The October meeting of the Solway Flower Club was the AGM when members were welcomed by President Margaret Hodgson who gave her opening remarks about the past year and what a good year we have had.  Apologies were recorded and minutes of last year’s AGM were accepted.

Chairman Eve Johnson reminded everyone that this is our 25th AGM, she then gave her report going through the varied programme, including the Open Night with Anne Wills, other special demonstrators, garden visit to Laversdale and the coffee evening at Margaret’s home at Wormanby.  Eve also mentioned the summer event that the club were involved in when some of the members decorated the Font and Window in St Michaels Church for Dalston Festival week, when the theme was Musicals and they chose Mary Poppins.

Secretary Maureen then went through the programme for next year, and Treasurer Margaret McKenna gave her financial report.  We have a healthy balance in the bank and decided the subs will stay the same for 2018.

Reports were accepted and seconded.

The Committee were re-elected en bloc and no other members wished to join the Committee.

It was agreed to donate this year’s Charity giving to Winter Warmth fund appeal, which is a local charity.

The Christmas meal this year is at Eden Golf Club on 6th December, a list was circulated for names and choices of menu to tick.

Kim Mills from ‘Oopsie Daisy’ is doing a Christmas Workshop at Great Orton Village Hall on December 10, doing door wreaths.

Coffee and cake followed and the raffle was drawn.

All this was followed by Eve and Doreen showing everyone the props used for the Mary Poppins exhibit at Dalston.  Photos were shown of the lovely flowers used accompanied by Mary’s umbrella, hat, carpet bag, chimney with a large allium head and of course a spoonful of sugar.  The ladies had much fun deciding and putting together this exhibit, and it was much admired.

To conclude the evening Doreen and Jenny had brought some of the kneelers from Bowness Church which they are helping to make.  The idea came from the lovely kneelers in Lancaster Priory which they went to see.  Firstly the entrance ones depict the tiles in the Church.  Then 9 Alter Rail kneelers make up a picture of the Solway with every bird species and lovely background. All the villages in the area are included with animals, haaf net fishing, peat cutting on the mosses, Natterjack Toads and wonderful scenery.  Nine ladies in all are crafting these wonderful kneelers, beginning about 3 years and is ongoing. The Church is open all day for anyone to see them.

Next month is Christmas Open Night with John Dalton demonstrating ‘Come Follow My Star’.  It is on the 22nd November (one week later).  Flyers were handed out to advertise this event and to encourage neighbours and guests to come along.