

Exmouth in Bloom have enjoyed another very successful year, winning an RHS **Gold** award in October along with the cup for Best in Group. In 2017 we will be entered into the new Winners Group category, so we will be making an extra special effort to keep Exmouth looking its floral best.

As you walk around Exmouth you will see numerous Friends Group sponsor signs on containers, troughs and planters, all thanks to your continued generosity.

In 2016 we have raised £1500 from Plant sales, £1200 from Calendars and in total £300 from Notelet sales. Calendars have been posted as far as America, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Hong Kong and Thailand. **Exmouth is in Bloom around the world.**

Exmouth in Bloom Friends Group Gift Membership

If you would like to give a Friends Group Membership subscription for a present we can arrange to send membership information and a gift card on your behalf. **Please contact the Friends Group Secretary, at the contact details below.**



Friends Group Newsletters We issue our newsletters three times a year. If you would rather receive your newsletter via email attachment instead of a paper copy please let us know or if you would like an email copy and a paper copy.

Please contact Mrs Linda Dennis, Friends Secretary, l-dennis2@sky.com

Contact details as follows:- Chairman - Mrs Gerry Bassett, Tel 01395 488718; Friends Secretary - Mrs Linda Dennis, Tel 01395 741920; Secretary Sharon Darton, Tel 07729 398680 or email us via the web site:- www.exmouthinbloom.org.uk.



Newsletter No 1 - Winter/Spring 2017

Welcome to our first Friends Newsletter of 2017. Last year 215 Friends Group Members joined us and we raised the magnificent sum of £1925. This has been our most successful year since we started the Friends Group in March 2011. To date the Friends Group has raised £8944 in total. We are hoping that with your continued support we can achieve over £10,000 by the end of 2017.



The Friends Group is not just about raising money for floral displays in Exmouth, but it has also become an important way of spreading the Britain and Exmouth in Bloom message that by



involving the community we can all contribute to improving the environment that we live in. **Please continue to support us** and help with our aim of keeping Exmouth in Bloom. Thank you to every single one of our Friends Group members. Without your support we could not make Exmouth as floral and welcoming for our residents and visitors.

We wish you all a very Happy New Year.

New Year - New Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer

We hold our AGM in January every year to elect new officers, to re-elect committee members and to discuss our 2017 plans.

Mrs Gerry Bassett has been elected as Chairman.

Mrs Marion Drew is Vice Chairman and Administrator.

Ms Sharon Darton is Secretary.

Mr Richard Lewis is Treasurer.

Mrs Linda Dennis is continuing as the Friends Group Secretary.



We are grateful to our loyal band of helpers and supporters, who willingly give up their spare time to help us dig, weed, feed, plant,



and water the numerous flower beds, baskets, containers and troughs around the town.



Some of our helpers and committee members are pictured here preparing winter planting for the large bed by the Underpass and the bed by the Swimming Pool, now known locally as the 'Fish Bed' even though the fish have been safely returned to the sea.

We are hoping to enlist a few more helpers and committee members this year, please contact us if you are interested.

Autumn/Winter Bloom Activities



October 2016 - Selling plants, calendars, notelets and cloth shopping bags at the Carnival Fun Day event on the Strand. We raised £125 for Bloom funds.



October 2016 - Entering the annual Exmouth Carnival colourfully dressed with a Gnomes theme, winning 1st prize in the Mixed Group Walking category.



December 2016 - The Strand Christmas Cracker event, where we sold Xmas decorations, holly, mistletoe and various filled pots and a selection of plants.



December 2016 - Elaine Lewis and Marion Drew selling Exmouth in Bloom notelets and calendars at the Strand Christmas Cracker event.