

Judges Notes for Summer 2026



Category Cat C11 Golden Hop Awards 2026 Finalists

Malton in Bloom

**Five Roses and
2026 Winner**

Overall Impression

There is an excellent floral welcome in Malton spread throughout the town. In the Market Place railing baskets and plant towers are filled with colourful seasonal bedding. The Town Council planters offer a warm welcome to visitors using the building. The bike rack planters look very good and are still functional.

The Peasy Hill roundabout looked particularly good with its mixture of seasonal bedding and perennial planting. Malton is renowned for its status as “Food Capital” of Yorkshire but there is so much more to its heritage than this. It is the centre of the racing industry and a thriving and historic market town with Roman roots.

There are many independent shops and cafes alongside other facilities such as transport hubs (railway station and bus station), medical centre, Market Place, public conveniences, car parks, museum and The Milton Rooms for exhibitions and community use.

Everywhere is beautifully clean and tidy. Congratulations to everyone involved in “Team Malton” on an excellent achievement.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- The Herb Planters at the bottom of the Market Place were sparsely planted and appeared to be struggling in the hot and dry weather. The concept of “pick your own” is a lovely idea but there needs to be a greater density of planting if this is going to work visually.
- The low level planting throughout the town was well maintained, colourful and of good quality but a small number of the higher level baskets were clearly struggling to get enough water. Perhaps some thought could be given to future high level planting such as these and how watering can be maximised in future hot summers.

Stamford Bridge in Bloom

Five Roses

Overall Impression

The floral welcome to Stamford Bridge, in the middle of the village, creates an excellent first impression. Barrier boxes, basket trees and planters were full of colourful and well maintained seasonal bedding. The plant towers outside the toilet block were particularly impressive. We particularly liked the “Beast of Stamford Bridge” artwork – a great community project – very striking!

Facilities are many and varied in Stamford Bridge and it would be impossible to list them all here but some good examples include The Village Hall, Old Station Community Hall, Community Pool, Health Centre, football and cricket pitches, library and many community groups who meet across the village, not to mention riverside walks and heritage to die for!

Everywhere was clean and tidy and we very much appreciated the large banner letting everyone know of our visit. Congratulations to all who volunteer for the benefit of Stamford Bridge.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- The Viking Boat was beautifully planted and tells a great story of the heritage of Stamford Bridge.
- Unfortunately, the planting of senecio and rose under the nearby street sign was not up to the same standard.
- Perhaps some consideration could be given to either removing the existing planting altogether or replacing it with something of an equivalent standard as the boat.

Bingley

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Congratulations on being a finalist in the 2026 Yorkshire in Bloom Golden Rose competition. This is a terrific achievement and one for which the town should be very proud.

There is a very good floral welcome when you arrive in Bingley, mainly centred on the high street, but also to be found in the lovely Myrtle Park. The Incredible Edible planters were well maintained and there were lots of colourful barrels and boxes to be seen.

There is plenty for residents and visitors to do in Bingley from the modern shopping centre, to independent shops, library, Myrtle Park, river walks and the historic railway station. Interpretation boards telling of Bingley's heritage and history are numerous, easy to read and well maintained. Congratulations to all involved in making Bingley a lovely place to live in and visit.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- The large bed of nonstop begonias, (usually a good choice!) was clearly struggling in the hot dry conditions. As we are predicted to have more hot, dry

summers perhaps some thought could be given to an alternative plant which will cope better with future extreme temperatures.

- There was a lot of kerbside weed debris around the old municipal buildings leading up to Myrtle Park. Could some thought be given to getting this cleared away to give the area some sparkle back!

Category Cat C11 Golden Rose Awards 2026 Entries

Muston in Bloom

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Muston is a tiny village on the east coast close to Filey. It is a quiet village but always punches above its weight florally. From one end to the other there are floral boxes, baskets and bedding around every corner complemented by areas of well-maintained perennial planting for all year round interest. There are many beautiful residential gardens which can be seen from the roadside.

