

PRESS RELEASE

Yeovil's gardeners get goldfingers!

Yeovil Town has scooped the honours at this year's South West Regional Britain in Bloom contest by winning a total of 8 awards. Over 50 towns, villages and cities took part in the contest - from Devizes down to St Just near Penzance.

For the fourth time, Yeovil has achieved a gold award, which is the highest category, for all of its efforts and achievements in this prestigious annual competition. The Town's gardeners can now officially say that they have goldfingers rather than greenfingers!

In addition, Neighbourhood Awards were made to 7 groups of residents and local community projects for the efforts that they made to brighten up their areas –

- Grovelands Care Home
- Holy Trinity Primary School
- Huish Primary School
- Kenmore Drive Community Association
- Rustywell Park
- Westfield Community Association
- West Abbey Nursing and Residential Home

These awards are part of the Government's Cleaner, Safer, Greener Communities Campaign.

The awards were made at the Annual South West in Bloom Presentations, which this year took place in Bath.

The Britain in Bloom competition is run each year by the Royal Horticultural Society. Tough standards are applied, and judges from the Society travelled the length and breadth of the West Country to consider the multitude of entries.

As well as floral displays, the judges looked at the extent to which local schools, shops and the local community are involved in helping to improve the appearance of their town. They also took into account the steps being taken to help people develop a better knowledge of conservation and the environment, and to encourage the adoption of sustainable horticultural practices.

In Yeovil, the initiative is funded and managed by the Town Council, with the support of the District Council's horticultural team.

David Recardo, Chairman of the Town Council's Yeovil in Bloom Steering Group said, "I am extremely pleased that the tremendous efforts made by everyone in the Town have been officially endorsed. Achieving a further gold award is a superb result, which reflects the exceptionally high quality of all the floral displays throughout the Town.

I am also pleased that the judges recognised the outstanding quality of the contributions made by a growing number of residents and local community projects."

He added, "These 8 awards demonstrate that we are working together to achieve the high standards that we have set ourselves, and that Yeovil is an attractive place in which to live and to visit."

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(For further information contact Alan Tawse, Town Clerk on 01935 382424)