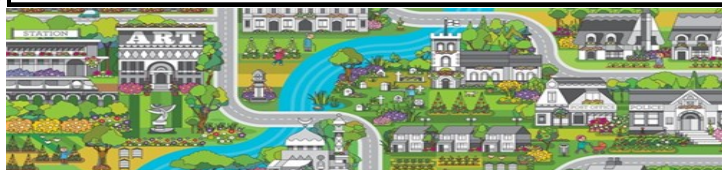




SOUTH WEST

# Britain in Bloom - South West Spring Newsletter 2021



South West in Bloom will be at Chelsea in September 2021

# GLENDALE SUPPORTS COVID RECOVERY WITH NEW LEASED FLORAL DISPLAY OFFERING

Headline sponsor and national green service provider Glendale is able to support Southwest in Bloom with the installation of amazing floral displays over the summer of 2021.

Covid has impacted public open spaces and, in particular the High Street, throughout 2020 and Covid Recovery programmes are now being introduced across the Southwest by local authorities to support the High Street over the next 12 months.



Due to the short term nature of funding we have been approached by some customers to offer temporary arrangements for floral displays, as a one off benefit over the summer of 2021, to encourage people back to the High Street, making the built environment a bright and pleasant place to be.



Working with our partners at Glendale Horticulture we are able to offer several different floral packages to customers, both on a supply and install basis and a supply, install and maintain basis, if required.

Displays are leased for the season (20 weeks), delivered and installed pre planted and in bloom, ready to wow your residents and visitors. Ground based displays are swiftly positioned using a forklift to carry the displays from an articulated lorry.

Units can be quickly and easily moved post installation if required to support events and location demands.





At the end of the season the units are collected and returned to the nursery. Where possible plants are reused in following seasons, if not they are composted.

With hanging baskets available from as little as £99 and planters from £545, our planters offer instant impact for any temporary project or event.

Maintenance packages are also available for a complete service and to ensure they look their best all through the summer.

For more information, Call Deric Newman on 07868 056 590 or email [deric.newman@glendale-services.co.uk](mailto:deric.newman@glendale-services.co.uk)

E: [terry.doyle@glendale-services.co.uk](mailto:terry.doyle@glendale-services.co.uk) [glendale-services.co.uk](http://glendale-services.co.uk)

Follow me on Twitter: [@terrydoyleSW](https://twitter.com/terrydoyleSW)

Follow us on Twitter: [@GlendaleUK](https://twitter.com/GlendaleUK)



Our sponsor Glendale offers horticulture expertise including, grounds maintenance and tree surgery, landscaping & fencing and countryside contracting services.

## Reviving the local economy with flowers

*Amberol's MD Patience Atkinson-Gregory explains the role that floral displays can play in a post-lockdown revival of the high street*

I always think that the British springtime is the most optimistic of all the seasons. For those involved in Britain in Bloom and other community initiatives, it's also one of the most satisfying times of the year. Being an In Bloomer is a year-round commitment, and as the warmer months approach, all the planning and behind-the-scenes work that goes on in groups across the country finally comes to fruition. And this year more than ever, we need those green shoots of optimism – both metaphorical and horticultural.

### Helping to ensure a Covid-secure Britain in Bloom



Self Watering Planter in Svaty Jur

After the inevitable cancellation of the 2020 competition, many Britain In Bloom groups are even more motivated to make 2021 a year to remember for all the right reasons. Our customers have worked hard to implement procedures to ensure strict adherence to Covid-secure practices, with many reporting that the self-watering feature of our planters is a significant help in ensuring social distancing and reducing unnecessary maintenance visits.

We anticipate that the floral cheer brought to our high streets, shopping centres, parks, schools and public spaces by diligent Bloomers will be more important than ever in 2021, as people make a cautious return to these places post-lockdown. We all need the beauty that floral displays can create to raise our collective mood, and they will play a significant part in encouraging people to visit town centres and retail hubs, restarting the local economy. With

online shopping becoming the norm in lockdown, people may need a reason to return to their commercial centres. Making these places attractive with floral displays - so a trip to the shops becomes an event rather than a chore - is one way to help achieve that.



## Maintaining social distancing beautifully

Unfortunately, it looks as if social distancing will be at best, desirable and at worst, compulsory for some time to come. And so, it's worth considering how best to make public spaces safe, without sacrificing their visual appeal. In Bloomers are known for being imaginative when overcoming challenges, and some of our customers have demonstrated an innovative approach to social distancing by planting up banks of our self-watering containers to create blooming barriers. These floral fences make an attractive alternative to the more utilitarian options such as metal railings or chain link fencing as way of managing pedestrian flow or blocking entry in areas of high footfall. Our range of Promenade and Parade planters have been particularly popular as they can be joined together in straight lines or at right angles to create beautiful floral barriers of around 0.7m high.

