

# A Very Big 'Thank You'

Many people commented that our flower festival was 'wonderful' or 'inspiring' and several suggested we might hold one every year. We are actually averaging about one every 10 years. The 2011 festival was the fourth I have organised at Holy Cross (the first two with Ann Clarridge) and I have loved every minute - well, nearly every minute - but festivals on this scale are enormously demanding, requiring substantial commitments of time, money and effort, not to mention enthusiasm, from a very large number of people, so one each decade might be considered pretty good going.

Happily, the Holy Cross congregation, with help from numerous friends, is up to such challenges. It would be dangerous to cite names - the list would be too long and would inevitably miss someone - but thanks are due to everyone who contributed in any way, however small because, I think you will agree, it is the team effort that creates the final result.

And what a result! I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did!

## Our festival in numbers.....

1500	approx. number of visitors
1345	Pounds raised for church funds
432	pots filled with children's posies tied to trees and stakes
150	approx. number of people who contributed in some way
70	years since the dedication of the new church
41	memorial arrangements along the new church beams
38	large flower arrangements
32	hours opening time over 4 days
11	organisations and clubs represented
9	months to plan
3	schools represented
1	talk
1	concert

Rosemary Abernethy

## Former flower festivals

- 1980 - Bi-centenary Edward Betham School
- 1989 - 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of laying the foundation stone of HC new church
- 1991 - Arts Festival including flowers
- 2000 - Millennium & 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HC new church (half way between foundation stone and dedication)
- 2011 - 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of the NC



## Reflections on a flower festival

- For the beauty of flowers
- For creativity, imagination and skill
- For the fellowship of working with others to achieve a common goal
- For the pleasure of meeting friends and neighbours
- For the opportunity to welcome those from the wider community
- For the privileges of leisure time and wealth
- For the dedication of those who built the 'new church'
- For lives enriched by all those who have gone before

Thanks be to God