



Addiscombe & Shirley Park Residents' Association

an independent, non-politically aligned organisation run for and by the residents of Addiscombe

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Projects Report for 2023

The hanging baskets were in place to be enjoyed for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at the beginning of June and the flowers were "sort of" in royal colours. They were a lovely display for the whole summer despite our very dry summer, and the efforts CJS Plants put in to make this happen is much appreciated. Those of you who are particularly observant will have noticed one basket was left hanging and looks very sad with dead plants in it. Several requests have been made for the hanging basket to be removed, but I suspect now it will be there until the new summer one replaces it.

Once again a big thank you to Colin and Steve who arranged for the poppies to be displayed on the lampposts, on both sides, along Addiscombe Shops, at the appropriate time. They were pleased to report that all the poppies were intact when they came down and are now being safely stored with Colin for next year's display.

Festive Lighting were able to provide us with the same Christmas Lights as the previous year for a similar cost, but advised us that 2022 is the last year these refurbished lights would be available, sadly they have come to the end of their life. Did you notice that a few of the lights were hung to face over the pavement this year and not over the road? Upon investigation it transpired that there were new boxes attached to some of our lampposts which were in the way of hanging the lights in the usual way. The boxes are for mobile phone signals and the boxes are fitted at specified heights and road side to provide the best signal. Despite this the lights looked as good as ever and received many compliments. The committee worked hard to collect donations towards the cost of the lights contacting local shops and businesses. People still mistakenly believe the council provide the lights despite ASPRA advertising that we arrange and fund the lights. The additional donations for projects by members is also very much appreciated and allows for us to continue with ASPRA projects.

For the first time ASPRA had a stall at St Mildred's Christmas Market and we showcased all we do with a lovely display of pictures. It was lovely to meet members who came and introduced themselves. We also raised ASPRA's profile whilst also receiving a small amount of donations for projects from people who live outside of the ASPRA area. All the committee members who covered the stall at various times throughout the event thought it was very enjoyable and pleasant occasion.

Thank you to everyone for supporting ASPRA and its projects and we look forward to continuing our projects for the community in 2023.