For such a small village, Muston can boast a range of facilities on offer to residents and visitors passing through or stopping in the many holiday cottages here. There is a well-used Village Hall, two village greens, a village pond, bus stop and shelter, Muston Beck and an old telephone box now converted to house a defibrillator for use in the village.

Everywhere is clean and tidy. Congratulations to this tiny band of bloom volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure that Muston is always welcoming to visitors.,

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- At the time of assessment, the beck was virtually impossible to see due to excess plant growth on the banks. Could some thought be given to getting some of this material cut back so that visitors and residents using the village green can enjoy the water flowing through?
- In the large raised bed on Little Green, the nonstop begonias planted in one corner had succumbed to the heat and dry. Perhaps some thought could be given to replacing these next summer with plants which will cope with our increasingly hot summers and extremes of temperatures.

Hunmanby in Bloom

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Hunmanby is reputed to be “the largest village in England” and, as such, the In Bloom volunteers are to be congratulated on doing a remarkable job covering such a large area. From the colourfully planted railway station to Cross Hill at the other end of the village, there are beds, baskets and borders planted both for seasonal summer colour and all year round interest with perennial plants. The grass border in Bailey Gardens dotted with blue eryngium looked particularly effective.. Hunmanby offers its residents and visitors plenty to do. The Community Centre on Stonegate is a hive of activity. There is a church, 3 pubs, playing fields, primary school and independent shops on the high street. There are also plenty of opportunities to learn about the history and heritage of the village. Everywhere was clean and tidy and there were some lovely residential gardens viewed from the road. Congratulations to all Hunmanby Bloomers on your return to Yorkshire in Bloom in the Golden Rose competition.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- The narrow borders at The Market Cross on Cross Hill were looking a little depleted possibly due to the dry weather. Could some thought be given to refurbishing the planting here when time and budgets allow.
- The left hand side of the small cottage garden on Cross Hill was nicely planted. Could some thought be given to the small area on the right hand side to bring both sides up to the same standard?
- One or two of the interpretation boards (Sebastapol Corner and Cottage Garden) are now looking very tired. Could some thought be given to replacing/refurbishing them when time and budgets allow.

This is a good first time entry into the Yorkshire in Bloom Golden Rose Competition and with a few tweaks you could easily improve your marks. Well done to everyone concerned.

Drifffield in Bloom

Five Roses and
East Yorkshire
Winner

Overall Impression

Once again, Drifffield has put on an excellent floral welcome for residents and visitors to enjoy. The boxes and baskets are all themed in orange and gold and this creates a ribbon of colour tying all the elements of the town together. Simple but very effective. There is excellent business participation throughout and plenty of facilities such as North End Park, Churches, and independent and high street chain shops, the railway station, beck, and outdoor seating in the clock square where you can watch giant butterflies hovering overhead.

The Welcome to Driffield artwork at the station completed by sixth form students was lovely to see, as was the “Love Driffield” sign in the centre of town. Everywhere was clean and litter free. Congratulations to all involved in an excellent Yorkshire in Bloom Golden Rose entry.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

The Memorial Garden is a quiet and peaceful place for remembrance. The flowers here looked beautiful. Could some maintenance be applied to the seats here to bring them up to the excellent standard of the surroundings?

Farnley Tyas

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Farnley Tyas is a small rural village which has some great community facilities within its boundary including extensive playing fields and children’s play area, beautifully maintained churchyard, village primary school, pub and bowling club. The Field Café also deserves a mention for being a great community facility. The perennial borders at the playing fields are full of colour and are coping with the dry weather as are the many perennial borders seen on roadside planting throughout the village. There were also some very good private residential gardens seen from the road.

