

## PRUDHOE IN BLOOM AWARDS PRESENTATION 2017

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September was about celebrating effort and community spirit, lots of people in the town go an extra mile to make the place special and that is what Prudhoe in Bloom is about.

'Taking Pride in Your Patch' is why we have **COMMUNITY AWARDS**, we hope to build on these entries each year and see more and more examples popping up around the town. Those entered into the spirit of this section are those gardening and sprucing up patches that are not their own, they maybe beside where they live or an extension of their own garden but we think everyone will agree they are doing 'more' to keep up appearances and make our little corner of the world a bit special. We give these awards because of them – they have been 'taking pride in their patch' for some time.

The entries this year were:

**Ruskin Court Lay – By**, Moira Wooldridge and Barbara Young have been weeding and planting this neglected lay-by for 4 years and they can now look on and see the results, as can all neighbours and people passing through. They have created a bug house and are all about encouraging bees and pollinators. Vouchers from last year have been re-invested in the area.

We also have the much talked about **Paddock Close**, looked after by Tom Helm, George and Hazel Ather, Barbara and Hugh Robinson and Shirley Costello – they remain a social media sensation and last year thought they were being visited by unannounced judges when it was someone who had just visited to see what all the fuss was about. The blooming results are the work of these 4 houses all pitching in and planting pots, tubs and baskets and if you haven't seen them already, you must have a look.

We also have again **Bewick Garth at Mickley**, this is quite a new project that started with grass-cutting at each side of the road that then went on to planting up tubs. The area itself is enjoyed by residents, when the weather is kind, for village BBQ's, the Queens Tea Party and fundraising events. Julie & Marc Fleck, Joan & Terry Lee and George & Jan Hepburn are the force behind the initiative and again they have reinvested vouchers from last year into the project. The area is passed on the way to Cherryburn so is pleasing for visitors as well as residentys.

There are two new entries this year, the first is the **West Road Cemetery Group** who have worked tirelessly and continue to do so to eventually open up this historical area to the public. People are desperate to get in to look at headstones and remember family dating back as far as the 1800's and it will be possible, watch this space! There are too many names to mention all those involved; a definite team effort.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> new entry is **Mickley Social Club**. Anyone travelling along the A695 must have noticed the new frontage and flower displays on show. This has been carried out by volunteers; Ian Gilhome has looked after the beautiful window boxes and Andrew Stanton created new boards to display the events. Volunteers are determined that Mickley Social Club will remain a part of the community and their efforts show how dedicated they are to making sure the club looks its best.

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	PADDOCK CLOSE	Tom Helm, George and Hazel Ather, Shirley Costello and Barbara and Andy Robinson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	RUSKIN COURT	Barbara Young and Moira Wooldridge
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	WEST ROAD CEMETERY	
Highly Commended	MICKLEY SOCIAL CLUB	Ian Gilhome and Andrew Stanton
Highly Commended	BEWICK GARTH	Julie and Marc Fleck, Terry and Joan Lee and Jan and George Hepburn

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Our very special **HANGING BASKET AWARD** was new in 2016, created specially in memory of Pauline Howdon, the late wife of Rob Howdon. Pauline and Rob entered the Prudhoe in Bloom competition from the beginning when Ian Warburton ran it on behalf of the council.

The results for the Pauline Howdon Hanging Basket Awards are as follows:

Peter Hyman	Eastwood House	<b>Bronze Award</b>
Adrian Porter	Scales Crescent	<b>Platinum Award and winner for the South Ward</b>
Ian & Pauline Gilhome	Cheviot View	<b>Bronze Award</b>
Rob Howdon	High Shaw	<b>Gold Award</b>
George & Margaret Tindall	Otter Burn Way	<b>Platinum Award and winners for the North Ward</b>
Mr & Mrs Frazer	Castle Road	<b>Gold Award</b>
Mr & Mrs Hull	Maple Grove	<b>Platinum Award</b>
Mr & Mrs Scott	Lime Grove	<b>Platinum Award</b>
Mrs Milton	Burnside, Mickley	<b>Gold Award and winner for Mickley Ward</b>
Satya Varanasis	Castle Close	<b>Gold Award</b>

And the overall winner for the Best Hanging basket in the town who went home with the Pauline Howdon Trophy was Mr Adrian Porter of Scales Crescent.

