

Yorkshire in Bloom

2010

Judges Comments
Categories 1 - 5

Category 1A Small Village

Bradfield Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

This idyllic village continues to improve whilst keeping “developments” in keeping with the natural surroundings. A lot of work has been carried out since our Spring visit. The foot bridge has been completed using local timber and crafts men to create an elegant structure. Work continues on the river wall and so on. The completion of the village hall wall is in hand and the planned new beds constructed at the hall.

The walkers are welcome application has been completed and walking leaflets produced. One produced leaflet is to enable walkers to access the area by bus.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Completion of a number of projects to a high standard. Establishment of the orchard and its wildflower area. Alteration to the route to show the small but good commercial areas.

The well maintained sports pitches. Getting the pub to improve its floral displays and plan for further planting in future.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider planting types for the top of the village hall wall to reduce maintenance in future. Continue the river wall projects.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The bird box production line with the school and Peak Park staff. The bee project for the orchard area. The new foot bridge. The bike planter to enable cycles to be secured around a planter.

Areas for Improvement:

Do consider the route for future and ensure that projects such as the orchard are shown to judges at one of the visits.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Many large community projects have been undertaken, and completed successfully to the credit of all involved. The bird box project with partners. The community orchard. Communications and publicity in the community.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to keep records of work and use them to illustrate your year round achievements.

Esholt Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

The judges arrived to find numerous tourists visiting the heritage centre and building contractors undertaking renovation work on the Church, former School building and local properties. In spite of this the village was clean, tidy and welcoming. This is testament to the community spirit, hard work and commitment of the residents. The innovative use of containers and troughs to increase the floral colour throughout the village is to be commended.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The excellent standard of annual bedding and sustainable planting evident in the residential gardens throughout the village. The sustainable planting at Bunkers Hill and the village green. The tree planting in the Churchyard. The additional planting undertaken by the residents on the open spaces adjacent to their properties. The floral containers planted and maintained by one of the young members of the community. The standard of grounds maintenance within the premises of Marshals Haulage Contractors.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to encourage the adoption of the public open space adjacent to residents' properties. Following the completion of the renovation work on the Church, include the Churchyard in future 'In Bloom' entries. Explore ways of providing floral features in front of the Woolpack public house.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The provision of two new recycling bins in the Churchyard and playing field. The partnership working with Bradford Metropolitan Council to install rabbit proof fencing around the organic allotment. The extensive renovation work in the village compliments the local heritage of the area. Continue the use of recycled materials in garden construction throughout the village. The planting and maintenance of the phone box by the residents. The provision of a new seat in the centre of the village.

Areas for Improvement:

The involvement of the Heritage Farm or Yorkshire Water in future entries would help demonstrate conservation and biodiversity. The residents' plans to renovate the litter bins will further enhance the appearance of the village. Further interpretation material relating to the history of the village would greatly assist visitors.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The successful partnership working with Bradford Metropolitan Council. The development and construction of the new Sunday School garden. The allotment sharing project to give less active members of the community the opportunity to grow produce. The distribution of 'Dog fouling advisory notices' to every property in the village by young members of the community. The arrangement with Yorkshire water to supply compost for the village.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to build up a library of evidence of year round community activity. Continue to undertake 'In Bloom' projects with the Sunday School group and younger members of the community. Further evidence of 'In Bloom' promotional material and press coverage would be beneficial. Consider

including a brief presentation of the groups development, projects undertaken and future plans as part of the judging tour.

Farnley Tyas Bronze Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Bronze Summer Medal Position - Bronze

Introduction

Farnley Tyas is a small village which has the benefit of a park and recreation ground, woodland walks, primary school, bowling club, local church, together with Farnley Estates local land owner and large business in the area. All set in a beautiful location.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Residential gardens were superb and some should consider whether they would like to enter the Open Gardens Scheme.

Areas for Improvement:

The judges were only shown a limited number of areas of the village a much more inclusive tour of the village would be helpful.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

There was a good level of resource management in the residential gardens and the dog clean-up scheme was to be commended.

Areas for Improvement:

There is no doubt that this area has many good things happening but the judges need to be shown all the things taking place.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The paperwork shows that there is a lot of community involvement and year round support for the entry.

Areas for Improvement:

The entrant needs to widen the number of people involved and show the judges a more diverse area of the village. Judges cannot mark what they do not see.

Ledston Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position – Silver Gilt

Introduction

Colourful, residential gardens are part of this neat and tidy village. The enthusiastic and confident schoolchildren showed off their garden area with pride and knowledge. This is a village with great environmental quality which is improving all the time.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Judges were impressed with the new seat and planted area; a plaque of recognition and admission of support would be good.

Areas for Improvement:

Keep maintaining the barrels as these are an important part of the village. The addition of shrubs to the summer bedding at the stream entrance to the village and at Dovecote Drive where some planting of hellebores has been started would enhance and provide more sustainability of planting.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The natural stone wall with naturalised mosses and plants gave a good impression of an environmentally friendly village.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider leaving the mowing and enhancing part of the natural verges to encourage wildlife.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Good to see the involvement of the schoolchildren with their productive garden

Areas for Improvement:

Could the children be involved with making posters for the In Bloom next year?

Mill Bank Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position – Silver Gilt

Introduction

We enjoyed a delightful summer return visit at Mill Bank. The friendly and proactive bloom committee continues to make strides and move forward. The group are not afraid to try new things. This is paying dividends with the work at the graveyard, next to the stream and at the school. Mill Bank is a clean and tidy entry, which looked surprisingly lush considering the dry weather. We feel the group should be justifiably proud of their achievements to date. The group have clearly benefited from their link with the school and the growing experience which they are teaching the children.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The tubs planted with herbs at the entrance area are a good addition. Well done. The footpath near the stream is lovely with splashes of perennial colour. The graveyard is a credit to all and is a welcoming place to visit. We are pleased to note the better relations you are building with the Council regarding street cleaning.

Areas for Improvement:

Carry on encouraging more local residents to help in the bloom campaign. Don't be too disheartened with the setback on the school bank. Given damp Autumn conditions you are likely to have better luck next time. Consider extending the raised beds at the school for growing veg if demand is proven.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The village is very clean with no evidence of dog fouling or graffiti. Good to see the bird boxes and the compost bin at the school.

Areas for Improvement:

Don't be afraid to include more local heritage on the route. For instance the Blue Anchor. The seat in the graveyard needs minor repair. Consider further seating at appropriate places i.e., near the stream.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The school poster campaign is a fine example of one of many good links with the school. We like the idea of the Garden Art Exhibition next year. This will also offer a chance to further raise the profile of Mill Bank in Bloom.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue with the good work you are already doing.

Muston Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

Judges were impressed with the colourful large barrels with decorative pot in bloom tags made of clay. Good recycling within Muston clearly evident during our visit.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The 22 large barrels dotted around the village, good quality and very colourful.

Areas for Improvement:

Remove and replace the dead petunias in the new beds at the entrance to the village. Public House doesn't appear to enter into the spirit of Yorkshire in Bloom, large dead conifer needed removing and the undersides of the hanging baskets need disguising with appropriate coloured liner or just planted up. The corner bed once maintained by the Youth Club had no real planting theme and it was felt needs a re-vamp.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Good recycling clearly evident on our visit. Village area well maintained and good for attracting wildlife.

Areas for Improvement:

Vacant premises and the Public House spoilt the otherwise clean and colourful attempts made by the other residents.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Engagement with younger residents to help with village projects appears to be happening.

Areas for Improvement:

Try and encourage more residents to get involved with both the In Bloom Group and the good work it does and also the 'Best Kept Garden' competition, numbers this year appear to be down. (25 last year to 12 this year) Judges were shown some very colourful rear/back gardens which would not be enjoyed by passing members of the public.

Sawley Silver Gilt - Category Winner

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

A clear pride in their village is evident when meeting the Sawley Bloomers. While embracing the competition they do what is right for Sawley and the rewards are clear. The superb verges project has after much persuasion started to reap wonderful results with the variety of wild flowers clear to see. Pickings Gill and the Wildlife garden are both valuable, well managed areas. Residential gardens show high standards of care with all joining in the effort to make Sawley the great village it is. All ages in Sawley are involved despite the lack of a village school with the Green Festival being the focus, I am sure I would want to be involved if a eight foot scarecrow came walking down my street. Keep up the good work and thank you for allowing us to join you in your village.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The many tubs overflowing with colourful planting. The well kept public spaces that are to found in the village. The approach to the Sawley Arms. The well managed grass verges.

Areas for Improvement:

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The protected grass verges and the programme to manage them. The wise use of all resources that come to hand. The nature reserve at Pickings Gill and the Wildlife garden.

The cleanliness of the village. The well planned and appropriate painting of tubs and street furniture.

Areas for Improvement:

Keep up the great work on the verges project and at Pickings gill. Complete the painting programme.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The green festival and all it brings to the village. The many fund raising events and social events organised. The funding received from the parish council. The poster competition in the bus shelter. The portfolio being distributed more widely throughout the village.

Areas for Improvement:

Keep up the good work you are doing involving the entire village in your entry.

Wold Newton Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

The surrounding countryside which borders the village of Wold Newton sets an attractive scene. This is complemented by Wold Newton foundation schools outstanding horticultural and environmental practises around the schools grounds. The local in bloom group and residents are to be complemented on the many credible colourful displays around the village, which makes Wold Newton a worthy Yorkshire in Bloom entry.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The summer displays around the village are of a good standard in residential gardens along the route. All Saints Church had some good colour to the entrance way and it was encouraging to see the local school children sketching the floral displays by the local flower club. The inclusion of Rustic Cottage, cottage garden was a joy to see with the many various perennials /shrubs/rose's at every turn in a compacted garden. The inclusion of Wold Cottage B&B/caravan site on the Judging route with its many sustainable horticultural features was well worth a visit

Areas for Improvement:

To encourage more local residents to have floral displays for summer. It would be good to see the margins of the village green and verges on the approaches to the village planted up with wildflowers of native species.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Wold Newton schools mini beast trail /vegetable plots /recycling initiatives and many floral features were excellent. The doorstep recycling in Wold Newton was good. The schools educational programme linked into adults growing day and the many ongoing projects which are part funded by the villagers plus external funding has to be commended. The street furniture and general tidiness of the village was excellent to see.

Areas for Improvement:

Carry on working with Wold Newton school to improve the grounds as part of the in bloom partnership. Consider working with the schools gardening club to produce bird boxes/ feeders in partnership with All Saints church. This could be used to raise awareness, funds for the schools gardening club and Wold Newton in Bloom. The plans for the new village map have to be commended and it would be good to see the finished project next spring.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

There was evidence of some good initiative fund raising ideas such as the local donations and the coffee morning planned for later this summer. The links into the schools environmental issues have to be commended. Wold Newton schools vegetable entries into the Driffield Agricultural show resulting into their awards is to be encouraged. The residents within Wold Newton that link together with the in Bloom committee and the good communication via the quarterly village news letter. The gateways into Wold Newton have banners advertising Wold Newton in Bloom. It was good to see the In Bloom group had publicised the judging date.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider updating the in bloom information on the bus shelter notice board on a regular basis. Consider showing more evidence of year round in bloom activity on the judging route.

Category 1B Village

East Morton Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

'Morton In Bloom' is a very committed group who have achieved a great deal in a relatively short time. The colour throughout the village is impressive and the involvement of the whole community is to be commended. The judges were particularly pleased to see the involvement of and improvement at the Busfield Arms –good for the village as a whole and a great help to the 'In Bloom' group's campaign.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Lots of colour throughout the village, with some lovely residents gardens. Well done for growing your own bedding in the polytunnel. The allotment site was well tended throughout.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to develop simple colour schemes and designs for the large beds.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The staining of the street furniture, particularly on the Green, is a big improvement. The community composting area on the allotments is to be commended.

Areas for Improvement:

Plans for rainwater collection on the green are good, but look to include a compost bin as well in the same area. It might be helpful to put a sign at the wildlife area next to the bus stop.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The recent establishment of Feast Morton is exciting – a very interesting project. Keep working together to enable both groups to grow and complement each other.

Areas for Improvement:

Try and get more coverage of the group's activities and achievements in the press.

Ecclesfield Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position Bronze Summer Medal Position Silver

Introduction

We enjoyed meeting this hard working team again and once again were very impressed by their commitment and pride for their community. We were pleased to learn once again of the varied fund raising projects of this resourceful group. We could not fail to notice the improvements that had been carried out since our spring visit. The number of posters displayed around the village was impressive and a sign of pleasing public support. Obviously the young people we met share these feelings and we enjoyed seeing their efforts. We felt that the community as a whole were coming behind the Bloom efforts and feel sure that this will continue year on year.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The paths around the church area were bordered by colourful and well maintained planting which contrasted well with the dignified simplicity of the site. Poppies growing casually by the War Memorial were very appropriate. We were impressed by the variety of planting in the well tended front gardens in Priory Close, Church Street and many other areas. The planting in the Jeffcock Memorial was a credit to the local resident who tends it. Bedding the park was bright and colourful. Planters around the village were colourful and health. The violas planted in and around the fountain provided a dainty contrast to the solid smoothness of the fountain itself.

Areas for Improvement:

We saw businesses in the village who had supported the team by planting around their premises. Use this to encourage more of the business community to support your efforts in the same way. Keep pushing ahead with the exciting plans for a community garden in the park, we are sure it will be a wonderful resource. Ladycross Meadow too will be a real benefit to Ecclesfield, carry on the good work there.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The village was clean and tidy. Graffiti is being tackled. The green waste collection by the local authority is very beneficial. The church area had habitat piles and undisturbed areas fro wildlife, together with bird boxes. We heard that at least one of the local gardens sheltered newts, long may this continue. We were again pleased to hear of plants being recycled to other areas and that the compost used around the village is peat free. The Rotary Club involvement with the restored stocks was pleasing.

Areas for Improvement:

Your website and newsletter would be the perfect way to encourage more residents to consider water conservation and composting. Ladycross Meadow would be a perfect site for an art installation. The woodland is a lovely resource, consider how the community, especially children can be made aware of the wildlife there.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The Bloom group have made great efforts to involve all aspects of their community in their work. The village was obviously behind them and this will surely continue to grow. The poster competition had obviously been a big success and we enjoyed meeting some of the children who had taken part. We were impressed to hear of local parents encouraging their children to support the Bloom initiative. The year round efforts made in the village were clear.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to encourage you local community to become involved. Consider running a further poster campaign for things such as; encouraging the preservation of wildlife, composting or water conservation.

Flixton and Folkton Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

The judges were greatly impressed with the passion and enthusiasm of the in bloom group for both villages who clearly work together as one team. The improvements to the wildlife areas have greatly enhanced its beauty and tranquillity within the local environment. The Humble Bee Camping and Caravan Park was a real find and contributes to both floral and wildlife in the area.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Humble Bee Camping and Caravanning Park a real rural treasure. Local pub had some good colourful displays as did Orchard Lodge. The themed permanent planting displays worked and looked well.

Areas for Improvement:

A reminder to the In Bloom Group to ensure more bulbs and trees are planted this coming autumn as promised.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Incorporating the sponsored wooden posts at the entrance to the wildlife area greatly enhances the entrance and stops traffic damaging the verges. No litter, graffiti or signs of dog fouling. Seats for picnics etc., in the wildlife area – a great idea.

Areas for Improvement:

Another reminder to put up the information boards in the wildlife areas in time for the spring judging for 2011

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

A very pro-active In Bloom Group whose all year round activities raise funds to keep the village looking good. Very supportive local sponsors. Excellent signage promoting Yorkshire in Bloom

Areas for Improvement:

A reminder to involve the younger members of the community in the autumn bulb and tree planting projects and to see evidence of this in the spring 2011 portfolio.

Kirkby Malzeard Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver

Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

A warm welcome was received by the judges with a well organised morning showing all the delights of Kirby Malzeard. The children at the school showed great enthusiasm for all their outdoor space and were busily harvesting crops from their allotment. Everyone had made an effort for the day with some working hard as we passed. Potential lies throughout the village for more floral displays and if these can be delivered, along with the continued support of the businesses in the village Kirby Malzeard could well improve its award significantly.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The many colourful tubs at the west end of the village. The vastly improved planting at the Henry Jenkins public house. The planting of the water pump at Mowbray Crescent. The Wrens excellent floral display.

Areas for Improvement:

Replicate the tubs at the west end of the village in appropriate locations throughout the village. The businesses have showed great improvement keep up this good work. The new sports pavilion should present some great possibilities for floral displays.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The management of the churchyard using sheep. The schools wild area. The high standard of cleanliness throughout the village.

Areas for Improvement:

Look after benches in the village with an annual rub down and coat of preserver. The shelter has seen better days. Press ahead with the plans for the replacement of the Miners Institutes windows.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The small display at the Methodist Chapel. The bloom posters dotted around the village.

Areas for Improvement:

Broaden the membership of the group with a bulb planting morning in the autumn. Seek funding from the parish council for additional tubs.

Luddenden Gold Rose Award - Category Winner

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

Summer brings to Luddenden countless eye-catching floral displays. Every house holder seems to have conjured-up a fascinating display producing quality blooms. Equally emphasised are the efforts put into sustainability, recycling, biodiversity and most intriguing the preservation of hits heritage.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The line of floral baskets by the Methodist Chapel. Sponsored containers, real eye catchers at the roadside. Colourful house frontages plus many 'pocket size' gardens.

Areas for Improvement:

Consultation with the Council on matters of choice of plants, colour co-ordination on Council land.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Use of artefacts from the village's industrial heritage backed by sensitive work on flower beds. Complete absence of litter, graffiti and other nasty features! Painting of lampposts, railings etc, in one colour – black!!!

Areas for Improvement:

Problems of riverside wildflower bed to be assessed and re-developed. Monitoring of use by wildlife of bird and bat boxes.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

High standard of communication with the community. First class newsletter and publicity plus frequent events binds together the support for the 'in Bloom' efforts. Good examples of many fund-raising activities.

Areas for Improvement:

Generating activities to involve more young people. May be possible for those involved with projects to meet the judges. To meet more supporters of the 'in Bloom' groups.

Redbourne Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Redbourne is a historic village, the heart of which is a picturesque conservation area. The In Bloom group have really taken ownership of the village horticulture and their enthusiasm and passion is spreading throughout, even to the ducks who are keen to try their bills at a bit of in-discretionary 'weeding'! Community involvement is the main driving force for this entry, and they obviously have a good formula as their system is well managed with growing opportunity for involvement and development. With a population of 360 adults and around 10 children, the strong volunteer base of around 36 people means that 10% of the village are involved in this entry. As a first time entry this is a remarkable and very commendable achievement and everyone is to be congratulated very well done !

