Chair Sue Albins. Secretary Brenda Lambert. Treasurer Christine Clark.

Newsletter for April 2025 Our Next Meeting is Thursday April 24th 7.30 PM

March Meeting. The demonstration from Rachel Farnham about Lambeth Piping was very interesting. We learnt how Lambeth piping got its name and the differences between that style and more elaborate piping of swirls and extension work. We saw how it can be used with buttercream and royal icing.

April Meeting. It is time for our Annual General Meeting when we discuss the business side of our club and elect our committee. Two of the present committee are standing down, treasurer and secretary, but fortunately two members have agreed to stand for election. Carol Rowe is willing to take on the treasurer's role and Ann Skeggs as secretary. Jan Ferguson is willing to stand as a committee member. Thank you to everyone who has helped over the years as committee members, especially to Christine Clark who has been our treasurer for 13 years. The membership fees remain at £40 and the renewal form is attached; if you are able to print and fill it in, please do as it saves time on the night. We will have forms available. Please pay by cheque or cash. There are several attachments for the AGM; please read them before attending so we can save time for our activity.

Following on from the AGM, we shall do some stencilling. Please bring a small container of trex. We will provide everything else needed, including stencils, 6 inch board, dust colours, brushes etc. If you have a particular stencil you would like to do, please bring it.

Other News.

Programme for 25-26. We have had to make one change to our programme as Vasantha Manohar is not able to demonstrate to us for health reasons, and we are not sure if Christine Georgiou is still available as she has closed her cake decorating business. Michala is working on filling the months when they would have been demonstrating.

NSA AGM is via zoom on May 17th at 1.30 pm. There is usually a short official part followed by a demonstration. The demonstrator this year is Sue Reid from South Africa: she will be demonstrating Teabag Folding. This is a paper craft which she has adapted for sugarcraft. The zoom link will be sent out to members, if you need any help with zoom please let us know. Please let me know by 1st May if you plan on attending so I can let the secretary know names and numbers. There were several enquiries at Cake International about starting new clubs and also about individual membership. This is mainly for access to the zoom demonstrations that some clubs are doing. It will be proposed and adopted at the AGM. If you know of anyone who may be interested in either of these things, please contact me so I can pass on the information to the NSA. The insurance for the club comes from our membership fee to the NSA, it shot up in price this year and it has been proposed that the membership fee be increased for 2026 to cover the cost as there are not enough clubs to support the rise.

Workshops. Christine and myself demonstrated to Thorpe Le Soken W.I. which was well

supported and received. We have two mini workshops booked for Tiptree Ladies Club and Frinton W.I. in November. If you are able to help at any of these please put your name on the list or contact me.

At our last meeting we discussed the possibility of a day workshop for members with either Natalie Porter or Jacquie Kelly. The cost ranges from $\pounds 45 - \pounds 48$ and to make it viable we would need at least 10 people. The event would be advertised and sent out to other local sugarcraft clubs. I need to know if people are interested by this month as the demonstrators get booked up quickly.

Don't forget to send pictures and sugarcraft news to Christine and Ann for our website and facebook page, you can also post a comment on the facebook page, like and share.

Hope to see everyone on Thursday.

Regards, Sue.