

ALL SAINTS FLOWER CLUB Report 2023 (2024 AGM)

2023 was a good year for the Flower Club financially, due to the four weddings that we did the flowers for, (One being a VERY special All Saints' wedding which wonderful to be involved in!) some left from those cancelled during Covid. We made nearly £140 profit for the year, and had wonderful donations for general flowers and the festivals too. At year end we had £672.61

The main expenditure other than flowers, has been for more artificial flowers of varying colours, and foliage. We are now using these out of necessity now rather than choice and this has enabled us to have arrangements that last much longer. We have had very encouraging comments about them, often without people realising they are artificial! We have also had to pay £49 this year to have the 'Brown Bin' emptied by the Council.

However, those who assist with flowers, are finding it harder due to due to illness and reduced mobility. Festivals and weddings are reaching crisis point of late, with decreased availability of the helpers we do have. Fiona Earle's neighbour, Lindsay Davies has assisted us, as have the various Woofers that Fiona has staying, but it is getting tougher to manage. I believe future festivals and weddings can only happen if we can guarantee the number of helpers available. These events, while taking work to get ready, there is often more work to take it down afterwards - which most people forget. It is those well-known 'All Saints' hidden fairies' again that clear up! One person cannot, and should not, be doing this alone which has happened more than once.

We are coping – just, with so few members and I would like to express my grateful thanks to each of them for helping with flowers. We only have 2 small teams now and just have to switch around for holidays and illness, but problems then arise when dates have to change due to other commitments. We would welcome more assistance but appreciate that is not likely to happen at the current time. I have been leading the club for some time now and it would be good to hand over to others but.... We will continue to do flowers while we are able to, but the future does look exceedingly bleak and challenging.

Dorothy Toyn

Flower Club Leader