## Win £200 of Amberol vouchers with your photos

Whatever way In Bloomers choose to enhance their environment, buying plants, containers and equipment costs money. We try to support Britain in Bloom organisations across the UK through a range of ways, including sponsorship and the competitions that we regularly run. These usually offer Amberol vouchers as prizes – with the chance to help fund those purchases.

Our photo competition now runs all year round, offering the chance to win £200 worth of Amberol vouchers. Entering is easy, so why not give it a go? Just submit any image past or present that you have of Amberol's self-watering planters via the [online form](#) on the website or go to our website [www.amberol.co.uk](http://www.amberol.co.uk) and visit the Customer Galleries page. Your photo will then be entered into the public vote with the chance to win £200 of Amberol vouchers. Winners are chosen at least once during each season.

Please note : any photo that has been entered in a previous Amberol photo competition will not be eligible.



### Can we help?

If you would like to discuss your planter needs or find out more about how we could help your group, please call 01773 830 930 or email [sales@amberol.co.uk](mailto:sales@amberol.co.uk)

## Leisure, Tourism & Commercial Award

Entries are already good in the Leisure, Tourism & Business awards for 2021. However many business's have had a very difficult year since the first lockdown in March 2020 especially those in the hospitality sector. With many only just being able to start trading again, entering our competition must have been far from their thoughts. Therefore we are keeping entry to this class open until the end May, and we would welcome any late entries who may wish to join our competition.



Commercial Inn St Just

The awards will be presented at the awards ceremony at the Winter Gardens Pavillion, Weston super Mare on 7th October 2021.

The entry fee is again £20 per entry to help cover assessment and feedback costs.

This environmental benchmarking award has much to commend itself for as a measure of quality. The Judges will be looking at areas around entrances, public facilities, signage, standard of maintenance and appearance.

As well as interesting and original floral displays, general landscaping and general maintenance of grassed areas. They will also be looking at the environmental side of the business and community involvement.



Blackmore Farm, Cannington

The awards take on the traditional format of  
**Gold,**  
**Silver Gilt,**  
**Silver and**  
**Bronze**



North Inn Penzance

**Closing Date for entries extended until Monday 31st May**



# Britain in Bloom South West Pride in Park award 2021.

During the past year and the restrictions placed on all of us to stay at home as much as possible, when we were given the opportunity to exercise the value of our parks and green open spaces became invaluable.

You are able to enter your park for 2021 up to the **closing date of 14th June**. The criteria is the same as before and full details are available from the secretary or on our Web site. It is again important that the entry is community led, and there will need to be a community representative at the judging. The time allocation will depend on the size of the park or Green open space, and can be up to 2hrs.

You can indicate on the entry form the estimated time needed to judge the entry.

Judging can take place from June until the end of the year, as often parks are better judged at different times. You will be able to indicate the general date for judging, but if you have a special event, we will try to judge it on a specific day, if sufficient notice is given. Details can be entered on the entry form, which should be returned to the secretary.

The entries are awarded one to five stars, the five star equating to a Gold award.

**There is an entry fee of £20 for 2021. Entrants will receive a certificate showing the award and a Plaque to display in the Park**

Entry forms are available from the Secretary or on our Web site.



Rodmoor Gardens, Portishead

Apex Leisure & Wildlife Park. Highbridge

[www.southwestinbloom.org.uk](http://www.southwestinbloom.org.uk)

**Closing date for entries Monday 14th June**

## RHS COMMUNITY AWARDS 2021

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the RHS National Finals judging will be run digitally as judges cannot be expected to travel throughout the UK safely. The judging has therefore been changed from population size, e.g. small coastal, large coastal, and then Champion of Champions Award to an all-encompassing 'Discretionary Award', being divided into five categories:

- 1: 'Nourishing Your Community',
- 2: 'Planting with Purpose',
- 3: 'Nature Friendly Gardening',
- 4: 'Green Solutions',
- 5: 'Cultivating Your Community'.

Regionally nominated In Bloom groups can enter up to 3 of these sections but an entry done with *relevance* is seen as better than three generalised ones. Groups will not get penalised for submitting only one category. Awards will be given to each entry, with an outstanding or best in the category.

Each category offers different perspectives, so 'Nourishing Your Community' is mainly food-based i.e. sharing food within the community, whereas 'Cultivating Community' is more people-based - encouraging and increasing the number of volunteers across all ages and abilities to enjoy gardening. For those choosing 3. 'Nature Friendly Gardening', it was suggested that some groups might look at a particular species, or bee corridors etc and how these might benefit from plants and ways to protect or increase the species.

