



PotB Members update October 2021

Dear member

I can't believe summer is already over, it's officially Autumn and aren't the nights drawing in? It is a time to start clearing up the garden ready for the winter, but it is also a time to reflect back on the summer and to look forward to next spring.

We started the year in lockdown, it seems it was endless and yet stories have abounded with the amount of work going on around our borough - all 'socially distanced' of course! Individuals and groups were getting out and tidying up beds, planting new shrubs and the seasonal bedding. One of our aims is of course to enter the borough into East Midlands in Bloom, as we have said before it was, in some ways, all very different but as the awards ceremony came round we were just as eagerly wanting to know how we got on as any other year, and what was that result.....

GOLD!!

Yes, all that hard work paid off and the judges gave us a Gold Award for our tenth successive year.

The judges noted:

Pride of the Borough Oadby & Wigston, is just that – the pride and enthusiasm of this voluntary group to tackle all obstacles and improve their local environment is remarkable. Largely self-funded, they have achieved so much over the last two years despite being virtually under continuous lockdown due to the pandemic. In 'safety bubbles' litter picking, bulb planting, watering, fund raising and much more continued. The whistle stop judging tour included the Memorial Peace Park, Framework Knitters, South Wigston Community Garden, Aylestone allotments, Brocks Hill Country Park and Wickham Road Green, ending with a guided walk of Leicester Botanic Garden.



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IYN

The assessors visited during the summer and we will be learning the results shortly and be able to give you the full results next month.

Awards Evening

We are holding a joint awards evening with Evington in Bloom in mid-October to celebrate our successes in both EMIb and IYN.

There are a couple of other awards that we haven't detailed yet so they will be a surprise to the recipients on the night. We'll give you all the details next month.

Regrettably we cannot invite everyone but if you feel you would like to join us and see and hear more about the Bloom competition and IYN please contact our chairman at chairman@potb.org.uk and we'll try and find a place for you.

Membership Matters

There have not been any changes to offers from businesses to tell you about. We will be contacting you later next month regarding the renewal of your annual membership card, until then there is nothing you need to do except of course making good use of our card and trading with our fantastic local businesses who will be pleased to see you.

3rd Saturday working group.



Planning our work

We are meeting at 9:30 on Saturday 16th October at Blaby Road Park, South Wigston. The focus of the work will be to weed and tidy up the front beds of the park. We have been working on the beds for several years and with the help of grounds staff removing the very overgrown phormium so we can return and replant. There are other beds we can also turn our attention to as an ongoing project to help maintain the frontage of the park. This will

complement the work of the Blaby Road Park community garden at the other end of the park which is an exciting project and we hope you can also join us. It would be greatly appreciated if you can bring along your own garden tools. We will also be litter picking in the neighbouring area.