



FIELD GATE FLOWERS
THE CUT FLOWER COLLECTIVE

Field Gate Flowers &

The Cut Flower Collective weekly newsletter

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(Please note if reading this at a later date that some links may no longer be valid.)

Hello March!



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If you're a keen grower, you've no doubt begun your early spring sowing. At the farm we've been alternating this week between under-cover tasks such as cleaning and seed sowing, and outdoor jobs like cutting down Verbena as new shoots are starting to peek through at the base of our plants. It's an exciting time of anticipation and hope for the season to come.

We're keeping a regular eye on the ranunculus growing in our poly tunnel, for signs of those first flower buds. Tulips will

follow not far behind and then things really start to get going.

Ali Conway and I have been busy planning more content and learning opportunities for sustainable floristry from [The Great British Flower School](#). We have a new website coming soon and we'll be announcing all the ways you can learn from us, both online and in person, whatever your level of experience.

Don't forget that Tuesday 4 March is Shrove Tuesday, which means (apart from the obvious imperative to eat pancakes) that there's just over 6 weeks to go until Easter, with Mothering Sunday / Mother's Day in the UK falling on 30 March this year. We'll have news of our Mother's Day gift options for you next week.

In the meantime, enjoy the sunshine but don't cast off your woolly hats just yet!

Roz

SPREAD THE LOVE: DIVIDING PERENNIALS



If you're in the UK or a region with a similar climate, the next few weeks are the perfect time to reposition and divide perennial plants. At Field Gate we regularly divide or relocate Achillea, Sedum, Persicaria, Alchemilla mollis and Verbena. If you've run out of room in your space and are reluctant to throw excess plants onto the compost heap, pot them up and pass onto friends and neighbours. A 'help yourself' stand outside your house usually attracts attention and you could leave an honesty box and donate the takings to charity (or get your children to help you pot up to earn some pocket money).

Dividing and moving perennials is not as hard as it may seem at first, but do it now before the plants start to put on

strong new growth. Here's a [helpful article from Gardener's World magazine](#) which includes some 'how to' videos.

THE CUT FLOWER PODCAST: EVERYTHING SWEET PEAS



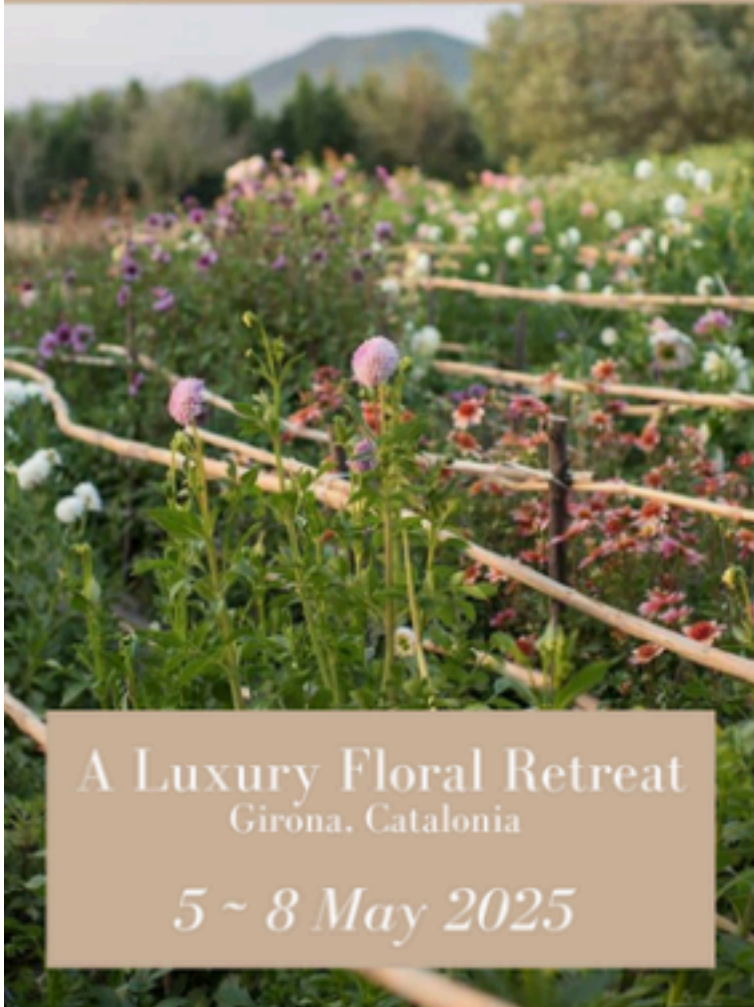
It's that sweet pea sowing time of year, so who better to tune into than President of the UK National Sweet Pea Society, Roger Parsons. Roger talked to Roz on The Cut Flower Podcast a couple of years ago and [we recommend a re-listen](#) at least once a year....

