

June 1st

The Language of Flowers

We have always loved the flowers planted at Castle Kilbride by the Wilmot Horticultural Society. Much planning and thought goes in to the flowers they choose. Did you know that special meanings are attributed to every flower? It is called floriography or the language of flowers. Victorians mastered floriography. They would use flowers to send each other secret coded messages which said what couldn't be spoken aloud. This could be anything from flowers on postcards, paintings, calling cards, boutonnieres, bridal bouquets or fresh cut flower arrangements. Serious thought and consideration went into their floral picks (no pun intended).

In 2018, Castle Kilbride created a special exhibit called Bouquets of Bliss in honour of Wilmot Horticultural Society's 50th Anniversary and hosted a special lecture that highlighted the 19th century coded communication. Here is an example from the exhibit featuring the painted vase at Castle Kilbride.

Activity: Find your birth month and corresponding flower and meaning. View Castle Kilbride's 2018 Bouquets of Bliss exhibit [here!](#)



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Month	Flower	Meaning
January	Carnation	Fascination, devoted love
February	Violet	Modesty, faithfulness, virtue
March	Daffodil	Regard, devotion
April	Daisy	Innocence, youth, purity
May	Lily of the Valley	Sweetness, return of happiness
June	Rose	Love
July	Larkspur	Laughter
August	Gladiolas	Strength of character
September	Aster	Symbol of love, daintiness
October	Calendula	Joy
November	Chrysanthemum	Cheerfulness
December	Holly	Foresight, good wishes