4. 'Green Solutions' is about planting with climate change in mind, but could include, where appropriate, issues about flooding, water catchment etc.



Within each category, there are guidelines and pointers to help. In Bloom groups are asked a variety of questions about their work on a given template (like a guided portfolio).

However, concise wording is required as each part has a limit of 400 words.

Only 10 photographs with an opportunity to include a 5 minute video, in any format, can also be included in each category.



Entries can now start online, with amendments, additions and photos added up until the closing date of 25th July.

Categories entered must include the In Bloom group, so a past “In Your Neighbourhood Entry” that stood aside from the In Bloom group’s work cannot be included. For example, in “Sidmouth, the Sidbashers” (Himalayan Balsam removal group) is run by Sidmouth in Bloom can be included, but our “Chairman’s Garden”, run by the Croquet Club without SIB intervention, cannot.

Overall, the categories will be marked on quality and outcomes, rather than the resources and professional expertise available to each group - noting that some groups have more experience using videos and photography - although assistance and advice will be given by the RHS where needed.

Size of the entry does not matter - again groups need to address the issues: what are the aims, why is it being done in a particular area, how is it to be achieved, what are the benefits and where are the categories going in the future? These are *not the questions* in the templates but Groups need to give themselves time to think about the categories, accepting challenges that may occur and being creative.

The spaces being tackled are about improving the environment, solving challenges in society and improving peoples’ wellbeing, apart from being sustainable and biodiverse.



Throughout, looking also at ‘Right Plant, Right Place’, (annuals, herbaceous, shrubs and trees), and assessing what would have happened if the project had not taken place within the community.

Sidmouth in Bloom wishes all the Groups a successful 2021 in both RHS SW in Bloom judging and the National Awards

Lynette Talbot ( Chair Sidmouth in Bloom)

## GLENDALE COMMITS TO APPRENTICE SCHEME

Glendale has plans to increase their apprentice programme over the next 12 months.

First launched in 2002, the award winning Glendale apprentice programme has allowed for hundreds of enthusiastic new gardeners and tree surgeons to commence a career in the green sector through a formal apprentice programme. Over the next 6 months a further 20 apprentices will be added to the company.



Glendale has committed to at least 5% of their workforce being in an apprenticeship, graduate training or sponsored education. Our academies have proven to be hugely successful both by bringing fresh new faces into the company but, as a market leader, supporting the sector with new and exciting professionals who go on to do great things outside of Glendale once their apprenticeship has been completed.

For more information about Glendale apprenticeships visit <https://www.glendale-services.co.uk/apprenticeships/>



Glendale

### Important Dates for 2021

Regional Judging	<b>Thurs 1st July to Fri 30th July</b>
IYN Assessments	<b>Thurs 1st July to Fri 30th July</b>
Pride in Park Award judging	<b>June 2021 to December 2021</b>
Summer Seminar Mariners Hall, Beer.	<b>Thursday 24th June</b>
Presentation Winter Gardens Pavillion Weston super Mare	<b>Thursday 7th October</b>



## **Presidents Message**

So many of us have been in semi lockdown now for many months due to the ongoing Covid 19 restrictions, including myself in the vulnerable group needing to “shield”. Those of us who luckily have gardens to tend have been our saving grace. We now look forward to the country continuing to roll out the fantastic vaccination programme, that things will gradually return to normal.

Our AGM took place mid March using the now accepted method of conducting meetings by Zoom. The meeting was a very positive one, and as one member remarked, it was just so nice to see peoples smiley faces again. It is very much hoped that government guidelines permitting we will be in a position to run all of our competitions again with judging in July. ( details in the newsletter)

We have had so much interest with new entries coming in, which highlights the benefits of horticulture in these difficult times.

Members reported increased activities with newly formed community groups carrying out everything from litter and beach cleaning to maintaining public spaces.

Widely publicised papers on our physical and mental health during these stressful times have found the benefit of being able to use our Public Open Spaces and Parks. Again the meeting reported usage up in all these areas that they managed where social distancing was possible.

The National Allotment Society reported that across much of the country there is now a waiting list for plots to become available. This again shows people want to exercise in this way and grow fresh produce for the table.

It was very heartening to hear this week that the Liverpool City Council along with The Fields in Trust are to be the first Local Authority in the country to pass legislation to legally protect over 1,000 hectares of Parks and Open Spaces . This represents over a 100 Parks that will mean they will never be able to be sold or built upon.

So safeguarding these wonderful assets for generations to come and be able to enjoy. I sincerely hope that many others will follow.

I send you all my best wishes for the coming season, keep well, and be safe. Fingers crossed you may even manage a holiday this year.

