

# These flower arrangements speak of God

## unsung hero

**WHO is our unsung hero this month?** Olive Light, who organises the flower arrangers at Holy Trinity Church, Bembridge.

**Who has nominated her?** Andria Richards and Polly Schafer, two of the newer members of the team.

**Why is she a hero?** Olive leads a team which creates beautiful flower arrangements in Holy Trinity Church on a rota, and organises an annual flower festival. Andria also nominated her because of the care she showed when her mother died.

“Polly and I had children in the choir and volunteered to do some arranging,” said Andria. “She helped us to get started and encouraged us. So when my mother died last September I felt confident enough to arrange the flowers myself.

“Olive also rang me several times to check I was OK. She was so caring. She works selflessly on behalf of Holy Trinity.”

**Why does she do it?** Olive has led the 17-strong team of flower arrangers for four years, ensuring beautiful displays in the sanctuary each week.

“The lady I took over from was 90 and had been doing it for

**We're highlighting those unsung heroes in our congregations, who volunteer to do the behind-the-scenes jobs in our churches, like cooking, cleaning and tidying. Do you know someone in your church who you could nominate to be featured on this page?**

30 years, so she thought it was time to hang up her secateurs,” said Olive. “The previous vicar asked a group of ladies, and my colleague Sue Badnell and I led some flower arranging classes.

“The rota means the flowers change each two weeks, as we realised arrangements were still OK after a week. That means everyone in the team does it twice a year. And for the flower festival at the end of May, we open it up to other organisations in the village, and the place is full of flowers.

“I've always been a project person and wanted things to be done properly. It's fantastic to motivate people to do their best.

“It is also part of my worship in the church, especially at festival times, when we want the church

to look good for Christmas, Easter and so on.

“We don't do funeral flowers, but those who have been bereaved often call us about the arrangements, and we often end up having a chat. I used to work for a charity that helped people who were losing their sight, so I am used to helping people adjust to the next stage of their lives.”

● **Is there someone in your church who works hard behind the scenes, but rarely gets any public thanks?**

**Why not nominate them as an unsung hero in the Pompey Chimes? Fill in the form here and send it to Pompey Chimes, Peninsular House, Wharf Road, Portsmouth, PO2 8HB, or email [neil.pugmire@portsmouth.anglican.org](mailto:neil.pugmire@portsmouth.anglican.org).**



Olive Light with one of her arrangements in Holy Trinity

I'd like to nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
 from the parish of \_\_\_\_\_  
 as my **unsung hero**. This is why: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 My name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 My phone number or email: \_\_\_\_\_



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