

Marlborough in Full Bloom



South West in Bloom judges, Jane Pagano and Kim Parish, came to town on Tuesday 14 July and were met with a Marlborough to be proud of. Our community really came together to make the day a memorable one. Anne Crawley, Chair of the In Bloom Committee, was delighted with the support from businesses, shops, schools and community groups. Lots of thanks to all those in and around the High Street who made such efforts to participate in the citrus theme – clearly evident right along the High Street with zesty oranges and yellows everywhere. The floral displays outside our pubs were fantastic. Though support came from the Town Council and Wiltshire Council, the real difference was made by volunteers whose efforts were seen greening up and cleaning up all over the town.



On arrival, the judges were greeted by Town Crier, Luke Callaghan, and met by the Mayor, Councillor Margaret Rose, Anne Crawley and members of the In Bloom Committee. The Town Clerk gave a presentation to summarise everything that had been going on since last year's first and very successful entry, all highlighted by

photographs taken by Eric Gilbert. Anne and the Town Council's Grounds and Estates Manager, Richard Beale, then took the judges on a tour taking in The Green, Wye Gardens, St Peter's School, Marlborough's Waterfront, Cooper's Meadow, Priory Gardens, Marlborough College and so much more. After lunch in the Polly Tea Rooms, it was time to judge our three It's *Your Neighbourhood* entrants – Stonebridge Meadow, the Old Victorian Cemetery and Manton. The party were driven to these in style in a vintage Rolls Royce. All the IYN projects really stood out as examples of community groups working to show horticultural, environmental and voluntary excellence.

We now have to wait until Thursday, 24th September to hear the results at a special awards ceremony at the Royal Naval College in Dartmouth. Well done to everyone.

Alice in..... Priory Gardens



What was it the Mad Hatter said? "There is a place. Like no place on Earth. A land full of wonder, mystery and danger!" He was right. That place was Priory Gardens on Sunday 5 July at Alice's Enchanted Family Picnic



hosted by our Mayor. No danger though, just lots of fun to help celebrate the 150th anniversary of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Our Mayor even had a stand-off with the Queen of Hearts!



Artistic Director, Anna Friend and the Marlborough Young Actors showed real talent, never stepping out of their *Wonderland* characters during an afternoon packed with families and their young children enjoying arts and crafts, face painting, competitions and various stalls. There were excellent performances too from pupils of Marlborough Academy of Dance and Drama all choreographed beautifully by Cheryl Heuston.

The Mayor was delighted that so many came along to enjoy a summer's day in a really special public open space right in the centre of Marlborough - a community event for the whole family. A very friendly White Rabbit collected for the Mayor's chosen cause - the Brain Tumour Trust. Thanks also to Tesco for its sponsorship and help with the event.

Comments and enquiries to the council are always welcome, you can contact us on:-
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