We were particularly pleased to see the beautiful war memorial – a lovely feature, well planted and very colourful. The barrels here were also nicely planted. Congratulations to all the Farnley Tyas volunteers for their excellent entry into the Yorkshire in Bloom Golden Rose competition.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- There are some unusual trees which have been planted around the perimeter of the playing fields including a tulip tree, liquidamber and a parrotia. Could some attention be given to the younger trees at top of the playing field. They have strong competition at the moment from long grass. Perhaps a circle of grass could be taken out around the base of each of these young trees to enable them to thrive.
- Could some thought be given to replacing or refurbishing the planted barrels outside the church? Also, if possible, the bollards in this area would benefit from painting.
- As previously, the War Memorial is a beautiful feature in the centre of the village and the barrels in this area are much improved. Could some attention be given to the weeds growing between the setts, just to give the area that extra bit of polish!

Boston Spa

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Boston Spa is a long ribbon village but there is an immediate impression as you drive in that it is well loved by the people who live here. There baskets and boxes along the length of the high street and several island beds full of good quality bedding. There were some lovely residential gardens fronting the main street planted with perennials to contrast with the bedding elsewhere. Business participation was very good with notable examples being Thai Chokdee and Tom Foolery amongst others.

The War Memorial in the centre of the village was beautifully planted and maintained. Facilities in Boston Spa include a church, post office, defibrillator, library and recycling point, independent shops and cafes and the lovely Stables Lane Park – very busy and being well used on a sunny afternoon!

Congratulations to everyone for presenting an excellent Golden Rose Yorkshire in Bloom entry.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- In general, everywhere was clean and tidy but there were odd spots behind seats and at the corner of Clifford Road which would benefit from a tidy!
- Some of the perennial planting in the Village Hall beds, notably the hebes, were struggling in the dry conditions and have, perhaps, come to the end of their useful life. Could some thought be given to replacing and/or replanting with fresh shrubs or perennials?
- The large interpretation board and map describing Boston Spa and the surrounding area was very difficult to read. Could this be re printed when budgets allow?

Wetherby Town Council

Five Roses and West Yorkshire Winner

Overall Impression

Wetherby is an historic market town situated on the banks of the River Wharfe. Through a combined effort of many community organisations working together, the town offers a warm welcome to residents and visitors alike. From the Wilderness Car Park and up into town, there are floral displays of the highest standard on every corner. The Market Place centre piece and The Shambles baskets were a joy to see. Business participation was very good and it was particularly nice to see the edibles outside Maybe Later. A nice touch!

Wetherby has plenty of facilities available including a Thursday Market, riverside walks, public toilets, defibrillator, bandstand, car parks and many independent shops across the town.

Everywhere was clean and tidy with very little litter or weed growth.

Congratulations on a great team effort in making Wetherby sparkle.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- With such a high standard presented it would be very difficult to criticise anything you are doing. So, in this spirit, the only area for consideration would be the litter bin by the pedestal vase at the bottom of town is in need of refurbishment or replacement to match the high quality of street furniture found elsewhere in town.

Micklethwaite

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Micklethwaite is close to the moor and an excellent example of a small well looked after village. The natural environment of the village creates a lovely setting. The village is very clean and tidy. Residents take pride in their gardens that are kept to a very high standard.

The communal areas are excellent, both village greens are of a high standard with good quality benches and natural stone planters.

The notice boards are well maintained identifying community activities. The Welcome to Micklethwaite signs and planters are of a high quality.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- It is difficult to suggest areas for consideration as this is a well looked after village, even where a property has become empty the area outside of it is tidy.
- It may be worth considering some perennial plants for your lovely stone troughs and entry planters.

Keighley

Five Roses

Overall Impression

The floral scene in the centre of town comprising the Civic Centre and Town Hall Gardens was excellent. Baskets, boxes and beds were full of colour and well maintained despite the rigours of the hot weather. Credit must go to Steve Thorpe for his relentless battle to look after the plants. The garden at Keighley Healthy Living was lovely and it was nice to meet the volunteers who work in the garden.

Keighley Horticultural Society are doing amazing work at the Castle Hill allotment site and the Community Poly Tunnel is a real treat full of flowers and produce. A great teaching space for young and old alike.