Vic Verrier MBE  
President SWIB

Chionodoxa Rubra Spring bulb
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## South West in Bloom at Chelsea 2021

Well we never thought that we would be growing Chrysanthemums and Dahlias in their natural season for an exhibit at Chelsea. Due to Covid the RHS have decided on a programme of later shows culminating in a show at the end of September at The Royal Hospital.

It is our intention, Pandemic willing, to exhibit in the floral Pavillion at Chelsea this Autumn. The exhibit will test our skills in plant production, design and display.



**Some early Chilli Plants**

The flower plant part of the exhibit will feature an Autumn extravaganza with Dahlias, Chrysanthemums, Pelargoniums and grasses designed to show a Community Garden for Wildlife and biodiversity

There will be Trees from Glendale and a special entry of Exhibition of Chrysanthemums and Dahlias by past and present National Champions.

We are honoured to be able to associate with Carrie Funnel with her splendid glass sculptures .

Many of the plants grown to date are looking good, but now with no show for them to be displayed.

Terry will be demonstrating his excellence in Vegetable production and featuring some of Sutton's new Vegetables together with a variety of the old favourites that we can always rely on.





Besides the flowers and vegetables another feature of the garden will be a brilliant three D feature developed by Lynette Talbot in partnership with Regents Park, which is based on David McKee's ELMER the Elephant . Elmer is different and by featuring this concept, we hope to raise the plight of the Elephant and threatened species.

We will promote our region by exhibiting top quality Plants and flowers grown in the region. Its not too late for your input or ideas so you could contact us if you have any.

### **Remembering the visit of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh**

In our years of building gardens at Chelsea and Hampton Court, we have been honoured to have been visited on a number of occasions by the Royal Party as it tours the exhibits.



One particular one to recall was in 2017 when we built the Feel good Taste garden with Chris Evans and Mary Berry to celebrate 50 years of BBC Radio Two. When the Royal party came, Her Majesty the Queen was accompanied by a number of members of her family including Prince Philip.

He took great interest in the garden commenting on much of the variety of vegetables, but he did comment strongly that Kohl Rabi was not a favourite of his.

After looking at the vegetables he did speak to Mary Berry, and questioned her on how she would prepare Kohl Rabi. After Mary explained a number of suitable recipes he still expressed his dislike of the vegetable in his own expressive way.

He also noted the chickweed we had selectively planted and made the point that we had taken weeds to Chelsea!

## SW in Bloom at Chelsea Flower Show by Lynette Talbot

In 2019 Jon Wheatley asked if I and Sidmouth in Bloom (SIB) would help create a garden at Chelsea Flower Show for May 2020 under the great Floral Marquee presenting South West in Bloom. The garden bed was to be divided into sections with SIB having a quarter to present Elmer the Elephant, their 3-D Floral sculpture, as part of Sidmouth's iconic heritage features.

SIB had previously done a swap with Royal Parks, London, in 2013 and was eager to borrow its 'Green Man' again for Sidmouth's Blackmore Gardens. Peter Endersby and I met with Mark Rowe of Regents Park who was keen to participate and support the 'In Bloom' movement, being impressed with the work being done by SIB and other 'In Bloom' groups. Elmer was to be planted up in the new Hyde Park nurseries in April 2020, transported to Chelsea and then returned to the entrance of Regent's Park for the summer.

Of course, Covid-19 struck with all plans put on hold. Elmer, already in London for the 2019 season did appear in Regent's Park, planted up by them to the design created by myself. The Royal Parks 'Green Man' under the guise of 'Tom the gardener' made his large presence felt in Sidmouth throughout our summer of 2020 and was much admired by all. Not to be deterred by lockdowns, Jon and I ventured into the Chelsea plans again in 2021, with Jon increasing the elephants to two but again plans were hampered: Chelsea moved from May to September. Elmer our original elephant was still in London ready for April planting in Regents Park for the 2021 summer season.



Sidmouth's two other elephants (one baby and one with tusks) were then chosen for Chelsea.

These are ready for collection by Royal Parks to go London for planting up by SIB volunteers at the Hyde Park glasshouses to our designs. Guided by Jon, it is hoped that the elephants will be seen emerging from a tropical setting (bananas, callas and cannas) into a grassy plain with loose annual planting down to an edging of bright annuals such as marigolds. This is to give impact and a hint of the savanna. Also, a good backdrop of large foliage plants will form a boundary from the other planting schemes. The 3D plants have been ordered from Kernock Park Plants with delivery to go to Hyde Park glasshouses. Other planting is to be grown on by us in our greenhouse and polytunnel.

