Bloom time for local wedding suppliers this Christmas

Sussex brides are in for a treat this festive season as a group of local business women have joined forces to create a stunning window display of festive flowers, foliage and wedding fare.

Local brides and craft enthusiasts can see the eco-friendly display at 54 Hazelwick Road, Crawley, run by Cath Adam at The Bride Shop until Christmas, or visit for the open evening on Tuesday 10th December.

Chrissy Thornton of Chrissy Thornton Floristry is a passionate and creative local wedding florist with 15 years' experience. She designed the Christmas floral display, including the impressive door arch and window garlanding, and said she really loved working with fellow creative women who also run their own wedding businesses.

"It's been great to get to know others, who like me, are setting up a new business in the wedding industry. It's also brilliant that we have the same appreciation for natural, sustainable and handmade products. It's been quite a challenge getting everything completed in one day but the result is totally worth it – we're all absolutely thrilled!"

She also said that a collaboration like this was a good opportunity to showcase local talent. "There are so many businesses out there and we wanted to show that just because we are small, we are still very good at what we do. Being small means we have time to really get to know our clients, and offer a truly personal service. We love this design, which has a Christmas theme without being too traditional".

Chrissy's display features ferns, pines, birch wood, dried flowers such as hydrangeas and pheasant feathers from a local shoot, the vast majority is all locally grown by herself or foraged.

There is also a boho-style swing, featuring hand-made macramé by the team at Handmade To Hire, which also created the exquisite macramé backdrops with tassels and a mirror display. Handmade to Hire creations are a wonderful way to bring a stunning fairy tale atmosphere for wedding ceremonies. The elegant three-tiered cake, created by Caly's Cakes and to be found resting on the swing, features foraged willow and pheasant feather decorations!