



**SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL**

# Press Release

## **GUILD'S GRAND GATHERING**

Sandown's Afternoon Townwomen's Guild, one of the country's oldest and formed in 1932, welcomed national Federation Chair Penny Ryan to a gathering at Sandown's Broadway Centre, for an afternoon of celebration, congratulations and cake.

St John's Church Sandown, saw the first meeting of the guild on March 10 1932, with the shared priorities of comradeship and friendship, practical things like cookery and sewing, and links to the Town.

The afternoon saw the trusted team of volunteer put on a special tea, with a presentation of an anniversary silver salver, with fundraising for their charity of the year, with the Daisy Bus and Daisy Chain appeals donated £950 in 2022. Branch Chair Ann Miller said 'It was a wonderful afternoon, and we were delighted to welcome the national chair, who has helped raise the profile of the Guild on and off the Island, as well as share in the celebrations'.

Sandown Town Mayor Paddy Lightfoot added 'Sandown, and the Island, are fortunate to have volunteers that put service before self, serving the community in many ways, including helping with Royal visits in Sandown, and recent Queens Award for Voluntary Service successes'. The Guild planted a commemorative rose in the grounds of the Broadway Centre to mark their 90th anniversary, and previously organised carnival floats, fundraising fashion shows and support groups such as the Independent Lifeboat, Air Ambulance and providing a defibrillator.

Ann concluded 'It was a lovely occasion, and it was good to see so many active members pop along and share in the afternoon, and we have already started planning for the Centenary, and there will be a cake'.