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The judges were pleased that the spring comments were taken on board and acted on in every category. The hard work of the group clearing and tidying the play area and church yard has really paid off, opening the area up and making it inviting and a truly pleasant environment in keeping with the village. The constant effort of the group despite lacking Local Authority support is to be commended. The judges were pleased to see that the Red lion Inn has joined in with the In Bloom Spirit and hope that the enthusiasm continues! The flower beds at St Andrews Close are beautifully maintained and thoughtfully designed.

Areas for Improvement:

Delegating some of the flowerbed planting duties to other keen group members would free up Tony's time to take on and develop further horticultural projects. As children are now involved in the maintenance of the planters, the group may consider planting up with some 'rewarding' plants such as strawberries, tumbling tomatoes or herbs to keep year round interest.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The refurbished benches throughout this entry made a big difference to the overall look of village. The effort and thought that has gone into attracting wildlife to the area, such as the addition of bug, bee, and bat boxes is a welcome addition to the entry from Spring. The general environmental quality of the village is a very high standard.

Areas for Improvement:

Care and patience with the wild flower area will pay off and will compliment this entry, could there be a few other dull corners that would benefit from the same treatment? The addition of rainwater harvesting in a few strategic spots may make the task of watering slightly more attractive for group members.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The group has encouraged the young people in the village to participate, and a number of the beds are now maintained by children. The 6 nature projects planned for autumn and winter are a great idea for getting people involved. It is clear that this entry is carefully planned out and although they are kept busy there are no signs of over extending, which too often brings disappointment and loss of interest. It seems that since the spring judging the 'in bloom' virus has spread. The new flowerbed at Larkhills is a lovely touch for all to enjoy as it can be seen from the roadside, as is the clearance of land, bench and maintenance of the eye catching overflowing flower box, which must be a welcome sight for ramblers at the end (or beginning, or middle!) of a days walk. This group is very successful with fundraising. We hope this can continue.

Areas for Improvement:

The group are doing a great job and have worked hard to involve different ages and skill levels to make Redbourne a delightful place. Perhaps the group could look for ways to communicate the value of their efforts to the Local Authority to seek some financial or man power support – however, it's clear that this entry can do just fine without them!

Spofforth with Stockeld Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

On our return visit it was clear that the community had been active with work parties doing a splendid job of tidying and edging pathways. We were delighted at Ginny Green Holes to find things settling down nicely with further additions including the owl carving. Also the area and equipment was being enjoyed by young and not so young alike! It is obvious that the village is working closely together to enhance the quality of their village and the increase in floral displays at business premises, residences and streetwise all added to the attraction. Were these commitments to continue next Spring this entry is definitely headed higher.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The high standard of maintenance at the Millennium Garden where the pathways had been cleared, edged and fresh mulching applied following removal of hebes which had suffered over winter. The floral displays at the front of the Castle Inn gave impact on a difficult and busy site. Better grouping of tubs for impact with addition of hanging baskets. The school's revamped garden with addition of pond and other features.

Areas for Improvement:

The single tub at entrance to castle would benefit from company or replacing with a larger container for more impact. Placement of another floral feature on the bend opposite the above would link round to the Millennium Garden displays. Although the rose bed at the school is a good concept these are planted far too closely for healthy growth. Also advice removal of horse chestnut seedling just outside school premises. Removal of overgrown Pyracanthas at Castle area, tired ivy plants from Hall barrow, and replacement of hebes together with addition of further sustainable planting will all be

positive moves. Further addition of displays along main road. Try to coordinate colour scheme for containers in their areas.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The introduction and increase in provision for wildlife at Ginny Green Holes includes bird and bat boxes, insect houses and log piles. The village on the whole was very clean and tidy, with very little litter evident on the day, teams of litter pickers from various groups and ages e.g. Schoolchildren, WI etc., have done a good job. The introduction of more sustainable planting. The area has a wealth of heritage, and the castle grounds are of high standard. Douglas Thomas has painted all the flower tubs to achieve uniformity of standard and also the railings at the village hall, well done!

Areas for Improvement:

Consider planting further native trees at castle field or developing a meadow area. Encourage further water recycling and conservation and carry out more mulching. Provide further habitats at the churchyard. Area near carved post at school needs weeding and maintenance.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The involvement of the children and their work both at the school, with a thriving new garden club and the church where children plant and care for borders. The good number of residents involved with watering and caring for the displays. Successful fund raising which goes hand in hand with publicity and newsletters. Lamination and use of the children's poster around the village. Good generation of awareness through the Village Newsletter, website, posters and fliers.

Areas for Improvement:

Maintain the level of community involvement, awareness campaign and fundraising activities to ensure this entry continues to improve. Consider how to engage the community out of season to help raise funds for future developments and ongoing growth of the entry.

Upper Hopton Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Croft House and Rose Garden are the community centre and focal point of the village for both the local community and the visitor to the village. The village has a mixed community with well established houses with well maintained private gardens.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The work in the park was commendable and ongoing and the church grounds were a credit to the people that maintain it.

Areas for Improvement:

The cricket ground has a splendid view and may be the cricket club members could be encouraged to do more to enhance the appearance of the grounds and its surrounds.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The wildlife garden to the rear of the community centre was of particular note and the efforts made on recycling also impressed the judges as did the signage.

Areas for Improvement:

Further work on waste harvesting may be helpful and screening of the recycling area from public view may be beneficial.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

There could be no doubt that Hopton in Bloom has a wide community support and that a significant number of events are undertaken.

Areas for Improvement:

Further work with schools and young people may be useful.

Warley Town Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

Attractive rural village enhanced by colourful floral contributions from many gardens of residents. The Maypole Inn provides a focal point for the community supported many 'in Bloom' activities. An entry that is rapidly improving its environmental and floral appearance.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The numerous areas where the plots have been redesigned and some totally redeveloped, e.g., Winterburn Lane bordering the school and Stocks Lane. Attractive 'chicane' entrance with its eye catching tubs and baskets. Local residents support producing an array of blooms in tubs and baskets.

Areas for Improvement:

Give a lot of thought regarding new plots to give a balance of sustainable and colourful plants throughout the year.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Leaf recycling facility plus other composting areas used by residents for their benefit. Development of bin area now including vegetables grown in containers. Village 'clean-up' days. Absence of graffiti and fly posting.

Areas for Improvement:

Eradication of weeds and grass in certain areas. Can be a sensitive issue with some residents. To continue the good work with the school and the efforts of the pupils to improve the environment.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Great strides have been made in developing links with the community. This has been greatly brought about by publicity such as, 'The Warley Lantern', involvement in fund raising and educational events. Green signs link the village planting plots and individuals now adopt small areas.

Areas for Improvement:

Obtain more media publicity. Newspaper cuttings (photographs) kept in a folder for judge's viewing! Try to enlarge the number of year round activities.

Wawne Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

The continuing enthusiasm of this group has produced improvements and added new features in this small community. It was good to see the commercial premises playing their part in improving the overall floral effect. The Telephone company had listened to the group and had refurbished the telephone kiosk. Thank you to the group for time and effort taken in showing us their village community and their hospitality in spring and summer.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The special feature beds at road junctions with a farming theme were attractive as were the numerous barrels in various locations in the village sponsored by village groups including the 'Cake Club' and the Darby and Joan club. The Waggoners pub had made a real effort with colourful displays, as had Wawne post office and Wawne Convenience store. The village hall forecourt had several colourful containers. The church grounds were well maintained with a range of features and habitats for wildlife. Well done to the school, staff, children for their efforts in growing veg, planting trees and creating a logo for use on the In Bloom 'T' shirt and mugs. There were some lovely private gardens, Byre Cottage and others with distinctive hard landscaping and colourful displays.

Areas for Improvement:

Rather than 'dotting' bedding plants against obstacles concentrate seasonal bedding and permanent plantings in bold groups to produce impactful displays. The maintenance of some features requires attention.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The church grounds had a diverse range of features and habitats, wildlife areas, areas of shrubs, bird feeding station, wild flowers in abundance. The local heritage was depicted with several old farming implements on the grass verges surrounded with seasonal and permanent plantings. The school were celebrating their Centenary.

Areas for Improvement:

Well done for organising the refurbishment of the telephone kiosk but the area surrounding it is not very attractive. Suggest that you might involve the farmer who makes use of the area to see if it can be transformed into an attractive feature for the village. We hope it won't be too long before the vacant housing site is developed.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The various groups within the village continue to be involved in various ways by supporting initiatives to improve the environment of the village (including the 'Cake Club'!!) The village event at which the Bloom Group promote their ideas and raise funds for future projects (including the sale of the WiB mug) The local businesses now appear to be supporting the WiB campaign in very practical ways, I'm sure they will reap the benefit.

Areas for Improvement:

We hope that you are able to take your ideas and persuade others that are not yet involved to improve the environment so you achieve an improved standard in future years.

Category 1C – Large Village

Barwick in Elmet Gold Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

The enthusiasm and enjoyment within this “in bloom” team is there for all to see. The village displays are a credit to all who are involved and enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. Colourful, clean and groomed with many quirky features across this entry.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The high standards of maintenance and colourful floral displays at the Church & Chapel. The main street is an array of co-ordinating baskets, and numerous floral displays at the three pubs enhance the display. The mixed planting along the wall at main street, and the herb garden at Elmwood Lane. Franks unique use of everyday items at The Boyle and Julies work at Jubilee gardens. High standard of residents gardens, some to note are the Peartree Gardens, Church Fair View. Public spaces such as the park, recreation ground and bowling green are very well maintained. The involvement at the school and their “Veg Box” entry in the Yorkshire agricultural shows schools competition. We wish them luck.

Areas for Improvement:

A discussion was had around the potential to redesign the Millennium Bed as some of the shrubs were now out growing the space.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Encouraging wildlife at the Boyle and Jubilee Gardens, and plans for there continued improvements. Community composting facilities at Jubilee gardens. The wildflower meadow at the Recreation Ground and future plans for the banks at the Beck. The interesting heritage feature of the Plough and Oat Field on the Main Street. The cleanliness of the streets and lack of litter. Future plans for a wildlife/wildflower area within the grounds of the church, links with the “Living church yards” scheme.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider replanting the concrete planters outside the bowling green. The bench near Jubilee Gardens & the Chapel is in need of a little TLC. The LCY scheme at the church will be interesting to see in future years.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Fund raising and sponsorship by local business’s and residents is outstanding. The continued support from the Post Office in the use of their window for the In Bloom display. The sense of pride from all corners of the community in supporting their entry. The groups involvement with the school children, scouts and guides

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to encourage young people to get involved within the village, always a difficult one but they are the bloomers of the future.

Bramham Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

Bramham is an attractive village which has clearly been enhanced by the efforts of the In-Bloom Group. All sectors of the community are involved and this is reflected in the high standard throughout the village. A stunning achievement by all involved.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The colourful seasonal beds on Bowcliffe Road. The planters at the war memorial, village pump and on the railings at the Beck. Planters and baskets at the Garage and Red Lion. The mixed planting on the cattle ramp and OAP shelter. The proposals for the area at Lyndon Road. The high standards of maintenance of open spaces and residential gardens.

Areas for Improvement:

To progress with the plans for the new garden at Lyndon Road. Continue to sustain the quality of existing displays across the village

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The excellent work undertaken by Simon on his pond. Continuing work at All Saints church yard. The erection of the new piece of fencing at the sub station. Cleanliness throughout the entry.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider providing an interpretation board next to the Beck and cattle ramp. Repainting of the black railings at the Beck. Consider entering All saints church yard in its own right for 2011.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The involvement and enthusiasm of the children at the primary school. The display at the post office and children's posters around the village. The involvement of the local residents in the various projects undertaken by the In Bloom group.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to encourage all involved at the primary school. Encourage children & locals to be involved with future bulb planting initiatives.

Burncross Action Team Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

The team at Burncross are deeply committed to the welfare of their community and this was reflected the tremendous amount of support they receive from residents. We were impressed to hear the comments of PC Peter Booth speaking about his regard for the initiative. The group have made splendid efforts to engage as much of Burncross as possible in their work. It was good to hear of so many people, right across the age range, putting themselves out for the good of their village.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The enthusiasm of the staff and children of Windmill Hill School was delightful. The children impressed us with their obvious involvement and with their gardening knowledge. We were pleased to hear how involved the School Council are in what is going on there. We saw many attractive and well maintained front gardens in McKenzie Crescent, Nelson Place and many other areas on the route. The planting around the Acorn pub was interesting and colourful and it was good to see the effort they are putting behind the Bloom team. Throughout the village plants were healthy, well chosen and beds were well maintained. The town gateways provided a lovely entrance to the village and the newly created gateway worked well with the wood behind it. The team had made great efforts to make the playground area bright and attractive.

Areas for Improvement:

Work with the local council on screening the depot area. Perhaps the school might consider turning their tremendous energies to the development of a wildlife garden for the school. Perhaps the local council could be asked to improve the paving in the playground area.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The village was very clean, tidy and weed free. We were pleased to see that the school was involved in composting and also the habitat piles, etc. The watering arrangements made with the local council at their depot sounded effective. We liked the use of recycled stone to striking effect at the town gateways.

Areas for Improvement:

Perhaps interpretation boards in and around the woodland area would make people even more aware of this key part of their heritage. Through your impressive contact system, encourage wildlife gardening and wildlife friendly areas in the area. Work on the shrubs screening the council depot. Perhaps a few butterfly friendly shrubs would be a pleased addition to the playground area.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

With so much local support the initiative will sure go from strength to strength. With so much committed support from the local school the village will be in safe hands in the future. Great efforts have been made to obtain funding and support from local businesses, and from the local Rotary Club. the commitment of residents who give their time to maintain areas around the village and to produce striking work like the village gateway signs, is impressive. The work done for residents of the flats seen on the route was very pleasing. Work on the Bloom initiatives was obviously a year round activity.

Areas for Improvement:

Use the poster competition, contact with the school etc., to encourage development of wildlife friendly gardening areas. Consider encouraging the local council to become further involved with the depot screening.

Cawood Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

The judges were again met by an enthusiastic group of Bloom members keen to show us what they had achieved since spring. Judges were impressed by the work the group had done and the involvement they had made with other groups. Although only a brief visit the standard of produce at the school was excellent and needs including for future years. The natural habitats of the Garth were well explained and good signage for visitors tell all about its history and natural habitat. Good planters throughout the village and many private gardens added to the colour of this entry. Due to some areas having no gardens residents have made a good job of using pots and containers to add colour to the village. Something we would encourage for future years.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Good residential gardens. Mixed planting along the walk from All Saints church to centre of village. Planters all the way along route were good with good variations of plants and colour. School Veg plots excellent and its produce.

Areas for Improvement:

Encourage further planting and development of this area. Make residents aware and get them on board to develop further. Develop seating areas by swing bridge. What about planters on bridge we did see some. Entrance to village. Encourage more businesses to participate in main street. Make more of school horticultural projects and grounds.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Development of old cemetery into a memorial garden. Good information boards on the Garth as well as a wonderful wildlife haven. Heritage in abundance

Areas for Improvement:

Evidence of recycling within the village. So much scope for wildlife areas and developing natural habitats. Develop seating areas by swing bridge

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Fund raising events throughout the year. Support by local businesses. Young people now very much involved and will benefit whole community.

Areas for Improvement:

More evidence of support for bloom competition in Cawood by local community. Bloom posters in shop windows and residences along route.

Great Preston and Little Preston

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Silver Gilt Rose Award

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

The boundaries of Great and Little Preston are well defined with well planted areas. Although still in its infancy, great progress has been made with the area around the Community Centre.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The tubs and beds were well done and the judges were impressed by the borders and beds at the entrance to village. It was nice to see that the border at the school which had become neglected had been recently replanted by the In Bloom group

Areas for Improvement:

The allotments were a disappointment as there were several vacant and overgrown plots, which seemed to be a problem with ownership by the local council. This requires urgent attention.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Having seen the outdoor classroom in Spring, the headmaster gave a presentation on its use as an educational tool with all the age groups at the primary school. The scouts have been busy putting up bird boxes in the Wild life garden. Bowers Row Mission grounds were as impressive as ever even though they had suffered vandalism and the In Bloom team came to their rescue.

Areas for Improvement:

The wildlife meadow next to the community centre requires cutting down either wholly or partially at the beginning of August and wild flower seeds planted ready for next year. The group have plans to engage with the new head teacher at the primary school next year.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The village hall is an ongoing project where much progress has been made. Funding has been gained for a contractor to complete some of the heavier work. Social activities are planned to encourage volunteers to help with the village clean up.

Areas for Improvement:

To encourage some of the volunteers to join the In Bloom Group.

Grenoside Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

The Grenoside group are impressively committed and hard working. They have a tremendous pride in their village, together with a deep knowledge of its history and heritage. Their plans to preserve and enhance the heritage of the village are splendid. Various groups from all aspects of Grenoside co-operate with one another and with the Grenoside Conservation Society, to a remarkable extent. Their efforts to raise funding and sponsorship for this work are impressive. We were pleased to hear of the many ways the group keeps the local community aware of what is going on, and encourages their support

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The tubs outside the village hall and in other areas had interesting and well maintained planting, using peat free compost. It was pleasing to hear that the village pubs are working to promote the Bloom efforts. We were impressed that local residents were working around the village for the benefit of all. Planting at the village green was colourful and sustainable. Native bulbs were being planted around the site. There was a pleasant mixture of plants. We saw many attractive and well maintained front gardens in Main Street, Vicarage Crescent, Blacksmith Lane and other areas around

our route. The efforts that had been made to support planting around the retirement flats on the route was impressive. Planting at the Grenoside Primary School and the Crematorium was pleasing. As in spring the War Memorial was a credit to those residents involved in its care.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider enhancing the heritage of the village by researching plant varieties traditionally grown in the area or even with a connection to local industry and feature them in suitable areas. Continue to encourage local businesses to support efforts by planting around their business premises.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The whole area was very clean and tidy. The group are ensuring the Wheeto Woods and all the green areas around the village are cherished and protected for the future of Grenoside. The carved stonework at the village green added to the atmosphere of the site. We were pleased to see the local heritage reflected in the acorn and oak leaf seating at Grenoside Primary School. The railings at the War Memorial were glistening with fresh paint. It was good to hear that composting is important to the group.

