



The Friends of Hoylake and Meols In Bloom 2026 Spring Newsletter

Registered Charity 1101968

Dear Friends

Welcome to our 2026 newsletter which summarises our activities last year.

We hope you have enjoyed the displays throughout the year. This would not have been possible without your support which we really appreciate. It is a costly business, so we are most grateful for all memberships, donations and sponsorships. Please visit the Funding our Smile page inside or on the website to find out about the many ways in which you can support us.



Pruning, clearing dead material and feeding roses was undertaken in the months of January and February. Cutting back grasses in several areas continued into March. We welcomed some Duke of Edinburgh student volunteers this month who proved to be very helpful with weeding, and watering the Queens Park round bed at drier times. Monthly park tidies continued from April until winter.

In May the major work of changing from winter planting to summer planting started. Unfortunately on plant delivery day it poured with rain non stop making our sorting job pretty miserable! Rectangular beds and tubs and wheelbarrows along down the high street had to be deplanted, compost and feed added before plants could go in. Summer plants also went in at the stations. Fortunately, Jan's great organisation and forethought meant that planning was in place and stock needed was ordered. She also passed on comprehensive planning notes and a time line to us so that we have had good advice to refer to going forward. A redesign of the larger bed at the Quadrant included perennial Gaura and Verbena.

June saw a very successful plant sale making over £2000, but sadly Jan had to miss this as she was not well enough to attend. Thankfully, all plants thrived during dry spells in summer due to a band of volunteers who tended and watered when necessary.



In addition to gardening, a number of renovation jobs have taken place employing the various skills of some volunteers - the repair of noticeboards at Parade Gardens and Grove Park, varnishing of a game in Sensory Gardens, Nature Trail maintenance and new sign in Queens Park. 2 large planters 'hidden' by containers on land between the outside of Marine Bowling Green and the Lifeboat station have been moved and refilled. Pictorial Maps have been created and installed at both stations, and new photographs displayed in noticeboards.

In September, Green Flag raising took place as our parks won the awards again! Cheshire Best Kept stations awarded us again, with Best in Bloom for Meols and Best in Wirral for Hoylake.

A major clear out job on the roundabout took place in October as it had become very congested. This was followed by transplantation of *Verbena Bonariensis* from the Quadrant to give height, and lovely little purple flowers on the roundabout. Later in the month we did our 'swop over' of summer planting to bulbs, wallflowers and violas for the winter season along the High Street and in parks.



Another 500 daffodil bulbs were planted in verges near to the Cottage Hospital by a trusty bulb planting volunteer further developing our wonderful blaze of yellow throughout the town in spring! Many Tete a tete daffodils, transitional planting, were added to the Quadrant after the Christmas tree was removed providing colour before tulips arrive later in spring. Even before Christmas we had to put in our orders for summer planting for 2026!!

This is our first attempt without Jan so I hope you will be patient with us !!
The seasons come around so quickly!

Debbie on behalf of the Trustees and Volunteers

Some of our other favourite photos





Funding the Smile

We know how much the community enjoy seeing the flowers in our towns and parks. The Friends volunteers love creating and maintaining the floral displays for everyone to enjoy but like anything they cost money.

Flowers, plants and all materials we use are totally funded by the residents, shops and businesses of Hoylake and Meols. Many of you support us with yearly memberships.

Here are the ways in which you can help fund what we do:-

- **Become a support member** by making regular monthly or yearly donation of any amount you wish. This really helps our future planning as we know what funds are coming in.
- **Make a one off donation**
- **Sponsor** a flower tub or flower bed for which a support plaque will be displayed

Please see page 7 for different payment ways you can support the Friends.

Volunteering With The Friends

There are many tasks that volunteers are involved in- basic gardening maintenance, park tidies, painting, moving compost, watering, planting bulbs are some examples.

We have been pleased to welcome a number of new people into the friendly team this year.

Email requests for help are regularly sent out to all volunteers in our database; just come along if you are able to, no pressure!

We do not expect all volunteers to turn up for every job, we all have busy lives and the task must be something the volunteer feels comfortable in doing.

If you would like to volunteer with The Friends of Hoylake and Meols in Bloom, or to find out more information, please use the CONTACT US tab on our website or email contact@hoylakeinbloom.org.uk or phone 07443 416062.

Please come to our AGM

on Saturday 9th May 2026 at 11 am
at Saint Luke's Methodist Church, Hoylake

Everybody is welcome! Tea and Coffee will be provided.

