Introduction

St. Issey in Bloom was originally devised in August 2010 by Brenda Wright and Chris Ivins as a fundraising platform to improve the overall appearance of the village and to promote community involvement by supporting other village charities. This was - for the main part – as a response to the decline of the village: St. Issey had lost its Post Office, shops and garage and the community had become fragmented, with neighbours 'losing touch' with each other. The only places that remained for community / social interaction were the Village Pub, the Church and the Village Hall.

The Ring o' Bells Village Inn - It's Your Neighbourhood Entry – and HOME to the BLOOM!

This is where it all started, back on August 10th 2010, with an Open Day inviting all of the community to come along to see our plans and ideas - and - to see if they approved of us setting up a BLOOM group. Over 100 people came through the doors.

Christmas 2010 saw the first Christmas Tree the village had ever had. By February 2011, donations from the community had reached the grand total of £4,500. This money was used to make a statement within the heart of the village: the building of three raised walled flower beds, using locally sourced materials.

The Ring o’ Bells remains our main venue for fund raising events. We also have a permanent information corner within the lounge area, making this an informative and interesting focal point for locals and visitors alike.

Please see the beginning of the Appendices for more detailed information about the rationale behind St. Issey in Bloom and the village's history and geography.
Autumn
Preparations for 2017

St. Issey Church of England School working together with St. Issey in Bloom "Planting of the Bulbs" for our Golden Mile of Daffodils.

Such hard work ... BUT so much fun!

The main project for Spring 2017 is to create a Butterfly Garden and Woodland Walk around the school grounds, the preparation took place in October 2016.
This is the area we are making into the Butterfly Garden and The Woodland Walk. We started clearing the way in October 2016.

We received lots of excellent advice from the Cornwall Butterfly Garden and a very generous Grant of £1840 from Awards for All.

This is part of a two year project which we had envisaged completing by the Spring of 2017.
Winter
Christmas Highlights

Setting up the village Christmas Tree: MEN at WORK!

Lighting the village Christmas Tree and Carol Singing
Breakfast with Santa: THE MAGIC of CHRISTMAS!

Winter in the Community Garden: Our green spaces must be pretty and be purposeful - they should please our eyes, entertain us, raise questions, take us places and educate.

We are all CHILDREN at HEART!
Winter
Christmas Events and Preparation

Each November we hold our traditional “Christmas Bazaar” in the Village Hall which is ‘The Blooms’ main FUND RAISING EVENT of the year. We raise an average of £500 each year. The community really enjoy this event and even start asking for the dates as early as September!

And Father Christmas came too!
Santa Express Day 2016
Proceeds to Cornwall Hospice Care

George Eustice, the Head Boy of St. Issey Primary School pioneered this fund raising event several years ago and because this is his final year at St. Issey Primary School he wanted this year to break all barriers, setting himself the target of £500.

George achieved the GRAND TOTAL of ...

£1,400!

Stopping to sing Christmas Carols as well!
Spring 2017
The Golden Mile of Golden Daffodils

I wandered lonely as a cloud
that floats on high o'er vales and hill
When all at once I saw a crowd – a host:
And then my heart with pleasure fills:
And dances with the daffodils.
Spring Continued ...
... Making way for new growth ...
... New growth ...

... as Spring moves into Summer.
The Willow Square at Sentry Close: One of this year's new projects was taken on by the Lost the Plot Allotments group as one of our It's Your Neighbourhood entries.

Last year, the Royal Horticultural Society / Britain in Bloom launch focused on gardening for health and wellbeing - this is part of our “Willow Square” project.

The RHS gave us hands on support and funding!
Some of the vibrant, colourful displays from the allotments and around the village.
Forward Planning
The Community Plan 2017 / 2018

Blooming together in 2017

St. Issey in Bloom and St. Issey Church of England Primary School will be working together this year on projects that will offer great interest to all ages in our community.

“THIS IS THE YEAR FOR GOING FORWARD”

The first project will be to create the “Butterfly Garden and Woodland Walk” which is located next to the Playpark and leading into the School Garden.

All hands on deck!
... Painting the School gates ... 
donated by Dulux

... we have loads of blue paint ...

... so let's paint EVERYTHING!!!
Keeping the Village in Bloom!

The 'St. Issey Watering Regime': Residents from around the village have taken on the responsibility of watering the floral displays near their homes... they state that this is their sponsorship!

Many thanks to...

**Stephanie Prees**: the Church pedestals

**David and Joy O’Haligan**: flower beds

**Tony and Teresa Smith**: flower beds

At our Lost the Plot Allotment, water is collected in large water butts, harvested from the nearby garage roofs. The butts were purchased at an agricultural auction - at a very reasonable price!

Last year, we introduced an Irrigation System at the Ring o’ Bells Village Inn and at the Village Hall.

Special thanks must also go to all of the residents who maintain their own displays throughout the year – it is greatly appreciated!
Thank you to **Mr. Richard Barrett** for the top soil donated.

**St. Issey Church:** Thank you for all the support you give us.

A very big **‘Thank You!’** to the members of the community for donating the wonderful grasses and fuchsia shrubs for our shrubbery.

**Tesco’s Bag Scheme** awarded the Bloom Group £2,000 for the Butterfly Garden / Woodland Walk area

**Sentry Close Raised Bed** sponsored by **Mr. Roger Cowling Landscape Gardens** - Telephone 01841 540383

**Awards for All** gave us a grant for £1,840 to help with the Woodland Walk.

**Village Hanging Baskets** sponsored by:

**Mr. Donald Weeks**, Estate Agent - Telephone 01637 880525

Collecting some of the plants that have been kindly donated by the community (You’ve heard of **Rosemary and Thyme** ... meet **Sage and Onion**!)

**Kernow Fires**

& **Tesco**

of Wadebridge

A downloadable PDF of this year's portfolio and further information can be found on the St. Issey in Bloom website: 
Appendices