

## Small Village

**Tattershall Thorpe**

**Silver Gilt Award, 156 points**

Judged on 6th July

Judges: Sharon Sutton and Steve Walton

**Judges Award:** For letting judges have a ride on a model railway through a resident's garden!

Tattershall Thorpe are first time entrants into Bloom this year and what a lovely place it was with strong links to the RAF with Thorpe camp within the village and the Bluebell Inn is a public house dating from approximately 1257AD which became an Inn during the 17th century. Welcome again to East Midlands in Bloom and Well Done to you all.

### Areas of Achievement

#### Section A: Horticultural Achievement

The bus stops in the village were attractively planted with bedding and perennials. Both welcome signs to the village were planted giving a colourful welcome. The chapel area and notice board were also very nicely planted. Residential gardens were of a very good standard, and the galvanised feeding trough that was planted up made it a special feature in the village, adding to the local heritage. Generally, grass verges and public areas were well maintained.

#### Section B: Environmental Responsibility

The village was very clean and tidy, which indicated that residents respect their village, there was no evidence of dog fouling, litter or graffiti. Within the village there is a small wood which has a lovely show of spring bulbs. Large water harvesting containers have been placed at the bus stops to maximise collection. The village are lucky to have fishing lakes nearby and is an excellent habitat for lots of wildlife: with public footpaths through there the area is very well used. Bird and bat boxes are used in the RAF camp, in the air raid shelters and bunkers. Green waste is disposed of in council green bins.

#### Section C: Community Participation

The judges were impressed by how many volunteers there are which are led by Serv Coulber. They set up their group in 2002 and called it the 'Jubilee Group' and are very close circuit of friends and neighbours. They have 'new to the neighbourhood' meetings once a year and leaflets are put through letter boxes detailing these meetings, and projects and jobs that are to be done throughout the year.

### Areas for Development

#### Section A: Horticultural Achievement

The planted areas with the perennial planting need time to establish and mature but then they can be split and planted in other areas. The Bluebell pub has scope to add more planters and hanging baskets as it is the real feature of the village. Continue to plant up entranceways into the village as its makes such a welcome to visitors. Take care to make sure planters are clean, as this can detract from a good display.

#### Section B: Environmental Responsibility

The judges were fascinated with the local heritage of the area, consider introducing more information at different points to explain the significance of your heritage e.g. the Thorpe camp. It would be lovely to see a couple of benches in the small wood that has the bulbs in it: this would encourage people to congregate there making it a pleasant communal area.

#### Section C: Community Participation

As already said, Bloom is very new to you, but you are a well-established group with a clear vision which continues to make your village a better place to live and to visit. Keep updating your portfolio as it is a lovely way of recording all of your hard work and efforts. When speaking to the group they said there weren't many children in the village, so maybe look at approaching other villages nearby to get some children involved with projects e.g. Brownies, Guides and Scouts.

**A: 84 B: 34 C:38 Total: 156**