

FEATURE GALLERY

Nesta Joliffe

Born into a horticultural family, both my father and mother were trained florists. Upon leaving school, I entered into the family business and alongside working, I achieved City & Guild Floristry certificates 1 & 2, at Norwood Horticultural college.

I am still involved with the family business now, organising displays which is our company shop window at Flower shows and other events throughout the year in both the UK and internationally.

When the children were young in my spare time, I started to press flowers as a hobby, creating cards, pictures, etc. for friends and family.

Wanting to learn more, I obtained several books on the subject, one in particular that inspired me was The Complete Book of Pressed Flowers by Penny Black, for Penny Blacks style. Around that time, I also spent a few afternoons with someone who taught at a local centre in Surrey Basic pressed flower work and I also got to hear of Joyce Fenton in Charlwood, whom I wrote to, about the courses in the art of pressed flowers, but I never found the time or finances to attend.

It was at an RHS Christmas show in Vincent Square London (see photos) I had used some of my pictures in a themed exhibit.



A regular customer started to talk to me about the pressed flower items on display, this lady was Olive Saunders. She spoke about the Pressed Flower Guild

of which she was a member. Olive then asked if I would be willing to come to the next conference/AGM in Warwick and talk about all the bulbous flowers I had used in my pictures. This I did and enjoyed, plus seeing work, techniques, designs, different ideas, done by Guild members was inspiring, soon after this encounter with the Pressed Flower Guild, I became a member.

Due to work commitments I am not always able to attend every conference, event and workshops that are organised by various groups of The Pressed Flower Guild. But when I do, I thoroughly enjoy them. After attending a few compulsory workshops, I was then eligible to put forward some of my work for awards, achieving my Bronze award in April 2013, the Silver award in May 2015 and my Gold award in May 2017.

Bronze Award



Silver Award



It is a great pleasure to work with pressed flowers which is relaxing to me, I gain experience and learn from creating designs for cards, pictures etc.

When you make an item for someone, especially for a special occasion the joy on the recipients face is wonderful to see.