with members creating and modelling their designs captivating the audience with their flair and creativity. Members from our 5 affiliated clubs were present plus many family members and friends who also enjoyed seeing the numerous designs on our benches for this meeting including our Members Championship.
June was also the month we had 2 of our founding members Dorothy Harbisher and Tess Passmore turn 100 so it has been a busy time of celebrations.

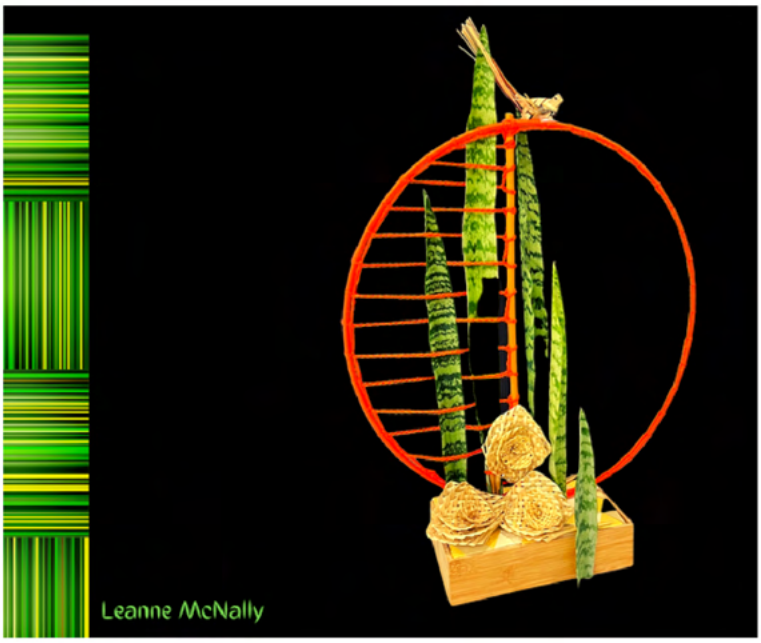
Sharon Cunningham

This will be followed with the AFAA National Convention to be held in Perth 7 to 10 September 2022. We look forward to welcoming everyone from around Australia to enjoy our convention program celebrating WA wildflowers and seeing WA designers Clement Lee and Annita Bokobli demonstrate and take workshops featuring wildflowers.

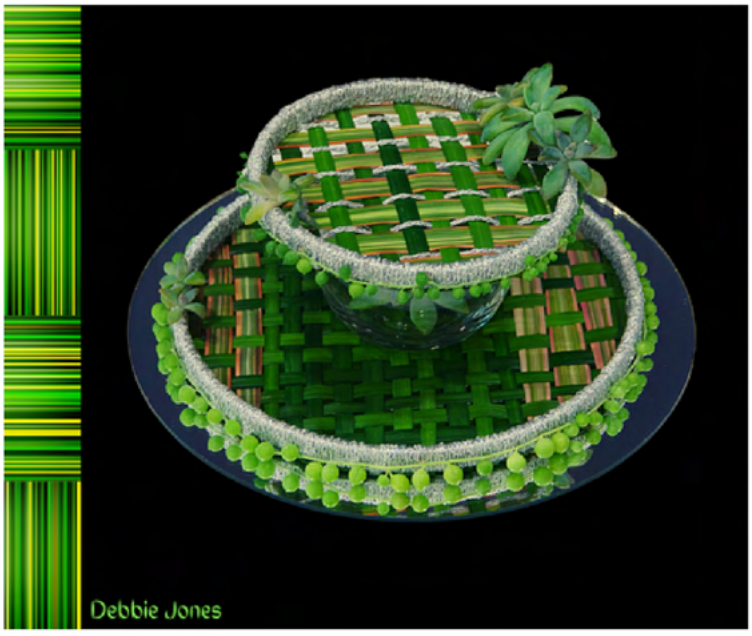
WEST AUSTRALIAN FLORAL ART SOCIETY (WAFAS)