Areas for Improvement:

Work with the school to create wildlife areas, perhaps planting native shrubs and creating log and leaf piles, bug hotels etc. Continue with efforts to encourage the use of Wheeto Wood as a local resource. Perhaps working on art installations to celebrate the rich and varied heritage of the area.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The team have made tremendous efforts to ensure that the local community are aware of what is happening in their village and to encourage their support. The residents are coming together to do practical tasks such as litter picking to enhance their village. The team have made a formidable effort to find funding for their many creative projects. Throughout the year the whole community is brought together by the team to work for Grenoside.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue with this excellent work. Use your considerable resources to encourage wildlife gardening at the school and among local residents.

Helmsley Gold Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position Gold

Introduction

This is a very good entry, complimented by a Summer Portfolio full of many good photographs. Despite the many parked cars, the Market Place still looked a riot of colour, and it would have been difficult to single out any one single frontage. Hanging baskets especially were varied in plants and colours, and the white themed baskets were most unusual. Credit must be given though, especially to the involvement of the local businesses. The variety of floral features that enhanced Helmsley couldn't fail to impress both residents and visitors alike. The judges were introduced to and talked to several residents along the guided route. Residential gardens were, almost without exception, well tended and colourful. YIB posters were in all prominent locations.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The excellent condition of all the many floral features was a credit to all concerned. All green areas were well tended and tidy, as was indeed everywhere else

Areas for Improvement:

From the east end garage to the many other areas of Helmsley, businesses are becoming supportive of what the In Bloom group are achieving, and it is must be beneficial to the appearance of the town for more business premises to become involved

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Helmsley in Bloom's regular litterpicks have resulted in a clean and tidy town to be proud of. Dog fouling certainly appears to be at a minimum. Street furniture and all signage were well maintained.

Areas for Improvement:

Despite some attention, the Old Railway Line site still needed further improvement – something the Helmsley in Bloom team were equally aware of.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

There is clear evidence of community involvement and the In Bloom campaign is well supported throughout. The Best Kept Garden and the Allium competitions remain popular. It was rewarding to meet the young people working in their section of Dr. Webster's allotments. The In Bloom group continue to raise funds and are appreciative of the support from the Town Council. The judges were pleased to meet all the hard working Helmsley in Bloom group.

Areas for Improvement:

While it is not easy to be able to meet schoolchildren during term time, this excellent YIB entry might be further enhanced by having the opportunity to meet more children and to hear their thoughts on improving and taking care of their environment.

Hook Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

For the summer judging we were shown much more of the north end of the village than at the spring judging and were not disappointed. The Hook in Bloom group were as enthusiastic as before to show us improvements, plans and all aspects of their work which is now showing throughout the village and we are sure will become more apparent in years to come.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The House Garden competition has provided two really good winners. Many others displayed colour in racks, troughs and tubs often in very confined situations. Involvement of WI in planting at cemetery. Production unit at allotment garden being increased in size for perennial production and general sales for fundraising. Riverbank area provides pleasant walkway with extensive natural areas

Areas for Improvement:

There are several areas of waste ground or land awaiting development that detract from the hard work of the Hook in Bloom group. In some areas of the village colour is somewhat sparse even though there is plenty of room for troughs, tubs, etc. The trellis at the back of the planters at the Memorial Hall would benefit from some climbing plants to provide more height and impact.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Selective mowing along riverbank preserves large areas of natural growth for wildlife. Well maintained churchyard. Recycling evident in the village and rainwater tubs on allotment. Village remarkably free of litter and graffiti. Excellent environmental programme at the village school including raised vegetable beds, plant production area, mixed planting areas and wildlife area containing bird and bat boxes.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue in the attempts to improve gap sites within the village through negotiations with private owners.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Ongoing programme of improvements including the brick planters scheduled to be constructed at the entrances to the village later in the year with materials donated by local businesses and to be planted by local ATC Squadron. Wide community support by local groups and individuals clearly evidenced. The very close engagement with the village school and the diverse horticultural and environmental work of the pupils and staff that will undoubtedly influence the children's outlook on life. As well as raising its own funds through plant sales, and social events the Hook in Bloom is influencing village life through its fundraising support for other village activities. Establishment of the Village Gardening Club with speakers already booked for the Autumn.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to encourage all residents to become involved in "Working Towards a Brighter Village". The Garden Competition and Gardening Club are very good tools to achieve this. Perhaps further encouragement could be given to the limited number of businesses resident in the village to provide more visual displays.

Hutton Cranswick Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position – Silver Gilt

Introduction

After the driest spring and summer we arrived to judge Hutton Cranswick on a wet, drizzly day! However a warm welcome at the Sports Hall and we were off! The village was equally as pretty as in the spring and colourful too-totally litter free with lots of corners of interest. The highlights were the Centenary Wood and the Railway station and a large band of enthusiastic workers! A good entry!

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Hayracks really looked good on bare wall and many small areas of colourful planting, some very good residential gardens and Avices Butterfly garden and communal sitting area was exceptional. War memorial area was very good and new planting at Sports hall entrance shows promise. The Allotments were so productive despite the late frosts and drought-a credit to all plot holders. Good

to see the business support especially from the farming side ,lots of beautifully decorated tractors ,planted tyres and animal feeding troughs serve to emphasise that it is in a farming community. The sustainable planting and variety of styles of planting at the newly painted Railway station was so good –a real credit to all involved and deserves an award from Northern Rail! The village green with the pond was very well maintained and a real asset

Areas for Improvement:

We felt that a few larger floral features would add a Wow factor and possibly look to coordinate the colours of the In Bloom planters. The plans for the frontage of the school and a newly refurbished play area will really enhance the top side of the green-good luck with funding ! A little more attention to small details-such as weeding and sweeping would bring this entry up the table

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Woodland at Centenary Wood is excellent with Sonja still so enthusiastic and the addition of bat knowledge to the bird varieties was great. The new information boards and the new nature trail were so good! Loved the two new log seats too! Gatehouse Fishing Lake is now looking established and yet in keeping with its surroundings. Awareness of Biodiversity by all group continues and new sign boards will help to expand this even further. A clean and tidy village with no litter, graffiti or dog fouling.

Areas for Improvement:

Wild flower area will hopefully get established once there is more rain.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

A well established group with clear aims and objectives and a sustainable approach to new initiatives. All sectors of community participate and publicity is obviously good. Congratulations on your article on the wood being published in RHS Growing Communities.

Areas for Improvement:

Expand on your new logo success with other items-bags, towels etc to help with funding. Continue to encourage the school growing endeavours

Ingleton Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

Ingleton is a lovely village situated in beautiful limestone countryside and the In Bloom Group work very hard to enhance its' natural assets. They are very keen and dedicated and have achieved a great deal since they started up a short time ago. The judges were pleased to see how many improvements had been made since their visit in the Spring and were interested to hear about all the plans they have for the future. They felt their efforts were appreciated and that their future is will be assured with the notable benefits to the village and the community. The extended tour gave the judges the opportunity to see, and learn more about the village. It was also good to meet more of the people supporting the group.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The additional tubs and planters around the village with sustainable planting and the plants grown from seed. This requires lot of time and hard work. The floral displays provided by many of the

residents and local businesses, including The Wheatsheaf, the Nursing Home and Inglenook Fish and Chips. The natural planting around the village complementing local characteristics. The gardens of the Three Acres Caravan Park

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to develop appropriate sustainable planting throughout the village including the entrance on the main road and the car park. Try to get the beds in the park planted up and cared for. Encourage more businesses to provide floral displays in the spring and summer which will after all benefit their own needs.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The Village was clean, tidy and without litter. The use of sustainable planting, and the re-cycling of plants from the tubs. The continued comprehensive re-cycling around the village. The introduction and supply of bird and bat boxes. The donation of plants

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to develop planting schemes to support wildlife and which are acceptable to local authorities. More work with Schools, scouts etc to encourage them to be actively involved in supporting wildlife projects.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The number of activities that take place within the community. The increased number of people to water tubs and planters. The increased number of people supporting the In Bloom campaign by sponsorship. Planned float at the Gala NB following judging its great to hear the In Bloom float won the top prize and there is now the money to plant up the beds in the park.

Areas for Improvement:

The Group achieve great results with very little funding so do try to get more in the form of Sponsorship by businesses and individuals. At the same time promote Ingleton in Bloom and Yorkshire in Bloom by getting as much publicity as possible within the area. Continue to seek funding and grants from existing and new sources. Try to work with more of the groups within the village and get their support.

Micklefield Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position Silver Gilt

Introduction

This small group is making a big impression on their community and are helping to bridge the gap between old and new Micklefield. Local residents came out to meet the judges at the local community centre and it was evident that In Bloom was making a real difference to their village.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Good to see that works had already been carried out since our visit in spring, the school planter has had a face lift, wall topper replaced which now set of the planting and confirmation from the Parish Council regarding the renewal of the sedum bed. There were many colourful and sustainable displays across the village, such as planters at Church Lane, the path at the side of the school, the memorials in the church grounds, Churchville House planters, and tubs and baskets around the route. Many well maintained residential gardens, and public spaces around Churchville bungalows, the new bed at Churchville terrace and gardens at Woodlands Estate.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to encourage more volunteers and business's to help maintain the floral displays around the village and strengthen the entry. Continue to involve the school where ever possible.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The completion of the last boundary stone depicting Micklefield's Farming heritage. The unique SSSI site at Micklefield Quarry. The Town Wells and future plans for interpretation. The Living Church Yard scheme and Keith's involvement in sensitively maintaining the floral within the church grounds. Composting facilities at the church and allotment. The involvement of the pupils from the school with fence repairs. General cleanliness and lack of litter across the area.

Areas for Improvement:

It will be good to see the future plans materialise at the Wells. Consideration be given to the school children painting the bike park railings outside the school as part of their extended learning skills. Consider refurbishing the bench at the corner of Churchville terrace near the new bed

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The cheerful welcome from the Micklefield in Bloom banners across the village. The support from Local Ward Members on the judging day and their full backing of what the In Bloom group are looking to achieve. The growing support from residents, in both "old" and "new" Micklefield.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to encourage and support the school gardening club. Continue to encourage local business participation. Continue to set achievable goals while still a relatively small group.

Osgodby Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

The number of "In Bloom" leaflets on display in residential windows and around the village gives a good indication of the support of the campaign. This interest is also supported by the standard of the gardens which makes the judging tour all the more interesting. It is clear that volunteers have been hard at work and this is the community is clearly benefiting. If the enthusiasm shown by the school children is anything to judge by then the future looks bright.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Residential gardens were generally well maintained and colourful with some splendid examples. Verges and green spaces of high standard– with significant areas being maintained by the residents. The replanting of the crescent beds and surrounding display at Village Green. Entrance signs good with colourful displays. Involvement of Overdale School and the variety of planting there. Knipe Point area well maintained.

Areas for Improvement:

The crescent beds near boat need thoughtful planning, suggest themed/grouping of sustainable planting for stronger effect. Consider using mulch on the beds to suppress weeds, conserve water and improve soil particularly at the triangle. Review standards of maintenance for areas of permanent planting and additional plantings Knipe Point has more potential for further development.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Public open space protection is being sought for “village green” and carnival field areas. Litter picking groups have continued their good work keeping area tidy. Thoughtful sustainable planting to minimise watering needs. The repainted and refurbished Asgozbi boat. Ongoing cooperation with Parish Council to encourage responsible dog ownership coupled with children’s posters.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider developing wildlife habitats at the triangle site. Addition of interpretation boards to promote local heritage information. Water is an important resource to encourage wildlife, are there places this could be provided?

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The garden competition is a good idea, one that may help in attracting new, active members. Utilisation of children’s poster competition and the number of “In Bloom” leaflets displayed around the entry was evidence of good communication. Growing involvement with groups in the community and local councils. Good liaison with local press.

Areas for Improvement:

Perhaps try to have more regular social events, year round, both to raise funds and to foster good relationships amongst people in the village, for example; coffee morning, plant sale/swap, garden party.

Ripponden Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Our summer visit to Ripponden was a joy. The group have shown good community links with the school, local scouts and guides and Pennine Housing. The salad pot competition is a nice idea. There are some lovely residential gardens to compliment the route. The group is particularly adept at fundraising and has plans in place to help move them forward to an even higher level.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The baskets and planters were looking fresh and healthy despite the dry weather. Greenacres housing development has consistently high standard residential gardens. Excellent work by the Brownies and Guides at the Church. Well done. The high street has plenty of lovely baskets full of summer colour

Areas for Improvement:

Consider doing a dummy run before judging commences to try to iron out any last minute hiccups. It would be exciting and progressive if the group can somehow get involved with any future improvement of the entrance sign area.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Excellent bio-diversity and recycling done by Ripponden school. Lack of graffiti and dog fouling throughout the route.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider making hedgehog hibernating areas and adding insect hotels to the wildlife area near the Royd Lane car park.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

It is clear Ripponden in Bloom are going to be around for a long time and the benefits brought to Ripponden are there for all to see. Well done. The group did a lovely presentation at the end of the tour and has immaculate and detailed archive records.

Areas for Improvement:

Try to further enhance your links with the school. Continue with your excellent fundraising and profile raising work that you are doing.

Scholes Gold Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Gold Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

An interesting and humorous display of scarecrows added interest to this well maintained and colourful village. The war memorial was as impressive as in the spring judging with immaculate maintenance and a real sense of pride. We enjoyed the visit to the school and the 100 plus sponsored hanging baskets was impressive.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The continuing maturing of the car park and surrounding club grounds in the sports area. Improvements made to the Buffer and bridge area are testimony to good team effort.

Areas for Improvement:

Don't be afraid to experiment with different planting schemes.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The whole school approach from the headmistress and gardener (who was recognised by pupils as 'a special person' and given a badge with that written on). Beautiful painted butterflies promoting Nature Conservancy added a new dimension to the display.

Areas for Improvement:

To provide more interest and structure in the wildflower meadow consider installing a living willow piece or topiary or a natural sculpture such as a big piece of wood.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Signs with the hanging basket are an example of good practice. The scarecrow project showed community support for the In Bloom group. There was a good range of posters.

Areas for Improvement:

With so much artistic talent in the village we suggest making a calendar to raise funds.

Shadwell Gold Rose Award - Category Winner

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

It would good to revisit this immaculate colourful village and see the completion of planned projects such as the scout hut. The summer floral displays were planned with imagination and inventiveness which contributed to a raised standard of the place. This In Bloom group owes its success to a willing team of well organised volunteers who complete a range of essential tasks from watering to leaflet delivery.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Most interesting and well designed planting schemes with creative colours and textures. Excellent maintenance throughout.

Areas for Improvement:

The area behind the laurel hedge at the bus turnaround could have similar planting to the bed of Cornus, euonymus etc on the other side with perhaps clusters of violas for extra impact.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement :

Wonderful development of the wildlife area in the cemetery.

Areas for Improvement :

To continue the tree planting project where 19 trees have already been planted.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement :

Great involvement of the community, leaflets delivered, many posters in windows, members of the community involved in watering hanging baskets, tubs and newly planted areas. Plenty of evidence of sponsorship.

Areas for Improvement:

Carry on the good work.

Thornton Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

The progress which the 'In Bloom' group, partners and local volunteers have made since the spring was evident throughout the judging tour. The continued expansion of the seasonal hanging basket scheme provides good floral colour throughout the main shopping area. This has acted as a catalyst, with many other residents and business premises providing their own attractive pavement displays. It was pleasing to see the involvement of young people from the community centre with 'In Bloom' activities. The Thornton entry is a true community effort and should go from strength to strength in the future.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The quality of the hanging baskets throughout the route. The attractive floral pavement displays provided by numerous shops and residents in the village. The excellent maintenance standards evident at Kipping Gardens, Allen Court and the Railway Heritage Project. The landscape project at

Henry Street being undertaken by residents, volunteers and 'In Bloom' members. The continued improvement work at the Bell Chapel site.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider replacing some of the annual bedding with more sustainable floral material in the Bell Chapel site. Work with partners to improve the standards of grounds maintenance at the Cemetery and the Primary School. Work with Bradford Metropolitan Council to identify further sustainable planting locations on the open space and verge areas. The allocation of some of the planned new allotment plots to the school would help expand the opportunities available to their gardening club. Involve pupils at Thornton Primary School with the design of the gardens around the new classroom. Try and influence the renovation/re-development of land at the side of the Co-op store.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The plan to create additional allotment plots to meet local demand. The agreement with the Farm Shop to sell locally produced vegetables from the allotment. The recycling facilities at Allen Court. The work undertaken by the Thornton Primary School gardening club. The excellent design, construction and maintenance of the Railway Heritage Project. The quality of the street furniture and interpretation material throughout the route, especially at Kipping Gardens and the Railway Heritage Project.

Areas for Improvement:

More evidence of conservation and biodiversity is required. Continue with the project to purchase a heritage recycling unit for the Community Centre. Continue to work towards restoring a further section of the Railway Heritage Project. Work with Bradford Metropolitan Council to ensure good standards of street sweeping and weed control throughout the whole route.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The number of different volunteer groups undertaking maintenance and project work in the village. The wide range of community involvement initiatives undertaken by the 'In Bloom' group. The success of the best kept garden competition. The quality and content of the Thornton in Bloom newsletter. The sponsored hanging basket and floral bed scheme provided by the 'In Bloom' group.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider including a short presentation or display of the groups' development, projects undertaken and future plans as part of the judging tour. Care must be taken when planning the route to evidence all the criteria whilst staying within the allotted judging time. It may be more appropriate to ask some of the volunteers to meet the judges for coffee rather than visiting every site. Encourage more young people to become involved with 'In bloom' initiatives, for example Thornton Primary School may be able to design next year's 'In Bloom' poster. More 'In Bloom' posters throughout the route would assist the entry.

Wilberfoss Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

Willberfoss is an attractive village and has a very active bloom group who were keen to show the judges round. Judges impressed by the standard of private gardens and efforts made to bring colour to sometimes very limited spaces. However judges felt that summer judging restricted due to walking

route and whole village not seen at its best. Judges have advised entrant and happy to re visit to assist entry.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Developing garden areas around shopping areas and getting involvement from local shops. Good residential gardens. Planters along route. Planting of standard at Peggy Potters corner required throughout village.

Areas for Improvement:

Needed to see more residential areas. Encourage public house to put up baskets in main street or continue with planters in car park to add extra colour. Have different colour themes in different streets or areas. Be bolder with planting at entrances to village. Would have been good to re visit allotments and see produce being grown. Develop planting outside school.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

A very clean entry

Areas for Improvement:

Wildlife area damaged by contractors. Develop wildlife area in Churchyard. Make sure weeds removed from pathways and channels. Encourage more seating around village

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Community participation very evident. Due to only small businesses in area difficult to find funding however bloom group do get support from local nursery for plants. Good to see school involved

Areas for Improvement:

Use notice boards around village to make people aware of group and when judging taking place.

