

Saffron Walden Annual Town Meeting 2023 Report

The Diamonds

The last 18 months has been a difficult one for all especially local charities, who have had to put on hold their fund raising and support to the local community in a reduced capacity. As Saffron Walden is a community spirited town it shows how much the local community relies on these valuable charities.

The Diamonds are a local volunteer group of 15 ladies who live and work in the community and help support the local charities. We have been going since 2011 and over the years we have and do support SWRT, Rotary, Lions, Accuro, Buffy bus, MENCAP, SWTC at the Lantern parade and Lantern workshops along with various bucket collecting and many more. We give our time to support these valuable groups in our community, whether by marshalling, selling raffle tickets, being a friendly face, meet and greet or generally being an extra support and pair of hands. We have between us all a vast experience in helping at all sorts of events in our local community.

The Diamonds each year likes to put on their own event, which helps with our profile and networking and to remind the local charity groups we are here to help and support them in their fundraising events. Especially moving forward in 2023 as we are getting back to a new normal.

On the 8th October 2022 we had a sell out success event 'Rock n Roll' Bingo in the Town Hall. This particular fund raiser was in honour of one of our very dear Diamonds who we lost 2 years ago to cancer. So for us it was important to raise as much money as possible so we could donate to Maggie's based at Addenbrookes and the Arthur Rank Hospice, who both serve our local community.

As we are not a charitable fund our money is limited therefore by getting the cost of the town hall covered by Saffron Walden Town Council made a massive difference in putting on our event. We are very grateful for the funding received from Saffron Walden Town Council and their continued support.

Claire Neale
The Diamonds