Valerie Roy

Jennifer Staniforth

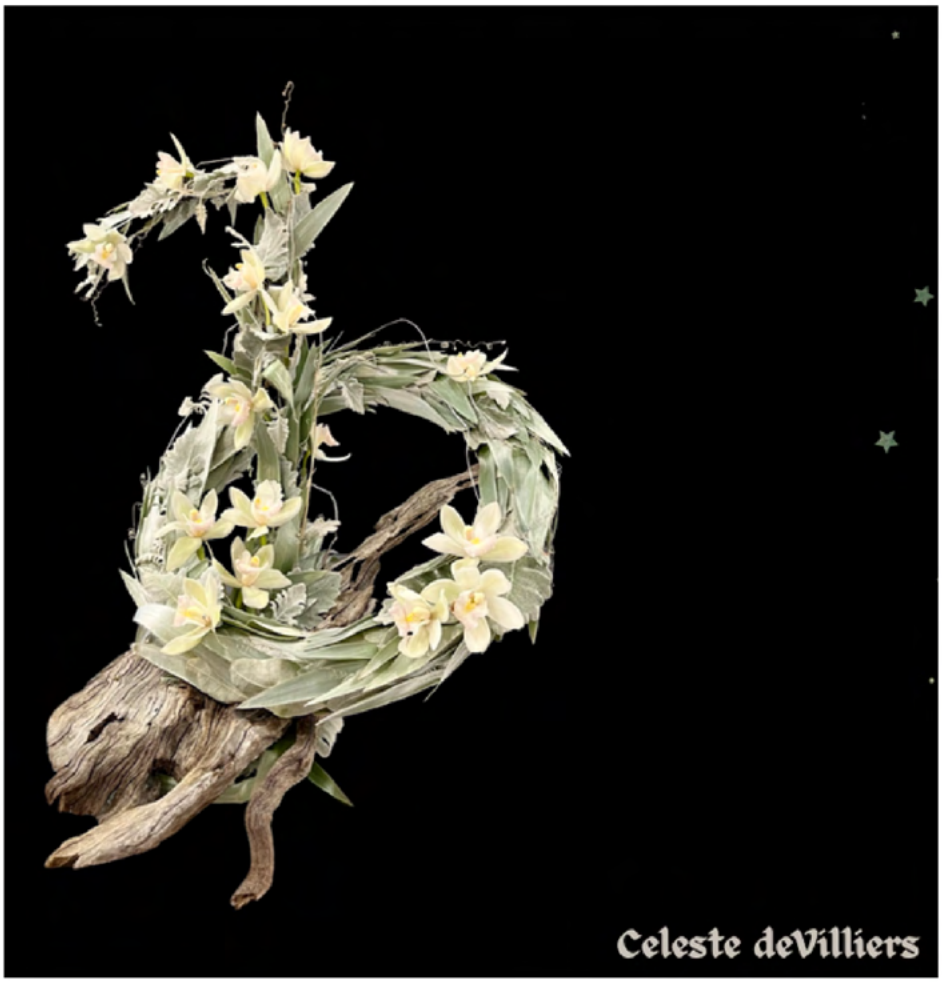


Leanne McNally



Debbie Jones

WEST AUSTRALIAN FLORAL ART SOCIETY (WAFAS)