Category 2A Urban Community

Beeston Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Beeston is on the edge of the city of Leeds and, as such, it inherits some of the problems associated with large cities. Although it is classified as an urban community, Beeston is interspersed with motorways. This makes it difficult to manage because of the sprawling nature of the area. It is really an inner city area with the related problems which occur in these areas.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Good display of baskets in the main street – colourful and full of blooms. Large re planted area was colourful, with interesting planting, full of traditional bedding plants. These replaced the uninteresting perennials of Spring. A big improvement.

Areas for Improvement:

Large concrete planters were less attractive, with planters being more visible than plants. Planters in the main street kept to a single colour were a good idea, but again, more care was required with choice of plants for the size of the containers. For the future, the judges would advise looking at tiered levels of planting and the addition of trailing plants to soften the effect of the planters.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The environmental quality of the area was good with clean, tidy streets containing no graffiti or fly posting. The park was obviously popular and well used by the community who were enjoying its surroundings. It was a very pleasant area and the judges were pleased to see refurbishment areas within the park.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider leaving areas of un-mown grass or wild flower areas for wildlife in St Mary's churchyard. Involve the local youngsters in monitoring birds and bats etc

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Community education was well catered for in Beeston and it was pleasing to have the opportunity to visit an Academy status school. The judges were pleased with the efforts of staff and children to develop their newly constructed gardens. We feel sure that these will be a great asset to the community. Hopefully the garden competition will be successful in attracting new members to the Beeston In Bloom Team.

Areas for Improvement:

To encourage more schools to become involved and more businesses to display planters or tubs outside their premises.

Bramhope Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

As a new group the efforts of Bramhope's bloom committee are to be commended. The work they have done in their first year has been excellent especially as its bringing the community together. The work the local primary school are doing with the young children is also paying dividends and they are much more aware of their natural environment which is paying off within the community. Although Bramhope has very few businesses they have all come on board and appreciate what the bloom group do. The floral display outside the Fox and Hounds public house was a credit and the planters outside the parade of shops a big improvement appreciated by everyone. Brearly Marsh was an interesting natural area but the group need to be aware of time on the route and Bramhope's boundaries.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Parade Planters in front of shops. Good Residential gardens throughout School gardening projects very good. Possible future separate entry. Fox and hounds public house and Bramhope Cross very floral

Areas for Improvement:

Keep themed beds in front of the parade of shops but beware of adding extra plants which detract from the scheme. Take judges around grounds of Britannia Hotel. Much more colourful in summer. Further oak planters locally sourced will help entry. Ferns planted around the old Well site would be ideal in that area.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Good clean entry, lack of litter and graffiti Brearly Marsh nature trail- excellent array of flora and fauna. School learning about composting plants and insects. Furniture much improved.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to improve street furniture, signs seats bins etc. Reduce visit to Brearly Marsh to one visit, although judges can see why you invited us to see it from both sides. Give judges more on recycling in village. You have it in place. What benefits does it give to community? How can people in area use recycled materials

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Good support and fundraising. Group support school and the children's efforts which is excellent. Pleased to see community effort throughout village.

Areas for Improvement:

As you are on this one

Calverley Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

It was a joy to meet pupils at Parkside and Church of England Schools and to judge their In Bloom posters. The village is clean, neat and tidy and there is a lot of commitment and enthusiasm from the In Bloom group.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Attractive floral displays in a well maintained Park. Brookleigh and Capel Court were colourful and there was evidence of a great deal of care shown to the sites. Many hanging baskets displayed at pubs, businesses and the library, together with the impact of private gardens created a very favourable impression.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider planting a screen to soften the car park view from the woodland pathway at Brookleigh.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

A clean, tidy and attractive small town. Calverley Cutting is looking good and will be a great benefit for Champion House. The churchyard goat project is working well and the schools were an added bonus.

Areas for Improvement:

Looking forward to seeing further developments in the lower area of the churchyard.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

New signs at the entrance and a lovely display in Brookleigh of photographs and posters. The In Bloom poster competition in the schools is an excellent idea and the allotments looked very attractive and a vibrant part of the community.

Areas for Improvement:

The Calverley Gate wall will be a wonderful feature and it is hoped that further development will be planned for the area of land opposite the bend to enhance this whole area.

Hillsborough Forum Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Hillsborough is an industrial and residential area with major transport links running through it. This means that any space is at a premium. Residents have created and maintained a community garden which has now been recognised by the planning system for protection. In Bloom serves as the catalyst for much of the community and regeneration work. The park is significant in not only being the main area of open space but being a good example of what parks should be. Many activities take place in the park, it has an active friends group who raise funds and grow plants, local schools use the park. A training project and health project using gardening in the walled garden along with dances in the pavilion cycling for people with disabilities give a sense of its use.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The park bedding scheme. The walled garden in terms of its multi purpose use

Areas for Improvement:

The main issue facing the group is the refusal of the owner of the major retail site to associate with in bloom or allow planting to take place on the property. Re start the work with the schools when development and building work is completed

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The absence of litter in such a busy area is a credit to all involved. Pride of place in respect of trying to drive up the quality of barriers signs and so on. The community garden and resolving water supply issues for it. The new re cycling programme.

Areas for Improvement:

Resolve /improve green waste recycling in the park. Keep the wild life area in the park managed in an appropriate way.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Community use in the widest sense of the park. The relatively low age of in bloom helpers.

The promotion of in bloom.

Areas for Improvement:

To demonstrate the volume of work that is undertaken a photo record would be useful. Demonstrate the funding levels achieved. Photo record of the garden completion. There is a lot going on and the records should not be time consuming, but would help judges gain information on all the work undertaken.

Kippax Gold Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

Kippax can be described as an urban village or town. The overall impression is one of well being and the complete picture of the area is smart, tidy and colourful. The “in bloom” group are extremely well organised and the judges found their visit both interesting and pleasurable. An extremely good impression was given throughout the area.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The horticultural achievements are too numerous to single out. Kippax is full of interesting, colourful areas of planting and it is obvious that the majority of the community take a pride in the appearance of the town and work together for its good. Ash Tree Primary school was a credit to the staff and pupils. Well done.

Areas for Improvement:

Our only concern was the amount of Ragwort in the wild flower area. This is a “notifiable” weed and requires containment

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Townclose Hill local nature reserve contains wildlife areas catering well for conservation and biodiversity. This is an area of magnesium limestone grassland and is extremely well managed by the “Friends of Billy Wood ”and its many volunteers. It is a “jewel in the crown” for Kippax

Areas for Improvement:

The In Bloomers should continue with the maintenance to the standards they have set for themselves.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Community participation was evident in all areas of judging and it was a pleasure to meet such an interesting and diverse group of people. The gardens of the Methodist chapel were a good example of community involvement where groups were prepared to help each other with advice and practical help.

The “Growing Zone” is a very special area of achievement and always brings a smile to our faces. The jungle scene was particularly amusing. Well done to all involved!

Areas for Improvement:

To continue to enjoy and use the talents of all members of the team.

Oulton Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Oulton In Bloom is a small group but that is certainly not constraining them from achieving huge success. They are encouraging all areas of the community and are to be commended on their efforts in making Oulton bloom.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The flowers and vegetables at the primary school. The bed planted by the Brownies.

The displays at the Methodist Church and the public houses. The gardens at the De Vere Oulton Hall Hotel. The mixed planting areas maintained by Margaret and Sylvia. Business involvement such as Paul Knights, Enamel and the new additions at Brian Westwood’s yard.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider improving the entrance to the church, perhaps using a mixed border planting arrangement to welcome visitors. Continue to liaise with Lidl’s to keep on top of their landscaped areas. Press on with future plans at the main roundabout.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The ongoing work at the church yard and involvement with Community Payback team. The Oulton Park perimeter path is an asset to the area. James’ excellent work on the benches at the war memorial. The seating area and sustainable planting at the New Masons Arms.

The newly painted street lights. The ongoing work around the village design statement.

Areas for Improvement:

Continued work at the church yard will add to this entry. Consider reinstating the interpretation boards on the perimeter path around Oulton Park

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The involvement of the primary school, and Brownies on there Centenary bed. The securing of the grant to improve the raised bed and roundabout. The involvement of the “Community Payback” scheme at the church yard. The involvement of local business, old and new, in the In Bloom projects. The Yorkshire in Bloom banners around the route

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to encourage the school. Look to remove self set trees to rear of bus stop near Garage before they become a problem. Continue to liaise with the medical centre, this will be an interesting addition to the community

Owlthorpe Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver

Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

A fine residential area that has no particular focal centre and is without shops, industry and pubs but never the less has a Community Forum that achieves an amazing list of environmental projects that greatly contribute to the well being and benefit of the community and wider area.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Large containers in strategic places contain a wide range of colourful plants of the highest quality. Residential gardens illustrate the enthusiasm for attractive floral designs meticulously cared for with beautiful combinations of colours. Medical Centre – great floral work.

Areas for Improvement:

Installation of entry signs plus flowers. Seek further opportunities for placing of tubs in safe areas.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Considerable effort and planning to improve the environment is admirable. Outstanding work has been done in wildlife areas including stone walls hedges and the introduction of Highland Cattle in the grassland grazing project. The approach to bio-diversity deserves a special mention for the Community Forum. Eco-schools are great.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to encourage more of the community to engage in conservation work, maybe on their own property. Creation of allotments.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Commendable involvement of numerous volunteers and groups from a wide area, to work on projects. Large financial support from many sources. Good publicity throughout the community.

Areas for Improvement:

To develop further awareness of public towards projects. To view other residential gardens in the area. Meet more people involved doing ‘in Bloom’ work.

Sowerby Bridge Silver Rose Award
Spring Medal Position – Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

Noticeable improvements to an already privileged heritage entry from all ages of the community.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

A great improvement in open garden spaces throughout the town. Especially community gardens and impressive allotments.

Areas for Improvement:

More weed control in public areas.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The canal towpath clearing is a great improvement.

Areas for Improvement:

Lots of dead plants in the top Bolton Brow Garden. Bolton Brown Memorial Garden refurbishment.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Christ Church Junior Schools Horticulture involvement. The Councils partnership has made great strides with this year's entry.

Areas for Improvement:

Disappointment at the lack of publicity.

Starbeck Gold Rose Award - Category Winner
Spring Medal Position - Gold Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

From our arrival at the “hidden gem” of the gardens at the Golf Club (sadly hidden from the road) to the end of the tour the judges were impressed with the way the community has teamed together to produce a quality entry and we would like to thank everyone concerned for their efforts. Throughout the judging tour there was evidence of the development and success of existing projects and the commencement of new initiatives, always looking to improve neglected sites. The use of surveys and consultations with residents and the inclusion of younger members of the community in ‘in Bloom’ initiatives will surely help ensure continued progress in the future. The “Love Starbeck” day was inspirational. Starbeck in summer was a delight to judge.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The gardens at the golf club provided both sustainable planting with bedding to give year round colour and interest. Resident gardens at Millfield Glade with many containers and at Spa Mews which had encompassed communal area planting. The school children's allotment with variety of planting, shady willow “igloo” and enthusiastic workers! The development of various gap sites into havens these include the Station and story corner. The drought beds in summer colour. The summer golden border at the playground on Belmont Field. The barrier and hanging basket displays adding colour strategically.

Areas for Improvement:

Controlled addition of further native planting at Beckside and Well Head area, possibly pockets of foxgloves and cowslips. Further develop the "Green River" project.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The mosaic trail, its expansion and the involvement of localised care and watering. Community wide commitment to recycling and resource management including use of grey/recycled water used. "Love Starbeck day" when a large team from St Andrews church completed many caring tasks in the community from litter picking to edging paths in Belmont field. The Railway Station, where Network Rail and Northern Rail repainted underpass and cleared out gutters etc presenting a backdrop for the addition of the floral elements with such good results. The Methodist Church grounds and its part in providing a holding area for primulas in waiting.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider providing additional wildlife habitats such as log piles and insect hotels at other sites e.g. Spa Mews area

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The considered effort and achievement in consultation process to ascertain the needs and desires of local residents. The persistence to push past difficulties to achieve cooperation from owners of gap sites and big businesses in order to ensure neglected areas receive treatment. The large number of volunteers and representatives of specialist organisations and the local authority who are involved in improving the environment for the benefit of residents and visitors. Worth mentioning again, The Love Starbeck day, evidencing community participation coupled with the involvement of groups from throughout the community including Brigades, St John's Ambulance, Scouts, Cubs, Guides and Brownies, Vocational Skills, and more.

Areas for Improvement:

As the judges gave this section a high mark few comments can be added here. Perhaps other members of the community not yet involved may like to help with administration, fund raising or just caring for their own "patch".

Stocksbridge Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

This well organised group with a reasonable number of volunteers demonstrates what can be achieved. Importantly the group works across the community involving schools, neighbourhoods, Duke Of Edinburgh candidates, sports clubs and traders. The location means that all the sites are difficult due either to being very steep or the aspect or indeed both. They are now spreading the effect by linking/helping with neighbourhood entries; this will see the effect of the improvements spread through a wider area of the community. One school had used the bed planting to provide a topic for the film club to record. This they had done to great effect. The work to physically assist a school with the development of the garden and vegetable growing area is commendable.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Quality of the bedding plants and the maintenance of them were very good in a difficult year. Supporting school gardening programmes, and involving the schools. The Stocksbridge flower bed looked very well.

Areas for Improvement:

This is an excellent entry with a few areas that could be considered as to how to deal with them. The quality of grass maintenance on verges and some public space, varied considerably from other areas of publicly maintained grass getting the higher standard across all will be a challenge but worth considering. Engage with the council weed control programme and see if you can pick a better spot on the timetable to improve weed control in the area. There will be a balance between the best route to meet the elements that are marked and meeting people, acknowledge the effort they make. Remember everything along your chosen route becomes included.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The Steel Valley project working with partners across extensive land holdings belonging to the steel works. This involves everything from volunteers working on the natural environment, tree planting and so on. Overall a litter free area which with the main roads and so on must be difficult. Using the heritage of the area to projects such as the Stocksbridge bed.

Areas for Improvement:

As mentioned in section A the weed control programme could be examined.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Overall participation and enthusiasm is something many groups would envy. Working with a wide range of organisations in a wide range of ways shows positive results for the area. Publicity material and magazine reviews keep the work in peoples minds. Recent adverts for more volunteers have had a positive effect.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue the excellent work and support the Neighbourhood groups as possible.

Swillington Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Swillington in Bloom appears to be flourishing both in obtaining funding and sponsorship and in enthusing young people to explore their natural environment. The green was very welcoming and gave a good initial impression on entering the community. Mixtures of perennials and annuals had been used to great effect; The Memorial to Gregory Moakes has been enhanced by plating red geraniums at the front.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The unified colour scheme of planters, tubs and raised beds gave impact and cohesion throughout the community. Swillington must be extremely proud of their allotments where the water sourced from natural springs producing magnificent produce. May the best pumpkin win.

Areas for Improvement:

To encourage more shops and businesses to have planters and /or tubs outside their premises.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The judges were impressed conservation and biodiversity particularly with assistance from the cubs and brownies. This year's target to create bird, insect and wild life sanctuary in St Mary's churchyard has been enthusiastically completed and the dormouse nest. The signage was first class particularly the In Bloom dates

Areas for Improvement:

The council owned Notice board adjacent to the Room 8 area needed refurbishment and cleaning. With the involvement of the young people, it might be interesting to carry out a survey of the wildlife in the churchyard during the four seasons.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

There was plenty of evidence of ongoing projects such as the replanting in the churchyard and at the entrance to it and sympathetic planting at the beds at the side of the church.

Areas for Improvement:

It would appear that there are only a small number of In Bloomers to care for such a large area. A recruitment drive with an open evening at the community centre or a leaflet drop may well attract more members which would be an advantage to all. Also to encourage a more positive contact with the school.

Woodlesford Gold Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

This enthusiastic group, continue to support their entry with commitment and continuity across the community. There's a high standard of maintenance and cleanliness around the area, colourful displays and features and evidence that they are well supported by the whole community.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The many colourful barrels along the main street, outside Jolly giraffes and planters at Pottery lane. The Village Green continues to improve and the sustainable planting is looking good. The mixed floral displays on Longdale estate lead by Pat and her team of helpers. Business's to note on route – Midland pub, Two pointers, Bookmakers, Bakers & Butchers. The high standards at Pickpocket Lane, the herbaceous borders at the lock, and Gazza's garden. The well maintained residential gardens and open spaces across the route.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to encourage the children at Langdales and future judges should look forward to seeing this area develop. Continue to encourage local business to take part; we noted “Smiffies” in spring, but didn’t support the summer display?

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility**Areas of Achievement:**

The cleanliness and lack of graffiti across the route. The gardens and wildlife areas at the Primary School and their recycling and composting. The continued plans at the community orchard and the local heritage site at the Lock. The natural spaces at the Maltings and good use of interpretation.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider interpretation at the Community Orchard – what varieties planted and why. Consider the refurbishment of the planters at the Maltings

SECTION C – Community Participation**Areas of Achievement:**

The involvement of the children’s units within the community, such as the Owl & Pussycat playgroup, Jolly Giraffes and the primary School is to be commended. The continued sponsorship of floral displays by the many business’s and the support given by the Two Pointers Pub. The highlight of the route was seeing the school garden and talking with the children, and its good to hear that parents are involved also. The amount of sponsorship signs, banners and posters across the entry.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider entering the Primary school in its own right next year.

Category 2B Small Town

Addingham Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

There is an immediate floral impact on entering the village. Eye catching displays are at every turn ranging from local businesses, gardens war memorial to the entrance to High House Mews.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

High House Mews and its envious church orchard and its encouragement of insects. Colourful and sustainable planting in many gardens e.g., Hen Den Garden and the Primary School.

Areas for Improvement:

To continue to encourage improvement of some gardens on the main street. Treatment of the seats.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Excellent work at the school. Children enthusiastic and conversant with recycling and sustainable horticulture. The great variety of wild flowers at the Marchup Nature Reserve. High standard of allotments and creation of new plots. Help for insects for increased pollination at the Church Orchard.

Areas for Improvement:

To continue to promote biodiversity and sustainability, to encourage wild life, especially bird and bat boxes.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Community brought together by good publicity and co-operation of a wide range of groups. Their combined activities result in some outstanding floral displays. Excellent focus on the school by many supporters.