Roger describes his business as, 'a hobby that has got out of hand' – something many of us can relate to. He is about to hand over [his commercial business](#) and the National Collection of Lathyrus to [English Sweet Peas](#), so stay tuned for more news on this (and we recommend *not* looking at either of their websites if you already have enough sweet pea seeds in stock... No, really – stopppp!).

[Listen to Roger's conversation with Roz here](#) and you can find a plethora of past episodes in [The Cut Flower Podcast Archive here](#). Follow Roger on Instagram [@roger_parsons_sweet_peas](#) and English Sweet Peas [@englishsweetpeas](#).

FLORES IN FONTERA: JOIN US ON A LUXURY FLORAL RETREAT

Flores in Fontera, Spain



Imagine this: Four unforgettable days in the breathtaking Catalonian countryside, staying at the exquisite Mas Generós - a beautifully restored 17th Century farmhouse with tranquil gardens, a magnesium salt-purified pool, and the kind of peaceful surroundings that fuel creativity and inspiration.

Roz, along with florist and floristry teacher Ali Conway, and content creator Tom Coleman, invite you to join them on this exclusive flower-based retreat. This will be a deep dive into floral artistry, business, and social media success. Expect hands-on design workshops, inspiring talks, and a visits to local Spanish flower farm, where you'll gain insights from some of the best in the industry.

Whether you're looking to refine your floristry skills, grow your business, or simply soak in the beauty of this extraordinary setting, this retreat is designed to elevate your passion and expertise. If you've ever dreamed of a floral getaway filled with luxury, learning, and connection, this is it.

Places on the retreat are limited due to the capacity of Mas Generós. Find out more and reserve your spot now:
<https://fieldgateflowers.kartra.com/page/CatalonianFloralRetreat>

JOBS FOR THE WEEK



Cut down Verbena bonariensis

If new shoots are starting to show at the base of your plants, it's time to cut down last year's growth, even if it's been producing new foliage (if you're in a colder region you may want to wait another week or two). This is also a good time to reposition any Verbena that has self-seeded. Although lovely as a tall-stemmed cut flower, Verbena doesn't respect your well-laid out boundaries, so you'll need to keep it in check! Pot up unwanted plants and pass them onto friends and neighbours (see our piece above on dividing perennials).

Pollard eucalyptus to encourage juvenile growth

If you're growing eucalyptus for cutting, you'll want to encourage the plant to keep on producing juvenile growth which is that lovely pale grey/green colour with correspondingly delicate leaves. On or around 18th March is the recommended time to pollard eucalyptus in the UK. [See this page from our friends at Hardy Eucalyptus](#) for more advice on training and pruning eucalyptus.

Refresh or re-pot containers

Any plants that have been in the same compost for a while are likely to be in need of a feed and spring is one of the best times to add nutrition to the soil. You can top dress with new compost or switch up your decorative pots for a spring display, gently replacing compost around the roots. Adding a small amount of a slow release feed such Osmocote will keep plants going through to summer.

COURSES AND MEMBERSHIPS

Any questions? Ask me in my Facebook groups:

[The Cut Flower Collection from Field Gate Flowers](#) (for anyone passionate about growing cut flowers) [Growth &](#)

[Profit in your Cut Flower Business](#) (for flower farmers or those about to embark on a cut flower business)

Membership groups:

The Best Bunch

Growth Club.

Roz