

ISSUE 32  
MAY 2023

## Flower Arranging & Design Sussex



# Area News

Newsletter of the Sussex Area  
of the  
National  
Association of  
Flower  
Arrangement  
Societies



Charity No. 292377  
[www.sussexareanafas.org.uk](http://www.sussexareanafas.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/  
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# God save the King !



Photo: Chris Jackson

**National  
Flower  
Arranging  
Day  
Friday  
5 May 2023**



**Coronation  
Day  
Saturday  
6 May  
2023**

# Noticeboard



## RINGMER FLOWER CLUB

You are invited to a demonstration at Ringmer Village Hall:

**Wednesday**

**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023**

**at 2:00 pm**

**'When Art Met Flowers'**

**by Nina Tucknott**

Visitors welcome £8.00, including refreshments  
Ringmer Village Hall, Lewes Road, Ringmer BN8 5QH

## Henfield Flower Club



You are warmly invited to a floral demonstration  
at the

**Henfield Hall, BN5 9EQ**

on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2.00-4.30

**CELEBRATION OF THE SENSES**

**By Linda Brayne**

Visitors welcome £7 including refreshments.

contact [henfieldflowerclub@gmail.com](mailto:henfieldflowerclub@gmail.com)

**Or ring 01273933623**



## Horsham Flower Club

invites you to join our workshop

**'POSY HOLDER AND POSY'**

with NAFAS qualified teacher

**BARBARA HOY**



at  
**North Heath Hall, St Marks Lane, Horsham, RH12 5PU**  
on  
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023**  
at 2pm  
(Doors open at 1.30pm)

Visitors welcome to join in - entry £8, tea/coffee and cake available.

Horsham Flower Club is affiliated to the Sussex Area of the National  
Association of Flower Arrangement Societies

In conjunction with the  
Patcham Flower Club

## LATE SPRING FAIR

**Patcham Methodist Church  
Ladies Mile Road**

**13th May 2023  
11am to 3pm**

50p  
Entry

**Lots of Exciting Stalls  
Lunches & Cream Teas  
Childrens Craft Area and  
Painting Competition  
Raffle in aid of the Sussex Kidney  
Trust  
Photo Booth**





## Plumpton Flower Club



We are pleased to welcome  
**Barbara Caldecourt**  
doing a  
demonstration entitled  
**'Calendar Moments'**

**Wednesday, 17th May**  
**start time 7.30pm**  
**Plumpton Village Hall**

**Entrance fee**  
**Members £3.00, visitors £8.00**  
**Refreshments and Raffle**  
**Please bring your friends to this**  
**special evening!**




**Storrington  
Flower Club**  
welcomes  
**GILL HOMER**  
Demonstrating her floral designs,  
entitled:  
**'Dream Time'**  
**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023**  
Sullington Parish Hall, Thakeham Road,  
Storrington RH20 3PP  
\*\* Doors open 2pm for 2.30pm \*\*  
Contact: Chrissy Desmond,  
01903 742102 for details  
Visitors very welcome: £6 at the door,  
including tea and biscuits following the  
demonstration. There is a raffle for the  
chance to win one of the demonstration  
arrangements and our sales table, plant sales  
and 2<sup>nd</sup> hand book sales are  
also available.



**Steyning and  
District Flower Club**  
Welcomes  
**Janice Mason**  
demonstrating her  
floral designs  
entitled  
**"Pick & Mix"**  
**Wednesday 24th May 2023**  
**The Steyning Centre**  
**Steyning BN44 3XZ**  
**7pm for 7.30pm**  
Visitors Welcome  
Tickets on the door  
£6

## EAST PRESTON FLORAL CLUB



In Festival Week present an Exhibition entitled

## "MAGIC OF THE MUSICALS"

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**  
**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**  
**10am – 5pm**  
**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June**  
**10am – 4pm**

**£1 Entrance** (children under 16 free)  
**Refreshments and delicious home-made cakes available!**

**Donations to The Sussex Kidney Trust**  
Registered Charity Number: 254265  
and  
**The Sussex Snowdrop Trust**  
Registered Charity Number: 1096622

at  
**The Conservative Hall**  
**Sea Road, East Preston, BN16 1JN**  
[www.epfloralclub.co.uk](http://www.epfloralclub.co.uk)



## Area News



### Area Chairman

Those of you who have long memories may wish to cast your minds back to 1958. It was the year the late Queen ended the practice of debutantes being presented at Court – and elsewhere the dreaded parking meter started to make its appearance. It was also the year that a plethora of famous films were released, including *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and *A Night to Remember*. And we first made the acquaintance of Yogi Bear!

