

# **RHS Britain in Bloom**

## **Judges' Remarks**

**RHS  
Britain  
in Bloom**



## **UK Finals 2009**

# Summary of results for RHS Britain in Bloom UK Finals 2009

| Entry                       |   | Quality Award                            |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
|                             | <b>Champion of Champions</b>              |  |
| Falkland                    |   | <b>Gold &amp; Category Winner</b>        |
| Ravenfield                  |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Earsdon                     |   | Silver Gilt                              |
|                             | <b>Large City</b>                         |  |
| Edinburgh                   |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| London Borough of Croydon   |   | <b>Silver Gilt &amp; Category Winner</b> |
|                             | <b>City</b>                               |  |
| London Borough of Islington |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Newport, Wales              |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Plymouth                    |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Stockton on Tees            |   | <b>Gold &amp; Category Winner</b>        |
|                             | <b>Large Town/Small City (35k – 100k)</b> |  |
| Bedford                     |   | Silver                                   |
| Chester                     |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Harrogate                   |   | <b>Gold &amp; Category Winner</b>        |
| Londonderry                 |   | Silver                                   |
| Newcastle-Under-Lyme        |   | Silver Gilt                              |
|                             | <b>Large Town/Small City (12k – 35k)</b>  |  |
| Bury                        |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Durham                      |   | Silver                                   |
| Glenrothes                  |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Kendal                      |   | Silver                                   |
| Wisbech                     |   | <b>Silver Gilt &amp; Category Winner</b> |
|                             | <b>Town</b>                               |  |
| Ilkley                      |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Morpeth                     |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Oakham                      |   | Gold                                     |
| Rustington                  |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Thornbury                   |   | <b>Gold &amp; Category Winner</b>        |
|                             | <b>Small Town</b>                         |  |
| Grouville                   |   | Gold                                     |
| Liphook                     |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Pitlochry                   |   | <b>Gold &amp; Category Winner</b>        |
| Ramsey                      |   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Tetbury                     |   | Silver Gilt                              |
|                             | <b>Large Village</b>                      |  |

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|--|--|
| Barwick-in-Elmet                           | Gold                                     |
| Broughshane                                | <b>Gold &amp; Category Winner</b>        |
| East Hagbourne                             | Silver                                   |
| Kinneswood                                 | Silver Gilt                              |
| Kirkby Stephen                             | Silver                                   |
| Limpsfield                                 | Silver Gilt                              |
| St. Andrews (Guernsey)                     | Silver Gilt                              |
| Usk  | Silver Gilt                              |
| Wedmore                                    | Gold                                     |
| <b>Village</b>                             |  |
| Appleton Wiske                             | Gold                                     |
| Chipping                                   | <b>Gold &amp; Category Winner</b>        |
| Duffus                                     | Silver Gilt                              |
| Filby                                      | Silver Gilt                              |
| Rosliston                                  | Silver Gilt                              |
| Scarva                                     | Silver Gilt                              |
| <b>Small Village</b>                       |  |
| Stanghow                                   | Silver Gilt                              |
| Tarrington Village                         | <b>Silver Gilt &amp; Category Winner</b> |
| <b>Coastal (12k and above)</b>             |  |
| Bangor                                     | Silver Gilt                              |
| Bridlington                                | Silver Gilt                              |
| Cleethorpes                                | <b>Gold &amp; Category Winner</b>        |
| Colwyn Bay                                 | Silver Gilt                              |
| Herne Bay                                  | Silver                                   |
| South Shields                              | Silver                                   |
| St. Andrews (Scotland)                     | Silver                                   |
| <b>Coastal (12k and below)</b>             |  |
| Hayle                                      | <b>Silver Gilt</b>                       |
| Hunstanton                                 | Silver Gilt                              |
| Lytham                                     | Silver Gilt                              |
| St Brelade                                 | <b>Gold &amp; Category Winner</b>        |
| Swanage                                    | Silver                                   |
| <b>Urban Community</b>                     |  |
| Aldwick (Bognor Regis)                     | Silver                                   |
| Birmingham City Centre                     | <b>Gold &amp; Category Winner</b>        |
| Dulwich (London)                           | Silver                                   |
| Eston (Middlesborough)                     | Silver Gilt                              |
| Kippax (Leeds)                             | Silver                                   |
| Manchester City Centre                     | Silver                                   |
| Moor (Oxmoor, Huntingdon)                  | Bronze                                   |
| Port Marine & Village Quarter (Portishead) | Gold                                     |
| Uddington (Glasgow)                        | Silver Gilt                              |

