

Hutton In Bloom 2012



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Hutton in Bloom is very well supported and sponsored by people living in the village. Individual and business sponsorship is a great source of funds as well as our major source, Hutton Parish Council. Funds are also raised through plant sales, compost sales and members taking part in Quiz nights.

Hutton is a traditional farming community and also has a history of Cider making, hence we have a cider press garden and the majority of our plant containers are cider barrels, including an original barrel with its Hutton metal label.

The themes that the team has opted for this year are three prime areas, Sutherland Rd being White in recognition of the shipping line that built the Titanic and Olympic ships 100 years ago. The Olympic was named prior to the 1912 Olympics, and in 1918 rammed and sank U boat 103, the only known incident in World War I in which a merchant vessel sank an enemy warship.

Orchard Road and The Old Inn is an area that will reflect the Olympic colours, a great event to celebrate this year and no doubt the pub will be very busy with patrons watching the Olympics in July and August.

Our third area is the Village Hall which will have royal colours reflecting the Queen's Jubilee, celebrating 60 years as our head of state, the hanging baskets being red, white and blue, with the chestnut tree bed a union jack.

As well as these areas and the other areas throughout the village, team members are also involved in providing help with plants at Little Owls nursery, pre-school toddlers, and the village school weekly gardening club.

Our plants are grown on from tiny plug plants in a ploy tunnel situated at the main road allotment area. The plants, approximately 4,500, arrived very early in March and were potted on by the team into 9cm pots. The plugs took a long time to mature due to the very poor weather that we had, primarily the lack of sunlight, they took a great deal of looking after and careful watering due to the changeable weather conditions which tested the team horticultural skills. Fortunately they were ready to plant out in time for the June double bank holiday and the Jubilee celebrations, also the hanging baskets were ready to put up.

We have had two major projects this last year, in the autumn the team were involved in planting the Island in the Des Phippen Park, having already been involved in helping plant the parks north hedge. To plant the island the coracle that Hutton in Bloom fetched from near London was used, only one member getting a ducking !!! This is told in the pictures later on.

The second major project which was taken on in the spring was the revamp of the Holm Green beds, they had become a bit tired and the heathers very woody, a decision was made to keep them as sustainable permanent planting and have rose beds complimented with Heucheras and Perovskia.

This again will be shown in the pictures to follow, as a picture is worth a thousand words.

The Hutton in Bloom Team

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Co-ordinator | Jim Spence |
| Secretary | Jenny Spence |
| Treasurer | Polly White |
| Sponsorship | Richard & Helen Salmon |
| Business Sponsorship | Trish Hutton |
| Construction | Pat Wilson |
| Colour Team | Wendy Wilson, Lesley Beake, Margaret Monkman, Jenny Spence. |
| Poly Tunnel manager | Adrian Wilmot |
| Photographer/ Publicity | Peter Barrington |
| Painters | Andrew & Margaret Monkman |
| Team members | Robin Black, Denis Hawkings, Nancy Wilmot, Lesley & Roy Beake, Bernie & Sandra Cox, Fred Jenkins, Bruce & Michelle Kendall, Peter Palmer, John Bailey, Mike White, Carol Barrington, Josephine Collins. |

Route for Judging

- 14:00 Jen & Jim meet judges and introduce Richard Salmon as our driver for the afternoon.
- 14:05 Pre- school and Village Hall area, Pat & Wendy Wilson present.
- 14:15 Walk to School, Lesley Beake present.
- 14:25 Drive to Church, John Bailey present.
- 14:30 Drive to Orchard Road, view Olympic display at Orchard Road beds and Pub.
- 14:40 Drive to Sutherland Road, view White Star Line display and cider press garden.
- 14:50 Drive to view Cottage Garden, park opposite farm, Adrian & Nancy present.
- 15:00 Drive to re-cycling area, if time go to Little Owls to show Margaret's work.
- 15:10 Progress to Holm Green, point out Woodland area, view beds and bus stop.
- 15:20 Drive to Brier Road, for Phippen Park, walk through to Moor Lane gate.
- 15:30 Return to Village Hall for tea with sponsors and team members.

A busy year for the Hutton in Bloom Team

September

Hutton in Bloom have a table at the village Taste of Somerset festival, not only to display the summer photos but also to try and to recruit new team members.

The autumn / spring plug plants arrive at the poly tunnel, this year we have had a change and gone for pansies of various colours. Approximately two thousand plugs are potted on by the team and should be ready to plant out October /November.

The team were asked to help with the planting of water plants on island at the Phippen Park pond, this was achieved using the coracle that the Hutton in Bloom team had acquired for the Phippen Park chairman, not without a ducking for a team member.

Towards the end of the month the summer plants were stripped out and placed on the compost heap at the poly tunnel. Also Hutton in Bloom's annual general meeting was held at the village hall and the decision taken to enter the 2012 South West in Bloom competition.

October

The team planted out the pansies and tête a tête bulbs into the various locations throughout the village.

Members of the team trim the bank from the school to the phone box ready for the remembrance day parade at the War memorial. Also the memorial is planted with red cyclamens

November

The ladies of the Colour team meet and start to consider the plants that will be used in next years displays as well as the displays themselves. The budget for next year is also submitted to the Parish council.

December

The colour team continue their deliberations on next years plants, having already settled on the three main areas, Sutherland drive to be White (after the white Star shipping line), the Old Inn to have Olympic colours, and the Village hall loyal colours to celebrate the Queens Jubilee.