Meanwhile in Sussex a flower club was formed. For it was the birth of **Littlehampton Flower Club**, and this month we offer our heartiest congratulations on reaching your 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

More congratulations are in order, and I am delighted to announce that Paula Richardson (Lindfield Flower Club) has been awarded a *Very Highly Commended* in The Flower Arranger Magazine's competition for a Coronation design, a photo of which is featured further on in the newsletter.

More competitions are on the horizon and chief amongst these are the Nationals in Gloucester. My good luck wishes go to our members who are entering, and I am looking forward to seeing the designs at the show.



Back on home turf, we are very much looking forward to **President's Day** in June, tickets for which have now all sold and Carol has started a waiting list. We start the day with the team

from behind the scenes at *'Strictly Come Dancing'* presenting *'Behind the Seams'* with the dresses being modelled by some of our members. In the afternoon, we look forward to Nick Grounds demonstrating *'World of Stems and Stuff'*. I am sure it's going to be a Fab-U-Lous day! If you are happy to do so, please wear something red and sparkly.

An exciting calendar lies ahead, and at a personal level I look forward to continuing my visits to our clubs and seeing as many of you as possible.

Best wishes,

Gaenor  
x



**Flower Arranging & Design Sussex**

### Area Workshop

**Thursday 8 June 2023**  
9.30am (for 10.00am start) to 4pm  
Henfield Hall, Coopers Way, Henfield BN5 9EQ



**'Twigs, Twists and Tenacity'**

with  
**Nick Grounds**

A foam free celebration of seasonality, in a naturalistic style, incorporating garden finds or other delights with the focus on materials used and not so much the style of arranging.

Members £25  
Non-members £30  
Coffee and tea will be provided. Bring your own lunch.

**Please contact Barbara**  
Email: [barb@batucker.go-plus.net](mailto:barb@batucker.go-plus.net)



## The Coronation

It's time for celebrations,  
A chance for us to sing,  
To welcome in the Monarch  
- Charles our new King.

His mum would be so proud,  
To hear the crowds sing loud,  
Of the joy and jubilation for,  
King Charles in his new station.

He wore his princedom well,  
And time will only tell,  
If he rises to the challenge,  
On the throne that he must manage.

King Charles the third,  
We all have heard,  
Will wear his Crown with pride,  
And we hope his reign is happy,  
With Camilla by his side.

As a Kingdom we stand tall,  
The whole world we know will see,  
Of the joy and jubilation  
On the day that there will be.

HIP HIP HOORAY the crowd will say,  
We're with you one and all,  
Our love and strength will carry you,  
We will not let you fall.

So let us all reflect, on  
The Monarchy through time,  
And watch as Charles,  
Prepares his son,  
For the continuation of the line.

Poem written by  
Phyllis Stevens - Chairman  
Horam and Heathfield Flower Club

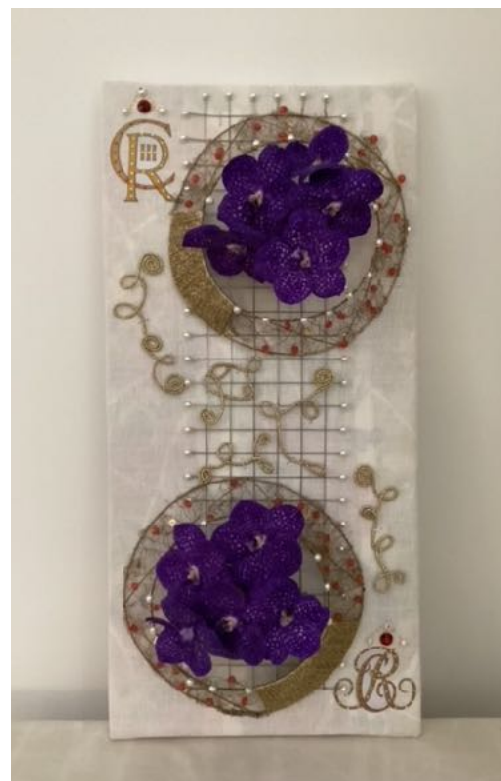


## Congratulations Paula

Gaenor and the Executive team are delighted to announce that Paula Richardson from Lindfield has been awarded a

*Very Highly Commended*  
Coronation  
design  
competition  
organised by  
The Flower  
Arranger.

