

# Godalming in Bloom Newsletter 2015

*"TO ENCOURAGE CIVIC PRIDE BY THE PARTICIPATION OF INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT THROUGH PLANTING AND FLORAL DISPLAYS"*

*January 2015, Volume 3*

Welcome to the Godalming in Bloom newsletter! The Godalming in Bloom Garden Judges were thrilled that the broadcaster and journalist, John Negus, could join them as Head Judge of Gardens. John enjoyed his time with Godalming in Bloom, he observed, "Without doubt, the days we spent viewing spectacular gardens and meeting their owners were memorable. What joy it is to share one's passion for growing a cornucopia of fascinating plants." John answered all the entrants' gardening questions and encouraged the gardeners with their plans to further develop their gardens.

The judges enjoyed being expertly driven in J Gorrings and Son's beautiful limousine, they were looked after by John and Tony from J Gorrings and Son Funeral Directors, one of the four sponsors of Godalming in Bloom 2014. The Judges have been impressed by the high standard of the entries and the beautiful gardens they have seen, they have been delighted to see the effort and dedication that has gone into each of the gardens and the community spirit and friendships that have developed.



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Dawn and Francis Waters' colourful garden really impressed all the judges; they were awarded our top prize – The Cornmeter Trophy. Dawn purchased her plants from Godalming's market on a Friday, experimenting with different colour and plant combinations until she had perfected the end result. The Waters' garden is beautifully scented; they have an attractive archway and many of the garden boundaries all clothed with *Trachelospermum jasminoides*. Dawn planted fragrant English roses in an attractive, central flower bed. The Waters' garden is a wonderfully relaxing and inspiring, beautiful place to visit and is enjoyed by birds, bees and wildlife, as well as the Waters and the Godalming in Bloom Judges. Sadly, after an illness, Dawn passed away a few days after receiving her trophy. She will be greatly missed by everyone, especially the Godalming in Bloom team.



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## Godalming in Bloom 2014 Allotment Gardening

The Godalming in Bloom Allotment Judging Team were delighted to be joined by Expert Judge, John Tilbury. We visited beautifully tended allotments, with well thought out plans and innovative ideas used to maximise the cropping potential; it's been wonderful to see!

We've been bowled over by the efforts of the gardeners and their Steward, Henryk Gaszka, at Catteshall allotments. Despite the devastating and prolonged flooding over Christmas 2013, and the repeated flooding since, the allotment holders have pulled together, clearing the site and re-sowing their crops. Their determination to grow whatever they can has resulted in a charming and beautiful allotment site, with fruit, vegetables, herbs and flowers providing food and nectar for the bees and allotment holders alike.

Jozef Gaszka, aged 13, is enjoying learning more about gardening, his sweet corn was looking fantastic as we visited the allotment he shares with his Father last year. We've been excited to see Jozef's success at gardening, and look forward to see what he will grow next year.

We've so enjoyed visiting all the allotment sites and seeing the excellent results and harvest that can be gained, even after the toughest of times. If you have an allotment in Godalming, Farncombe, Busbridge or the surrounding areas, we commend you on your efforts and the results you've achieved. We'd like to send out a very special thank you to all the wonderful Allotment Stewards, we are always so impressed and grateful to you for your efforts and hard work at each of your allotment sites. Thank you.



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## Godalming in Bloom 2014 Scarecrow Competition

Here are a few of the fabulous scarecrows that entered the 2014 Best Scarecrow competition.....



And some more pictures of the amazing allotments!



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## Godalming in Bloom 2014 Commercial Buildings

We saw lots of beautiful hanging baskets and hidden gardens whilst we were judging the commercial section of the competition, here are just a few photos of the wonderful floral displays we admired.



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## Schools Competition

The Godalming in Bloom Schools Judging Team were delighted to be joined by Godalming Woolsack Rotary President Mike Poulter as we visited the school gardens. It was evident just how much joy these new outdoor areas have given the children, and wonderful to see how much it has inspired their learning. Godalming in Bloom donated sunflower seeds to each of the schools, and we had a competition to see who could grow the tallest sunflower.

This summer we visited Broadwater School for the first time; we were very impressed with the thoughtfully planted hanging baskets and containers which brightened up the school entrance. The judges went on to see Broadwater School's cheerful scarecrow and sunflowers, in a garden that has been grown and developed by the special needs students at the school.

At Busbridge Infant School the children were really enthused about their garden; parents as well as staff support the children with gardening and outdoor learning, and all enjoy the beautiful herbs and colourful flowers they have grown. They also grow productive vegetables and have a beautifully planted meadow area. The children told us how they loved growing broad beans, but did not enjoy eating them!

The children at St Edmund's Catholic School were delighted to show us their new Prayer Garden. All the children are very respectful and proud of their new garden, which has a seating area, a statue of Mary and a water feature as well as newly planted flower beds.

At St Hilary's School each class has specially planted a large container; if it's an especially hot day the Gardening Club will email each of the classes to remind them to water their containers.