Areas for Improvement:

Interesting to hear of fund raising activities and support of sponsors.

Dunnington Gold Rose Award - Category Winner

Spring Medal Position - Gold Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

What can be said about this entry that has not been said before? A pleasure to judge. Dunnington has colour coming from it at every corner, you cannot fail to be impressed by everyone's enthusiasm and knowledge of the area. The local school is now actively involved in the competition and have added colour to the boundary of the school having grown plants from seed at home and taken them back to school to plant. The group have even taken over grass cutting duties around the village. Mention should also be made about the probation service and the sterling work the young offenders do in the village and are much appreciated by the community for their efforts. Dunnington is a fine example of what can be achieved when the community pull together lead by a strong leader and tireless worker in Roy Freer.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Good use of planting throughout village. New wall planters with Impatiens have worked a treat especially outside the village hall. Good horticultural practice throughout village.

Areas for Improvement:

Beds on banking at end of main street re shaped but new laid grass not recovered. Need more plants and plenty of compost to raise them.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Hassacarr Nature reserve a very good example of nature conservation. Very clean entry and pride taken throughout.

Areas for Improvement:

Carry on as you are

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Fund raising achievements tremendous. Good evidence of year round involvement. Excellent portfolio. School now involved in competition on their own but also well supported by community.

Areas for Improvement:

You don't need judges to tell you how to go about raising funds. We need to learn from you Dunnington. Well done Roy and the gang.

Haworth Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

The excellent floral colour provided by the hanging basket scheme and innovative shop front displays provide a warm welcome to everyone visiting this busy tourist destination. The 'In Bloom' group, residents and businesses have worked hard to promote the entry whilst still retaining a good community spirit. Haworth Primary school deserves a special mention for involving local community groups and other schools in their impressive environmental and educational projects. The interest and enthusiasm shown by the pupils is a testament to the hard work and commitment of all the teaching staff and the facilitator Steve Thorpe.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The impact made by the new raised beds and success of the hanging basket scheme. The standard of floral displays outside residential and business properties. The excellent work carried out at Haworth Primary school in both practical and educational aspects of horticulture. The good horticultural practice shown in the ongoing renovation of Haworth Central Park. The standard of horticulture evident in the grounds of the Bronte Parsonage Museum, West Lane Baptist Church and Heathcliff retirement home.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to try and expand the hanging basket scheme and shop front displays on Main Street. Try to promote further partnership working between the volunteer Anthony Mead, Bradford Council and the 'In Bloom' group to continue to improve the standards of maintenance in the church grounds. Improve the sustainable planting to the rear of the Coronation Monument. Consider alternative planting around the commemorative plaque on Sun Street to create a more aesthetically pleasing feature.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The creation of an outdoor classroom which enables the school to maximise more of the school grounds and promote nature conservation and biodiversity. The work undertaken by Haworth Primary School in environmental initiatives such as the Food for Life partnership, Eco School Green Flag and the opening of a fair trade shop. The energy conservation and re-cycling initiatives shown at Haworth primary school. The success of the '1950's Art Wall' in showcasing the community's art skills. The group's success in obtaining much needed new seating from Bradford Council. The overall standard of cleanliness throughout the route. The partnership working with Bradford Council to secure new benches with 'In Bloom' plaques.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider stopping off at Ebor Lane Nature Reserve to showcase conservation and biodiversity and include Penistone Hill Country Park in a short presentation. Devise a maintenance program to eradicate the Japanese knotweed evident at the Ebor Lane Nature Reserve. Work with Bradford Council to develop specific maintenance schedules to improve the upkeep of the grounds to Haworth parish church.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The good work undertaken at the parish church by the volunteer Anthony Mead. Haworth primary school in providing access to youth/adult groups to undertake educational work in the school grounds. The link up by facilitator Steve Thorpe to other schools and organisations within the district to share horticultural facilities and good working practice. The involvement of parents and volunteers to maintain the Haworth school glasshouses and grounds during the holidays. The forthcoming flower and vegetable show at Haworth Primary School for all schools throughout the Bradford district which is also being filmed by Look North!! The APS sponsored signs at the bottom of Main Street.

Areas for Improvement:

A short presentation highlighting all year round activities and events would be beneficial. Continue to explore alternative labour resource in the form of Community service or corporate schemes to help with the entry. More evidence of 'In Bloom' publicity throughout the route would be beneficial. Continue to encourage business involvement with 'In Bloom' initiatives. The receipt of 'In Bloom' information in advance of judging would be of assistance.

Holmfirth Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

Holmfirth is a tourist town in the Holmes Valley and is most famous for the filming of the comedies of "Last of the summer wine". As an old mill village it has many buildings dating back to the 14th century. However, new development has been added where appropriate.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Residential gardens were of particular note as was the Riverside Gardens.

Areas for Improvement:

Business areas and retail areas may be encouraged to contribute more towards the entry and the areas around the car parks could possibly be improved.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Considerable work has been achieved on the management of local heritage which was good to see.

Areas for Improvement:

The entry was weak on conservation and bio-diversity and may be more work could be done in this area.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The local district council are very supportive of the Holmfirth entry and there was evidence of a number of events which was good to hear about.

Areas for Improvement:

There seemed to be little community involvement and little business support for the local in bloom entry, possibly this is an area that could be addressed.

Kirkbymoorside Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

It was pleasing to see, on arrival that the roundabout on the A170 is now looking completely refurbished. The warm welcome and presentation by the Bloom group members set the scene for an enjoyable visit.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Congratulations on the transformation of the Brownie Garden and its adjacent new seating. A lot of hard work has been done! Allotments, as expected, were in full production and the plants were obviously benefiting from all the compost that's been dug in. Besides individual compost heaps there were also 2 large communal heaps. Water butts collected rainwater from sheds. The members at the bowling green showed high standards of green care and horticultural maintenance of the area was colourful and pristine. West End was most attractive as the stone cottages' colourful baskets and tubs enhanced a clean well swept street. The annual planting was very colourful and well co-ordinated with a good choice of healthy plants. Areas of permanent planting e.g., the Doctor's Surgery, were well established and maintained.

Areas for Improvement:

Think carefully about safety at the Brownie Garden if access to the public allowed. There is a big drop to the pavement!

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The Brownie garden scheme incorporated a pond to accommodate the frogs that were there; bird feeders were sited too. Garden waste was composted on site and stone uncovered there was being used in the landscaping. An excellent start to the project. Work has begun on revamping the barrels and sweeping up round them. Those done look so much better – keep it up. Swop Days are held – this involves free swapping of unwanted items instead of them going to landfill. Comprehensive waste disposal site includes carton bank. Cooked food disposal is now in the pipeline.

Areas for Improvement:

Approach 1/ the organisations whose notice boards need a coat of paint, e.g., the memorial Hall as this would smarten up the façade.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

A DVD presentation and display board were most informative and preceded the judging tour. Posters in shops and houses announced the judging date and encouraged people to ‘do their bit’ and present a tidy attractive town. Cost cutting is achieved by rota of volunteers who water, deadhead and weed the tubs and planted areas. Evidence of a stable group, well organised for ongoing development.

Areas for Improvement:

The money raised is regular but small. Be careful of the rising cost of council work and plan carefully for next year. Funding could be an issue with an expected financial squeeze on public funds.

Menston Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

The progress the ‘In Bloom’ group has made since the spring was evident throughout the judging tour. The Railway Gardens and planting at the parish Church had progressed well and residents throughout the town were complimentary about the ‘In Bloom’ activities and the positive impact that these have made. The highlight of the day was a visit to the Menston Primary School where the enthusiastic pupils gave a tour of a number of commendable nature conservation and biodiversity initiatives. The Schools involvement in future ‘In Bloom’ activities will help increase the ‘In Bloom’ membership and continued success in the future.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The increase in floral displays in the town. The quality of the maintenance work at the Methodist Chapel. The sustainable planting in the parish Church grounds. The sponsored tree planting in the parish Church grounds. The standard of residential gardens at Hawksworth Drive, Ellor Gardens, Darry Hill and Darry Gardens. The colour and standard of the structural planting in the Railway Gardens raised beds and at the entrance to Farnley Road.

Areas for Improvement:

Work with Bradford Metropolitan Council to renovate the remaining beds at the Community Centre. Structural planting in the bed at the entrance to the Community Centre would help prevent Vehicle damage. Work with local residents to improve the small number of unkempt gardens in the town. Meet with Bradford Metropolitan Council to ensure the ‘In Bloom’ group has involvement with the re-development of the playing fields and open space from the design stage to implementation.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The wide range of recycling, nature conservation and biodiversity initiatives evident at the Menston Primary School. The wildflower meadow sown by the 'In Bloom' members. The excellent recycling facilities at the Community Centre and Ellor Ghyll waste sorting centre. The absence of litter throughout the route.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to develop the live camera feed from the bird box in the school grounds into the classroom. Work with Bradford Metropolitan Council to ensure a high standard of street sweeping throughout the whole route. Renovate the bench at the entrance to St Peters Way. Further information on the Menston Tree Trail would be beneficial.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The inclusion of horticulture and nature conservation as an integral part of the curriculum at the Primary School is to be commended. The continued development of Horticultural initiatives at the Meadowlee Home including the plant sale. The Schools entry of a float on the theme of biodiversity into the Otley Carnival. The excellent standard of work undertaken by the volunteers especially at the Methodist Chapel, parish Church and Ellor Gardens. The watering of the floral features outside their premises by the Co-op and the Station Restaurant.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider including a short presentation or display of the 'In Bloom' group's development, projects undertaken and future plans as part of the judging tour. Encourage Menston Primary School to enter Yorkshire in Bloom next year. Consider asking the Menston Primary School to design next year's 'In Bloom' poster. Further evidence of press coverage and promotional material would be of benefit. Continue to promote the sponsorship of floral features by local business. Continue to improve the partnership working with Bradford Metropolitan Council.

Messingham Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Messingham has a wealth of managed green spaces and community land, maintained to a high standard by Parish Council and committee groups such as the Cricket and Bowls clubs. This is perhaps even more impressive when you consider that the commercial history of the town is sand quarrying, a practice that continues today. The implication of this is that the soils are very sandy, a challenge in this year's climate.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The verge community flower beds in residential areas added welcome splashes of colour and were maintained to a very good standard, particularly those at Wendover Close, Middleton Close and Trinity Court and Westfield Drive. The front gardens and communal areas of Trentholme Drive and Leaburn Road were also of note and in keeping with the surrounding buildings. The recreation ground is very well used with 22 football teams and the venue for the Annual show.

Areas for Improvement:

What could have been the focal point of this entry (the war memorial) was sadly less than its best because of difficulties in keeping such a large space watered and weeded with volunteer power.

Replacing soils medium with a more heavy loam with large volume of organic matter and / or reducing size of the bedding area would help to retain moisture. The bold colour block planting would have looked marvellous if more care and attention could have been given. A plan of action for this area needs to be considered to make sure that the entry doesn't suffer in order for the war memorial display to be maintained. Good volunteers are hard to come by and it would be awful if this entry lost impetus because resource was taken from one area to keep another going.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The general cleanliness of this entry was very good. The installation of new dog bins in the area will no doubt help to keep the entry clean and tidy; however there was no evidence of a fouling problem.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to improve the quality and quantity of sustainable planting suitable for the dry sandy condition. Some of the street furniture was a little 'tired', perhaps an audit and plan for restoration or replacement would be appropriate? The unplanned inclusion of Green lane bridal track on judging day was a little hasty, and unfortunately drew the judges attention to a fly tipping hot spot.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Activities to promote and support the In Bloom initiative take place year round and it is clear that there are several key people that are very active with ongoing projects. There is a clear financial commitment to this project from the Parish council, but as belts are tightened the group may want to look at more external funding to push things forward.

Areas for Improvement:

The community planting around the cooperative makes a great display and it is worth perusing the business for more support in light of the difference that it makes to their property. In order to progress this group could really do with some more active members. Could a partnership with the school (once it's built!) nurture some enthusiasm amongst parents and children alike. It would be a great addition to this entry if the school was to play an active role.

Shipley Town Centre Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

The entry has many projects that emphasise the Civic pride of Shipley. The vibrant Market Square is impressive with its banners and colourful containers. The community benefits from great environmental work and help to young people.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The delightful Crowgill Park. High standard of baskets and beds in the Market Place, enhanced by attractive banners. Northcliffe flower beds and allotments.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to increase floral efforts by business premises. Increase viewing of floral work in gardens, churches and schools.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

At Northcliffe, the allotments are intensely developed, a great asset to the community whilst the Environmental Team continue to educate people on green issues. Also noted are the actions achieved by the Guides and Brownies.

Areas for Improvement:

To encourage other groups be engage in projects to improve the landscape or the natural world.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Awareness of community involvement is brought out by displays in the Focus Gallery, the 'in Bloom' shop and the forthcoming wheelbarrow competition. The efforts of young people at the Dream Achieves Project.

Areas for Improvement:

Further encourage more 'in Bloom' groups and competitions for young people.

Stamford Bridge Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

A warm welcome from Lis and Jayne, the Stamford Bridge coordinators on a damp afternoon. The tour of the town was full of excitement and interest, meeting many varied groups all with a single purpose-to show pride in Stamford Bridge. Their enthusiasm was contagious and made Stamford Bridge a very good entry! The school visit was very enjoyable. A group that is improving rapidly.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

55 colourful hanging baskets, all sponsored and at lower height brighten the Main street. Perimeter of Cornmill and Cornmill corner showed excellent permanent sustainable planting yet extremely colourful. Business participation was extensive with good displays at all, particularly worth mentioning are Solicitors, Fish and chip shop, Post office and Three Cups. Saxon Road gardens of high standard as were many –idea of Best Street garden competition was cleverly thought out – being judged the same afternoon! Verges well maintained and new Herb bed a good addition

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to turn more areas into more permanent planting –such as the steps and small areas on the verges in the centre. A little more attention to some communal areas-try not to add on too much until workforce expands. Good liaison with contractors of new toilet block –should make good focal point.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Conservation days showing how everyone can get involved-excellent leadership from Tim. Viaduct project extensive and impressive-wild flowers will come now with rain! Interesting to see Battle site and to meet the Viking re-enactment group-good to keep local heritage alive as with Drama group at old station. Litter free and now graffiti free too since huge project of cleaning viaduct walls. Street furniture well maintained and work of street cleansers very good.

Areas for Improvement:

Keep on with wild flowers at Sustrans walk being careful to maintain its natural habitats and appearance. Check washing of street signs and other signs in village.

SECTION C – Community Participation**Areas of Achievement:**

Showing good sustainability as a group-extra volunteers will come as you become more successful! Website good and easily accessed. Posters involving Art group and others very good and plentiful. Community involvement very high –worthy of special praise were school gardening and Eco groups and family conservation days. Support of East Riding CC should help to facilitate a lot of your efforts

Areas for Improvement:

New acknowledgement signs good-look to make them more permanent as funding allows. Enthusiasm of group was so good –just try to avoid extending over quickly with too many projects

Category 2C Town

Brighouse Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

The judges enjoyed their visit to Brighouse, where the route started at the Canal Basin, where residents from Millroyd Island have shown that with a little determination and strong community spirit a great deal of improvements can be made to the environment for the benefit of residents and visitors to Brighouse. Among the highlights was a visit to Wellholme Park where the commitment of the parks staff is clearly demonstrated by the standard of maintenance throughout and the creative bedding displays. The dedication and enthusiasm of the In Bloom group was visible throughout the visit. Managing the route timetable in future years needs some attention.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The floral areas in the town centre were very colourful. The bedding areas in Wellholme Park were well designed and maintained, the plant material was very good and created an amazing splash of colour contrasts. The planters, flower beds and vegetable area in the Canal Basin brightened up the area thanks to the volunteers. Good displays of hanging baskets at Just Beauty, Wetherspoons and The Black Bull. The judges were impressed with the well maintained grounds at Bailiff Bridge, Memorial Gardens and Sunnybank Drive Community Garden. The lilac and blue colour scheme for both hanging baskets and flower beds in the town centre created a good colour contrast. The enthusiasm of the pupils at St Johns School impressed the judges.

Areas for Improvement:

The group should encourage the Cornelius Company to embrace more aspects of the competition. The standard of the Canal Basin could have been improved by British Waterways removing weeds and tidying their area before the judging takes place. Some hard standing areas in the Town Centre needed some weed control. More locations needed in the residential and community gardening section. Consider replacing the wooden flower boxes in the town centre. The rose beds at Clifton War Memorial are looking tired and need some attention.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The environmental facilities at Clifton St John's School were outstanding and included a bird table, pond, compost heap, water butts and vegetable and flower garden. Well done to everyone involved. The use of mulches and permanent planting throughout the area show the foresight and responsibility of the people involved. The vegetable bed and the floral areas at the Canal Basin are well maintained and indicates the good work of the volunteers. The recycling of water and the composting of materials at Sunnybank Drive needs to be commended. The picnic area at Bailiff Bridge is an exciting project which will enhance this natural area in the future. The route around Brighouse was very clean, with no litter, graffiti or dog fouling.

Areas for Improvement:

More examples of local heritage and recycling schemes.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The raised vegetable plots at Clifton St Johns School were each class has its own growing area. The involvement of various businesses in the Town Centre providing floral baskets. The involvement of all

sections of the community at Bailiff Bridge Memorial Gardens and the nearby picnic project. The creation of an allotment area in Wellholme Park was the planting and maintenance is carried out by people with special needs, assisted by two allotment holders.

Areas for Improvement:

An increase in the Local Bloom initiative and evidence of future projects. More evidence of all year round activity and events. Whilst there are no marks for the production of the portfolio it could be more comprehensive covering the different sections of the marking criteria and including more colour prints

Cottingham Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

It was good to see Cottingham with its summer floral displays provided by East Riding Council, Parish Council, businesses, organisations and residents. The new 'big tubs' are impressive. There are several organisations working to maintain a range of attractive facilities from wildlife areas to formal gardens. Thank you to Cllr Wynn Knight for the organising and coordinating the tours.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

There were many colourful floral displays in Cottingham and the new 'big tubs' with 'floral arms' added a new dimension to the already impressive barrier baskets and excellent displays on business premises – Purple Cow café, Frank Pullan butchers, Tiger Inn, The Railway pub, The King William IV with its attractive 'smokers garden' and several more. West Green, Thwaite roundabout floral displays and the green spaces were well maintained and there were many colourful private gardens. The Botanic garden is a credit to the many 'Friends' and volunteers who help to maintain and develop the grounds of this satellite of Hull university. The 100-plot allotment site with climbing roses on the railings. The grounds of Cottingham High School were well maintained as was the special Garden area where a selection of students are able to grow veg and fruit and the produce used by the school catering staff.