A September Chelsea will give us a chance to get plants grown on although the elephants are to be planted in July to fill out their display in time. Visitors to Chelsea will have the joy of seeing different designs for later summer colour.

The impact of having visitors to see a South West in Bloom display can only be a good thing for the Region increasing much needed tourism. Cross fingers and hope that Terry Porter, Jon Wheatley and all the volunteers who will help create the display have a successful 'In Bloom' week at Chelsea.





## **2021 Spring now Summer Seminar**

It has been a very difficult decision to decide if we should make another attempt at holding a seminar this year, again after having to cancel the one in 2020.

The response we have received has been varied, but The Mariners hall and the Dolphin Hotel have confirmed that, if the restrictions are removed, then we will be able to hold the seminar.

Therefore we have decided to try again and hold the seminar, but there will still be the possibility that if the Government road to recovery falls back, then we may have to cancel the seminar. Most of the delegates should have had their two vaccinations, and be well protected from COVID 19. We will however still have facemasks and hand sanitiser available if delegates still wish to have that extra security being in an inside location.



### **Mike Nelhams**

Mike trained at RHS Wisley. He currently runs Tresco including the world famous Tresco Abbey Gardens. An Internationally recognised Plantsman and Corresponding member of the RHS Tender Plants Committee

Mike understands the Environment where on Tresco they are totally self sufficient and their Community all take part in making Tresco one of the most Beautiful places in Europe. Mike will be our keynote speaker and will also take part in our Spring seminar question time



### **Nina Acton**

Nina Acton is the Inspirational Producer of “All things Floral” at the Three Counties RHS Malvern Festival.

Nina is an Internationally recognised person whose design and planning skills make Malvern one of the finest Flower Shows in the World.



### **Rod Pooley**

Rod is the brains and inspiration behind many of our floral displays in the South West. In his role as Plant production Manager for Bristol City Council, he and his team produce thousands of plants for Bristol and other Cities throughout the UK.

# Summer Seminar 2021

**Thursday 24th June**  
**The Mariners Hall, Beer**  
**10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.**

## *Programme*

10:00 Coffee, Welcome & introductions

10:15 **“Gardening for the Neuro-Disabled.” A Journey**

**Josephine Spring**

11:00 Comfort break

11:10 **Bloom in Tresco**

**Mike Nelhams**

12:30 Lunch Bar Available

13:45 **Floral Three Counties**

**Nina Acton**

14:30 **Plant Production and new introductions**

**Rod Pooley**

15:30 Question Time

16:00 Closing Remarks

**Cost £20.00 per delegate.**

We have had to reschedule our seminar yet again to avoid the COVID 19 restrictions. We still have a very good programme for the Seminar and we hope that all those attending will enjoy the day.

**I have a list of all those that had booked tickets for the seminar in March 2020, and unless they contact me I will send tickets for this revised date nearer the time when we are sure the event can go ahead.**

**If any others wish to attend the seminar they can download a booking form from our web site or e mail a request to our secretary on [southwestinbloom@aol.com](mailto:southwestinbloom@aol.com)**

**Closing date for bookings Monday 7th June**



## Hints and Tips for New Entrants

Welcome to RHS South West in Bloom. It is really wonderful to have new communities coming together to enhance their towns and villages for all to enjoy. One of the main things to help the smooth running of the judging process is to be well prepared. However large or small your entry, there are several points to consider.

### **Portfolio:**

This is a very valuable document for the judges especially if they have never visited your town before. It will give the judges additional information to that which they gain on the judging day. It should include as much detail as possible about areas which will not be seen on the route.

This can apply to schools where entry may be problematic and time consuming. Also include photos of the town in different seasons throughout the year, and 'before and after' photos of any projects. Photos are easier for judges to gain an impression rather than a lot of text. Events and activities your bloom group is involved with should also be included. The portfolio should be sent to both judges at least 2 weeks prior to the judging date.



### **Mentoring:**

South West in Bloom judges are available to advise and mentor new entrants. Please ask for help when you need it and use your appointed mentor who can visit up to 2 weeks before the judging day.

### **The Route:**

It is important to plan your route to show off as much of your town as possible. It is advisable for several members of your group to go around the route thoroughly several times to check on problem areas and try to see what the judges would see.

### **A detailed route map and itinerary**

One should be provided for each judge. Try to arrange to meet a variety of people who are involved with the group at different locations on the route. A mixture of walking and being in a car is a good balance. If possible end the route at a 'wow' location.



## **Timing**

is important although it can be difficult if there are traffic problems etc. Judges understand this, but every effort should be made to keep to your allotted judging time. The judges may have another town to judge after you so they cannot overrun. Time should be allowed for some sort of visual presentation at the start of the tour. This can be a series of display boards or video etc. Also you can allow for press photos at the start or somewhere on the tour itself. Usually 15 mins for each of these is sufficient and this is included in your allocated judging time.