The Judges were delighted to find classes enjoying lessons outside at Loseley Fields School, in their wonderful new garden and outdoor learning area. The children at Loseley Fields School really impressed the judges with their plant knowledge, giving us all the plant names and information on how and why they had chosen to grow their plants. The children were very enthusiastically tending their garden and told us how they loved coming to school each day.

Moss Lane School have a truly fabulous allotment,

Stephen Goddard has done a wonderful job, working with the children to grow top quality vegetables, fruit, flowers and herbs at the Burys. Parents have used some of the red currants to make jam and have sold their preserves to raise money for the school.



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## Godalming in Bloom News

In May, together with Go-Godalming, our umbrella organisation, we attended the St John's Spring Fair, at the Burys Field in Godalming. We had lots of fun giving gardening advice and telling people about the competition.



On a very hot and sunny Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014, fifteen beautiful, private gardens in Busbridge, Farncombe and Godalming opened for one special afternoon to raise money for the Cellar. Visitors enjoyed teas, coffees, refreshing cold drinks and an array of home-made cakes at St John's Church in Farncombe, Busbridge Church, the Cellar café, and at some of the open gardens. Gardeners also raised plants for sale to raise extra funds for charity. I'd like to thank the wonderful and generous gardeners who were so kind to open their beautiful gardens for this very special event to raise funds for the Cellar. Special thanks also to everyone at St John's Church in Farncombe and Busbridge Church for supporting the Cellar, selling tickets and serving teas, making it a truly special event for everyone. The next Garden Open day will be held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2015, please contact Beth Otway if you'd like to open your garden and make a difference for this worthwhile cause.



In December, Godalming in Bloom took part in the Ss Peter and Paul's Church Christmas Tree Festival, with our very own Godalming in Bloom tree! Our tree was decorated with natural materials and home-made decorations gathered from the garden.



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# Godalming in Bloom 2014 Winners

## Schools

Rotary Sunshine Shield Schools Trophy – Loseley Fields School  
WWF Wildflower and Wildlife Trophy – Busbridge Infant School  
Special Certificate for their Allotment – Moss Lane School  
Special Certificate for their new Prayer Garden – St Edmund's Catholic Primary School  
Special Certificate for their Container Gardens – St Hilary's School  
Special Certificate for their Scarecrow and Sunflowers – Broadwater School  
Special Certificate for their Hanging Baskets and Containers – Broadwater School  
Certificate for the Tallest Sunflower – Loseley Fields School

## Trophies

Compost Trophy – B G Newman  
Cornmeter Trophy – Dawn Waters  
Waverley Glass Trophy – John Baxter  
Writer's Trophy Free Spirit Award – John and Lill Blades  
Jack Morris Plate – Best Allotment – Gordon Ireland  
Mayor's Rosebowl – Elaine Joyce  
Best Large Garden – Richard and Rosemary Wells  
Godalming in Bloom Chairman's Award – Doris Woods  
Barlow Roffe Swayne Glass Trophy – Nick Marshall & Daniel Davies  
Bob Kingshott Shield – Most Colourful Garden – Rose Turk  
Legg Shield for the most Picturesque Patio – Dee & Brad Garnet  
Rose Turk Trophy – Gareth Addison  
Go-Godalming Shield – Private Residences – Greta Edgington  
Secretts Shield Large Garden First Time Entry – Stanley and Elizabeth Port  
Godalming in Bloom – Small Garden – First Time Entrant Award – Rosemary Fargus  
Special Award – Jean Cole  
Gordon-Smith Tankard for Best Scarecrow – Sheila Kelsey  
Streets Together – Meadow Court  
Go-Godalming Shield for Managed Community Gardens – Farncombe Day Centre  
Independent Retailer – Cornmeter DIY  
Godalming in Bloom Multiple Retailers – J Gorringe & Son  
Professional Services – Nye Saunders Architects  
Miscellaneous Buildings – The Pepperpot  
Janet Robertson Award for Best Pub Garden – The Leathern Bottle  
Best Public House – The Sun

## Certificates

### Allotments, Very Highly Commended:

Sheila and Brian Kelsey - Northbourne  
Bob Jones - Northbourne  
Alan Bennett - Northbourne  
Brian Shepherd - Catteshall  
Keith Hendry - Catteshall  
Janet Fitzsimmons – Northbourne

### Allotments, Highly Commended:

Anne Welch – The Bury  
Chris and Emma Beswick – George Road  
David Alwood – Northbourne

### Special Certificates:

Jozef Gaszka - Catteshall  
Michael Ashton – George Road  
John Silano and Tim Stevens - Catteshall  
More Circle Allotments – improved site  
Catteshall Allotments – success through adversity

### Gardens, Very Highly Commended:

Josee Allen  
Jennifer Snapes  
Margaret Holland  
Christine and Michael Woods  
Tom, Jessica & Tamsin Martin

### Commended Gardens:

Marie and Kial Hounslow  
Mick and Tracey Soul  
Sameena and Julian Thompson

### Special Certificate Floral Arrangements:

Olivia Hounslow

### Highly Commended Scarecrow – Lynn Chase

**Wildflower Garden** – Highly Commended – Bartosz Piwowarek

### Commercial Buildings & Gardens Certificates:

Very Highly Commended  
The White Hart  
Jubilee House  
Farncombe Boat House  
Godalming Station

### Commended

Godalming Veterinary Surgery  
The Richmond Arms  
St John's Quiet Garden

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## Godalming in Bloom 2014 Prizes

A big thank you to all those who kindly donated prizes!

