



May 2022



Chair's Words

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Welcome to the 2022 Spring newsletter, hopefully you will find useful and inspiring information in the next few pages.

We had a successful Seminar way back in February, for those who attended, we hope it gave you the support & information needed to take part in the competition this year, we are back to normal and judging as usual, we can't wait to come out to see all you wonderful

Bloomers in action.

You have worked so very hard throughout the last two years, and what better way to celebrate your achievement than to receive recognition for all your efforts, so do please get ready for July judging, make sure you keep taking those lovely photos, and don't forget the cake!

Happy Gardening, warmer days to come and take care.



Images from Sutton on Sea

Sharon Sutton



Evington in Bloom: People and Pollinator

In 2021, Evington in Bloom was successful in obtaining £10,000 from the Community Lottery Fund (Awards for All) for our 'People and Pollinator' project. This has enabled us to purchase more tools and trees, plants and seeds for developing unloved spaces of Council land into gardens.

The new/developing gardens have been: The Garden of Hope, Davenport Road, Evington Village Embankment, Main Street, The Coop garden, The Cedars, Main Street and some new containers and planting in Evington Village, Main Street. For 2022/3, we will spend the rest of the grant money on developing a very large area of land called Sedgebrook Open Space..... Watch this space!



"This has enabled us to develop unloved spaces of Council land into gardens."

The process of developing Leicester City Council land through community funding has been to find an Evington in Bloom volunteer who will accept the role of project manager for a site. Find the funding and agree a plan with the landowners. We will encourage our own volunteers to work on this new site, but also there will be opportunities for volunteers registered with Leicester Environmental Volunteers, a department of Park Services, Leicester, to help out as well.

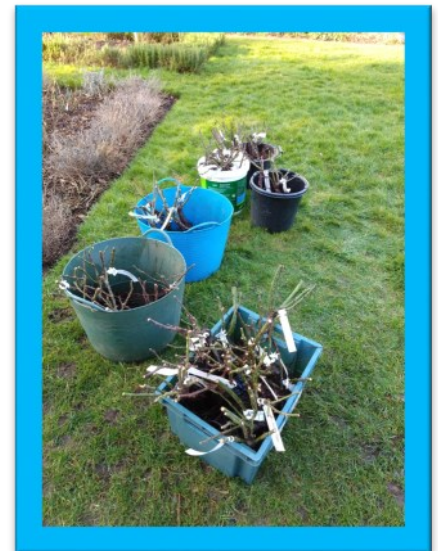


Derby Capability Garden Rose Planting

The Derby Capability Garden in the Markeaton Park Rose Garden is managed by and for people living with dementia and their carers. Not only does this provide a great activity for the group, but it maintains an area of

the park that had become very neglected. The garden is new to the IYN scheme, and the group were delighted to awarded level 4 last year, we look forward to joining in again this year and showing what else we can do with this lovely space.

The group recently received a very generous donation of 40 bare root roses from The Harkness Rose Company and spent a happy, sunny morning in the park planting them all. Although we had been able to refresh other areas of planting with donated funds, refreshing so many roses was a much bigger job, so we send a huge thank you to David and Susie at Harkness for making this happen.



By Liz Fairfield



Young Volunteers in Loughborough

The Peter Le Marchant Trust in Loughborough have been working hard to increase the amount of young people volunteering at our base and engaging on our waterways in Loughborough. Part of this work, has hosted the National Citizen Service for several weeks during the summer of 2021.

One of the projects was to design and construct a Wellbeing Garden from scratch at our base, and in just one week, they created a fabulous new space for our visitors to enjoy. The area includes a sensory area, a seating area, our boat in a seaside themed space and a rockery.

Over just one week, the group created an amazing space which will continue to be a long-standing legacy at our trust will be used by many visitors to help improve their personal mental health and wellbeing.

We would like to thank them for all their hard work and look forward to hosting them again this year.