Congratulations to all the volunteers for putting Keighley firmly on the “bloom map”.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- Steve Thorpe is doing a great job in Town Hall Square providing excellent quality, colourful seasonal bedding. However, some of the seat maintenance here is of variable quality. Could this be rectified to bring the standard up to match the surrounding horticultural features?
- Continue to progress the refurbishment of the Civic Centre railings in autumn/winter.

Barwick in Bloom

Five Roses

Overall Impression

The comment in the application form that members of Barwick in Bloom are unable to participate in bloom as they used to may be true but the impact they are still having has not diminished. Hanging baskets and fine displays of bedding in considerable quantities are used in the village to great effect.

The group has created an orchard and an area of tree planting to provide for future generations. A year round activity has in the past seen bulb planting and an area called Jubilee gardens now maintained for nature recovered from a derelict site.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- All well maintained and given the weather the results were very good, the ride on mower may have had an easy year but all the grass had been maintained at some point but was of course very brown at the time of the visit.
- The group deserves to continue with success in bloom well done to everyone involved.

Garforth in Bloom

Five Roses

Overall Impression

The work of the group has such a positive impact across many areas of Garforth. Depending on your direction of travel the impact starts at the Gaping Goose public house and follows to the town centre.

The jubilee garden was planted for the late Queens Diamond Jubille and is significant in being the home to Englands first peace flame.

The displays in the town centre make use of seasonal bedding plants wiyj good reason as most of the planting is in containers and needs to make an impact which it does.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- The whole area was clean and litter free the only point would be that some paveing/highway weed control seemed to have been applied when weed was well established leaving dead visable weed .
- A very strong group that even finds time to help at Lotherton Hall as well as maintaining almost 100 displays, that include bee and butterfly planting.
- Continue the joint working with the groups that have the common aim of making Garforth a better place.

Halton in Bloom

Four Roses

Overall Impression

Grove garden sited within Grove recreation groun has a newly planted orchard, raised beds and seating. The raised beds are used to grow food crops, there ar also compost bins. The garden has been supported by a range of nature supporting signs created by pupils at a local secondary school. The Leodis Lawn Lavender hedge excellent and at the being well used by bees. The Wellbeing Garden is sited just off a busy road junction and close to the library and a clinic providing seating and planting for the weary

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- The raised beds had suffered from the very hot weather and really nothing could be done about that, but at the time of the visit families were using the seating and makeing the best of the garden and open space.

- The planters at Chapel street and the green wall at the same site were well maintained some litter did exist.
- Halton is a very busy area with highways a range of shopping types and so on making it very difficult to be litter free but in general there was very little litter.
- Evidence of the groups work could be seen at a number of locations varying from planters to planted beds as they maintain over 50 beds in the area.

Hillam

Four Roses

Overall Impression

Despite one of the hottest summers and Yorkshire Water digging up some of the main roads Hillam has put on a colourful display of floral containers around the water pump as does the Cross Keys Public House. The floral wheelbarrows are a great element of fun and easily moved once they finish flowering. The village has several excellent facilities including the football and cricket pitches along with the joint facilities at the community centre. These include play and recycling facilities, a defibrillator and powered by solar panels. The signage around the village to explain the wildflowers is a useful educational aid.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- Considering the heritage of Hillam would the History Group consider putting together a history trail around the village?
- Continue the succession of tree planting around the cricket pitch for climate change as the beech trees are struggling in the hot dry summers and trees that will cope with climate change should be considered.
- There are suggestions on the RHS web site Tree for Climate Change Resilience.
- Continue to encourage more herbs at the Cross Keys to be added which could be used in the meal preparation.
- Possibly consider moving the 3 floral tubs on Hillam Common Lane to the area around the Ring Tree to concentrate the floral efforts.
- Consider colour theming the floral containers around the water pump for even more impact.

