



Judges Comments 2009

Upton in Bloom Large Village Category

Gold Award & Category Winner

With the sun shining the judges were taken on a whistle stop tour of Upton. The floral displays throughout the town were magnificent! It was a delight to meet with members of the community and view all of their ongoing efforts, as part of the Upton in Bloom entry, with their uplifting front garden summer floral displays and well maintained permanent planting. The allotments within the Chapel Grounds were productive indeed. The Chapel, with stained glass windows and splendid fresh floral displays beneath, is a peaceful retreat. Through their adoption and ownership of 'RHS Bloom' ethos, Upton has developed and grown its obvious sense of civic pride, which prevails throughout the community. This is demonstrated by their continuous and relentless commitment to improve, respect and protect their local environment for the benefit of all. Noteworthy is the knowledge and commitment to improve the biodiversity of Upton's wild life areas. Upton in Bloom and its Committee are to be congratulated on their laudable efforts thus far. Indeed a benchmark and a superb example for all, in what the Bloom Campaign can achieve!

Areas of Achievement:

- The myriad of wonderful summer bedding and the hanging baskets
- The Old Churchyard floral themed beds
- The Matthew Wilson - all year round interest bed
- Residents front gardens and their floral displays
- Various information and interpretation boards
- The new mural under the bridge designed and painted by students of Hanley Castle High School
- The creation of Wild Flower Meadow, information boards, picnic tables with benches
- The litter free and clean streets
- Hanley Castle High School taking ownership of lunch time litter picks
- The use of 'Green grow' and peat free compost
- Adoption of local 'grot spots' e.g. rose bed
- Children - from Upton Primary - learning by 'hands on' growing their own vegetables
- The Upton in Bloom's ongoing, energetic and innovative fundraising events held throughout the year