Moving onto our remarkable schools who support this competition each year and welcome Dean and Vivienne Readman of Hollybush Nursery into the school to chat to teachers and pupils about what they are doing. This year the school competition has stepped up a gear with all schools achieving a Gold or above which is remarkable, and better still they talk to us about the future and doing even more.

All prize vouchers for the **SCHOOL ENTRIES** were donated by Tyne Valley Garden Centre, Mickley.

Prudhoe West Academy	<b>Gold</b>
Adderlane Academy	<b>Gold</b>
St Matthews RC Primary	<b>Gold</b>
Mickley First School	<b>Gold</b>
Highfield Middle School	<b>Gold</b>
Prudhoe Castle First School	<b>Platinum &amp; Runner Up</b>
Ferndene	<b>Platinum &amp; Winner</b>

The winning cup was presented to Chris Sheeham, teacher at Ferndene NHS Children's and Young People's In-Patient Services.

We alternate the judge for our Churches each year and this year the judge was Mrs Vivienne Bolton from Corbridge, a real flower and gardens expert who was recently back from a flower competition in the Caribbean. All our Church gardens are maintained by volunteers not paid gardeners, here in Prudhoe there is a tremendous effort goes into looking after these areas for all. Again the vouchers awarded to the winner and runner-up have been donated by Tyne Valley Garden Centre.

Entry	Award
St George's Church	<b>Bronze Award</b>
St Mary Magdalene Church	<b>Gold Award</b>

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Prudhoe Methodist Church	Gold Award
Edgewell Christian Centre	Platinum Award & Runner Up
Our Lady & St Cuthbert's Church	Platinum Award & Winner, collected by Mr Tommy Wilson

This year our enthusiastic In Bloom volunteers visited the traders on Front Street and elsewhere to ask if they would like to be involved in the 'In Bloom initiative', most said yes and if not this year, maybe next. The business element of 'Prudhoe in Bloom' is about commending those businesses doing their best for the town – brightening up and looking after their small piece of Prudhoe, attracting visitors and impressing residents. This encompasses everything from window displays to floral displays but it is not prescriptive.

This is not a competition whereby businesses are pitted against each other; it is a commendation for effort and achievement. Local 'In Bloom' volunteers Janet Porter and James Dobson were our judges and although they didn't always agree, they're still friends.

Janet Porter presented the following certificates to our Business Community:

<i>RS Salon</i>	Gold
<i>Truffles hairdressing</i>	Gold
<i>Heritage Accountancy</i>	Silver
<i>Just Tanning</i>	Silver
<i>Crafters Emporium</i>	Silver
<i>Gamer Nights</i>	Silver
<i>Stevie Cuts</i>	Silver
<i>The Corner Café</i>	Silver
<i>Gloria's Restaurant</i>	Silver
<i>Helen's Bait Box</i>	Silver
<i>Your Move</i>	Silver
<i>The Stationery Shop</i>	Silver
<i>Paul Stangroom Fine Arts</i>	Platinum
<i>All Seasons Funeral</i>	Silver
<i>Spend &amp; Save</i>	Silver
<i>Ball's Restaurant &amp; Tearoom</i>	Platinum
<i>Casey's Candy &amp; Cupcakes</i>	Gold
<i>The Hair Boutique</i>	Gold
<i>The West Wylam Inn</i>	Silver
<i>Walnut Hair &amp; Beauty</i>	Silver
<i>Elizabeth Evans</i>	Silver
<i>La Piccola</i>	Silver
<i>Pattinson Estates Agency</i>	Silver
<i>Relate</i>	Gold
<i>Ready Steady Knit</i>	Silver
<i>Ginevra</i>	Silver
<i>Yellow Estate Agents</i>	Gold
<i>One-Stop Shop</i>	Bronze
<i>The Original Factory Shop</i>	Silver
<i>Caris Robson Solicitors</i>	Bronze
<i>Tyne Valley Televisions</i>	Silver
<i>Prudhoe Vapes</i>	Silver
<i>Wade Opticians</i>	Silver
<i>Gilmore Estates</i>	Silver
<i>Prudhoe Pet Centre</i>	Silver
<i>Prudhoe Youth Charity Shop</i>	Silver

