



Chairperson - Sue Albins. Secretary - Brenda Lambert. Treasurer - Christine Clark

Newsletter for May 2024.

Our next meeting is May 30th at 7.30 p.m.

April meeting. We held our Annual General Meeting where our committee were re-elected, minutes and accounts were agreed and a general discussion followed about recruiting new members and the insurance for the club. The National Sugarart Association, to whom we are affiliated and pay £55, arrange the insurance and this year the cost had soared to more than the income from the club membership. They are currently negotiating with the insurance firm to get a reduction (see later in newsletter). The AGM was followed by a short demonstration on Spring Gongs. 15 people renewed their membership and hopefully a few more will be joining this month. Our numbers are much lower than in previous years but at the moment we are in a good position financially due to a lot of fundraising. However, we have to be aware that with out this we would not be financially viable and would not be able to pay for demonstrators every month as they are charging more plus travelling expenses.

May Meeting. We had booked Georgie Godbold for this month but unfortunately she is not demonstrating at the moment as she has problems with her hand. Jan Fergusson has very kindly agreed to show us enamelling. This is a very pretty effect, another sugarcraft technique we have not seen before. Please come to the Tollgate Hall as the main hall is out of action. Same address, just the hall in the corner of the smaller carpark.

Website. Christine has updated our website with recent events. If you have any pictures for the gallery, recipes or anything which is relevant please send to Christine Clark, see below. We also have a facebook page. Ann Skeggs is going to take over the facebook page but please give her time to sort out the admin which goes with changing over.

Facebook email colchestersugarcraft@hotmail.com

Facebook www.facebook.com/colchestersugarcraft

Website email wor.christine@gmail.com

Website www.colchestersugarcraft.org.uk

It was proposed and seconded at our recent committee meeting that for any bookings we take from March to do workshops for W.I. etc will now have a milage charge of 30p a mile which will be given to the driver, we would encourage car sharing as much as possible. Any reasonable expenses incurred to do a demonstration/workshop can be claimed, please give receipts to Christine Clark. Any queries please contact me.

Other news and events

Public Liability Insurance. This is now sorted out and paid for. **WE ARE COVERED.**

National Sugarart Association A.G.M. Some of us attended this meeting via zoom on Sat 18th May. The committee were re-elected, some queries on the accounts were addressed and a discussion on how many clubs had rejoined. Again there are only 20 clubs country wide which is a lot less than in previous years. Several clubs have closed and some have decided to not join the association. Liz Ungless informed us that the Association would be having a stall at the Cake International Show in November and asked if any club members would be interested in helping with the publicity or mini workshops which are being run by *A Taste of Sugar*. She will try to get some entry tickets for anyone who is going to the show and can spare a couple of hours to help. If you are going to stay overnight it is advisable to book your accommodation early as the hotels near the N.E.C. **GET BOOKED UP QUICKLY.** Alternatively hotels in Coventry and Kenilworth are not far away and there is a very good train service from Tile Hill and Coventry to the N.E.C. Stratford upon Avon and Leamington Spa are nice places to visit if you make a long weekend visit.

Workshops. The list for mini workshops will be on the table again this month so please add your name if interested then we can arrange dates.

There are some sugarcraft shows coming up and also zoom demonstrations organised by British Sugarcraft Guild areas so it is always worth checking their site for events. Most are open to non members. They also have weekend skills workshops.

Show and tell table. Please bring in things you have made or photos of cakes with a brief explanation if possible so we can see how talented our members are. Also don't forget to send pictures to our website and facebook page.

Sales Table. If you have equipment you would like to sell please bring it along for the sales table, label with your name and price and take it home if it does not sell. We take 10% for club funds.

Raffle. As we have fewer members now we have decided to limit the amount of raffle prizes to 6 each meeting. If perishable goods are donated on the night they will replace another prize already on the table. This will make it easier for Ann and Michala in storing and insure that sell-by-dates are not missed.

Other Events. This year the club will be **40 YEARS OLD (RUBY ANNIVERSARY)**. We are going to celebrate in August with lunch and cake, venue to be decided, so we look forward to seeing everyone, more details will follow.

Great Bentley Show August 31st and Five Parishes Show August 4th

If you are able to help at either of these events please put your name on the list on Christine's table.

Sugarcraft Suppliers Local.

Almond Art online only Faraday Close Gorse Lane Ind Est Clacton on Sea

On the cake front shop and online Unit 111 Lakes Innovation Centre Lakes Rd Braintree.

Sell your flower veiners and cutters is a facebook group for selling and buying equipment.

Patch work cutters Marion Frost. Marion is semi-retiring and will not be selling patchwork cutters anymore directly. They will still be available on other sites until stocks run out.

If you know of any other events that might interest our members please let me know and I can include them in the newsletter.

Publicity. If you know of any community news magazines/letters,/parish magazines where we could advertise the club free of charge please let me know. We have posters as well if you are able to display them, please see Christine Clark.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter please contact me.

Regards Sue.

If you no longer wish to receive communications from Colchester Sugarcraft Association please contact

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