# Discretionary Awards

**RHS Britain in Bloom Floral Award**  
Rustington

**RHS Britain in Bloom Permanent Landscaping Award**  
Walled Garden, Bangor

**RHS Britain in Bloom Commercial Award**  
St. Brelade's Bay Hotel, St Brelade

**RHS Britain in Bloom Young People's Award**  
Falkland

**RHS Britain in Bloom Conservation & Environment Award**  
Farthing Downs & New Hill, London Borough of Croydon

**RHS Britain in Bloom Environmental Quality Award**  
St. Andrews (Scotland)

**RHS Britain in Bloom Tourism Award**  
Chipping

**RHS Britain in Bloom Community Award**  
Earsdon

**RHS Britain in Bloom Public Park Award**  
Valley Gardens, Harrogate

**RHS Britain in Bloom Local Roots Award**  
Eston for Cultural Diversity  
Plymouth for Heritage

## **RHS Britain in Bloom Community Champion Awards**

Ken Barnes, Ramsey  
Bob Davidson, Duffus  
Maureen Dodds, Oakham  
Ann Higgins, Eston  
**Brian Hoskins, Hayle**  
Verna MacNaughton, Earsdon  
Frank Noble, Barwick in Elmet  
Jocelyn Watts, St. Andrew's (Guernsey)

**RHS Britain in Bloom Outstanding Contribution Award**  
Vic Verrier, South West in Bloom

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**Hayle, South West  
Coastal (12k and below), Silver Gilt**

Hayle is obviously proud of its heritage, not only its industrial past but also the natural heritage and the judges were over-whelmed by the amount of community volunteers helping to improve Hayle in particular the "Adopt a plot" team who seemed to pop up everywhere.

The Hayle logo and floral features at the roundabout on the A30 entrance to the town is an outstanding welcome to visitors to Hayle & Cornwall.

The commitment to the natural environment is clearly apparent for all to see now and in future generations.

## **Horticultural Achievement**

### **The judges were particularly impressed with:**

- The judges were extremely impressed by the floral quality and impact on the A30 roundabout entrance to Hayle which incorporated the new logo.
- The colourful and diverse mixture of plants displayed along Penpol Gardens was a joy to see.
- The floral display by members of the Hayle Women's Institute gives an excellent first impression on entering the Resort.
- The floral display at the Fish & Chip shop was as good as one can see; really fantastic.

### **Areas suggested for future development:**

- The judges appreciate the reason for visiting the Recreation Ground but the standards here were not the same as seen everywhere else we visited.
- The inclusion of excessive paperwork and duplication of the very good portfolio material needs careful consideration in future tours.
- Continue to involve the business community as much as possible.

## **Environmental Responsibility**

### **The judges were particularly impressed with:**

- The continued conservation and education programme at the Towans is excellent.
- The new wildlife garden planted and maintained by the numerous volunteer groups was a credit to all concerned.
- The two heritage projects by Mervyn Sullivan depicting Hayle's history and recognising a local hero.
- The new hard landscaping and street furniture at Foundry Square.

### **Areas suggested for future development:**

- Consider interpretation of the Towans to explain to visitors its history and the diversity of species that can be found there.
- The introduction of a heritage map/leaflet that incorporates historical and environmental features would benefit visitors to the area. Possible funding could be gained through awards for all for both this project and the interpretation.
- Hayle Surf Life Saving club is a fantastic resource that could be used further in the management and monitoring of the wildlife at the Towans.