Dunnington

**Five Roses and
North Yorkshire
Winner**

Overall Impression

It is good to welcome Dunnington back to the Bloom competition, with an excellent track record and the entry didn't disappoint. The entrances are well signed and colourful and create a statement at the entry points. Excellent floral containers on Church Street, in front of the Cross Keys and the shops on York Street. There are well maintained gardens and other private floral containers. Different floral features are dotted around the entry including the horse and cart, ploughman and gardener, Route 66 bicycle which picks up on the heritage of the area. There are excellent facilities such as the sports facilities, Parish Notice Boards and dog bins.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- Consider Julia's garden as a Quiet Garden (Associate Scheme)
www.quietgarden.org
- Think about continuing the successional tree planting on the Green areas considering trees which will cope with climate change as beech trees are struggling with the hot summers. Research the RHS web page Trees for Climate Change. Possibly mulch around the trees on the Green to help with water retention approx 1 m circle but not close to the trunk of the tree.
- Encourage the school to get involved with the RHS Campaign for School Gardening project. Possibly consider colour combinations in the floral containers. The square containers at the Cross Keys maybe need a rethink with plants to cope with dry conditions perhaps some herbs. The Church may want to consider building some compost bays to tidy up the green waste from the site. Mulch the feature beds such as the Horse and Cart and Ploughman and gardener to help water retention.

Tadcaster

Three Roses

Overall Impression

On arrival to Tadcaster there are gateway planters that are full and bright. Green spaces have been tended.

St. Mary's Churchyard is peaceful and well looked after. The planters at the entrance give a lovely welcome to anyone visiting or attending a service.

The planters outside a number of businesses and the town council building are bright and well looked after. The War Memorial looked good. The town was clear of litter. There are a number of notice and information boards.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- Some of the planted areas may benefit from permanent planting such as the bed at Chapel Street where many of the annuals had, due to the weather, failed. Consider perennial geraniums with a mix of drought tolerant plants like lavenders and alchamila molis.
- Consider adding permanent planting to areas such as the war memorial
- Could the bug house in St. Mary's churchyard be refreshed?
- The Barn had some good planting but some of the boxes require further maintenance. Is there a youth group which could be encouraged to help?

Easingwold

Four Roses

Overall Impression

Easingwold is a small market town in a classic setting. At the centre is the Market Hall and Market Cross surrounded by small businesses. The beds on Chapel Street are very good. The many coffee shops and public houses along with various businesses have bright planters and boxes enhancing the area. The WI planters, that look like they may be new, at the side of the Market Hall are of a good quality. They enhance this side of the building. The green spaces have been well maintained. The seating and planters in these areas are good. There are information boards that are kept up to date.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- There was a bit of litter in one specific area on Market Place.
- Consider adding permanent plants to your barrels.

Darley

Four Roses

Overall Impression

It is clear that the Darley in Bloom team are looking after many of the areas in the village. The many planters lining the road are a good quality with a consistent colour and planting theme.

The wildlife area and Stocks Green is a lovely area to sit. Like everywhere at the moment it is suffering from the current hot weather but it is clear to see the planting that has been used in this area. It will bounce back once we return to 'normal' temperatures. The information boards were good. The grassed areas have been well maintained and aren't overgrown.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- It may be worth considering adding some permanent plants to your boxes.
- Could the planting along Main Street near the Methodist Church be replicated further down the road?

Thirsk and Sowerby in Bloom

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Thirsk is a very bustling and well visited market town. The square is a riot of colour with planters and baskets – all of a high standard being supplemented with yarn bombs. The whole area was busy with shoppers, visitors and cars. The whole area is clean with many litter bins. The seating in the square is of a good quality and well used. All the planters have a uniformity of colour which looks really good. Businesses have their own displays and again these are of a good quality.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

It is good to read that there are plans to supplement the planters with perennials and that they are already planted with spring bulbs.

- Consider adding mulch to your boxes to help conserve water.

Knaresborough in Bloom

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Knaresborough is an historic market town on the banks of the River Nidd with the iconic viaduct the subject of many photos. The high street and market place were festooned with colourful and well maintained planters. It was good to see some more unusual bedding plants used in the containers such as scented pelargoniums. A nice touch. There was good support from businesses across the town particularly from the pub trade – Blind Jacks, The Groves Inn and The Crown to name but a few.

