

2010 Yorkshire in Bloom

Ecclesfield Village - Silver Rose Award

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.

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 healthy. 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.

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 for 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.

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.

St. Mary's Churchyard - Silver Gilt Rose Award

Introduction

To say Ecclesfield Church and its churchyard is so close the main road, it is a very peaceful place to be. The walkways from Priory Lane are well planned and maintained with lavenders softening the walkways. The planting at the side of the church creates an impact and is appropriately planted for such an imposing building.

Areas of Achievement

The appropriate use of plants in the churchyard. The high standard of cultivation, the area was weed free, very neat and tidy. Plants grown from seed. The habitat piles. The Jeffcock Memorial and the pansies in the water fountain.

Further Development – constructive/helpful remarks

Consider placing some bird and bat boxes in the grounds. Consider some wildlife supporting shrubs to add to the shrubs already in situ. Consider creating a corner that you do not strim creating further habitats for wildlife. Some of the seats may benefit from some attention.

The Stocks, Silver Rose Award

Introduction

The Stocks is a very clean, tidy and presentable public house. The landlady has taken care with the displays using the small outside space to great effect providing a colourful and inviting area for her customers to sit in.

Areas of Achievement

Well planted baskets for both spring and summer. The water irrigation system in place. Extremely clean and tidy area.

Further Development – constructive/helpful remarks

This is a small site and would be difficult to develop further however, you may wish to consider using butterfly attracting plants in you displays or incorporating some sustainable plants for year round interest.