Angie Whitmore Young People's Co-ordinator



“They created a fabulous new space for our visitors to enjoy”



Ilkeston in Bloom

I work for Erewash Borough Council as a Green space and Street Scene Officer. Each year we enter our two main towns: Ilkeston and Long Eaton into the East Midlands in Bloom Competition and this year we have the added excitement of Ilkeston being put through to the national Britain in Bloom competition.

“When the nursery is at capacity, it will contain around 70,000 plants!”

At the moment our spring floral displays are at their peak and our traffic islands, verges, parks and town centres are brimming with brightly coloured spring bedding and bulbs.

Meanwhile, in our nursery facility at West Park, Long Eaton, the plants which will make up our summer displays are being nurtured and coaxed to perfection by nursery manager Mick Lidgett and his team.

Throughout the year I check in regularly with hard-working members of our community, the In Bloom competition is a really good way of showcasing and celebrating their work.

I recently joined local school children on a litter pick two weeks ago and admired their enthusiasm as 30 of them streaked across a playing field waving their litter pickers like an attacking army, screeching with delight.

We are starting to incorporate more wildflower planting around the town- it is popular with the public and pollinators alike. And of course, this year, there will be lots of red white and blue to be seen. To encourage others to join in, our local gardening competition will have a special category for the best jubilee display and of course there will still be the hotly contested children's tallest sunflower competition - although I have noticed that Grandad usually has a hand in this too!

Caroline Pollard, Erewash Borough Council

Region's first baby memorial garden opens at Scunthorpe Central Park

Carl Beacock



The colourful garden includes a rainbow path, steel rainbow sculpture and a memorial tree

A beautiful garden dedicated to the memory of local children has been officially opened at Scunthorpe's Central Park following an inspirational community effort.

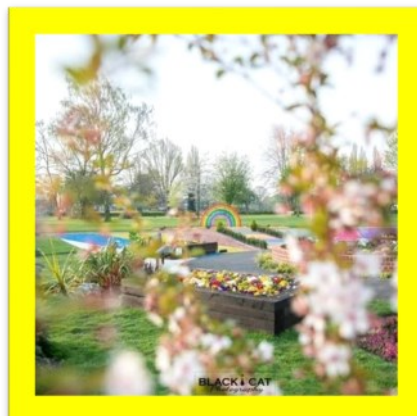
The colourful garden includes a rainbow path, steel rainbow sculpture, memorial tree and a selection of stunning perennial and evergreen plants, diverse selection of trees and shrubs, rockery, hedge lines, bulbs and meadow area. All designed to help the mental wellbeing of bereaved families.

The project has been a labour of love for grieving parents, Andrew and Donna Clifford, who wanted to create a unique, uplifting space for families to reflect. The couple lost their son Rory when he was nine days old to sudden infant death syndrome, the sudden, unexpected and unexplained death of an apparently healthy baby. Determined to channel their grief into a project that would bring comfort to other bereaved families, the couple approached North Lincolnshire Council.

The council's Park and Gardens Team helped Andrew and Donna identify the best location for the garden and worked tirelessly alongside dedicated volunteers to make the couple's vision a reality. As news of the project spread, the couple were inundated with offers of support from more than 20 local organisations, from colleges and businesses to builders and decorators all eager to help.

A wave of generosity and community spirit saw everything from sculptures to bedding plants and paint donated, all helping to bring the project to life.

Leader of North Lincolnshire Council Councillor Rob Waltham, who attended the opening, said: *"It is simply fantastic to see so many people and organisations come together to create this beautiful and uplifting space. The Baby Rainbow Memorial Garden will improve the wellbeing of bereaved families and be a positive place of commemoration & reflection in Central Park for years to come. The support from the community has been overwhelming and I am proud that North Lincolnshire Council could play such a significant part in it."*



We have a new sponsor for the Town Category:

Holly Smart – Vertas, Head of Brand

Across England, Scotland and Wales you'll find Vertas Group putting their customers at the heart of everything they do, while prioritising their colleagues' health, safety and wellbeing. They live and breathe their company values by demonstrating Sustainability, Consistency, Integrity, Partnership and Agility in all their decision making.