## **It's Your Neighbourhood Entries (IYNs):**

You can include 3 IYNs on your route and have an additional 30 minutes for this. So 10 mins for each IYN. Any other IYNs may be judged later on the same judging day by arrangement with the judges beforehand, or on another date.

## **Communication:**

One of your judges will contact you in April/ May. This is usually by email so correct contact details etc. are very important. There may be several emails to arrange a suitable judging date and time. Don't worry about refuse collection days, we understand. The judges will have several towns to visit so they try to plan a sensible route around the south west. Do keep in touch with the judges, they are all very willing to answer questions and concerns. Communication is key to a happy and successful judging tour.

## **Refreshments etc.:**



On arrival the judges will need washroom facilities and also on the route if possible. Water or drinks on the route are very welcome in the summer. Hand sanitiser should be available and hand shaking will not take place this year. Some entrants end with a buffet/picnic where the judges can meet the group more informally. These arrangements and any dietary requirements should be discussed prior

to the judging day.

Above all please try to ENJOY showing off your town and the culmination of all your hard work.

## Kingsbridge in 2021

It's been really good to see people out and about again as we come out of lockdown.



We have taken lots of appreciative comments from the public regarding our Spring displays of bulbs and plants which brings much satisfaction to our group.

Our main task in the last week has been to sow our wild flower seeds in the verges throughout the town in good time for a good show in the Summer.

This year we have increased our pollinator friendly display areas by 50% to further increase our commitment to re-wilding in line with the government's commitment to tackle our climate emergency.

It was also great to have the Beaver Scouts help with the sowing of the wild flowers in the Recreation Ground. Their support and enthusiasm is always very much appreciated and we involve our next generation to share the benefits of horticulture with us whenever we can.



Our new 100 % recycled planters along our Embankment in the town look spectacular against the backdrop of trees in full blossom.

## **Chairman's Report**

Hi everyone .

I sincerely hope that you are all well and enjoying this dry but cold spell.

Having just driven from Plymouth to Chew Magna, I have seen some exceptional Trees, Flowers, and Shrubs which herald the Spring and Summer. We, in the South West. do enjoy a wonderful Landscape and our many Communities show such interest and commitment to the principles and practices of gardening and the Environment.

I am pleased to announce that we have five representatives in the National Community awards, a virtual competition being staged by the RHS given that Covid has prevented a full judging tour. You all may have seen the various news articles announcing our entry's Sidmouth, Truro, Exmouth, Portishead and Kingsbridge whom we all wish well in representing us in these virtual Nationals.

I am also very pleased to confirm that we have an excellent entry in our regional competition in the various categories, which subject to the pandemic, will be actually judged and assessed. This is great news and thank you all so much for keeping it all going, as your efforts and sheer commitment is second to none.

Climate change, the environment and community involvement are a few key hot topics for you all to demonstrate in this years assessment, along with your excellent gardening and horticulture.

I would like to thank my colleagues Terry and Richard for their continued dedication to South West in Bloom and wish Melissa well in her new venture, that of taking on SWIB secretarial duties.

Finally we have put together an exciting programme for 2021 including an entry at this year's Chelsea in the Autumn described in pages 11 to 14 .

Well done team South West the best is yet to come keep up that resilience and enjoy your flowers as much as I do.

**Jon Wheatley**  
**Chairman RHS South West in Bloom**



## Introducing Tadpole Garden Village,

### Our Story So far ...

Tadpole Garden Village (TGV) is a growing community development, located in North Wiltshire on the outskirts of Swindon, designed for a sustainable and healthy lifestyle. Comprising nearly 2,000 homes on completion, 60% of the village is dedicated open space for all residents to enjoy. The rear of the village opens out onto a 40 hectare nature park run by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, providing woodland walks direct from the doorstep.



Community garden designed and installed for housing association flats in the village

The brain child of Pete Welsh, and supported by Stu Olden, both residents of the village and keen gardeners, 'TGV in Bloom' was launched in August 2019 with our first 'Britain in Bloom' judging. As novices, and only a few willing volunteers involved at that stage, we were delighted to be awarded a Silver medal in the South West Town / City Pennant - North category.

Spurred on by such a positive beginning, we set about planning how to improve across the three RHS judging pillars, whilst adding value and colour to our developing community.