The AGM is an ideal opportunity to:

- Learn more about the charity's aims
- Become a volunteer or member
- Meet other supporters, volunteers and trustees
- Put forward your ideas on how we can further improve the floral displays in our parks and village
- Hear about our plans for the forthcoming year
- Check on your membership status



AGENDA

1. ROLL CALL AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. ACCEPTANCE OF 2025 MINUTES
3. ANY MATTERS ARISING
4. ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT
5. TREASURER'S REPORT
6. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS
7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
8. CLOSE AGM



Annual Fundraising
BRING and BUY
PLANT SALE



**On Saturday
27th June 2026**

12 to 3pm

**The Pavillion
Queens Park**

**Birkenhead Road
CH47 5AF**

Everybody welcome – come along and help the Village SMILE

No entrance fee

Fabulous raffle

**All proceeds go to help fund
the Village flowers**



***If you have any plants we can sell or other donations please contact
Debbie on 07443 416062 or email contact@hoylakeinbloom.org.uk***

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How can you support the Friends of Hoylake and Meols in Bloom in keeping our towns and parks smiling with flowers

If you have a PayPal account one-off donations can be made by typing in your browser: **PAYPAL.ME/HOYLAKE**

On-line at www.hoylakeinbloom.org.uk/donate

Where you can make a regular or one-off donation of any amount you wish using Paypal, Credit cards or Debit cards.

For cash or cheque donations please complete and remove the back page of this newsletter, which can be completed and dropped into:

Maccombs Pet Shop, 18 Market Street, Hoylake, Wirral CH47 5AE

Or posted to our Treasurer:

Mr G Hughes, 1 Beachcroft Road, Meols, Wirral CH47 6BD

If you would like to donate by bank transfer, on-line details are below, or if you would like us to send you a bank standing order form please CONTACT US via our website or our contact details below.

Account Name: **The Friends of Hoylake and Meols in Bloom**

Bank sort code: **08 – 92 – 99**

Bank account number: **67325634**

Important – If supporting the Friends by bank transfer please advise us (contact details below) so we know who the transfer is from and we can keep you updated with the Friends activities.

If you have any queries please CONTACT US or email/phone:

contact@hoylakeinbloom.org.uk or phone **Debbie on 07443 416062**

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE FRIENDS



The Friends of Hoylake and Meols in Bloom

(Registered Charity 1101968)

Please use this form to notify us of any donations or for support membership applications

I/We wish to support The Friends of Hoylake and Meols in Bloom (FHMIB).

(A suggested donation is £10 or any other amount that you choose)

Name(s) _____

I enclose cash/cheque to the value of £ _____

or

I have set up an annual standing order of £ _____ payable on this date _____ each year to "The Friends of Hoylake and Meols in Bloom" Bank Account with the Account Number "67325634" and Sort Code "08-92-99"

Contact Details:

- ☐ You must tick (✓) this box to give us permission to store your contact details so that we can provide you with periodic newsletters/communications and administer the charity in line with our data policy which can be found on our website and is summarised below

Address: _____

Post code : _____

Landline: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Gift Aid Declaration

You can increase the value of your support membership donations, and other donations, by up to 25% at no cost to yourself through Gift Aid. In order to Gift Aid your donations you must tick (✓) the boxes below

- ☐ I want to Gift Aid my donations (dated above), and any donations I make in the future, or I have made in the past 3 years, to "The Friends of Hoylake and Meols in Bloom". I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay the difference.
- ☐ These donations are my own money and do not come from anyone else e.g. business, friends, family or a collection.
- ☐ I am not receiving any benefits for these donations e.g. entry to an event or raffle.

If there is more than one person listed above, FHMIB will assume that the donations are paid 100% by the first name listed (unless you provide a percentage split between names here: _____)

Please notify the charity at any time if you want to cancel this declaration, or you no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains, or you have changed your name/address.

Our Data Policy

FHMIB confirm that any information stored will only be used to communicate with FHMIB Support Members, and the general administration of the charity. Information will be stored securely and not passed to any third parties. If you wish to change your permission, or any contact details, please email contact@hoylakeinbloom.org.uk

When completed please drop into:

Maccombs Pet Shop, 18 Market Street, Hoylake, Wirral, CH47 7AE

Or post to our Treasurer:

Mr G Hughes, 1 Beachcroft Road, Meols, Wirral, CH47 6BD

Thank you for your support in helping our Village and Parks **SMILE**