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<i>The Dr Syntax</i>	Gold
<i>Northumbrian Pipes</i>	Gold
<i>Red Brick House</i>	Gold
<i>P Plunkett Tiling Ltd.</i>	Silver
<i>Elisa Rose Tearoom</i>	Gold
<i>Thompsons of Prudhoe</i>	Gold
<i>Adderlane Surgery</i>	Silver
<i>Front Street Barbers</i>	Silver
<i>Reflections</i>	Silver
<i>The Falcon</i>	Gold
<i>The Adam &amp; Eve</i>	Silver
<i>Co-operative Funeral Care</i>	Silver

Onto our residential awards which were recalled by Sarah Eden and presented by Mayor Councillor Gerry Price:

**FRONT AND REAR GARDENS:****Rear Gardens In The South Ward**

Ian & Pauline Gilmore Cheviot View	<b>Bronze</b>
Denise and Joe Ridley Adderlane Rd	<b>Gold &amp; 3rd</b>
Nia Law Towneley Court	<b>Gold and 2nd</b>
Peter Hyman Eastwood House	<b>Gold and 1st</b>

**Rear Gardens in the North Ward**

Andrew & Louis Ellison Edgewell Road	<b>Gold</b>
Rob Howdon High Shaw	<b>Gold</b>
George & Margaret Tindall Otter Burn Way	<b>Gold</b>
Satya Srinivas Castle Close	<b>Gold &amp; 3rd</b>
Margaret & Allan Scott Lime Grove	<b>Platinum &amp; 2nd</b>
Diane Hull Maple Grove	<b>Platinum &amp; 1st</b>

**Rear Gardens in Mickley Ward**

Liz Milton Burnside	<b>Gold &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup></b>
John & Sylvia Ellison Riding Dene	<b>Platinum and 1<sup>st</sup></b>

**Front Gardens in the South Ward**

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Denise and Joe Ridley Adderlane Rd	<b>Bronze Award</b>
Ian & Pauline Gilmore Cheviot View	<b>Silver &amp; 3rd</b>
Peter Hyman Eastwood House	<b>Gold &amp; 2nd</b>
Adrian Porter Scales Crescent	<b>Platinum &amp; 1st</b>

**Front Gardens in the North Ward**

Andrew & Louis Ellison Edgewell Road	<b>Bronze</b>
Tom Teadale Aged Miners Cottages	<b>Gold</b>
Rob Howdon High Shaw	<b>Gold</b>
Diane Hull Maple Grove	<b>Gold</b>
Mr & Mrs Scott Lime Grove	<b>Platinum and 3<sup>rd</sup></b>
George & Margaret Tindall Otyter Burn Way	<b>Platinum and 2<sup>nd</sup></b>
Mr & Mrs Frazer Castle Road	<b>Platinum and 1<sup>st</sup></b>

**Front Gardens in Mickley**

Liz Milton Burnside	<b>Gold Award &amp; 2nd</b>
John & Sylvia Ellison Riding Dene	<b>Platinum &amp; 1st</b>

**THE OVERALL WINNER OF THE BEST FRONT GARDEN IN THE TOWN is...**

**Mr Adrian Porter of Scales Crescent, taking home the trophy**

**And THE OVERALL WINNER OF THE TROPHY FOR THE BEST REAR GARDEN IN THE TOWN goes again to Mrs Diane Hull of Maple Grove.**

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

The Prudhoe in Bloom Committee: Janet Porter, Moira Wooldridge, James Dobson, Chris Cuthbert, George McCreedy and Yvonne Ritchie

Our judges; Mrs Vivienne Bolton of Corbridge (residential and churches), Dean and Vivienne Readman of Hollybush Landscaping (schools), James, Janet and Moira (businesses) and also Moira for the fantastic photographs.

Tyne Valley Garden Centre at Mickley for sponsoring the School and Church competition, stalwarts since 2012. Prudhoe Parish Hall and Coffee Morning for allowing us to use the hall this morning and for the fabulous treats on offer. U3A for allowing us to use the technology to show Moira's wonderful photography and last but not least, everyone who has supported the competition, either by entering or coming here today.