## Community Participation

### The judges were particularly impressed with:

- The “Adopt a plot “volunteers are doing sterling work making a real difference to the quality of the local environment.
- The inner garden at the wing of St. Michael’s hospital provides a place of beauty and tranquillity for patient’s visitors and staff.
- The work being carried out at Havens Holiday Park to improve their environment and educate visitors about conservation and recycling was outstanding.
- The partnership between Heather Lane Nursery and other businesses to create colourful tubs along the High Street.

### Areas suggested for future development:

- It would be helpful for judges to have more detailed financial information about the funding of Hayle in Bloom.
- More should be made of recording or recognising the many hours of voluntary work which is carried out which could be used in funding bids.

## **St Brelade, Jersey**

### **Coastal (12k and below), Gold & Category Winner**

The Parish is situated in the southwest corner of Jersey with the sea on three of its boundaries; this gives it unique habitats with headlands and rocky cliffs, wooded valley and sand dunes. It is quickly apparent that the local community are committed to retaining the beauty and variety of the fauna and flora in all areas. The public floral displays at the Anchor bed, seafront gardens and the Parish Hall are stunning but these are enhanced by the businesses and residents such as the Nat West Bank and properties on Don Road. The judges were impressed that the comments from last year's judges had been acted upon.

#### **Horticultural Achievement**

**The judges were particularly impressed with:**

- The seafront gardens and the anchor bed was outstanding in term of its colour, the mix of permanent and annual displays and maintenance
- The superb support of the business sector was exceptionally strong in particular Nat West Bank, St Brelades Bay Hotel and many restaurants and public houses
- The judges were blown away by the gardens at Les Mielles apartments where the range, mix and quality of species and standard of maintenance were as good as one will see anywhere
- The window boxes and hanging baskets on the Parish Hall were superb – a credit to the prisoners at La Moye

**Areas suggested for future development:**

- The judges were pleased to see that the comments from last year's national judges had been addressed by working with scouts and cubs. The judges appreciated it is summer holidays but it would have been useful to visit the school or Q gardens.
- If time permitted the tour could include a walk from the Parish Church to pickup the view, Q gardens for its link with the school and disabled and the rectory for its links with the prisoners
- The new bloom competition has been a great success and well supported and now can go from strength to strength with additional categories being added

#### **Environmental Responsibility**

**The judges were particularly impressed with:**

- The work of the States assisted by a posse of volunteers at Ouaisne Common is making a real difference for the rare species and habitats that can be found in this unique area.
- The environmental quality throughout the tour was immaculate and a credit to all those involved for example the beach cleans and the "Stop the Drop"

campaign which has now been taken up by the whole island. The beach was spotless as were the pavements and pedestrian areas

- Good to see businesses taking an active part by cleaning up areas and improving the environment
- It was good to hear that recycling was a high priority for the parish and new bring sites had been created and additional areas were being sourced

**Areas suggested for future development:**

- Being a major seaside tourist destination it was felt that there are opportunities to strengthen the visitors experience by providing information leaflets about the railway walk, history and heritage, plant species around the area which could be incorporated into a nature trail which could be compiled by youth groups in association with the State and the Bloom group
- The benefits of working with young people (have been seen) but could be developed further to spread the recycling message
- Historic and natural assets throughout St Brelades have already been highlighted with interpretation panels but there may be further information that could be displayed e.g. national collection of alders

## **Community Participation**

**The judges were particularly impressed with:**

- The work being carried out by Reg, at his garden, is outstanding as all sectors of the community can and do take the opportunity to raise funds for their various charities, in fantastic family orientated surroundings
- The presentation display boards were factual, informative and very well presented
- It was apparent throughout the tour that the whole community were aware and involved in the Bloom campaign particular credit to the Scouts, prisoners from La Moye, and the business sector

**Areas suggested for future development:**

- The experience for visitors at Reg's garden is wonderful and visitors record their appreciation in the visitor's book. It would be equally impressive to list the number of organisations which use the garden for fundraising and how much they have raised
- Encourage other sectors of the community to get more involved such as the Fire Station and churches