

FRIENDS OF ST ANNES LIBRARY (FOSAL)

Chairman's Report 21 April 2022

This report provides a brief summary of what has taken place during the last two years when the Friends have been unable to hold many fundraising events due to the Covid pandemic. It also looks to the future.

The last event put on by the Friends was a coffee morning and bake sale in February 2020 which raised more than £100.

Funds raised by the Friends go towards providing extras for the Library, such as craft materials for seasonal holidays like Christmas, Easter and Halloween, buying plants and bird boxes for the garden, and paying for repairs to the garden mosaics which need constant attention.

The most recent purchase has been a badge making machine.

We have held several committee meetings during the past few months in preparation for holding more events during the remainder of 2022.

In the past, we have held author talks, murder mystery evenings, events with a seasonal theme, like St Valentine's Day and Halloween, and literary talks. We are, however, also open to new ideas so if anyone has suggestions, please talk to any member of the committee or, better still, join the committee. We are happy to welcome new members. The current membership stands at 39.

In the pipeline is a Christmas Quiz, which was originally scheduled for Christmas 2021.

The gardening group has been working hard since August last year but I think they could always use help from a few more volunteers. They meet on Tuesdays from 2 to 3 pm. Tasks include planting, weeding, pruning and general garden maintenance. Anne Fielding is our gardening guru so have a word with her if you are interested in getting involved.

As part of National Gardening Week, the Friends are holding a gardening morning on Wednesday 4 May between 11 am and 12 noon. Why not come along and plant some geraniums? We'll even give you a cup of tea!

The Knit Together group started up again last October so if you like to knit and chat, why not join them in the Library every two weeks on Friday mornings. See Anne if you are interested in this activity.

At this point, I would like to thank the FoSAL committee for doing what they have done in the past, for being patient during the pandemic but continuing to support the Library as needed, and for being willing to pick up the reins again now we are in a safer place.

I would also like to thank the Library staff who support us as well as the Library. Finally, I would like to thank Aileen for always being helpful, cheerful and inspirational, all qualities which helped to win her the latest LCC Library Manager of the Year award. Congratulations Aileen!

Thank you all for taking an interest in supporting the Library. I hope you will continue to do so.