Areas for Improvement:

Though we praised the maintenance of the cemetery in spring the standards were not the same in summer. It would have been good to meet the students at the school who are involved in the 'Garden'. The church grounds looked a little untidy from the outside. The detail maintenance of some public areas could be to higher standard.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The extensive Mill Beck wildlife area is a great credit to the Cottingham Wild Spaces group who are responsible for the area, encouraging young people to maintain and plant shrubs and trees. The adjacent George V playing fields are well used which has an active Friends group and is aiming for Green Flag status. The Memorial Garden has had the railings refurbished to a high standard reflecting the status of this feature. It is a great credit to the Friends of the Botanic Garden with the 8 volunteers and 500 Friends who are undertaking a mammoth task in maintaining and developing these grounds and trying to maintain its botanical status on behalf of Hull University.

Areas for Improvement:

The streets were generally clean but just need that bit extra care in terms of removing weeds. The grounds of the Memorial garden needs a 'facelift' to make it extra special in line with the railings at the entrance.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Cottingham in Bloom is a Parish Council campaign and coordinates the bloom effort which is enhanced by the several groups including the Wild spaces group and other organisations including the Scouts, Friends of the Botanic Gardens and several more.

Areas for Improvement:

The judges feel that Cottingham in Bloom campaign would be enhanced if it became a stand alone group with the support from all sectors of the community including the commercial and business sector and the existing volunteer groups and individuals. It is possible that funding for specific projects may be easier to procure if it is separate from the Parish Council. Primary schools should encourage children to be involved in 'Grow it Cook it' or other similar campaigns for children and the Bloom group could assist in this campaign utilising their results as part of a submission for the Yorkshire in Bloom entry.

Driffield Gold Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Gold Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

To everyone's delight in its first decade, the In Bloom Group has completely transformed the town. All visitors' comments and praises are of appreciation. Schoolgirl Isabell Foss's World Cup Designated Garden, the Guides Trefoil Garden, planting everywhere, the superb Spellogate and large well maintained allotments were all a joy to see.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The whole communities' involvement whatever status contributing to a dedicated in Bloom Team was completely evident. The high standard, pride and commitment makes it a really special entry for which everyone can be very proud.

Areas for Improvement:

Everyone now knows what is achievable if the standards are maintained.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

A town to be justly proud of its appearance and the hugh welcome it gives to its visitors.

Areas for Improvement:

It's hard to get to the tope, but just maintain the standards to remain there.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The success of bringing the whole community to work together certainly shows, and as judges, gives us a great pleasure in congratulating everyone. An outstanding entry – well done!

Areas for Improvement:

You are good enough to be judges yourself.

Elloughton cum Brough Silver Gilt Rose Award
Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

Elloughton cum Brough continues to engage the whole community in the 'In Bloom' initiative. Although the weather has not been kind, being exceptionally dry, the group have endeavoured to improve the area through imagination and interesting planting. The excellent Newsletter is a good way of disseminating information down to the whole population and is a credit to the group. Overall a very good entry suffering a little in a dry summer.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

As in Spring the entrance to Spindle Walk was a great credit to the 'maintenance team'. The excellent hanging baskets at Brough Shopping Park are a credit to the Town. The maintenance of the green spaces throughout the area was excellent.

Areas for Improvement:

It was evident the standard of maintenance had slipped from Spring, this it was felt was mainly due to the dry weather conditions, perhaps a little more help with watering to cater for such conditions may be of benefit. Some of the sustainable/permanent planting is getting a little tired and would benefit from replacing, with new plants and maybe a little more adventurous choice of species.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The nature area at Brough School, complete with "rabbit" was a great addition to the school grounds and an obvious benefit to the pupils. As in Spring the Town was spotlessly clean and tidy, a real credit to the Bloom Group and Council. The Sedum Roof at Walton School was a great addition to the tour, probably the largest example the judges have ever seen.

Areas for Improvement:

It would benefit the group to have some sort of composting facility locally they can use, like wise the strategic positioning of water butts may ease any future dry spells. In future tours maybe a little information on the heritage of the area would be of benefit. Not enough emphasis was placed on conservation, perhaps a visit to an area other than Spindle Wood, which was shown in spring would help demonstrate this important element of the criteria.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The excellent Newsletter distributed throughout the area is a great addition, as is the new web site pages. The ongoing support from local businesses so important to Bloom Groups is to be commended. The recording of volunteer's hours will reap benefits in any future funding applications.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to develop fund raising ideas and awareness of the Gardens Competition. The engagement with the local schools although commendable is not being exploited to its full potential. Carefully consider the route taken on judging day, as some areas were of questionable value.

Garforth Silver Rose Award
Spring Medal Position Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

The enthusiasm of the new group continues to go from strength to strength. They have gained more sponsorship and more members since our spring visit. Their involvement with other groups and schools ensures a wide range of community involvement. The work of a sub group in Coupland Road, show what community gardening can achieve. The group has constructed new planting areas, fences and made the area litter free. They have also resolved parking issues making overall improvements to their environment.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The Fairburn Drive new garden created by the group and maintained by a resident. Gaining more sponsorship and members. Working with a number of schools.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to work to resolve the rusty planting issue on the main street. Consider maintenance issues in expansion plans. Apply the lessons learnt to date in respect of plant selection and what will provide best effect for the different situations you encounter.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The litter management was excellent and the provision of dog only areas may help with other issues. Re cycling and re use are second nature to the group. The small nature area at the church.

Areas for Improvement:

To pursue the joint project with the scouts in respect of the nature area.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Growing membership is positive news. The news letter and posters. The pub completion has had a positive effect of improving flower displays.

Areas for Improvement:

At this stage the main recommendation is to continue to consolidate the success you have already achieved.

Horsforth Silver Gilt Rose Award
Spring Medal Position – Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

A tremendous improvement in all aspects of our visit, from the displays sponsored by different organizations, the involvement of the school to the increase in the number of businesses pledging their support to Horsforth in Bloom – well done everyone!

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The well planted and maintained hanging baskets and troughs throughout the route. Excellent school gardens and a beautifully kept park. The involvement of many pubs and businesses and the support shown by Hall Lane front gardens were impressive as was the Central Methodist Church gardens.

Areas for Improvement:

Are there plans for sustainable planting in the herbaceous borders in the park for when the plants die back to extend the period of interest?

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Widespread wildlife areas round the town including the old burial ground which had a diverse range of natural planting. A very tidy, clean town.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider giving more purpose to the paved area in the Peace Gardens to encourage its use.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Very impressed with the number of new businesses involved. The school contribution was a pleasure to see.

Areas for Improvement:

Perhaps fewer people in the judges group with individuals having a spot at designated areas on the route.

Ilkley Gold Rose Award - Category Winner

Spring Medal Position - Gold Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

There were many improvements to see since the judge's last visit. The involvement of local businesses is to be congratulated and hopefully they can encourage more of them to participate and enhance the town's beauty. The involvement of children grown their own food was also encouraging. The new raised bed at Abbeyfield was well planted with choice shrubs.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Overall displays were very good. The centenary carpet bedding display of the Motor Club had some nice fine detail in it. Good floral displays at Lishman's butchers and at Susan Cuthertson Solicitors.

Areas for Improvement:

Dead heading plants will prolong the flowing period.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The new landscaping outside Angus Roberts Estate Agents is a big improvement and opens up the view. Litter bins are emptied three times a week with daily inspections of landscaped areas. We liked the mature planting at Wanbeck. Everywhere we saw was clean and tidy.

Areas for Improvement:

It is a pity the fountain by the Monkey Rack can't be re-instated.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

We were impressed by the gardens at the Bowling Club, at a private garden on Back Weston Road and the gardens on Skelda Rise. Pleased the Girl Guides and Brownies have been involved in this their centenary year. Community involved with weeding and caring for the grounds by the Manor House – good sweet peas!

Areas for Improvement:

A significant care of dedicated workers, who do it on a regular basis, but would be good to get more people taking part.

Knaresborough Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

Knaresborough is a town much visited by the people of Yorkshire and is rightly proud of its history. The “In Bloom” group are enthusiastic and the results show this enthusiasm. The seasonal bedding was excellent and all areas visited were totally weed free, well tended and also totally litter free, remarkable for a town receiving so many visitors. As with the Spring judging the community spirit and wide range of groups involved was impressive. Increased posters relating to the “In Bloom” and the Summer newsletter should increase awareness in the town.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Outstanding flower bed design by Rebecca Wood and subsequent planting by HBC to celebrate 800 years since first Royal Maundy at Knaresborough Castle. Very good bedding at Knaresborough House. New planters in High Street. Good displays at Green Dragon Yard, window boxes at holiday flats and new baskets at World's End. Low Bridge caravan park was outstanding, congratulations to Bev. on her excellent work. Work at Bebra Gardens replanting and community use of this area. Areas of parkland well maintained.

Areas for Improvement:

Some of the oak barrel planters would have looked better re-stained and banding painted black.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Historical mosaic at Castle Yard. Railway Station – enthusiasm of Doris to look after this, rebuilt trolleys well planted and art boards will brighten up opposite platform. Leaflet on town windows trail. Renaissance Knaresborough shop front scheme. Herb Garden by Viv and Pete at Chapel in the Rock and flowers associated with Mary – good research by Viv. New terrace at viaduct and interpretation boards. Complete absence of litter, graffiti and fly posting etc.

Areas for Improvement:

Pleased to see land at Boroughbridge Road traffic lights is now being developed this will improve one of the main approaches into the town

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Involvement of local schools, design a flower bed competition, photographic competition etc. Liked the way the planted area at Aspin Park School was linked to the curriculum and different years

given ownership of different areas, congratulations on the green flag award, all hard landscaping recycled, excellent to be featured in Garden Answers and the enthusiasm of Wendy Taylor was infectious. Continued development of Jacob Smith Park project with schools planting acorns and trees to be grown on by HBC. Ongoing projects reaching fruition e.g., refurbishment of third railway trolley, Summer garden competition, schools competitions. Increased posters across town and newsletter raising profile.

Areas for Improvement:

Were the 2 tier planters introduced in the market place as outlined at the Spring judging - we did not see these?

Morley Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Again a very warm welcome from everybody, really trying their best to further improve their town, with continued success from the whole community. The judges left with a strong feeling of total commitment from everyone.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The whole town's appearance and standards are to be commended, an excellent entry. The Beryl Burton Garden is superb. Savings in compost and the geranium trails are interesting.

Areas for Improvement:

To hear that the side of the Town Hall Gardens improvement is in Morley in Blooms future plans.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

All street furniture improvement noticeable. Interesting diverse range of seasons planting at Seigan Close.

Areas for Improvement:

Try to conserve water within the school grounds.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Delighted at Fountains Primary Schools recent achievements. Woodcross wildlife area interest and involvement across all ages. Town Halls award ceremony in recognition of people's achievements.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to support each other to maintain this high standard.

Newby & Scalby Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

The entrance planters make residents and visitors alike, aware that this area is well involved with the "In Bloom" organisation. Some of the business floral contributions were very good and of a high standard. Rose Cottage deserves a special mention.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The open day that the in bloomers are hosting is a great idea that will we are sure bring like minded individuals together may pay dividends. It is noted that the public houses are far better than our visit in spring. The allotments are a credit to all.

Areas for Improvement:

More of the same try to get more floral wow some business still not supporting you.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The sea cut is a great green lung for this entrant and is managed sympathetically, not many entrants will have otters within their towns. The lack of litter etc is to be commended, and has become a feature of this entrant.

Areas for Improvement:

The area around the heavily shaded area near the church we mentioned at the spring visit. There maybe opportunities to call on the Scarborough Council services to ask for some “out of the box thinking “ on this one. We do not want to be seen to be creating problems for the group, but such a focal point would we feel benefit from some further work.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

As we high lighted in the spring comments this is a strong point with this group. The visit to St Catherine’s hospice under lined the working for the good of all.

Areas for Improvement:

If all the business’s where of the standard of the Rose Cottage you could run away with gold.

Northallerton Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Initial impressions walking through the Millenium Garden, the children’s play area and past the Information Centre, was of grass cutting and strimming in Northallerton to a high standard. Roundabouts at either end of the High Street were most eye-catching, and special note should be made of the Girl Guides Centenary roundabout. Throughout the visit, the judges were pleased to meet many people involved in this detailed entry. Special mention should be made of Northallerton Cemetery, the community allotments and Castle Close gardens. Floral features at Mount Vale nursing home were excellent, and praise should be given to the gardener at the Friarage Hospital for all his efforts. Congratulations to the staff and children at Bullamoor Primary School for all their achievements. Hambleton District Council Offices and County Hall were well worthy of inclusion in the itinerary. Walking along the High Street to Gardeners Court and Walkland Way revealed the many floral features and the involvement of local businesses. An excellent presentation finished at the delightful back lane of Malpas Road.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Such were the efforts of, and the encouragement given by the Northallerton Blooming Together Group, that so many played a part in this very detailed presentation. The floral features in the Smoke Room at the rear of Bar One Hundred, and at the rear courtyard of the Golden Lion being good examples.

Areas for Improvement:

It was disappointing that none of the major banks played any part in Northallerton's presentation.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

It was encouraging to see the environmental awareness of the schoolchildren at Bullamoor Junior School. The cleanliness and lack of litter and graffiti is to be commended. The presentation on biodiversity, though brief, was very positive. The committee on the restoration of 'Alleys and hidden corners' are wished every success

Areas for Improvement:

The judges hope that the children of Bullamoor Junior School can make good use of the newly dug individual vegetable plots.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

There was much evidence of community participation and a willingness to maintain and improve parts of Northallerton – the volunteers who keep the town cemetery so neat and tidy and those who look after and man the Information Centre being good examples.

Areas for Improvement:

Despite the many YIB Summer Judging Day posters being handed out, and the general interest amongst local people, it was disappointing that the local press appeared not to record the occasion. The committee on the restoration of 'Alleys and hidden corners' are wished every success.

Otley Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Otleys bloom group efforts are beginning to have results in this busy market town. They have certainly got the Otley businesses on board and despite financially difficult times premises throughout this entry were adorned with baskets and planters. A well organised route and good to meet individuals and groups along the way. Nice to visit Otleys hidden wetlands area. What a contrast to its busy roads. Well worth the walk through the shopping area and its hidden courtyards and array of planters and baskets before coming out into the clean and sunny market place. Definitely an entry going in the right direction and well worth a visit.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Floralisation of public houses around the town. Credit to all concerned. Good quality baskets in abundance also private businesses should not be forgotten in these comments. Barrier boxes and planters along route all a good standard. Disabled allotments well worth the visit.

Areas for Improvement:

Encourage planters by bus station entrance to brighten up corner.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Wharton's Middle School very good Improvements to street furniture carried out in Otley park and Community garden opposite fire station. Landscaping around Otley Hospital grounds. Otley Wetlands Trust. Excellent

Areas for Improvement:

Have fly posting removed in centre of town. Check accessibility and cleanliness of sites before visiting. Planters at Prince Henry's School good but spoilt by litter on walking route leading up to planters. Dog fouling in Otley Park. Check ownership of small pockets of land around village suitable for sustainable planting. Make sure newly planted trees watered through period of drought for first few years and record their development.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

All round community involvement could not be bettered and everyone had their own specialist areas. Could not fault community effort. Good to see bloom link with schools in area.

Areas for Improvement:

More evidence of young people working in community.

Pocklington Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Pocklington is a lovely and lively market town. The summer tour was well conducted at just the right pace and with some new features not seen in spring. It is understandable that the group have struggled with poor weather conditions in a cold spring and very dry summer. Try to get your preparations for Spring 2011 started a little earlier and you will reap the benefits. Overall a very good summer tour.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The allotments site was beautifully maintained by an enthusiastic group. Keith Housemans plot was exemplary and the starter plot idea a great introduction for novice gardeners. The carpet bed at the church was excellent and although expensive would be worth considering again in 2011. It suits this location perfectly. Mr Higgins (Hairdresser) Algarth Road continues to produce a magnificent spectacle on his corner plot. Pocklington has many excellent residential gardens not least the winner of the Pocklington in Bloom Best Kept Gardens Competition. The council Offices and Betterton Court looked very colourful. Ian Murphy and his team at Burnby Hall are to be congratulated on their fantastic work at Burnby Hall.

Areas for Improvement:

Try to equalise the balance between spring and summer to maximise the spring judging opportunities. Even out the quality of plants in the under sign road side planting.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The judges were most impressed by the dedication and skill of volunteer painter Carl. He was doing a great job contributing to the smartness of the town. The Green Waste scheme is going from strength to strength. Many water collection points at the allotments and the environmental features at the school were good to see. The new sedum roof at Burnby Hall is beginning to establish itself. Generally the whole town was spotlessly clean and the streets were free of pavement weeds.

Areas for Improvement:

Local heritage needs building on. Try to make more of your market town agricultural heritage.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The judges could see how much work has gone into the Pocklington in Bloom summer entry by Richard and John and the team behind them. Bringing the Weekly Weeders from Pocklington school into the route was an excellent idea. Try to incorporate it next year when the school is still in session so the pupils can be involved.

Areas for Improvement:

Although we met the enthusiastic children at Pocklington Junior School it would have been nice to see some youthful input on the route. Could we suggest a simple poster competition in shop windows to raise awareness of the Yorkshire in Bloom competition? The bookshop makes a great gardening display in their window. Could other businesses be encouraged to do the same? Could you show the judges more evidence of any press and publicity? Do you keep a record of all that you do as a group?

Rothwell Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Much work has been undertaken since our spring visit. A stronger link has been formed with the Park's staff which is providing positive benefits for the community. Floral displays were of a very good standard, the colour coordination worked very well throughout the central area. Maintenance standards were good and litter was absent. The car park remains issues that once resolved will improve the centre as it covers a large area.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Plant co ordination and selection. The move to change planter types to reduce revenue costs and maintenance needs. The quality of the park with sports areas formal gardens and community space for events.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to attempt to complete the car park planting. Resolve the issues with the ground level library bed.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Re cycling takes place in conjunction with the park, items such as planters are relocated and re used. The efforts of the group make a big impact on the environment of the area, with some large projects having been undertaken successfully.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider if more conservation work or areas could be included in the route. Keep and show records of the work undertaken and any press reports.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Support shown by the number of window posters along the route. The school hanging basket completion. Promotional stand at the carnival. Financial strength of the group.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue with attempts to strengthen the group and increase numbers. Ensure capacity for maintenance exists to avoid over expansion.

