Chair Sue Albins. Secretary Ann Skeggs. Treasurer Carol Rowe.

## Newsletter for May 2025 Next Meeting Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup> 7.30 PM

**April Meeting**. Last month we held our Annual General Meeting. There are a few changes to the committee as the secretary and treasurer stepped down and Ann Skeggs and Carol Rowe were elected to fill these posts. Jan Ferguson was also elected to the committee. Christine is staying on the committee, non voting, in her capacity as website co-ordinator. Thank you to everyone who has worked hard to keep the club going and welcome on board Jan and Carol. We discussed the problem with membership numbers and how we could recruit younger people and also the future of the club. We are financially in a strong position due to a lot of fundraising, but our membership fees do not cover the cost of each meeting and we may have to reassess our situation at a later date. We concluded our meeting by doing some stencilling led by Brenda which was well received.

**May Meeting.** This month we have Margaret Baldry doing Kanzashi Flowers, Margaret was unable to demonstrate for us last year so we are looking forward to seeing her. Kanzashi Flowers is a paper folding technique originating from Japan so it will be really interesting to see how to replicate this in sugar.

## Other News.

**NSA AGM.** via zoom May 17<sup>th</sup> at 1.00 pm. Usually a short official part followed by a demonstration. The demonstrator this year will be given by 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.

August Social Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August 12.30 for 1pm. Angela Howard has very kindly offered to host lunch for us in her garden in Wivenhoe. Please add your name to the list and what food you will be bringing. Drinks will be provided by the club.

## Programme for 25-26.

Christina Georgiou is still going to demonstrate for us in September and Michala has contacted demonstrators for January 26<sup>th</sup> as Vasantha is unable to come due to health problems.

## Workshops.

**Exciting news** We have booked a peony workshop with NATALIE PORTER for 20<sup>th</sup> September at the Tollgate Hall Stanway 0930 – 16.30. Spaces are limited to 16 and are on a first come first served basis. COST £47.50 for members, £60 non members, NON REFUNDABLE unless cancelled by the club or Natalie. Please add your name to the list with full payment if you want to come. Cut off date is 1<sup>st</sup> July. Natalie will have the cutters, flower paste and dusting colours available to purchase, you will need to bring lunch, board, rolling pin, apron and dusting brushes. We can provide floral tape, wires etc if necessary.

We are still doing mini workshops in members houses which are open to non members as well, if there is anything you would like to do please let us know.

We have two more mini workshops booked for Frinton and Tiptree in November, which are always great fun.

Following our committee meeting we have decided not to have our cake stall and table in the marque at the Great Bentley Show this year. It involves a lot of commitment which we are unable to provide due to various reasons.

Don't forget to send pictures and sugarcraft news to Christine and Ann for our website and facebook, or like, comment and share via the facebook page. Please ask the permission of anyone featured in photos and keep personal details to a minimum for these sites which will help to keep everyone safe from scams etc. I know that we have permission to have personal data on our members which we do not share with other people and is only available to me and the secretary, but if we post photos from club meetings or workshops please let us know if you do not wish to be in the photo.

Hope to see everyone on Thursday 29th

Regards Sue