The brief was to  
create a  
Coronation  
design using  
eco-friendly  
chicken wire  
mechanics to  
reflect King  
Charles III's  
views on  
sustainability.



A selection of the  
entries are featured in The Flower Arranger magazine, a  
photo (above) of Paula's design for you all to enjoy.

Many congratulations, Paula, from us all.  
Gaenor and the Executive team.

## Area Events 2023

### Council:

Monday 22 May - at Plumpton Village Hall,  
Plumpton Green BN7 2BQ  
10.30am for 11.00am start

### Area Day:

Wednesday 7 June 'President's Day' - The Shoreham  
Centre, 2 Pond Road, Shoreham by Sea BN43 5WU  
10.15am for 11.00am start

### Workshop:

Thursday 8 June - 'Twigs, Twists and Tenacity'  
with Nick Grounds  
Henfield Hall, Coopers Way, Henfield BN5 9EQ  
9.30am for 10.00am start

## A Trip to Cheshire

Four of us, Gaenor, Margaret, Carol and I set off for Runcorn on Tuesday 7 March, where we stayed for two nights so that we could attend the Pre-National Assessments and National Demonstrator Tests organised by the Cheshire Area in nearby Frodsham.

We were made extremely welcome by members of Cheshire Area, the National Demonstrators' Committee and Frodsham & District Flower Club. The event was well attended on both days. Five candidates took the pre-assessment on the Wednesday and a further two candidates on the Thursday. The aim of these assessments is to consider a candidates' potential to take their National Demonstrators test in 12-18 months time. These candidates were from across Flowers North West / Cheshire Area, North Midlands Area, North East Area, Cheshire / Flowers North West / Mercia & North Wales & NIGFAS. There is no pass or fail for these assessments, and candidates would have been given feedback on how they might continue to prepare for a future national demonstrators test.

On the Thursday, in addition to the remaining two pre-assessment candidates, there were four taking the tests to become National demonstrators, from SAFAS & Northumberland & Durham, Cheshire Area / Mercia & North Wales, B.B. & O Area, and Flowers North West. Our congratulations go to Julia Loudon, Dawn Weaver and Sara Barrow for successfully qualifying as National Demonstrators.

It was such a treat to spend two entire days watching some wonderful demonstrators. Whilst those candidates doing their pre-assessment were all accomplished demonstrators in their own right, there was a discernible difference in those candidates who would have completed the pre-national assessment some 12-18 months beforehand and were now aiming to qualify as National demonstrators. Across both days we saw some really stunning designs.

And, as if that was not enough, on the Wednesday evening we attended the regular Frodsham and District Flower Club as visitors,



where we were entertained by Paula Routledge from the North Midlands Area of NAFAS, with her demonstration '*Life is a Ball.*' Alongside her wonderful arrangements, Paula explained how with a group of friends they had set up a charity to raise money in memory of a friend who had died too young. Her efforts were recognised with the award of the British Empire Medal in 2021, which she was proud to receive for charitable services to Nottingham, and most recently an invite to the forthcoming coronation. As well as a demonstrator, Paula can also be heard as a gardening broadcaster on BBC Radio Nottingham.

Paula kindly agreed to join us in a group photo with Eleanor Griffiths the chairman of Frodsham & District Flower Club as a record of our visit.

Despite the warning of snow and very unpleasant driving conditions Gaenor delivered us all safely home on Thursday evening. It was a terrific experience. It was my first attendance at a pre-national assessment and National test and I would most definitely attend again.

We met flower club members from all parts of the country who had travelled to support their respective candidates and it was truly an event offering fun, friendship and plenty of flowers.

Brenda Bull  
Area Treasurer

## Sussex KidneyTrust AGM

I think I can safely say that everyone had a good time at the recent Sussex Kidney Trust AGM. I know that the weather forecast put some people off venturing out but you did miss a fun afternoon. The meeting was short but we had a rather special impromptu talk from Sara (Storrington FC) who is undergoing treatment at the Renal Unit in Brighton so we feel it makes our fund raising even more special because of Sara being a member of The Sussex Area.

After the meeting we had a cryptic flower quiz organised by Barbara Garnell the queen of quizzes!

The Worthing Flower Club gained 100% marks much to their delight and won first prize. We did have a booby prize but it wouldn't be right to say who received that!