We loved the flowers in Greenwoods window and wonder if more businesses could be persuaded to decorate their premises in the same way, particularly where it is not possible to put floral displays outside. The tromp d'oeil found around the town were also fun to discover.

Knaresborough has plenty of attractions and facilities for residents and visitors including Conyngham Hall, Knaresborough Castle, Market Place and riverside walks.

Congratulations to Knaresborough Bloomers on an excellent Golden Rose entry.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- Continue to develop the community garden at the Gracious Street junction in partnership with Renaissance Knaresborough Buzzline project. Take time and advice to find the right plants that would cope in the dry soil found here.
- Perhaps some thought could be given to removing the detritus which has occurred as a consequence of weed control taking place. Whilst this may not be the responsibility of Knaresborough in Bloom, could discussions take place to enable this dead weed material to be removed.

Spofforth in Bloom

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Spofforth is a long ribbon village divided by the busy road connecting Harrogate and Wetherby. However, there is much to see and do here. There are planted tubs and hanging baskets throughout the length of the village, not only on the main street but along side streets as well. Good examples can be found at White Horse Mews and Massey Fold.

There are also numerous examples of excellent floral displays on or outside residential properties adding to the ambience of the village and giving it a “cared for” feel. Spofforth people are obviously proud of the heritage as there are many interpretation boards (for example at the castle, the church and Ginny Greenholes) which tell the story of Spofforth. There are lots of facilities for residents and visitors eg. Spofforth Castle, Churchyard, Pub, general store, Millennium Garden and Ginny Greenholes Play Area, Harland Way, Village Hall and Doctors Surgery. An excellent Yorkshire in Bloom Golden Rose entry. Congratulations to everyone involved.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- The baskets on the village hall railings were not up to the same standard as the rest of the village. Perhaps some thought could be given to adding some trailing plants which would go some way to hiding the boxes.
- Perhaps some consideration could be given to refurbishing the railings around the busy village hall.

- Outside the church the interpretation boards, flower art work and the horse head were beautifully presented. Could the bench here be refurbished to be in keeping with the high standard of the surroundings?

Pickering

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Pickering is a thriving town on the edge of the North York Moors. Despite it being market day when we visited the town was exceptionally clean and tidy. There were colourful and well maintained beds and baskets throughout. Businesses are also playing their part with exceptional displays of flowers outside their premises – Café Cocoa being a fine example. The War Memorial on Smiddy Hill was beautifully planted as were the barrels at The Ropery Car Park.

Facilities abound in Pickering. The town is home to The North York Moors Railway and also the wonderful Beck Isle Museum. There is an abundance of independent traders to be found here, a library, community hall, theatre and Hidden Market.

Pickering Town Council and Pickering in Bloom are to be commended for an excellent Yorkshire in Bloom Golden Rose entry.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- The large bed on Smiddy Hill which is planted with cosmos could, perhaps, be rethought. The cosmos are sparsely planted and would benefit from some underplanting to give the bed a fuller look. The nepeta and the golden fuchsia seem to be coping with the dry conditions. Could this be extended throughout the bed?
- The roundabout at the main entrance into the town has looked beautiful during the spring period with white ox eye daisies. Could some thought be given to extending the season with some summer flowering plants?

Kirkbymoorside in Bloom

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Kirkbymoorside is a thriving market town on the edge of the North York Moors. There were floral displays throughout in barrels, boxes and baskets all of very good quality and well maintained despite the heat of the summer. Business participation was clear to see as were the many pots and boxes put out by residents. It was nice to see the Kirkbymoorside branded banners throughout the town giving a sense of place. Chisholms Monument and the nearby White Swan Pub added some floral colour in the middle of the town

Congratulations to all the Kirkbymoorside Bloomers for an excellent return to Yorkshire in Bloom.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- Consider a 5 year programme to renew (in turn) the wooden barrels which are now reaching the end of their useful life. Barrels with a water reservoir may ease the strain for volunteers as summers get hotter.
- Some of the metre square planters had bulb detritus remaining from spring. Perhaps this could be cleared to neaten up the soil surface.
- Some of the metre square planters had trees planted in them which were clearly struggling in the hot, dry weather. Perhaps some thought could be given to different, more drought tolerant plants which could cope with the dry conditions better than trees can.

