

A PERFECT HAVEN

THE LITTLE GREEN FLOWER COMPANY
RHS FLOWER SHOW TATTON PARK 2024
STAND: TP413

75

PERCENT OF
RIVERS
POSE A
SERIOUS
RISK TO
HUMANS

83% decline in
freshwater
species since 1970

A Perfect Haven – But what lies beneath!

Florist stages a stunning floral protest in support of our UK Waterways

For her debut exhibit at RHS Tatton Flower Show, floral designer Georgia Singleton has created a stunning and thought-provoking installation, which on the surface conveys an idyllic and nostalgic riverside scene but which beneath the surface has a serious message - highlighting the chronic health and ongoing pollution of our UK waterways, which poses serious health issues for both humans and wildlife alike.

Georgia took inspiration for her design from an incident in Marple Bridge, the bucolic village where she lives and has run her florist shop for the last 2 years. One hot summer Greater Manchester's most rural village made the headlines for all the wrong reasons, when a number of children were hospitalised having been paddling and swimming in the River Goyt which on the surface appeared to be a beautiful and enticing river, but which beneath the surface, contained a cocktail of pollution and bacteria.

The Perfect Haven installation provides an immersive, multi-sensory experience complete with authentic rowing boat, wicker animals and insects, calming riverside sounds and a beautifully soft, British planting scheme; using swathes of soft scented flowers including sweet peas and honeysuckle, textural blues of nigella and nepeta and soft mauves and greens provided by lavender, ferns and grasses. The design aims to motivate visitors emotionally and viscerally at the Show, so that they feel connected to their local waterways and feel inspired to want to protect such valuable waterways for future generations.

On press day a number of 'water loving' floral activists, dressed in a variety of water related outfits including wet suits, bikinis & dryrobes, will be staging a mini 'protest' by the installation, carrying beautifully decorated statement placards. These floral activists all love spending time beside our rivers; from paddle boarding, to dog walking to wild-water swimming. In 2023 many of these amazing spaces had over half a million discharges of sewage into them, by the UK's water companies; currently it is legal for sewage to be discharged during periods of heavy rain, but these companies are wrongly doing so on an increasing regular basis. Alongside the increasing number of toxic algal blooms created from extremely elevated levels of nitrates and phosphates from agricultural run-off too.

Speaking about her design Georgia said, *"It is time to make a stand - plain and simple, the health of our rivers, waterways and oceans is under threat like never before. From agricultural run-off to sewage pollution. As it currently stands 75% of UK rivers pose a serious risk to human health (SAS) - from E. Coli to Hepatitis A. Not to mention the loss of biodiversity experienced by our native wildlife."*

"Often it can seem we are far removed from the issue if we aren't keen surfers or regular paddle-boarders. However, this issue is far closer to home than many of us think. Riverside paddles on hot days or short dog walks along the rivers just simply are not as safe as we think. It is time to stand up for our rivers and oceans and we wanted to do this in as peaceful and as beautiful a way as possible with some real Flower Power!"

CONTACT

Georgia Singleton

Tel: 0745 6080 897 / 0161 711 1881

email: georgia@thelittlegreenflowercompany.co

Instagram: [@thelittlegreenflowercompany](https://www.instagram.com/thelittlegreenflowercompany)

Our shop: 1a Longhurst Lane, Marple Bridge, SK6 5AE



'HEALTHY RIVERS DO INCREDIBLE THINGS' THE RIVERS TRUST