All of that fun was followed by a super tea that the committee had generously made. Dainty little sandwiches and lots of wonderful home made cakes and I did notice that people did go back for seconds - it would have been rude not to because everything was so good.

The sales table raised over £100 as did the very attractive raffle so a big thank you to everyone who donated raffle prizes and items for the sales table. Thank you also for the extra help from Pat, Pamela, Janet, Carol and Avril.

A date for your diary – Patcham Flower Club – 'Late Spring Fair' Saturday 13 May 11am-3pm at Patcham Methodist Church, Ladies Mile Road, Patcham, Brighton BN1 8QE – lots to see and do including SKT greeting cards for sale and a raffle in aid of the SKT.

It was so good to see everyone – just like old times.

Jean Plaskett, Chairman

## Club News .....what have you been up to?

### "No Foam Joan does it again" .....Easter 2023



Joan Brown does it again at St Marys Church, Willingdon, East Sussex.

Another arrangement (above) without using any foam. Joan is a member

"No Foam Joan" Continues!



of Hailsham & District Flower Club.

Su Htoon from Willingdon Flower Club once again used no foam on her delightful pedestal (left).



No foam windowsill arrangement (left) by Marian Williams Hailsham & District Flower Club.

Marian Williams Hailsham & District Flower Club



## Westminster Abbey Flowers



Margaret McSheehy and myself were asked to arrange flowers in Westminster Abbey Quire to mark the 450th anniversary of the opening of the Queen Elizabeth School.

The Abbey was looking splendid with new paint and gilding in preparation for the Coronation in May. It was a very interesting morning working while the very large number of visitors toured the Abbey.

We seem to have featured in many photos!



Wendy Parsons  
Lewes Flower Club



Wendy Parsons



Margaret McSheehy

### Club Anniversaries Congratulations to

Littlehampton & District Flower Club,  
65 years in May

### What did you do for.....

**National Flower Arranging Day and  
the King's Coronation**

Please send us your photos and stories



## Sussex Area President's badge

The badge worn by the Sussex Area President is a unique and specially commissioned badge of office.

In the late 1990's Beth Hardcastle was approaching the end of her term of office as President of our Area and she asked me (as the then Chairman of the Area) if she could arrange for a new badge to be her farewell gift to the Area (the existing badge was becoming rather scruffy). She asked me to talk to the Chairmen of the other Areas of NAFAS to find out how we could go about getting a new badge. This request became quite an interesting project for us and investigations into how a new badge could be made were undertaken.

Eventually the Chairman of the Wessex & Jersey Area (then Judy Sharpe) put me in touch with a lady who was a registered Goldsmith and Designer based in the East of England. Beth was happy that we ask this lady to draw up a design for us but to include the



original NAFAS logo, which proved to be rather problematic. However, we finally purchased a NAFAS Gold Brooch from HQ and it was agreed that this could be incorporated into the specific Sussex Area badge. The Brooch was an expensive item (£155 in 1998)

and additional gold would be needed to provide the framework of the design to complete the badge. However, the designer as a registered Goldsmith was able to purchase the gold for her work.

Detailed drawings were submitted to Beth for her approval and the Area Executive Committee of the time were all delighted that the Area was to receive this very special artistic unique hand-crafted badge of office for all future Sussex Area Presidents to wear, it was such a generous and stylish gift.

I always enjoy seeing our current Area President, Sue Seath wearing it.

Barbara Harris  
Past President Sussex Area

## Late Spring Fair – Saturday 13 May 2023

On Saturday 13 May **Patcham Flower Club**, in conjunction with The Sussex Kidney Trust & Patcham Methodist Church are holding a Late Spring Fair at the Church on Ladies Mile Road, Patcham, Brighton BN1 8QE.

Open between 11am and 3.30pm there will be lots of stalls, selling crafts and quality goods, tasty lunches and cream teas served in our coffee bar area and a Raffle in aid of The Sussex Kidney Trust. For the children there will be a craft corner, with either a painting, or decorate a crown, competition (50p entry to cover prizes plus a small gift for every child – excess funds to be donated to the charity)

plus we have a face painter, and a photo booth – fun for young and old alike.

The Sussex Kidney Trust has been our chosen charity for many years and they have provided the RSCH Renal Unit with a large amount of equipment over this time.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Fair and raising funds for this great cause. Entry 50p, under 16s free.

The Flower Club meets every second Thursday of the month at the Patcham Community Centre at 2pm. New members always welcome.

