



EAST MIDLANDS

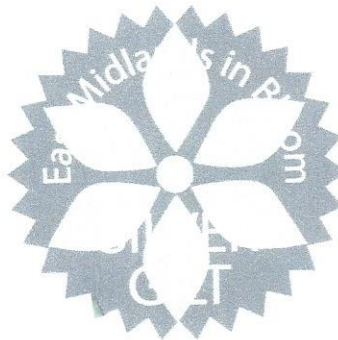
# SILVER GILT AWARD 2018

## TATTERSHAL THORPE

Small Village Category

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## SMALL VILLAGE

Tattershall Thorpe

Silver Gilt , 163 points

Judged on 12<sup>th</sup> July

Judge: Simon Lucas

**Judges' Award:** Margaret Pocklington for her thorough work in researching the history and archaeology of Tattershall Thorpe.

Members of the Jubilee Group met the judge on arrival in a gazebo on Serv and Janet's front lawn, they were still there socialising when we returned an hour later from our most interesting tour of the village. That says a lot about a friendly community where everyone seems to know everyone!

### Areas of Achievement

#### Section A: Horticultural Achievement

As befits a small rural village, floral displays in public places were concentrated in a small number of areas. Of note are the bus stops, the planting on Chapel Lane and by North Road: all were planted with a mix of seasonal bedding and permanent planting and were very attractive and noticeable to drivers passing through on the (normally) busy road. The planting outside the former Wesleyan Chapel along with the bench and noticeboard create a central focal point to the village. The parish council cut a small section of highway verge, the rest is well maintained by the Jubilee Group.

#### Section B: Environmental Responsibility

Bain Valley Fishery run by Steven Leggate is a series of lakes covering approx. 100 acres formed from former sand and gravel quarries. As well as providing peaceful areas for fishermen the area is sensitively maintained to encourage a natural development of wildlife. The history of the area and plants that are common to the site are identified on a noticeboard created by Margaret Pocklington. Work by the British Trust for Ornithology has identified over 130 species of birds around the lakes.

Water is collected from the roof of the North Road bus shelter, though Norman Leggate has helped to top it up with water from the lakes in this very dry summer.

Rather than benches by the Charles and Diana tree as suggested, the group have simply but effectively added section of tree to sit on! Very appropriate for the location.

#### Section C: Community Participation

As noted in the introduction this is a group that doesn't seem to have lots of planning meetings, they just meet each other and arrange to get on with things, a very relaxed but effective way of achieving a lot. Even then it is acknowledged that not everyone is known so an annual 'Meet the Neighbours' event takes place which also raises funds for the group. Funds are also raised at the annual Railway Day hosted by Mark and Jean Smith with the small gauge railway running around their lovely well-maintained garden. Information is shared on the new noticeboard on Chapel Lane.

The village doesn't have many children, but a competition has been held which residents' grandchildren could also enter resulting in eye catching anti-litter posters in the bus stops that send a strong message.

### Areas for Development

#### Section A: Horticultural Achievement

We didn't stop at the Blue Bell Inn this year, as noted by last years judges the Blue Bell Inn could prove more attractive with a few more planters/hanging baskets? Why not include them in next year's tour?

#### Section B: Environmental Responsibility

Could the Thorpe Camp centre be included in part of the tour in future years to demonstrate the more recent heritage of the village? It would also be interesting to hear from the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust about the developing nature reserve on the former runway: why not invite a representative to meet the judges? It is also a way of creating positive links with such groups.

#### Section C: Community Participation

As you take on more projects it is important to continue to involve more villagers. The photo album scrapbook is a great representation of the years activities: can this be made available in an electronic format that can be shared on a website or through 'Social media' to spread the word even further?

**A: 85 B: 38 C: 40 Total: 163**

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