Burton Pidsea Village in Bloom

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Burton Pidsea is a rural community close to the coast and home to a small population of 1000 people. The group of community volunteers who look after the village have a love of gardening and their aim is to make Burton Pidsea a lovely place to live, work and play. This has been achieved by Burton Pidsea Bloomers and what a great job they are doing. We particularly liked the fruit trees on the roadside

Close to the church is the Richard Lewis Remembrance Garden – an area of wild flower meadows with mowed paths, trees and seats where you can sit and drink in the peace and quiet while listening to the bird song! There are many facilities in the village including the wonderful and busy Memorial Hall, Children's Play area, playing field, football pitches, Bowling Green, Primary School, garage and general store. The War Memorial with the soldiers standing to attention was beautiful.

Well done to all Burton Pidsea Bloomers for a great first time entry into the Yorkshire in Bloom Golden Rose competition.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- The cemetery is nicely maintained but, unfortunately, the seats and benches were in a poor condition. Whilst this probably isn't the responsibility of the Bloomers, could some pressure be brought to bear on those who could instigate a programme of works to bring the seats back up to standard?

- Likewise, the pond area, hidden away behind the cemetery could be a beautiful sanctuary for watching birds, insects and wildlife. Could discussions be opened with the appropriate people so that plans can be made to renovate the pond when budgets, time and labour allow?

Cottingham

Five Roses

Overall Impression

Cottingham was on its best form on our visit and made an excellent first impression. There was colour and bloom on every street and every corner.

It was nice to see a good amount of business participation as well notably at the Tiger Inn.

Facilities are many and plenty in Cottingham including a bus station, railway station where there were colourful planters, independent shops, a banking hub, and a beautiful church. Litter bins and street furniture were all in good condition and well maintained.

We particularly liked the harbour on Beck Bank – a lovely place to sit and watch the world go by!

Congratulations to “Team Cottingham” for a great entry into the Golden Rose of Yorkshire competition.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- The eye level and ground level planting across the town was well maintained and seemed to be coping well with the hot and dry weather. Unfortunately, the high level lamppost baskets were struggling with the conditions and didn't appear to making any growth unlike the rest of the floral displays. Perhaps this could be remedied as soon as possible and a note made for next summer!
- There is a notice board on Beck Bank which is completely hidden by shrubbery. Could this be uncovered and brought back up the high standard of all your other notice boards across the town.

Harthill with Woodall

**Five Roses and
South Yorkshire
Winner**

Overall Impression

Despite the incredibly dry summer, the Parish have managed to maintain the areas of seasonal bedding, hanging baskets and planted areas across the village. Entrance ways were welcoming, boundary markers and planting in keeping with the location. Areas to note, was the planting at Doctors Lane, the seasonal bedding outside the village hall, planters outside the local shops and the area running parallel to the war memorial site/festival verge.

The recreation ground has a hive of activity on the day of the visit, families having a lovely time in the play area, and nice to speak to the gentleman at the "Shed". The reservoir was tranquil and lots of wildfowl to spot on your walk. It was a pity not to see the meadow in its glory, but understandable. Residential gardens and businesses were well maintained, Allotments were managing to grow good crops despite the current situation in the weather, and the general appearance of the village was spotless and welcoming.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration

- It was a shame about the wildflower meadow, and in a better year it would be spectacular. Is there potential for an interpretation board showing what wildflower you would see, and the insect life that frequents the area.
- Is there potential for the two pubs to enhance their frontage, to add to the business contribution of the village.