Christine Ashby, Chairman  
Patcham Flower Club

## Desert Island Discs

Our castaway in this issue is  
Area Media Officer, Susan Oliver

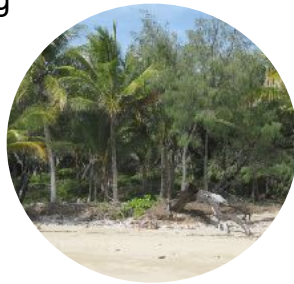


What a lovely task this has been.

When I was asked to choose my desert island discs my mind went blank and my first thought was would I be able to think of enough pieces of music?

However, I have had a great time just listening to lots of music so that I could choose my six pieces. It has been incredibly hard to choose just six and, far from being short of ideas, I have reminded myself how many pieces of music I actually like.

My taste is eclectic and probably clichéd but I make no apologies. If I'm stuck on a desert island I want something to enjoy and to remind me of home and family, cheer me up and soothe me in equal measure.



I have always loved music and had piano lessons from the age of 7, started playing the bassoon at 12 and classical guitar at 16. Life then took over and I have sadly neglected these skills, though I do occasionally still play the piano and guitar (*badly however*).

My first choice is **Rachmaninov's piano concerto number 2 in C minor**, first movement, op18. This is very rousing and skips along and reminds me of the time our school orchestra played it with me doing my bit at the back on the bassoon. It has been a favourite ever since.

My second choice is by **Dvorak: Largo from the second movement of his New World Symphony** (No9 in D minor). This is a more relaxing piece and I might enjoy it lying on the sandy beach as the sun goes down, after a long day foraging for firewood and food and building or repairing my shelter.

As I wake up the next day, my third choice would be '**Morning**' from the **Peer Gynt Suite by Greig** (*as I said, a bit of a cliché!*).

Life hasn't all been about classical music though and my university days were full of Elton John, Rod Stewart, The Moody Blues, The Beach Boys, Queen, 10CC, Abba, The Four Seasons, Genesis and many more. So, for my next choice, I would have '**Goodbye Yellow Brick Road**' by **Elton John** as I could sing along, and nobody would be listening!

Choice number 5 would be something played by the Band of the Royal Marines, ideally **Elgar's 'Pomp and Circumstance'**, as a tribute to my husband who was a Royal Marine back in the day and always has it on when doing the ironing – yes, I did say doing the ironing (*the Marines trained him well!*). Not that I will be doing much ironing on my desert island but it's a cheery piece of music and will help keep my spirits up.

My final choice, again a cliché, would be **Simon and Garfunkel's 'Homeward Bound'** in the hope that rescue is not too far away!

There are so many other pieces of music that I would like to have had with me but that's for my next desert island.....

My luxury would be a '**mindful**' **colouring book and felt pens** (*I hope that doesn't count as two things as one is no good without the other.....* )

And, for my book, well I don't usually like to read the same book twice so it would have to be something nice and thick to keep me going for a while, probably a family saga or mystery.....



## Logos and emblems

It's all about the use of a logo or emblem, to make this eye catching and relevant to the cause it promotes.

They serve to represent a given organisation or company through a visual image that can be easily understood and recognised. A logo or emblems have been used for centuries, in everything from heraldic family crests and wax seals, to official government badges.

An emblem is a logo type that features text, a symbol, or imagery inside a geometric shape. It features a simple and clear icon and an easy-to-read inscription. The emblem could be on letterheads, posters, clothing, banners, buildings, and a variety of other items. It grabs attention, makes a strong first impression, is the foundation of your identity, is memorable, separates you from other similar organisations, fosters loyalty, and is expected by your audience.

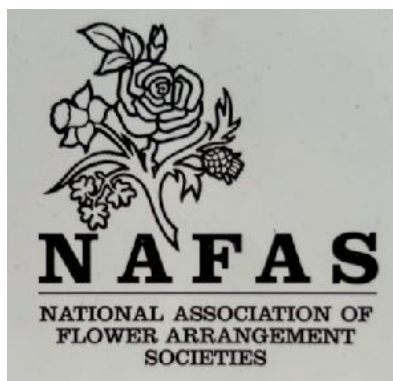
The official emblem for His Majesty's King Charles III's

Coronation on 6 May 2023 has been announced.

