



Chesham In Bloom

– 2017 –

CESHAM WERE NATIONAL FINALISTS FOR 2017!

For the first time ever, Chesham was entered as a National Finalist in Britain in Bloom, proudly representing the Thames & Chilterns Region. We achieved a Silver Gilt at Regional level and were the Best Large Town for the 6th year running.

Here are some of the highlights of our very busy 2016/17 campaign that made our town a worthy entrant at National level:

Bellingdon Road Stumpery

We used logs from trees damaged by Storm Doris to create a stumpery at this shady spot near St Mary's Way. We have planted it up with woodland species, including ferns, astrantias and anemones. We will be adding bluebells and fritillaries for Spring colour.

Right: Our volunteers creating the Stumpery



Our New Polytunnel

We have taken on an allotment plot at Cameron Road & erected a polytunnel there to help us overwinter plants and grow plants from seed for our High Street Shop planters. We sometimes put out appeals for donations of specific plants and this is a great place to store them until we can plant them out at our working parties.

Left: Town Mayor Noel Brown opens our polytunnel with help from our youngest volunteer, Angus

Sustainability – Our No Water Beds!

With the River Chess running dry, we are trying to find ways to reduce our water use. We gave our White Hill beds (right) a very thick mulch of wood chips and haven't needed to water them all year – despite some very hot days & not much rain.



Photo Competition & 2018 Calendar

We had another wonderful selection of entries into our Photo Competition, sponsored by JPS Stationers and yourChesham. Some of our favourite entries have made it into the 2018 Chesham in Bloom calendar, which we have produced with JPS Stationers. Calendars will be sold for £5.95 directly by Chesham in Bloom, and from JPS. The money raised from its sale helps to pay for our costs in entering the regional round of Thames & Chilterns in Bloom.



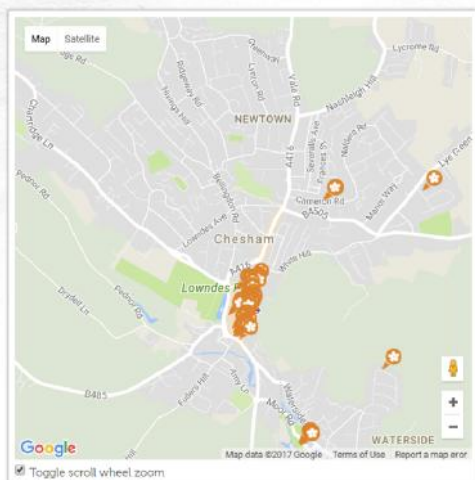
Far Left: Chesham through the pansies by Diana Leppard



Left: A winter scene by Amy Coleman

Can we cover the UK in pots for pollinators?

Don't forget to [add your pot to the map](#).



Sighting search

The map shows the location of pots planted in the UK to help pollinating insects. Use the search below to filter by location and find out how butterfly-friendly your neighbourhood is.

Location

CHESHAM (- BUCKINGHAMSHIRE)

Search

Total plant pots: 307

This figure represents the number of pots currently visible on the map.

Pots For Pollinators!

We grew pollinator-friendly plants including cosmos, bidens and nicotiana for our sponsored High Street planters and displays to encourage bees and other insects to visit the town centre. Along with the Town Council's hanging baskets, planters and residents' pots, more than 300 pots for pollinators were mapped in Chesham on Butterfly Conservation's Pots for Pollinators web site. We have been pleased to spot bees and butterflies in the High Street this summer.



Wildflower Beds

After the lovely spring display of narcissi and forget-me-nots, we sowed wildflower seeds in the beds at the bottom of White Hill, and they did not disappoint!



Keep in Touch!

If you'd like to hear about our events, activities & competitions, please sign up to our email list by contacting Kathryn on policy@chesham.gov.uk, follow us on Twitter or like us on Facebook!

Broadway Beds

We have been caring for the bed near Chancellors for several years thanks to support from Chesham Rotary. This year, with sponsorship from local business Ridgepoint Homes, we have made-over the neighbouring bed by Caffe Nero.



*Above left: Poppies in summer
Above: Rudbeckias and Salvias in late summer
Left: Len and Mo clearing out the bed to create the new display*

Spring Garden Competition – the winners of our Spring competition were:

1. Colin Parker



2. Kevin Heffernan



3. Marta Korszen



Front Garden Competition – We continue to be delighted with the standard of entries into our Front Garden, Container and Hanging Basket competition! Here are some examples of the 2017 entrants:



James Smith's garden



Colin Forward's garden



Stella Evans' hanging basket

Blooming Business Competition – stunning displays by local businesses have made a wonderful contribution to the town this year.



Left: The Frost Partnership with their hanging basket in Germain Street

Len Vockins Challenge Shield

Thanks to Elm Tree, Maryland Pre-School, Chesham Bois, Thomas Harding, Ivingwood Academy, Chiltern Hills Academy and Waterside Schools for taking part in our schools' competition this year. We provided a number of the town's schools with a £30 donation this year to help them with equipment, seeds and plants for their gardening clubs.

Congratulations go to Waterside School, which was Highly Commended in the Regional Mark Mattock Cup Competition.

For more information, or if you'd like to get involved with Chesham in Bloom, please contact Kathryn on 01494 583798 or email policy@chesham.gov.uk.