Over the past 18 months, we have achieved a considerable amount, despite 12 months being under COVID restrictions, helped out by local businesses and village residents:



TGV in Bloom Community Greenhouse (funded by National Lottery)



Our popular Open Plot events  
(prior to COVID restrictions)

- 25 gardening club members
- Over 4,000 spring bulbs planted
- 2 community allotment plots growing veg, fruit and plants for the community
- £11,000 raised through national and local grants and donations
- 1 18' x 9' community green house built
- 340 Facebook members & 86 twitter followers
- 11 wooden planters built, planted and placed in the village
- 1 thankful village memorial under construction
- 1 plastic pot recycling scheme
- 5 open plot events with local businesses and fresh produce stalls
- 2 storms, 1 pandemic and 1 BBC Wiltshire radio interview
- 1 thriving community

We are now looking forward to our 2nd BIB judging, having progressed to the main regional competition, and to the further projects we have planned for 2021.

Follow us on Facebook (TGV in Bloom) & Twitter (@in\_tgv)

## RHS South West in Bloom 2021 Schools Painting Competition

**The theme for this year is**

**“ Learning in Lockdown. ”**

**The age groups are as follows:**

**Up to 6 years old, 7 – 11 years old, 12 – 16 years old**

Art should be a maximum of A3 in size. On the back of each painting, put names, age, and name of school and name of city, town or village.

Only one entry per age group, and they should be the winners of your local competition. Please note submitted works are non-returnable!

**The best exhibit in each age category should be sent to:**

**Melissa Poole. c/o 15a Moorcroft Road, Hutton.  
Weston super Mare, North Somerset. BS24 9RW**

**Closing date for entries is Friday 16th July**

## **COMPETITION ENTRIES 2021**

### **Champion of Champions**

Newquay  
Sidmouth  
Truro  
Weston super Mare  
Torquay

**Over 10,000 population**  
**Jane Pagano & Ian Murphy**

Glastonbury  
Crewkerne  
Kingsbridge  
Cannington

**Under 10,000 population**  
**Richard Budge & Nigel Bloxham**

**Tesco Cup 35,000 -79,999 ( Sue Maddocks & Lesley Jellyman)**  
Paignton Bath Taunton

**St Bridget Cup 19,000 -34,999 ( Lynette Talbot)**  
Yeovil in Bloom Exmouth Portishead Barnstaple

**Portman Cup 12,000 - 18,999 ( Terry Porter with  
Melissa Poole &/or Camilla Bassett-Smith )**  
Penzance Tiverton in Bloom Keynsham Wellington  
Brixham Calne Melksham Babbacombe

**Sargent Cup 9,000 - 11,999 ( Rod Pooley )**  
Thornbury Tavistock Minehead

**Preece Cup 7,000 - 8,999 ( Alex Botherton)**  
Bradford on Avon Hayle

**SWTA Cup 5,500 - 6,999 ( Rod Pooley)**  
Marlborough Ottery in Bloom

**Ayre Cup 2,500 - 5,499 ( Richard Taylor)**  
Radstock East the Water  
South Molton Kingskerswell Action Group

**Cox Cup 1,500 - 2,499 ( Steve Clampin)**  
Milborne Port Shaldon Village  
Henstridge Parish Council Hutton Tadpole Garden Village

**Mary Mortimer Under 1,500 ( Tim Ely)**  
Haselbury Plunknett Berrynarbor Ide  
Lymphsham including Eastertown Tresillian

**Please note, the Allocation of judges is at this time provisional**



## **Pennant Entries & Bids**

### **Bids**

Tavistock  
St Austell  
Weston super Mare  
Truro  
Weymouth Bid  
Plymouth Waterside Partnership  
Exeter |Bid

**Judges**   **Jon Wheatley**  
**Michael Foy**

### **Northern Area Town**

Burnham on Sea  
South Swindon Parish

**Judge**   **Richard Beale**

### **Southern Area Town**

Crediton in Bloom  
Bere Alston  
Bovey Tracey  
Liskeard  
Dartmouth Green Partnership  
Ivybridge

**Judge**   **Tony Moore**

### **Village**

Plympton St Maurice  
Bleadon Parish Council  
South Perrott  
Little Green Town, Bideford  
Woolwell

**Judges**   **Tom Sharples & with  
Melissa Poole at Bleadon**

## **Judging Tour 2021**

With the Government Road map going well at present we are fairly confident that we can hold our judging in as normal a manner as possible.

It is necessary for some of the judging being done solo this year but we aim to ensure our judging maintains the high standard of previous years, and all of the results will be subject to moderation, as in all RHS judging.

The judges will be in contact with you early, to agree judging dates during July, as we realise that many of you will want to make early arrangements for summer breaks.

The judges will keep in contact with the groups to ensure that all of the arrangements are still safe.