The emblem is created with the flora of the four nations of the United Kingdom: the rose for England, the thistle for Scotland, the daffodil for Wales and the shamrock for Northern Ireland. These natural forms combine to describe St Edward's Crown, used for the coronation of British monarchs. The emblem was designed by Sir Jony Ive with his creative collective LoveFrom.



Using the rose, thistle, daffodil and shamrock reminds you of the NAFAS emblem, which also contains those floral items. The NAFAS emblem was first used in the Flower Arranger in June 1966, the result of a competition which started in June 1964. Fifty three entries were received, and this started months of careful consideration and advice from outside experts,



before the result was finally announced. The winners were Major General Brunskill and Mrs Gerald Brunskill, who were at the time the NAFAS Treasurer, and Editor of 'The Flower Arranger'.

The familiar spray combines the national

emblems of England (rose), Scotland (thistle), Wales (daffodil) and Ireland (shamrock).

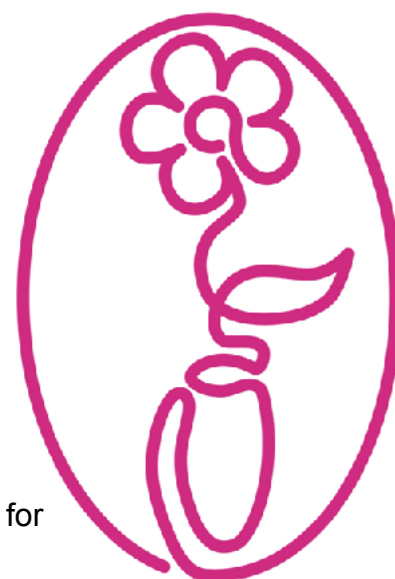
Originally circled this was abandoned in 1975, which made everyone more aware of the spray shape. The emblem has since been refreshed with the addition of the oval shape and explanatory words. Appearing on note paper, envelopes, publications, souvenir items etc, any affiliated club, society or area may use it.



The Sussex Area has for some months also debated the use of a logo to go with the chosen name

**'Flower Arranging & Design, Sussex'.**

The logo was presented at the Council meeting in March and will be used on all publications. Thank you to Lesley Etherton for organising this.



This will now feature on Sussex Area publications.

Watch out for it!

## Kokedama

During lockdown a small group of us, (like many others), decided to do a monthly flower arrangement. We had all enjoyed taking part in our club's competition table, before the restrictions took place, and we decided to carry on posting our photo displays via email on the last day of the month to each other.



We were given a title at the beginning of the month which meant we had the entire month to:

- Choose when we actually did the arrangement.
- When to forage for greenery.
- Find items of interest to use in our designs.
- Gave us time to make crafted goods we could add to our displays.

We all are keen gardeners which helped with sourcing plant material, as well as using the old faithful backups; the trusty Supermarket Flowers!

As all our lives were affected by the restrictions, it gave us a focus on something we all loved to do, and I believe it helped us all get through these tough and often lonely times. We are all still taking part, and I for one, love the challenge of coming up with the monthly title ideas.

February's title was "*Love is all around*", and my entry was my take on a "Kokedama".

I made the moss ball by packing mud around a glass jar and covering, using cotton to tie in the moss. The jar allowed me to change the flowers and have subsequently re-used this with the abundance of tete a tete I have growing in the garden, bringing indoors a little sunshine!!

Lorette Cross  
East Preston Floral Club

## Flower stamps



Ten stunning stamps, featuring the new silhouette of His Majesty King Charles III, depict some of the most popular flowers to be seen in gardens were released by Royal Mail in March.

The designs feature striking photographs of the flowers against a white background, alongside their common names. Sweet Pea, Iris, Lily, Sunflower, Fuchsia, Tulip, Peony, Nasturtium, Rose, and Dahlia.

The fold-out souvenir pack contains the new set of mint stamps, featuring the colourful images costs £10.50. Gardening writer Naomi Slade writes about the significance of the flowers to the nation and their enduring and evocative presence in our British rituals and traditions.

For more information see Royal Mail <https://shop.royalmail.com/special-stamp-issues/flowers>

Please send your articles and photographs to the Editor Duncan Ward  
email: [info@boxworthflowers.com](mailto:info@boxworthflowers.com)  
For the June issue by Saturday 20 May 2023

## And finally ....

Thank you to all contributors of articles and photographs. Grateful thanks to Debbie Dann, Ninfield Flower Group for photos to appear in future editions.

Don't forget to contribute your designs and articles. Please send them in.

*Duncan*