The team also erect and decorate the Village Christmas tree which is kindly supplied by Hutton garden centre at the entrance to the village hall.

The team celebrate their year with a Christmas meal at the Old Inn , who's proprietor is a strong supporter of the teams hard work.

January

The Christmas tree is removed is taken down and goes for recycling. The Bed is the planted with the spring flowers and bulbs that have been kept at the poly tunnel.

February

The pansies are looking very good as the weather has been relatively mild compared to last year.

March

The 4,500 plug plants arrive early in the month and the team pot them on into 9cm pots, carefully planning where the plant should sit in the tunnel to avoid plants burning if we have a lot of sun. Also a watering rota is in place to look after the plants until they are ready to be planted out

Weeding and tidying of our sustainable planted areas continues.

April

The decision had been made to replace the tired and woody looking permanent planted beds on Holm Green. The team dug the plants out and made the areas ready for the new plants.

The team planted the roses, heucheras, perovskia, and the gravel put in place. Also the pergola area was tidied up as it is used as a meeting place for children.

May

Hutton in Bloom had a walking entry in the annual May day parade and managed to get round without getting wet which was fortunate for the whole parade, it is a village event primarily for the children.

The pansies were starting to look rather tired and fed up with the weather being thrown at them, so it was time for them to be removed to the compost heap and the beds, barrels, urns etc. prepared for the summer plants. The team removed the old soil and replaced it with new compost in the hope that despite the weather we would be able to get the summer plants out in time for the May and Jubilee bank holidays in early June.

New ½ barrels were also put at the church entrance and stone urns placed at the main and side doors. Also the back of the Orchard Rd beds were raised so as to make the plants more visible.

Damaged and old barrels were replaced and bands painted as necessary.

We were lucky, in the middle of the month the plants were put outside the poly tunnel to harden off prior to planting out at the end of the month ready for the village Jubilee celebrations. The plants were planted out with team members doing their own areas when possible and combining to do the larger team areas. Also the hanging baskets arrived and were mounted in place. Again a watering rota put in place to look after the plants.

June

Members now looking after their own areas with weeding and dead heading as required. Now the poly tunnel was empty it required tidying and the chore of pot washing started.

A sale of our surplus plants is always appreciated and well supported at the village hall and some are also given to a coffee morning to raise funds for Hutton Twinning Association.

Also this month the winter order for plants goes in.

July / August

The plants are watered every other day throughout the summer months, though this year nature has been a great help, we have a license to obtain our water from the local rhyme, and the watering takes approximately three hours. The team also dead head and weed their areas. A sponsor tea is also held in July to show our appreciation of their support.

Autumn Flowers 2011



1: Sutherland Road – Autumn



2: Vereland Road - Autumn



3: Preparing the Christmas Tree



4: The Chestnut Tree post Christmas



5: The Christmas Tree decorated – donated by Hutton Garden Centre

The Phippen Park Project



6: Lake in progress



7: Plants ferried by coracle



8: Bank being planted



9: Ferrying John Coote to Island



10: Planting island with native water plants



11: The island after planting

Holm Green Revamp



12: Holm Green pre-rebuild



13: Start of bed re-build



14: Planting bed



15: John planting bed



16: Bed 1 planted



17: Bed 2 planted

Our Sustainable Display Areas



18: Moorcroft bus stop



19: Moor Lane bus stop



20: Phone box



21: Cider Press Garden



22: Canada Coombe



23: Hutton Garage



24: Holm Green beds



25: Recycling area

From Plugs to Displays



26: Plug plants in Poly Tunnel



27: Plugs in Poly Tunnel

Themed Areas



28: Sutherland & Wisteria



29 Sutherland White Star



30: Orchard Road Olympic Medals



31: Orchard Road second bed



33: Barrel with Hutton plate



34: Village Hall entrance



35: Village Hall fence



36: Village Hall wall



37: Chestnut tree bed

More Community Involvement



38: Lesley with Tuesday School class



39: Children planting



40: Margaret at Little Owls



41: Little Owls planting



42: Pre School planting

Testaments

THE DES PHIPPEN PARK AND HUTTON IN BLOOM

Public consultation, conducted by Hutton Parish Council in Autumn 2009, resulted in the designation as a nature reserve of 2.4 acres of newly acquired and previously neglected horse pasture. Members of Hutton in Bloom, for many years the community organisation most actively and successfully involved in enhancing the appearance of the parish, made major contributions to the discussions which were held.

Since then the “In-Bloomers” have contributed both expertise and effort at every stage of the park’s development. In 2010 they formed the backbone of a force of volunteers which planted 200 metres of native hedging specifically planned as a food and shelter source for birds, small mammals and insect life; a community orchard consisting mainly of Somerset cider apple varieties, and the core planting of a small spinney. 2011 saw landscaping and sowing of a wildflower meadow, following excavation of 800 tons of soil to create a wildlife pond with an island. Hutton in Bloom sourced a coracle to enable its members to plant the island, and the pond is now teeming with wildlife and attracts mallard, Canada geese and herons.

Hutton in Bloom is represented on the small management committee of the reserve, the Des Phippen Park, the focus of whose efforts is to enhance the biodiversity of the area, provide a peaceful source of leisure for the parish and act as an aid to developing awareness of natural history and the environment in the pupils of Hutton Primary School. There is every reason to hope that some of these will grow up to be Hutton-in-Bloomers, and continue to put in the same effort and enthusiasm through which the present team is helping to make the Des Phippen Park an environmental success.

John Coote
Chairman, Friends of Phippen Park