

Prize winners evening

At a recent celebratory evening, Horsham in Bloom highlighted the impact and importance of community involvement in helping to make the town a welcoming and colourful place to be for both residents and visitors.

The winners of the summer competitions were invited to North Heath Hall to receive their prizes.

Jean Griffin and Sue Brundish from Horsham in Bloom welcomed guests and invited former Chair, Christine Costin, to share the story of the organisation. Nick Brooks, a member of the current committee, then presented his positive thoughts on 'The Future of Horsham in Bloom'.

Some of the most visible contributions in the town were the spectacular displays created by three pubs. The King's Head in Bishopric was awarded Gold Award, The Bear in Market Square received a Silver and The Black Jug in North Street received Bronze.

Entries for 'The Best Front Garden' and 'Gardening without a Garden' competitions revealed hidden gems not always seen by large numbers of people. Sponsorship from Hillier's Garden Centre for both these competitions allowed winners to receive significant cash prizes along with their certificates.

Winner of the Gold Award and Cup for The Best Kept Garden was Ann Frecknall of Amberley Close. Silver went to Anne Bathie of Potters Croft and Bronze to Joan Morris of Irwin Drive. Sarah Lawrence (Honeysuckle Walk) and Les Holman (Clarence Road) each received Commendations.

'Gardening without a Garden' may sound unconventional but encourages those without what may be thought of as a traditional garden space to contribute floral colour to the town.

Winners of the Gold Award were the Talbot Lane Gardening Crew who produced a wonderfully varied and creative display of wall troughs, hanging baskets and pots which delighted pedestrians using the twitten from Market Square to Denne Road car park throughout the summer. Silver and Bronze awards went to PDT Solicitors in Brighton Road and James Taylor of Howard Road.

The judge of the Best Allotment competition, sponsored by North Horsham Parish Council, described the winning entry as being 'faultless'. This accolade, Gold Award, Cup, cash prize and Certificate were won by Christine Thornton from the Depot Road allotments site. John Peace from the same site won Silver while Bronze went to Sally Birchmore (Bennett's Road) with a Commendation to Gavin Barry (Blunts Way).

Each year the Neighbourhood and Parish Councils recognise local residents for their outstanding efforts or contributions to the community. Recipients of this year's trophies were Anne Rollinson and Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter for adjoining front gardens in Denne Neighbourhood.

Mrs. Carr from Trafalgar, Karon Barber from Forest and to two residents of North Horsham, Kim Osborne for her front garden and Luke Ingram for turning up every week, whatever the weather, to support the work of Horsham Green Gym, also received awards.

Earles Meadow Conservation Group gained a Gold Award from South/South East in Bloom in the 'It's Your Neighbourhood Category' and received it from S&SE in Bloom judge Jean Griffin.