



## South & South East in Bloom Village/Town/City Centre 2014

### Cranleigh in Bloom

#### Summary (Judges to Summarise Overall Entry)

The well organised introduction set the scene but failed to emphasise the short time scale from idea to entry and the enormous amount of work done by individuals involved. The judges were impressed by the enthusiasm of the Bloom Committee. In a very short timescale there has been a great deal of work to change the outlook of the village. Special thanks to the Mayor for providing traffic control at busy road crossings.

#### SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

	Max Points	Actual Points
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Assessing year-round horticultural achievement including conservation and natural areas.

Overall Impact – design, layout, use of plants, special features, general presentation	30	21
Horticulture – cultivation and maintenance of horticultural features, quality of plants, sustainability, new plantings.	30	21
Business Areas and Premises – retail and shopping areas, leisure sites, transport terminals, car parks, pubs, post offices, tourist areas/attractions, offices, estate agents etc.	30	21
Green Spaces – town squares, verges and open public spaces	10	6

#### SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

	Max Points	Actual Points
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Assessing year-round activities improving environmental responsibility.

Resource management – recycling, minimising demand placed on natural resources and any harmful impact on the environment	15	8
Local heritage –management and development of local heritage and/or identity, inclusive of natural heritage	15	10
Local environmental quality – management of vacant premises and plots, litter, graffiti, fly-posting, dog fouling etc.	10	8
Pride of place – management of street furniture, signage, art in the landscape and hard landscaping	10	6

#### SECTION C – Community Involvement

	Max Points	Actual Points
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Assessing year-round business community participation

Development - development and sustainability of the local initiatives and evidence of on-going projects	15	11
Business participation –representative of the town/city centres size and diversity	15	11
Year-round involvement –evidence of year-round activity	10	8
Funding and Support – initiatives to secure on-going support	10	8

Maximum Points Available	200
Total Points Awarded	139
Award Nomination	Silver-Gilt

#### Section A - Areas of Achievement

The judges were impressed by the work done to mobilise resources and the co-ordination of numerous individuals and businesses, in a matter of a few months. An impressive avenue of mature Norway Maple trees along the open space on the approach to the high street, management has involved consultation and the programme of replacement has public support. Replanting of several high profile areas has already been undertaken and more are planned for the coming planting season. The roses around the War memorial will look even better as it matures. The village green used for cricket is also home to Cranleigh Community Group, for individuals with special needs and the display was excellent. A good example of different parts of the community working together. Flower displays at "Richard Onslow" obelisk troughs and Ewhurst Road were very good examples to be congratulated.

#### Section A - Areas for Development

Village pond needs a more proactive approach. The shrub border by Barclays Bank needs some attention, following the other replanted areas for drought tolerance a lot can be achieved. To balance the High Street displays, some planting is required opposite Fountain Square. The judges would have liked to visit Summerlands. The private gardens of Little Manor Gardens were good but it would be good if a joint project could be developed, perhaps the land along the culvert? To balance the displays on the High Street further displays, beds would look good on the area opposite Fountain Square along to Sainsbury's.

#### Section B - Areas of Achievement

Cranleigh Common leading to the main shopping has a conservation area adjoining with many houses having beautiful gardens. All areas generally clean of litter graffiti and dog fouling. St. Nicholas Church has a wildflower area. Met children for Cranleigh School who organised a Sunflower making project. The Brownies have grown sunflowers. Heritage features along the High Street are well maintained and the floral displays enhanced them. It was good to see that a local estate agent maintains the gardens of empty properties.

#### Section B - Areas for Development

There needs to be greater emphasis on sustainability, recycling and water saving opportunities. The local authorities currently have a good environmental programme, it would be good if Village / In Bloom initiatives were available. Are there any projects, e.g. solar panels, green roof water recycling or plastic bottle greenhouse? The area of wildflowers needs to be a larger area. Perhaps also develop wildflower areas along the common near the Acer platanoides whilst retaining the existing vista. It was noticed that the street furniture is being upgraded throughout the village and this should be enhanced by local community effort.

#### Section C - Areas of Achievement

An impressive list of organisations involved with Cranleigh in Bloom. Many fundraising events already planned for 2014/2015. Grant obtained from Mary Portas Town Team scheme. St Joseph's school obtained a grant for developing horticulture and the pupils will raise plants and plant up the hanging baskets for the village in 2015. Well done to Kate Fernandez for this initiative and the "In Bloom" committee who have worked incredibly hard in a short period. It is important to keep the momentum going through year round activities and developing sustainable initiatives. The financial commitment by businesses and local communities is impressive.

#### Section C - Areas for Development

It is obvious that a great number of hours are worked by volunteers it would be good to see some sort of schedule to identify this.  
It's interesting that the village in terms of displays and support is almost split into two. It is apparent that the larger chain retailers are dragging their heels or even not engaging at all. It is certainly not for want of trying by Cranleigh in Bloom; continue to harass those who are benefitting from the good work done but not apparently contributing.

Results

<b>Level</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Points</b>
	Certificate	0 - 77
	Bronze	78 - 108
	Silver	109 - 138
	Silver-Gilt	139 - 169
	Gold	170 - 200