



Sushma Windsor, Founder, Lettuce Flowers, UK

Why do I enjoy coming to work? My business not only looks good, but smells amazing and tastes great too! At Lettuce Flowers Ltd, I believe in enjoying flowers with a purpose, so I use living edible seasonal plants to create beautiful displays for Corporate Events to Weddings and Private parties as an alternative to cut flowers. The arrangements come with a recipe suggestion and basic plant care instructions, to encourage people to use flowers and herbs in their food.

UK imports 95% of cut flowers from Kenya, Ecuador, Columbia and Holland. An industry which is worth over £2 billion per year in the UK, it is not surprising to find the environmental cost, from the intensive monoculture farming to heavy use of pesticides and fertilisers and from carbon cost of flying to waste disposal of the cut flowers.

By ensuring that our containers, pots and baskets can be easily composted or reused, we have omitted the landfill waste.

Prior to this, my background has been in what is now termed as sustainable clothing but, in fact it was the sensible way to source a supply chain and ensure that every stage had minimal carbon/water/environmental/social impact. From The Eden Project, to Howies and Bam Clothing, my experience has been applied in various aspects of clothing and retail products, helping to audit supply chains and factories.

Lettuce Flowers is progressing towards more corporate businesses and private dining, but equally reaching individuals through web based online trading for gifts. 'Grow don't throw'!