

Progress Report

South and South East in Bloom Award

With the JMC's support it was agreed that this year the Park would submit an entry to the South and South East in Bloom Award scheme rather than the Green Flag Award.

The 'In Bloom' scheme has similar entry requirements to the Green Flag Award but is slightly more horticulturally based.

The park was visited on 18 July 2016 by South and South East in Bloom judge, Jean Griffin. The judging session lasted two hours and during this time the judge was taken on a guided tour of the Formal Garden, Museum and parkland before returning to the Pantry for tea.

A huge amount of work went into preparing the Park for judging by the Nonsuch Voles and Operational staff and this did not go unnoticed by many visitors in the run up to judging who commented on how splendid the gardens looked.

Gerald Smith, Friends of Nonsuch took time out on the day, to open the Museum and gave the judge a swift, but informative tour of the historical highlights.

Whilst escorting the judge around the main parkland credit was given to the Nonsuch Watch who have worked tirelessly to help maintain the area as a rich and diverse habitat for wildlife and to protect the natural environment.

The tour went exceptionally well and we gave an overall 'flavour' of Park.

On 14 September, a member of operational staff and representatives from the Nonsuch Voles attended the Award Ceremony and were delighted to collect a Silver Award on behalf of Nonsuch Park.

It was felt that this was a great achievement for all involved in the upkeep of Park and although slightly disappointed that we were only one mark away from Silver Gilt, that it was decent outcome for our first attempt at entering the competition.

The judge's marks and comments are attached at Annexe One and a meeting will be arranged shortly to go through these in more detail and plan our entry for next year.

The Streetcare Manager would like to record formal thanks to the efforts of all our Volunteer Groups and Operational Staff who work with passion and dedication all year round to make Nonsuch Park award worthy and a pleasure to visit.