As before you can include up to three IYN groups in your tour, and for this you can add a further 30 Minutes. It would also assist us if it is possible for the judge or judges to be able to assess other IYN's that the group may have after the main judging. It is important that you notify them of any IYN's to be assessed during the Tour or while they are visiting your community.

## **The RHS Presentation event at Weston super Mare.**

This year we have decided to change the format of the Presentation day and we will no longer hold the IYN presentations in the morning. We do not see many of the IYN entrants attend the presentation now, and many Bloom entrants hold local presentation days when they celebrate their own success and present the IYN awards in their area.

South West in Bloom would be pleased to send one of their judges to attend these presentation events if invited by the Bloom Group.

In place of the IYN presentation in the morning we have a new programme of events where Jon will start off with a presentation showing the efforts of South West in Bloom at Chelsea flower show.

We are honoured to have the presence of James Alexander-Sinclair at the SWIB annual Presentation of awards.

James is a brilliant Garden Designer, Presenter and Garden design lead Judge at all RHS Shows. He has been a member of RHS Council for the last ten years and has supported the development of Community Horticulture and Bloom to great effect.

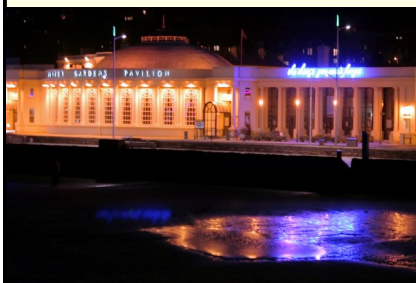
We welcome James to our presentation and look forward to his humour and experience.

In the afternoon there will be the usual high tension and excitement of the presentation of awards.

There will be the opportunity for groups to speak with their judges for extra feedback in the Judges Surgeries at the end of the day. If you wish this feedback you should book with the secretary prior to the presentation day.



# RHS South West in Bloom Presentation Day at The Winter Gardens Pavillion Weston super Mare BS23 1AJ on Thursday 7th October



This year the presentation will be in the spectacular, and recently renovated, Winter Gardens Pavillion in Weston super Mare.

We hope to be welcoming Lady Emma Fellowes to our presentation and that Lord Fellowes, subject to diary commitments, will also be in attendance.

**Tickets are £20 and booking forms are enclosed with this newsletter**

**Seating at the Venue will be Sit down Banquet Style  
across the Ballroom floor and Balcony.**

**Lunch Menu - Traditional English Sunday Roast Carvery**

The Last Date for Booking is **Friday 17th September**

Don't forget you will also be able to book on-line on our web site from **August 2021**. Keep a watch on the web site at [southwestinbloom.org.uk](http://southwestinbloom.org.uk)

## ITINERARY FOR THE DAY



SOUTH WEST

9.00 am	<i>Registration</i>
10.00 am	<i>Welcome By the Mayor Cllr James Clayton</i>
10.15 am	<i>SW in Bloom at Chelsea - Jon Wheatley</i>
11.00 am	<i>Comfort break</i>
11.15 am	<i>Garden Design for everyone.</i>

***James Alexander -Sinclair***



12.15 pm	<i>Question Time</i>
12.45 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
2.30 pm	<b><i>South West in Bloom Awards</i></b>
4.15 pm	<i>Closing</i>
4.30 pm	<i>Judges surgeries for main Competition entries</i>



Weston-super-Mare  
Town Council

The Mayor of Weston super Mare, Councillor James Clayton will be hosting a Civic reception for South West in Bloom towns and villages at the Royal Hotel, Weston super mare on the evening of Wednesday 6th October.



**SOUTH WEST**

**Glendale**

**The Secretary, Melissa Poole**  
c/o 15a Moorcroft Road, Hutton  
Weston super Mare. BS24 9RW

**E Mail [southwestinbloom@aol.com](mailto:southwestinbloom@aol.com) .**

### **Important Dates for 2021**

**Closing Date for Business & Leisure extended until 31st May**

**Closing Date for IYN's extended until 31st May**

**Closing date for Pride in Parks entries Mon 14th June**

**Regional Judging                      Thurs 1st July to Fri 30th July**

**IYN Assessments                      Thurs 1st July to Fri 30th July**

**Pride in Park Award judging      June 2021 to December 2021**

**Summer Seminar Mariners Hall, Beer.    Thursday 24th June**

**Presentation Winter Gardens Pavillion Weston super Mare**  
**Thursday 7th October**



Our South West in Bloom Facebook Page is also a great way for groups to showcase the work they have been doing- if your group has a facebook page, we would love for you to join ours.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/South-West-In-Bloom/193263914018665>

**Web Site    [www.southwestinbloom.org.uk](http://www.southwestinbloom.org.uk)**