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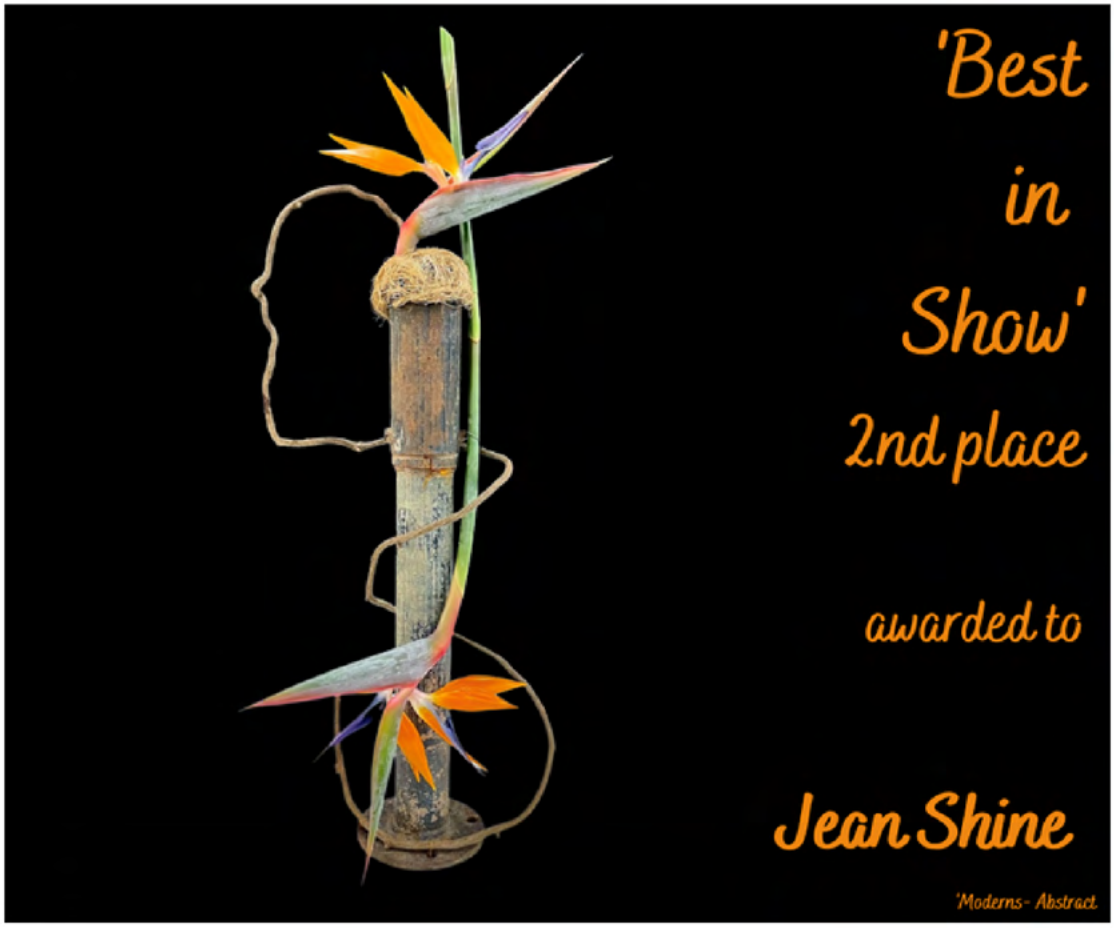

WEST AUSTRALIAN FLORAL ART SOCIETY (WAFAS)

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FLORAL ART GUILD OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (FAGACT)

It has been a funny old time with meeting cancellations and disruptions to the general order of things.
But.....the Canberra Show did go ahead at the end of February and we did put together a display of floral art under the title of 'Regeneration'. This was organised at very short notice but members, being the dependable folk that they are, sprang into action very smartly and produced a superabundance of designs.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the preparatory meetings and worked on the day to bring it all to fruition and then 'minded' the exhibit over the days of the show.
And competition at the show went ahead. Thank you to those who put forward their work for competition.

Members have been providing examples of particular design styles at our monthly meetings. In the past few months we have looked at Art Noveau and Phoenix as well as an intriguing class title for bench work - a book title where some of the designs really had us thinking!

FLORAL ART GUILD OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (FAGACT)

FLORAL ART SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND (FASQ)

Welcome to you all! FASQ have experienced 2022 to be a different year to the norm, as we are all now becoming unaccustomed to.

Our February Meeting was cancelled due to Covid and replaced with a virtual show which proved to be popular.

March was the AGM and I was again elected as President with Veronica Loft as Secretary and Lesley Wiltshire as Treasurer along with a good working Committee. Judith Little was awarded Life Membership for her contribution to the Society. We also welcomed nine new members. The March meeting workshop was "Revisiting Weaving and Plaiting Palm Leaves".

FASQ was unable to meet in April due to three consecutive Mondays being Public Holidays.

We held our Open Show weekend "Let's be Creative" in May which was held in conjunction with the Queensland Rose Society. The show was a spectacular sight and well attended. The May Meeting was held on the following Monday, unfortunately I tested Positive to Covid that morning and couldn't attend.

The Annual Friendship Day was held in June, lots of our members and those from other Clubs attended it was a great day with four of our Judges demonstrating designs "Through the Times Past and Present" using all white flowers and green foliage. These were Auctioned at the end and followed by a light lunch. Mark Pampling seized the opportunity to sell off his used and loved props and other items which was much appreciated.