Skipton Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

The judges were treated to an interesting tour pointing some of the hidden gems of Skipton. The work at the gateways to the town has paid off and the recent work at the Bus Station has made an impact to visitors and will be shared by the local residents. The colourful baskets and tubs at the station also help to provide a warm welcome. Great support from Craven College, Stepping Stones, local businesses and the Rotary Club have really made a difference to the town and the Bloom group should be proud of their achievements over the last five years.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The various improvements to the bus station including the barrier baskets and the interesting herbaceous planting Good gardens at Overdale Park and it was great to meet Judith Wilson and see how much she had achieved in such a short time. Also an excellent collection of pots at no 2 Chapel Hill Good hanging baskets on Bussie Lizzies, Red Lion, Black Horse, the public toilets and great colour at the Oddfellows Club and even vegetables growing in the pots at Napiers Hill restaurant. There are some hidden corners of colour around Skipton which add to the colour including Skipton Auto Services. Excellent displays by the team at Holy Trinity Church lead by Enid create great pleasure for many residents and visitors

Areas for Improvement:

Consider different species for the hanging baskets around the town to make them more visible. Consider the route with care, it's not worth fitting in a site if on the way the areas are not up to standard

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Great to see the meadow being conserved at Gawflats Meadow by the Civic Society. Good to see that training for traditional rural crafts are being maintained at the Dry Stone Walling Centre and there

are future plans for a coppicing area and hedge laying. Not only is the area a teaching space but with the interpretation boards it is an attractive area for the public. The floral canal boats provided by Craven College make a great addition to this heritage area

Areas for Improvement:

Consider some interpretation at Gawflats meadow or a leaflet to identify the different species. SIB need to be vigilant on the tour for litter and graffiti. The barrels at the canal basin are well painted maybe barrels in other areas will be considered to be to painted or treated. Consider a heritage walk leaflet to make a better visitor experience by pointing out some of the historic buildings and features around the town. Funding may be available from Award for All. Maybe the Civic Society would help with this scheme or a school or college would find it an interesting project. Further detail and evidence about recycling would be a useful addition

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The inspirational Rotary Butterfly Gardens Project in the primary and nursery schools and the knock on affect through the whole curriculum at many of the schools. It was great to visit Brougham Street nursery and see how far the nursery has taken the butterfly project, involving the whole nursery and in all elements of the teaching. The baskets and tubs at Skipton Station platform were colourful and well maintained and the site should be considered for a special category in 2011. Craven College and Stepping Stones are a valuable asset to the town and In Bloom the work and projects they complete around the town really enhance it for the residents and visitors and give the students a chance to get involved with the community. The allotment site was well worth a visit and obviously high class produce is grown here. One of the best allotment we have seen for use of space is on this site, with all the varieties labelled

Areas for Improvement:

The group needs to continue to publicise the campaign and may want to consider banners, newsletters, posters or T-shirts for the group to publicise their work and the group further. Signage on the new projects at the bus station highlighting the funding partners and groups involved in planting would further publicise the group. The group needs to fill the judging time with content even when driving around the bypass. Discussion could include funding or future projects. It was good to see the Soroptimists garden on the tour. Although in a difficult position maybe in future years a stop could be considered to meet one of the Soroptimists. Skipton in bloom should continue to link up with other groups with projects such as the excellent butterfly project by the Rotary Club.

Todmorden Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

A decade of dedicated members has truly made its mark on the town, with improvements almost everywhere.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The medical centre grounds are very impressive and interesting. Also the refurbished Peace Garden in now completed.

Areas for Improvement:

Interesting news for the Sensory Garden upgrade.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Large areas of the town are maintained to a very high standard. The enclosed vegetable garden at Feney Lee Primary School is another delight.

Areas for Improvement:

An in Bloom group now 10 years old and showing vast improvements – congratulations.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The wonderful new barrier planters are excellent. Everywhere the in Blooms efforts and partnerships are enjoyed by everyone.

Areas for Improvement:

Keep up the good work.

Category 2D Large Town/Small City (12 – 35k)

Baildon Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Baildon is a large area to cover for the number of people involved. Although they have not been YIB for long they are improving all the time the plantings around the town look good and the private gardens we saw were very good. Hall Cliffe Gardens is a real attribute to the town and full use should be made of this area.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

St. James's Church was outstanding we admired the biblical theme. Lynne Sugden's garden was an exceptional example of gardening on the edge.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider cover in holidays for watering to give continuity.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Hall Cliffe Community Gardens was a pleasure to walk round. The recycling of garden waste, colour themed borders and wild life areas were good for education.

Areas for Improvement:

Detritus at the memorial garden entrance and the waste bin needed attention. Also the bench was broken. The road up to the recycling depot could be under planted with *Pachysandra terminalis*, *Vinca minor* or *Euphorbia palustris*.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Good to have college students involved in making and looking after hanging baskets. Promotional posters were very well done.

Areas for Improvement:

Increase business support by indicating the benefits of floral displays outside their premises. Working with other groups e.g. FOBM will increase awareness of activities in the town.

Batley Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

Batley is famous for it's Variety Club where many notable acts have played there including Cliff Richards, Roy Orbison, Louis Armstrong and many others, it is still open for business but is now known as The Frontier. The largest park in Batley is Wilton Park or Batley Park to the locals, it contains many amenities including a large lake, butterfly house, an observatory and Bagshaw Museum. This is one of the locations which has been judged as part of Batley's entry into the competition. Managing the route timetable in future years needs some attention.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The floral areas at the bottom of Wilton Park were very colourful with a good choice of plants. The bedding areas in the Memorial Gardens were to high standard as was the herbaceous borders. The gardens at Denholme Court were well maintained and colourful, with hay racks, tiered planters and flower beds. The tiered and lamp post planters along with the floral barrels gave splashes of colour to the town centre

Areas for Improvement:

The proposal to plant up the fountain at the top of Wilton Park will improve this area. The maintenance of the rose bed area at the top of Wilton Park needs considerable improvement along with gapping up where appropriate. More emphasis should be placed on areas in the business and premises section of the competition. Be aware of the area you take the judges past when planning your route. The planting of alpines in the rockery at the bottom of Wilton Park will enhance this area.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The use of mulches throughout the judging route is to be applauded. The installation of bird boxes at Denholme Court, Wilton Park and Memorial Gardens. The herb plants in the Library bed providing an habitat for insects and butterflies. Throughout the route areas were clean and tidy with no sign of litter, graffiti or dog fouling. The planting of insect loving plants outside the butterfly house at Wilton Park . The allotment, orchard and glasshouse at the business centre providing crops for sale and home. The local heritage display on the first floor of the library was extremely informative and well planned

Areas for Improvement:

More attention to street furniture would provide more valuable marks. The permanent planting in the borders at the bottom of Wilton Park will enhance this part of the entry. The judges would like to see more practical evidence of conservation and biodiversity. The installation of identification boards in the woodland area identifying woodland species.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The garden of Mr Oldroyd (the gardens competition winner) and his neighbour was an amazing sight, with masses of colour and different types of plant materials. The allotment, fruit orchard and glasshouse at the Business and Enterprise Centre providing valuable teaching aids for the pupils. The valuable work by the friends of Wilton Park planting flower beds, constructing a compost heap and log pile. The butterfly house at Wilton Park which caters for children of all ages and needs along with members of the public

Areas for Improvement:

The proposed expansion of the growing area at the Business and Enterprise Centre will allow more pupils to take part in the scheme It would be beneficial to meet someone from the different community groups on site

Beverley Silver Gilt Rose Award - Category Winner

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

This is a lovely town with many unusual and attractive features, which this year was enhanced by the new floral feature at the entrance to the Minster, and the Fred Ewell painting trail and the Town Trail

of sculptures. The three schools made a considerable contribution to this entry. Thank you to Chris Dawson and his team for organising the tours and the Toll Gavel Methodist church for refreshments.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

What a superb place to start the tour and viewing the excellent displays and grounds at the Racecourse. 28 colourful barrier baskets at main intersections along the route and 50 lamppost baskets throughout the town. The new excellent display at the entrance to Beverley Minster. Flower Towers of geraniums and 3 tier barrels adorned various locations both in the centre and outer areas. Commercial and business premises had provided floral features – Rose and Crown, Sessions, Tesco planters, Tea Cosy café, Green Dragon pub, Royal Standard pub and Market Cross baskets, to mention a few. The three schools, St Mary's, St John's and Molescroft had produced excellent work in promoting and educating children in gardening and learning about environment issues. Station Square gardens were attractive with floral tubs enhancing the main shrub structure planting.

Areas for Improvement:

The locations of some of the planters were rather exposed which had affected the quality of the plants, perhaps consider relocating into more clement positions. The maintenance of some landscape areas and open spaces needs upgrading.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The Westwood pasture and wildlife area looks very inviting and is a wonderful asset for the community. The Fred Ewell's painting trail organised by the Civic Society is an innovative feature to extend visitor appeal, as is the Town Trail with its attractive and intriguing sculptures and floral beds throughout the town. The centre of the town was very clean and tidy thanks to the diligence of the street cleaners.

Areas for Improvement:

Future visits for judges should include more detailed information and inspection of the Westwood pasture and woodland project. Some street and open space furniture requires attention.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

There are obviously several enthusiastic groups playing an important role in promoting and improving the environment of Beverley. The three schools are playing a vital part in future generations learning about their environment and where food comes from and how to grow it.

Areas for Improvement:

It would be interesting to know if senior schools are carrying forward the interest of primary school children into later years. All groups, businesses and organisations in the town need to work together to produce higher standards throughout Beverley and this could produce higher environmental and economic benefits for everyone.

Goole Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

It was great to go back to see the many and varied improvements made throughout Goole. This relatively new group has tremendous potential to move forward within the campaign, their encouragement of young people is to be commended as is the enthusiasm of the youngsters. The

town centre baskets are some of the best the judges have seen anywhere and typifying the quality environment the group are striving for.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The excellent hanging baskets throughout the town centre. The first attempt at carpet bedding an emblem is commendable and the staff are to be congratulated. The high standard of private gardens seen on the tour was a credit to the area.

Areas for Improvement:

A greater emphasis must be made on the tour of the very impressive town centre planting. The Leisure Centre planting was poor with older planting showing signs of neglect it may be prudent on future tours to avoid this site until improvements can be made. The newly designed planting on Normandy Way Roundabout required more regular maintenance, with some dead and dying plants showing.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The information given by the District Council's Re-cycling representative was very informative. The maintenance of the Seaman's Memorial was excellent with healthy and appropriate planting. The new themes features at the council offices are to be commended. As always the work of the Green Team is a great credit to the Town. The information provided by the Friends of Oakhill was excellent.

Areas for Improvement:

There was a considerable amount of graffiti and litter along the Riverside walkway. Other areas of the town were spoilt by instances of litter such as Normandy Way. Some elements of street furniture, in particular public seats were in need of some maintenance, perhaps on future tours a programme of any planned maintenance could be shown to the judges. Although some information on conservation was displayed it would be good to show the judges a more comprehensive site.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The involvement of the pupils of Goole High School in various initiatives, including the revamp of the Railway Station is excellent. The tremendous support Morrison's Supermarkets have provided enabling the Bloom banners on most roads into Goole, this level of support is most unusual for a supermarket. The great improvements made through the Advance Goole Programme which has provided facelifts for several areas of Goole.

Areas for Improvement:

Perhaps look to developing a wider 'In Bloom' group totally independent of the Town Council with greater public participation. Expand on the already successful Best Kept Gardens Competition. It would be good to see a spreadsheet of the Bloom groups finances to see the level of financial support generated by the group and their spend.

Pontefract Bronze Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Bronze

Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

The town presents a much improved floral appearance. Many environmental projects are evident. The Racecourse provides a huge focal point for the community to observe wildlife in all its forms. There is renewed support for its 'In Bloom' activities.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Highlight is the 'UK Coal' flower bed designed and worked on by the XL Club. Good to see more flower beds, troughs and hanging baskets. Great input into flowers and vegetables by schools.

Areas for Improvement:

See a wider range of residential gardens. More floral participation by businesses in general, particularly in the town centre.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The vast area of the Racecourse provides ample space for many environmental projects. The schools visited have a great grasp of nature strongly supporting bio-diversity.

Areas for Improvement:

To generate more tree planting. Eradication of weeds, and grass in some areas. Increase publicity to encourage recycling.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Several businesses have given valuable financial and practical support for many projects. Work by the Lioness Group, uniformed groups and schools have all made their mark. Prince of Wales Hospice has many helpers who maintain a high standard of horticulture.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to seek new initiatives to gain publicity and improve awareness of the importance of 'Pontefract in Bloom'. Voluntary groups to meet the judges. Encourage young people to help in the Hospice and sheltered housing.

Pudsey Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

Again the efforts of the In Bloom Group continue to try and bring the whole community together, particularly Pudsey Low Town Primary School for their outstanding contributions creating future generations of interested gardeners.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The Crimbles Allotment site is to be highly commended. Delighted to be part of the local hostellers awards ceremony, joint winners; the Fleece and The Marsh, both showing lovely displays.

Areas for Improvement:

Alpine planting in difficult barriers troughs will hopefully be an improvement.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The in Bloom's new beds and signage helps to raise awareness of the groups activities. The use of shoddy in the bandstand hanging baskets has been a huge success.

Areas for Improvement:

Disappointment at the lack of help from local council street cleaning activities. More bird boxes could be installed.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

An outstanding contribution from the local schools, Pudsey Lowtown, Mrs. Julie Kirk-Dooley's excellent involvement should be highly commended showing great achievements. They are award winners in the Leeds in Blooms schools competition.

Areas for Improvement:

Still no display anywhere of the in Blooms success and activities. Empty premises would be an ideal place to promote the local in Bloom Group.

Ripon Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

A most enjoyable visit. Ripon in Bloom are enthusiastic and will continue to go from strength to strength. The judges were impressed by the cleanliness and lack of graffiti etc. in the city and in particular with Ripon Cathedral Church of England Primary School and the involvement of the children in the projects. The seasonal bedding at Spa Gardens was excellent as was the turf management at this location.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Quality of plants (grown in house) and lawned areas at Ripon Racecourse were excellent. Very good allotments at Fisher Green and the enthusiasm of Caroline. Ripon Canal banks and the achievement of best kept canal banks for 5 consecutive years. Summer display at Water Rat PH. Continued liaison with the Walled Garden project. Tiered and barrier baskets at The Royal Oak and Market Square. Hanging baskets and wall planters at the Arcade. Excellent bedding and turf management at Spa Gardens.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue with plans to introduce additional containers etc. to give greater impact in the main public areas.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Smeaton Wetland Area (Canal Bird Sanctuary) was well populated with birds and the hides for public use were excellent. As at Spring judging the overall cleanliness of the city was very pleasing with a complete lack of litter, fly posting, graffiti etc. Nick Thompson's work and enthusiasm at Workhouse Museum Garden and his good research into the history of this.

Areas for Improvement:

Look forward to the development of the soft fruit and orchard areas plus wildflower meadow at the Workhouse Museum Gardens, this will add to the heritage of Ripon. Look forward to also seeing the development of Temple Gardens now funding is available.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Ripon Cathedral Church of England School was outstanding with high involvement of the children in all gardening projects eg pond with dipping platform, bird boxes with camera, mosaics designed by children for quiet area and much more. Ongoing liaison with Walled Garden project. Annual gardens competition and involvement of all schools in area. Funding received (£5k) for Temple Garden project. Good signage to places of interest.

Areas for Improvement:

Greater public awareness would be achieved if notices were placed on notice boards around the city. Good luck and creativity for the new “In Bloom” logo.

Category 3 Large Town/Small City (35 0 100k)

Dewsbury Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Dewsbury is in a transitional period, finding its feet after the demise of the heavy woollen industry. Its main purpose is to try to encourage more visitors to the town. This is being achieved in many ways. The main attraction in the centre of the town is the refurbishment of the large market, which is in the final stages of completion. The market now contains approximately 380 sales spaces, the stalls maintain their character, but with new lighting and roofs painted in attractive striped colours. Some of the stalls have weather vanes above depicting the trade of the stall holder. The flower beds around the town have now been planted with perennials combined with grasses, giving a more informal and relaxing atmosphere.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The new planters are now beginning to mature, showing texture, colour and a range of planting schemes. This brightens up many corners and shows a modernistic approach to planting. Coupled with the new market it should encourage more visitors and more businesses to invest in the town.

Areas for Improvement:

Although, no doubt, there are many potential neighbourhood schemes within Dewsbury, they should be more involved on the judging day. They could perhaps benefit from more assistance from council officers.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Local environmental quality was very good. There was very little litter, no graffiti and good street furniture in the town centre.

Areas for Improvement:

Conservation and biodiversity, including wild life areas and natural habitats were somewhat lacking throughout our tour. In the future it may be possible to look more carefully at resource management and this may be combined with conservation and biodiversity areas.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Friends of Crow Nest park, the Retail Forum and Cemetery Action group are to be commended for their community participation.

Areas for Improvement:

In the future it would be more advantageous if the judges were able to see some of the work of the Cemetery group who were most enthusiastic and articulate.

Introduction

A positive start to the day at one of the towns star visitor attractions, Shibden Hall with its terrace garden offering a mix of herbaceous and fruit planting tracing back to its original design, complemented by the summer display on the museums 'Paisley' lawn. Many fine examples of permanent landscaping around the town were now in full bloom and greatly enhanced the route for the day. The landscape setting around the Woolshop Centre and car park area was excellent. Well done to all the smaller, but nonetheless important, business and private contributions throughout the entry. Town centre cleanliness was exemplary to what can be achieved through a coordinated service.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Permanent planting schemes are a key feature and which were showing a real subtle mix of colour and interest. Town centre summer displays were at their best with special mention of the baskets around the Victoria Theatre along with the barrier baskets in the vicinity. Excellent contribution from the Woolshop retail area with its array of baskets and precinct features. Positive contribution from the infirmary housing complex and with very good maintenance standards. The colourful seasonal bedding display in the sunken garden at Manor Heath Park.

Areas for Improvement:

Closer plant spacing of seasonal bedding areas should be considered at some prime sites such as Manor Heath Park and a little more attention to weed within summer bedding at Peoples Park would have raised the entry a few more important marks.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Shibden Hall's Wilderness Garden and Beacon Hill area are producing a positive and diverse contribution to the natural habitat and also to the natural heritage of the town. The mulches throughout the town centre on beds with sustainable planting really are paying dividends with limited maintenance requirements. The heritage and built environment is a positive backdrop the town and greatly enhanced by the very positive environmental quality produced by the local authority, residents and businesses. The creation of a wildflower meadow at Shibden Park which will provide a healthy eco-system. The construction of a dry stone wall at Shibden Park by volunteers creating a habitat for plants, birds, mammals, invertebrates.