Vertas Group clients range from multi-academy trusts and police forces to leisure and forestry sites. From Scotland to Kent Vertas Group clean offices, colleges and schools in an environmentally friendly, safe way. They secure and protect industrial sites and retail outlets and provide innovative catering and hospitality services.

They also provide grounds maintenance and landscaping services ensuring grounds are well-designed and maintained to leave visitors with a long-lasting impression. Vertas Groups' team of highly skilled, expert landscape designers, tree inspectors and grounds experts work with clients to turn their dreams into reality.

Vertas Group apply a systematic approach to ensure projects are efficiently managed and successfully delivered. Vertas Group install hard and soft landscapes, including home gardens, footpaths, car parks, playgrounds, fencing, shelters, canopies, wildlife ponds, orchards and so much more.

Vertas Groups' grounds maintenance service offers unparalleled performance and great value and they currently look after the grounds of over 550 businesses and organisations. From grass cutting and hedge trimming to fertilising and playing field line marking, Vertas Groups' team of qualified professionals will ensure that grounds and outdoor areas give customers and visitors the best first impression.



Visit their website:

[https://
www.vertas.co.uk/](https://www.vertas.co.uk/)

Great Coates in Bloom: Queen's Platinum Commemorative Garden

Great Coates in Bloom have been busy creating, building and planting a memorial garden to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

The garden has been built in the grounds of the Great Coates Village Hall and built by volunteers of the Great Coates in Bloom Group.

All fourteen members together with several Councillors assisted and the garden was created in a matter of days. The group were kindly donated compost from Newlincs and the plants were kindly donated by Pennells Garden Centres.



Horse Carts

Other news: three retired horse carts have through the winter months have been renovated by Great Coates in Bloom.

After months of restoration the carts are now proudly in position bringing further enhancements to the street scene in Great Coates.

The renovation was partly funded through a generous donation from Dalkia Wastenergy.

Residents through the village have warmly received these new additions and once the summer planting is complete, the carts will look absolutely stunning to residents and visitors alike.

Living Wall

And lastly, a living wall has brought a boring grass island into life.

Built by Great Coates In Bloom member, Chris Dunn, the living wall has been planted with numerous grasses. The living wall was kindly donated to us by Grimsby in Bloom.

Our Sponsors

Amberol: the nation's leading provider of Self-watering planters. Our vision is to transform communities: with stunning floral displays that beautify and attract; with bins that help keep Britain tidy and the environment safe; and with seating to encourage people to pause and enjoy



FCC Environment is one of the UK's leading waste and resource management companies. Our approach is to minimise the amount of waste that ends up in landfill by transforming it into valuable resources wherever possible.



geViews: Planters and street furniture that save you time and money. Every part of our range is designed for easy planting, maintenance and upkeep, with self-watering reservoirs, durable materials and clever design touches. Take advantage of our 150 years of United Kingdom manufacturing experience.





The Art Department: We opened our doors in 1986. Since that time, we have developed into one of the nation's leading large format graphics providers.



Taylors Bulbs are a fourth generation family business, growing and supplying flower bulbs and associated products since 1919. Daffodils are grown on our farm in Holbeach, Lincolnshire where we also design and pack a large range of products for the UK and Irish markets. We pride ourselves on the award-winning service we offer our customers.

We really appreciate everyone's input to our Blooming great region, whether that is the green-fingered members of communities, or those who prefer to capture the flowerbeds, landscapes and species flourishing on camera and promote all the hard-work taking place, on social media.

If you haven't visited our Facebook page (East Midlands in Bloom [\(12\) East Midlands in Bloom | Facebook](#)), please do!



A little personal image from your newsletter editor:

I used to work for Erewash Borough Council in Victoria Park, Ilkeston, which was mentioned earlier in the newsletter. I have special memories of great people and wonderful displays around the park and the town. I was given these Tulips as a leaving present by 1 of the Greenspace team. They are such incredible flowers both in design, smell and function (the bees love them) and they bring such a smile to my face when they bloom: the power of flowers!

I thought I'd share them with you and wish Ilkeston good luck in the National competition.



EAST MIDLANDS

Designed by Helen Mitchem