



PRESS RELEASE

7th October 2016

Marlborough Scoops More Blooming Awards!

On Thursday, 6th October 2016 a small group from Marlborough went along to the South West in Bloom Awards ceremony at the splendid Somerset County Cricket Ground in Taunton. Well organised with Downton Abbey creator, Lord Julian Fellowes and his entertaining wife, Lady Emma Fellowes, presenting the prizes, our town was welcomed onto the stage to collect awards throughout the day.

In the morning, the *Its Your Neighbourhood* awards were handed out to voluntary groups from across the region who work hard all year round to improve their communities. An impressive 12 groups had entered from Marlborough with 4 achieving the very top level – outstanding. Entrants were:

Stonebridge Wild River Reserve an Stonebridge Meadow	Outstanding
Stonebridge Allotments	Advancing
Cooper's Meadow	Thriving
Plume of Feather's Garden	Advancing
The Waterfront Garden at Kennet Place	Outstanding
St Peter's Church Garden	Advancing
Manton Village	Thriving
Marlborough Community Orchard	Outstanding
The Merchant's House Garden	Outstanding
Old Hughenden Yard	Advancing
River Park	Advancing
Hilliers Yard	Establishing

Level 1 – Establishing, Level 2 – Improving, Level 3 – Advancing, Level 4 – Thriving, Level 5 - Outstanding

More good news came in afternoon in the main competition with Marlborough winning a Silver Gilt award and the town bringing home the South West Tourism Association Cup. That wasn't the only silverware, our Mayor was then up on the stage again, on behalf of The Lamb in the Parade, to collect the Shaun Gregan cup for the best floral display by a pub in the South West! Another special award went to Marlborough Waterfront (the fabulous garden at Kennet Place) named as the joint winner of the London and Manchester Trophy for the most outstanding environmental initiative. In fact, this project was shortlisted a number of times in various categories of special achievement.

Congratulations go to all those who worked really hard towards the community entries and main competition. That's the MiB committee headed up by Anne Crawley, businesses, schools, the Town Council's Grounds Team, shops and all those volunteers who turn out in all weathers to help put Marlborough on the map.

Everyone is invited along to the Marlborough in Bloom AGM on Tuesday, 18th October to help celebrate the town's success.