Areas for Improvement:

The repair or replacement of park benches in Peoples Park.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Engagement with schools is very positive but equally the work with Community Payback Scheme is a very good way of enhancing the work within the parks and other associated areas. 'Marketing Halifax' acts as an important catalyst for the Halifax in Bloom initiative supporting local businesses and the local authority. This way of working really does pay dividends. The support from schools is clearly all year round and it was good to return in Summer to witness the results of the Summer Bed design in manor Heath park. The involvement of gardeners at Shibden Hall in designing the bedding schemes is to be commended.

Areas for Improvement:

Local businesses remain positive despite the uncertainty of the financial climate facing them. It will be important however, to ensure that the businesses do continue to support the Halifax in Bloom initiative as they have an important and positive role to play.

Keighley Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Keighley Town Council came into being in 2002 after local people voted overwhelmingly for its creation and is growing from strength to strength. The Council provides financial support for many local organisations, including the Keighley in Bloom Group who attract substantial interest and funding from the private sector in its own right. This organisation is made up of volunteers, who are both dedicated and enthusiastic, and are determined to improve the environment of this busy floral town.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The Town Hall square had a colourful display of hanging baskets, tiered planters and flower beds, even the tree pits were planted out. The raised bed outside the Leeds College building had a well chosen colour scheme. The vegetable bed in Cliffe Castle Park was an innovative idea which will create a great deal of interest. The grounds of the Co-operative Funeral Service were well maintained and the rose beds were a mass of colour.

Areas for Improvement:

The flower bed outside the Leeds College building needs to be preserved and its present standard maintained. The rose beds in Cliffe Castle Park need gapping up or planting with permanent and seasonal bedding. More dead heading would improve the floral display in Cliffe Castle Park.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The use of mulches throughout the judging route is to be commended. The town centre was once again spotlessly clean, with no sign of the usual problems associated with a busy shopping centre. The involvement of residents and primary school children in a project to grow vegetables at the Holmewood Centre is a good way of encouraging community integration. The facilities at St Mary's school which include a dipping pond, wild flower meadow, allotment, composting bins and water butts.

Areas for Improvement:

More evidence of conservation and biodiversity projects would enhance this entry. More examples of art in the landscape category.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The communication between the pupils of St Mary's school and the residents of the Holmewood Centre is to be applauded. The bird hide at Riddlesdon Hall provides interest for both the public and schools at this location. The sponsorship scheme where local businesses sponsor baskets, and floral areas on traffic islands.

Areas for Improvement:

More evidence of conservation and biodiversity projects would enhance this entry. More examples of art in the landscape category.

Category 4 City

Barnsley Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

The high standards seen in Spring were again present for the Summer. Barnsley In Bloom banners were seen throughout the town giving the deserved profile to an entry, where colourful displays, commitment and enthusiasm combine to show Barnsley at its best. A very well presented community effort which all involved can justifiably be proud of.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The carpet bedding at the Town Hall and numerous hanging baskets were splendid examples of the colourful and well presented floral displays seen throughout the visit. The exemplary private gardens at Redbrooke Court extremely tidy and smart. Many businesses have also contributed to the entry, not least a number of public houses of which the Chestnut Tree was a fine colourful example.

Areas for Improvement:

The principal "gateway" into Barnsley is the route from the M1. Thought should be given to enhancing this approach into the town. Consider a 'Design A Flowerbed' competition for 2011.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The commitment to recycling in Barnsley is an example for all to admire and follow. From the children at Keresforth Primary School, the many business premises with their own separate recycling bins and the local authority's own initiatives. The town was again seen to be a very clean environment with virtually no litter and minimal graffiti and dog fouling and this was apparent throughout the visit. The establishing Pacers Field at Ardsley a credit to the resident's environmental group, its development is to be keenly watched with interest and is a welcome asset to the entry. Some noteworthy features were seen which added interest and colour to the visit: the near completed tree sculpture by Bryan Proctor at the Churchfields Peace Gardens and the statue of "Dickie" Bird at Becketts Island.

Areas for Improvement:

Interpretation at a number of the locations would enhance the visitor experience and raise awareness of wildlife issues. Continue to evidence and support ongoing allotment initiatives for all age groups, especially young people.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The Barnsley in Bloom initiative clearly has a lot of support across the whole community. The involvement with young people with the Children's Poster Competition. The local community supporting the continued development at Central Park, Kendray. The rewarding success at Churchfields Peace Gardens by the local residents association. The continued sponsorship of roundabouts, hanging basket and shop awards scheme. The unflagging support of elected members demonstrates what Barnsley's entry in the competition contributes to the appearance of the town.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to seek additional sponsorship. More representation on the Barnsley in Bloom Committee from the voluntary sector. Continue to evidence greater recognition of the Yorkshire in Bloom Competition.

Introduction

A well thought out route through Hull showed many of the expected and unexpected highlights of what Hull had to offer. A city transforming itself yet still embracing its heritage. The community involvement in many of the local developments is clearly what has produced the successful outcomes. There was much colour to be seen along the route, many points of interest, all very clean and tidy. A praise worthy entry.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The many colourful hanging baskets and containers in and around the city. The floral displays at Queens Gardens. Contributions from businesses and private sites, all presenting a high standard for the entry. Of special note was East Park where developments are still ongoing. The tranquil setting of the Wilberforce Museum gardens and the simplicity of landscape design at the grounds of the new History Centre.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to identify appropriate evidence to enhance this aspect of the criteria, e.g., churchyards/schools/universities.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The number of wild life sites and their diversity was a pleasant and unexpected part of the route. The city is rightfully proud of its recycling record with 81% recycled in June. The route around the city centre was clean and tidy. The "Larkin with Toads" public art initiative was fantastic and a credit to the organisers. The transformation of empty shop fronts in Whitefriargate. The many reminders of the cities nautical heritage especially in the marina area all welcome interests for any visitor to Hull.

Areas for Improvement:

Additional tourist signage to locations and on site interpretation would benefit the key venues of interest. Ensure the outer route compliments the city centre where appropriate.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The increasing number of entries into the local Hull in Bloom competition - evidence of how successful it is becoming. The attainment of a Green Flag at Oak Road Park and the support of the friends group is to be commended. The increasing sponsorship of roundabouts all heralding the community participation and support for the environmental improvements in the city. The involvement of the children at the Sidmouth Primary School and their innovative allotment plot an example of developing young minds in an enjoyable and interesting way, especially a solar panel created from recycled cans and a wind turbine.

Areas for Improvement:

Increased evidence of the community's involvement in the planning and co-ordination of the Hull in Bloom initiative. Higher profile of the YIB competition in the city, where an appropriate photo call may have benefited this aspect. More could be made of the links with Europe, especially with the North Sea Ferry operations.

York Silver Gilt Rose Award – Category Winner
Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

The In Bloom Group certainly presented York at its very best, choosing an excellent route which encompassed many quality aspects of the three criteria. The partnerships that have been set up are greatly supporting the 'In Bloom' principles and all are to be commended for their efforts in making York a wonderful place to live and an exceptional city to visit. The In Bloom Group should be proud of their achievements to date and clearly now have the expertise and abilities to progress into the national Britain In Bloom competition. Thank you for an inspirational visit.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

Excellent choice of plants/colour schemes within both the business & public sector. Horticulture aspects were of a high standard. We saw some exceptional residential and community gardens, especially during our tour of the outer areas, i.e. Low Moor Allotments, Carr Junior School and Hartrigg Oaks (managed by the Joseph Rowntree Trust). (NB: Carr Junior School is worthy of a separate entry in Category 11). The overall standard of business areas was high. The maintenance of public open space was also to a high standard and all those involved, especially from the city council, should be very proud of their efforts.

Areas for Improvement:

Consider creating a floral display designed by local children. Continue to identify sustainable community projects.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Some excellent conservation and bio-diversity sites were seen during the tour, i.e. The Wheatlands Educational Community Woodland and St Anthony's Hall Garden – a real wow factor! Some excellent re-cycling initiatives – 81% achieved for June. The local heritage is managed in a very sympathetic way. Clear absence of litter and fly posting across the whole route, especially the city centre. The introduction and maintenance of a number of 'Art in the Landscape' was to a high standard as was the street furniture/hard landscape.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to review the route to keep focusing on the key elements that the judges are looking for and seek out those little gems which were evident during our visit. Continue to seek balance between work done by the Local Authority and associated projects by the partners and volunteer groups to sustain the overall spirit of the competition and retain the current standards already achieved.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Good partnerships/networking. Good working relationships observed between sections of the Local Authority. Good linkages with schools/educational projects. Good press and media coverage. Excellent schedule of events/projects. Good evidence of sponsorships, especially on some of the roundabouts.

Areas for Improvement:

Continue to review the make up of the In Bloom Group with a view to creating a constituted In Bloom concept which may well be something which would support the competition during these times of financial restraints. Continue to seek good sustained sponsorship.

Blooming Bay-Thorpe Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position – Bronze

Summer Medal Position - Silver

Introduction

There are two adjoining communities here – Fylingthorpe, a quiet, small attractive village, and Robin Hood's Bay, a popular holiday destination full of narrow alleyways hanging on the steep cliff. There are many holiday let properties with absentee landlords. In their first year this small enthusiastic group have identified the main areas for improvement. The change is noticeable and sympathetically executed and they can be proud of their work.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The private gardens were very varied in style and showed horticultural expertise learnt from experience. Thorpe Lane is now planted and well mulched to survive the maritime climate. People's views had been taken into consideration. Well maintained barrels were colourfully planted and positioned around the 2 villages and the sponsorship plaques were attached

Areas for Improvement:

As funding may become harder in the current economic climate make sure your plans, especially for the bed opposite Grosvenor House, are finalised and ready to submit. The buttressed stone wall down in Robin Hood's Bay had become overgrown again. Perhaps the vegetation could be cut back at regular intervals just to keep it tidy for the time being.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

In the private gardens water collection and composting was well managed. The group had recognised the natural habitats and the need to manage them. The small group works hard alongside the village caretaker to weed wall edges, sweep and control litter in this heavily visited 'smugglers' village.

Areas for Improvement:

As there is only a small work force try to concentrate efforts on one area such as the verge by the church. Cut docks and nettles before seeds fall. The new nettle growth will provide butterfly habitat. Use mallow, foxgloves and other native plants to try and dominate the border. Follow up investigations regarding SINC information board and see if it can be in place next year.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

The group are conscious of the need to progress carefully to win the support of residents who are still sceptical about the aims of the 'In Bloom' group. The school runs a poster competition promoting 'Keep Tidy' campaign. The grounds of the school have a nature area for biodiversity with log piles and insect houses. The local press were at the judging to promote this fledgling group. Open gardens well supported and raised much needed cash. Litter picks well supported by all age groups.

Areas for Improvement:

Try to encourage residents to be involved by promoting a weeding and sweeping day of their own curtilage and gutter. Those who don't take part might be encouraged to do so by the obvious visual improvement.

Filey Silver Gilt Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

On entry to this coastal town both visitor and residents alike are greeted with fine floral display roundabouts. This is complemented by the colourful residential front gardens and an enthusiastic in bloom group which is made up of various groups from the town. All this makes Filey an impressive entry into Yorkshire In Bloom

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The many Floral features around the town centre which included Barrels, hanging baskets that were sponsored by local businesses. The feature beds along the crescent gardens that the children from Filey Junior School helped design and plant were of a good quality they were also linked into this year's aviation theme. Mr Keith Lang's residential front garden had a cottage garden feel with a good amount of annual colour and was a valuable contribution to the route. The Gardeners theme bed at Crescent Gardens was a good addition to Filey with its wire sculpture of a gardener and recycled wheel borrow surrounded by sustainable planting will be a big hit in a couple of years when it matures. Fisherman/mermaid beds looked good and would benefit from some more annual colour for next year.

Areas for Improvement:

Even though we realise the difficulties preparing an entry for Yorkshire in Bloom judging, some areas were not shown at their best. Carry on working with Filey Junior school to help develop their gardens and allotment area. Try to continue and improve the floral features at the railway station platform.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Filey Dams conservation area was a tranquil wildlife oasis for enthusiasts and amateurs alike that takes very little human intervention to maintain. The information on the site is very good, as were the bird hives that clearly were well used. Filey Junior schools allotment had some good quality produce and some evidence of recycling. It was encouraging to hear plans for the produce is to be used for the children's dinners in future. Filey allotments are a pleasure to see and the produce is thriving considering they have no mains source of water. Good to see ex-council planters being recycled and being used on the allotment site. The in bloom group efforts to link in with schools posters regarding dog fouling was good to see.

Areas for Improvement:

The responsible dog scheme could be better advertised on notice boards around the town. There is a need to continue to encourage youth groups to get more involved surrounding conservation and biodiversity around Filey linking in with local schools. Encourage the community to get involved in planting wild flowers and building bird boxes along Nuns walk. Continue with the seat/ street furniture painting program within the Filey area.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

Filey in Bloom has some very good examples of fund raising events which included the summer fair, beetle drives the wishing well situated at crescent gardens and the many business sponsors that they have all help to fund new floral features around the town. The links that Filey in Bloom have made and sustained with the local council workforce were evident on judging day and have to be commended. The continued sponsorship of the gateway roundabouts by Crows Nest Caravan Park. The support from the local newspaper with the in bloom campaign was refreshing to see. It was good to be met by the town crier along the route at Murray Street by the memorial garden.

Areas for Improvement:

Possibility at looking into a local junior environmental warden scheme to improve the local youth involvement in the educational campaign. Consider having in bloom posters in some of the shops around the town. The main entrances to the town had on evidence of in bloom judging or the evidence of an in bloom group operating in the town.

Hornsea Silver Rose Award

Spring Medal Position - Silver

Summer Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Introduction

Having judged Hornsea in spring we can appreciate some of the work that has been carried out around the town to improve the summer judging route, some of which included fine floral features, good quality residential front gardens and covering some very good environmental issues along the route.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

The fine colourful floral features around the town supplied in conjunction with the town council and the in bloom group were a credit to all concerned. The displays outside the Victoria Public house were of a good quality. Mr/Mrs Teather's front garden was well maintained and a good addition to the summer route. Longbeach Caravan Park entrances were full of summer colour and had some good seasonal caravan gardens. The hanging baskets at Freeport were of a good quality

Areas for Improvement:

Morrow Avenue gardens planting and mosaic floor needs revamping to reflect the quality of the rest of the town. The recourse centre surrounds need further development and enhancement if they are to be included on a future judging route. Longbeach Caravan Park could be advised to introduce some more sustainable planting to the approaches to the reception area.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

Attwick Road allotments recycling area for making their own soil improver from residential properties green waste has to be commended. Attwick roads environmental garden that has been developed for schools to use the allotments for an outside classroom to study the flora, fauna and biodiversity of their local area was good to see. Hornsea Secondary School's environmental garden and raised vegetable beds were good to see, as was meeting some of the local youth that maintain the garden. The local recycling centre recycling rate of 71% was impressive, as was the recycling rate for East Yorkshire of 45%.

Areas for Improvement:

Attwick allotments green waste recycling scheme need to work in partnership with the council to assist with shredding/chipping of woody waste to make the scheme sustainable. Check the route for graffiti, weed prior to judging as there was some evident on the route. Encourage Longbeach Caravan Park to install recycling bins to reflect the towns recycling rate.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

It was good to meet the sponsor of the internal in bloom competition. It was refreshing to have the local councillors supporting the in bloom group along the judging tour. The work with the local secondary school and the links with Hornsea in bloom have to be commended. There was some good coverage from the local press supporting the in bloom group and this was presented in the portfolio/ presentation at the end of the tour. The in bloom route was litter free and has to be commended to all involved.

Areas for Improvement:

More advertisement of the Hornsea in bloom movement is needed maybe in the form of banners on the town's main entrances would help lift the profile. Compile a time line yearbook of ongoing projects within Hornsea. The plans to relocate the floral hall and further rejuvenate the promenade need some more consultation, but could be a worthy addition to the town.

Whitby Silver Gilt Rose Award - Category Winner

Spring Medal Position - Silver Gilt

Summer Medal Position - Gold

Introduction

Whitby resonates with local history, and the many groups who are working on its regeneration have the love and respect for this history at their heart. Every aspect of the tour demonstrated the desire to retain as much local heritage as possible and keep its integrity. The town is blessed with a beautiful natural landscape and coastline, and this has been complemented by the hard landscaping, sculptures and planting achieved by so much hard work. The work has involved people of all ages and it was inspiring to see the dedication involved. It is a place with its own unique character, full of unexpected delights, and we thoroughly enjoyed sharing in them.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Areas of Achievement:

A good choice of planting to withstand Whitby's climate, especially in the Crescent Gardens. The bold new design for the Endeavour bed which had been tired and in need of an overhaul. The ladies of Ruswarp to be commended for the new planting, using donated plants, in the churchyard, the neat verges and colourful beds and containers.

Areas for Improvement:

The completion of planting plans for Pannett Park in the appropriate season. The rejuvenation of the Physic Garden at Abbey House will be an interesting and unusual project, which future judges will enjoy seeing.

SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Achievement:

The provision of water butts at Ruswarp to conserve rainwater. The allotment holders to be congratulated for conserving resources using water butts and compost heaps, also for the mixed planting for biodiversity. The school were encouraging biodiversity by their use of butterfly feeders, bird baths and feeders and insect mansions. Every aspect of the tour was oozing with pride in their

wide ranging local heritage. In spite of the summer season being well under way, the environmental quality was excellent.

Areas for Improvement:

Some of the street furniture was rather tired, particularly seating between Scoresby Nest and the Swing Bridge.

SECTION C – Community Participation

Areas of Achievement:

All the people we met were fully committed to the regeneration of Whitby. This was evident in all areas of planning and the many involved groups, and it was a delight to see people with disabilities helping out in Pannett Park. The sustained work at Whitehall Landing done by one young person is heartening and a delight to see. It will be exciting to see the opening of the Cinder Track and Monk's Trod. The school was an inspiration, and the enthusiasm of the children and staff was infectious.

Areas for Improvement:

It will be interesting to see how the new community group at Abbey House develops, and we hope they gain inspiration from the many other groups in Whitby in their restoration project.