Chair, Eve Johnson, welcomed members and many guests to the Open Night of the Solway Flower Club on 13th November.

After notices Eve welcomed our demonstrator, John Dalton, to give his special Christmas demonstration entitled ‘A Traditional Christmas’.

John’s first arrangement was in a container of white twigs to which had been added holly, ivy with berries and then he added large white roses to one side and then small spray white roses and white hypericum berries, like wedding flowers, and finished with tall white twigs and fairy lights.  It was a fantastic arrangement and then John produced a smaller one to match.

John entertained us all with his stories and jokes while he arranges the flowers.  He is always very busy but more so now leading up to Christmas.  As well as local he does demonstrations in Scotland and also over in the North East and he really enjoys the travelling but it can be quite stressful getting the flowers in time.

John’s next arrangement was in an urn shaped container containing greenery to which he added ornamental cabbages, matching mauvy/purple roses then coloured baubles, and then he produced a second one to match.

Next in an oval urn shaped container with holly, ivy, camelia and also a pineapple set up at the back.  To this he added gerbera called Cookies and Cream and an unusual reddish orange rose.  John made us all laugh by saying this arrangement is for the Boxing day buffet.  It was so large we could not imagine the Boxing day buffet table being large enough.

A tall container with twigs, berried holly, fatsia leaves, red ribbon roses, red gerbera and lights.  We tried to imagine this design in the downstairs cloakroom as John decided with a smile.

Lastly a tall cherub pedestal with really tall leaves of Mother-in-law’s tongue, then Stargazer lilies, Charlotte chrysanths, pink gerbera, mauve alstromeria in a triangle shape which, with John’s joking smile, is to set on the Grande Piano.  The whole display was a truly wonderful spectacle.

President Margaret thanked John for coming and entertaining everyone with this wonderful display and stories, it really has put everyone in the mood for Christmas.

All the arrangements were raffled with members and guests being the lucky recipients.

Tea and coffee with shortbread and mince pies concluded this special evening.

Names and menu choices were taken for our Christmas Lunch at Skitby House on 11th December starting at 10.30 with coffee and scones, then a floral demonstration by Chris, then Lunch followed by coffee and mince pies.

On Thursday 12th December everyone is invited to sing Carols in the Pub at The Drovers at Monkhill.

On 15th January, Ann Wills will give her demonstration entitled ‘Welcome To The New Year’.