Thompson and Morgan vouchers

The English Garden Magazine subscription

The National Trust – Free Entry to Winkworth  
Aboretum

The Scotts Miracle-Gro vouchers

Nicola Cozens 'The Iron Lady' - Ironing Voucher

Meadowbank Garden Services - Two Big  
Cottage Garden Plant Hampers

Surrey Hills Landscaping - Garden Maintenance  
Visit

Amy Lou's – A beautiful basket of exotic fruit

The Olive Oil Shop – bottle of speciality olive oil

Garden basket and tools from [www.the-squirrel-store.co.uk](http://www.the-squirrel-store.co.uk)

Heart of the Home (Church Street) - Decorative  
Planter

Charlie's K9 Angels - Wash and dry for your dog

BBC Gardeners' World –Alan Titchmarsh book

BBC Gardeners' World Magazine book

Carol Klein Grow your Own Garden book

Marshalls Seeds voucher

Dibleys Nursery – Streptocarpus plants for each  
of the entrants



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## Thanks to everybody who contributed!

I'd really like to thank our sponsors; Burns and Webber, Cornmeter DIY, J Gorringe and Son Funeral Directors and Waitrose for funding the competition. I am so grateful to our sponsors, they are such supportive people and wonderful to work with, without them the competition couldn't go ahead.

A massive thank you to Tony and John from J Gorringe and Son, who expertly chauffeured the judges all around Godalming and Farncombe for the entire two days of Garden Judging. Without their help and support we would have never managed to visit so many gardens each day. Thank you!



A big thank you to the Mayor and Mayoress of Godalming, Andrew and Jocelyn Wilson, who helped us judge gardens and commercial buildings. We were very happy to have the Mayor and Mayoress with us at our Prize Giving, where they presented the prizes and gave a speech. Thank you both very much.

A massive thank you to our Expert Judges, John Negus and John Tilbury, who could not

have been more supportive or encouraging to our entrants. Thank you both for being a wonderful and greatly valued part of our team.

A huge thank you to Cannon Mervyn Roberts and Ss Peter and Paul's Church for allowing us to use the Octagon for the Prize Giving, it's the perfect venue for us, thank you!



I'd like to thank my fantastic Godalming in Bloom Committee, who have worked so hard throughout the year to create a wonderful competition. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who entered Godalming in Bloom, it was a pleasure to meet you and visit your allotments, private gardens, school gardens, care homes, businesses and pub gardens. We hope you'll be inspired and encouraged to enter the competition in 2015 and help to make Binscombe, Busbridge, Farncombe and Godalming even more beautiful.

**Thank you to everybody who contributed!**

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# Godalming in Bloom 2015

## **We are super excited about 2015!**

We hope you'll enter Godalming in Bloom 2015 to celebrate gardening in Binscombe, Busbridge, Godalming and Farncombe! The closing date for entries is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015

## **Dates for your diary.....**

- Allotment judging will take place at the judges' discretion between 10<sup>th</sup> June and 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2015.
- The schools competition will be judged on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015.
- Gardens judging will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June, and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015.
- The Open Garden Event to raise funds for the Cellar will take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2015 – please contact Beth if you would like to open your garden and take part in this special event.
- Commercial Buildings will be judged on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

**The prize giving will be held at the Octagon, Church Street at 6pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015.**

If you garden in Binscombe, Busbridge, Godalming or Farncombe would like to enter your garden, allotment, community garden, school garden, wildlife garden, commercial garden, container garden, patio, colourful garden, hanging basket, scarecrow or other gardening venture, please contact Beth Otway by email [beth@otway.com](mailto:beth@otway.com) or telephone 01483 420989.

Alternatively complete the entry form below, or enter online at [www.gogodalming.org.uk](http://www.gogodalming.org.uk)

Entries for the compost competition are not needed in advance—just bring a bucket of your finest compost to the prize giving evening!

## **Godalming in Bloom Entry Form 2015**

Name ..... Age (if under 16) .....

Address .....

..... Postcode:.....

Telephone ..... Email address: .....

Category (please delete as appropriate): Front Garden / Back Garden / Patio Garden / Scarecrow / Allotment / Container Garden / Hanging Basket / Commercial / Wildlife Garden / Community garden / Streets together

Allotment site (for allotment entries): ..... Plot No: .....

Email this form to [beth@otway.com](mailto:beth@otway.com) or post it to: Beth Otway Godalming in Bloom, c/o Andy Jeffrey, Godalming Town Council, Municipal Buildings, Bridge Street, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1HT

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