

As I See It by Joan Barnett

A Posy of Flowers

Isaiah 55:12 NIV. You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace. The mountains and hills will burst into song before you and all the trees of the fields will clap their hands.

Every year when Mothering Sunday approaches I think back to the posies of flowers we used to put together in Junior church days. 3 daffodils and some greenery all wrapped around with damp cotton wool and encased in silver foil. Now instead of a time-consuming effort by a number of volunteers we receive a lovely pot of primroses. These last many years once planted out in the garden. Although I am unable to see my primroses, I can visualise them and do know where they will be planted. Good thing I once used to work in the garden. I know many visually impaired people enjoy gardening, sadly I became demoralised when constantly pulling out the plants and leaving behind the weeds!

Another memory goes back to my childhood. In the 1950s we used to visit Clapham Woods in West Sussex when it was primrose time. You could pick them back then without fear of arrest for stealing. We certainly did not dig out the plants. Our father always picked a bunch which he surrounded with the green leaves to present to our mother.

One year my daughter managed to find online a silk version of this posy. Each year in primrose time I have it standing in a vase on the shelf above my computer.

The verse from Isaiah may not mention primroses but it does give a feeling of anticipation when we think of spring with all the trees bursting into flower and leaf. I miss being able to see the changing seasons especially in our garden. The sighted assistant is well taught about remembering to tell me what is happening when he looks through the window. From our kitchen window he can see the birds fighting off the squirrels when battle commences on the bird feeders. I wonder if the partridges will nest in our garden this year. Last year they simply turned up and walked round. They are very fond of the seeds from forget me nots.