

TRUSTEE REPORT

About the Charity

St. Bernards' Thursday Club was set up to provide a venue and opportunity for senior citizens from the area to come together socially to form friendships. The overall aim is to allow people aged 50 years and over from all communities within Northern Ireland to come together, no matter what their religion or background. The Club will provide facilities for the education, recreation and leisure time occupation for its members who, by reason of social or economic circumstances, have need of such facilities.

How the Charity is funded

The Club is funded by members subscriptions of £2.50 per week. A grant of £2144.22 has been gratefully received from the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council. We were also fortunate enough to receive £1500.00 from the Halifax Foundation during this financial year. There is also a Bonus Ball Scheme wherein members can pay £1.00 per week for a National Lottery Bonus Ball number. The holder of the Bonus Ball number drawn on each Saturday night wins £25.00 and the remainder of the money collected that week goes to Club funds. If any large items are donated they are balloted among the members. Members also pay a nominal amount towards Bus Runs and the Christmas Dinner, though this year a grant to cover our Christmas dinner was kindly donated by the aforementioned Halifax Foundation so our members did not need to contribute. Those who use the Ambulance also pay a nominal amount.

How the money was spent over the year

The Club's revenue for the year was £8364.72 and the expenditure was £8027.26. The expenditure consisted of weekly bingo prizes £270.00. Tea/Coffee, cheese and biscuits etc. £410.88. Miscellaneous expenses A £332.72. B £200.00 Line dancing tutor. Rent £290.00, Ambulance (for those who need transported from their homes) £703.00. Bank Fees/NSCF Subs £ 103.98. Christmas gifts for members £241.33. Christmas Dinner, Tips and Music £1200.15. Bus Trips, Bus Hire, Entrance Fees and Meals x 3 £3671.00. Insurance £144.22. AGM Expenses £459.98.

Administrative Information

During this financial year the Club was based in St Bernards' Church Hall Antrim Road Glengormley. The trustees are as follows: Mrs Margaret Magee, Chairperson. Mrs Hazel Caldwell, Secretary. Mrs Olive Fitzgerald, Treasurer. Mrs Bridie McStravick, Committee Member. Mrs Eileen Vincent, Committee Member. Mrs Mary Bannon, Committee Member.

Activities undertaken and the furtherance of the Charities purposes

The Club provided a variety of activities over the year such as: Line Dancing which keeps those who participate fit and active. Boccia and New age curling both of which are very popular with the members and can be played sitting down which suits some of those who have difficulty walking. The members play Bingo each week and some quizzes are set occasionally both of which help with mental stimulation and much good natured rivalry. There are speakers who inform and educate on various topics such as: Safety in the home, Health and wellbeing, Advice on Scams which especially target the elderly. Our outings this year consisted of:

June: Visit to Blessingbourne Country House Oct: Visit to Clifton House Nov: Cinema
Feb: Trip to Stormont