FLORAL ART SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND (FASQ)

The July Meeting will be a workshop lead by Judith Little "Suspended Web on a Stem" this may prove an interesting challenge for newer Members.

The Brisbane Show the "EKKA" is to be held in August with Glenda Pradella designing and presenting the display for FASQ.

We are all looking forward to the rest of the year! .FASQ send our good wishes for a successful AFAA Convention hosted by West Australian Floral Art Society.

Have fun with flowers!

President FASQ
Heather Prior OAM

FLORAL ART SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND (FASQ)

NEW SOUTH WALES FLORAL ART ASSOCIATION (NSWFAA)

The last twelve months for NSWFAA has included a transition from the confines of our Covid restrictions to once again meeting with our floral art friends face to face.

The highlight for November 2021 was the Australian Floral Art Association National Convention, New Visions, hosted by NSWFAA and conducted via Zoom. The convention attracted many international participants, as well as our Australian floral art friends.

Presentations from our international guest demonstrators, Francine Thomas from New Zealand, Parul Swarup, (demonstrating use of paper) and Preeti Sarda,(demonstrating use of jute in designs), both from India, were very well received.

Whilst being a national event, many designs from our NSWFAA members were awarded places with Ann Crasti being placed 1st for her design, Revealing the Layers.

February was the first month following our Covid restrictions, where demonstrations and workshops were held at local and regional venues. The first event of the year was hosted by the Gloucester Floral Art Group with demonstrations and workshops conducted by guest presenter, Mark Pampling, a recognised international floral designer, and teacher. Marks demonstrations included designs titled, Elements Aloft, Left of Centre and Leaning In. With his design, Elements Aloft, Mark created textured forms and shapes with cardboard and then elevated them in designs, working flowers and plant materials around them in contemporary ways. This event attracted members from as far as Sydney, Southern Highlands, and North Coast of NSW.

NEW SOUTH WALES FLORAL ART ASSOCIATION (NSWFAA)

In May, The Near to the City competition and workshop was held at North Rocks, where Madhu Shah was awarded Best in Show with her design, Circular Rhythms, then we journeyed to Mittagong in the Southern Highlands where our guest presenter was Sue Fingleton, who demonstrated and conducted contemporary design workshops. All workshops were well attended as members were happy to be able to meet and continue their creative floral art training.

Our Contemporary Floral Design Groups remain continually active, inspiring members to be innovative with their floral designs and continue to be a source of enjoyment for members under the tuition of more experienced floral artists and have attracted new members, which is encouraging.

Our Online Competitions are exceedingly popular among many members including our international participants, with some of our NSWFAA members being recognised with places in the competition events.
Our NSWFAA Member Michael Cordeiro was awarded 2nd place with his design Branches, Bark and Buttons, with Gayle Robinson being awarded 1st Place with her designs titled A Moment in Twine.
The online competitions will remain in the NSWFAA calendar.

2023 heralds the 50th Anniversary of the NSWFAA. Throughout the year each regional group will be celebrating with events that will reflect the longevity of the NSWFAA with members participating in the celebrations organised and guest demonstrators adding to the celebrations.
The upcoming 2022 AFAA National Convention in Perth in September will see a strong contingent from NSWFAA attending.

NEW SOUTH WALES FLORAL ART ASSOCIATION (NSWFAA)

It was with a mix of sadness and pride that we advised our NSWFAA members recently, that one of our lovely members Effie Crawley, was posthumously awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the 2022 Queens Birthday Honours.

Effie was awarded Life Membership of the NSW Floral Art Association for services to the organization for over 25 years. Members from around the States will have fond memories of Effie.

Flamboyance - Best In Show
Effie Crawley August 2018

AUSTRALIAN FLORAL ART ASSOCIATION

Victorian Floral Art Association (VFAA)
vicfloralartassociation.org.au

Floral Art Society of Queensland (FASQ)
www.floralartsocietyqld.org.au

Floral Art Guild of the Australian Capital Territory (FAG ACT)
ausfloralart.org.au/state-bodies/australian-capital-territory

West Australian Floral Art Society (WAFAS)
wafloralart.org.au

Floral Design Council of South Australia (FDCSA)
ausfloralart.org.au/state-bodies/south-australia

New South Wales Floral Art Association (NSWFAA)
nswfloralartassociation.org.au