

## South & South East in Bloom Small Park/Park/Large Park of the Year Award 2016

### Epsom & Ewell Borough Council - Nonsuch Park

<b>SECTION A – Making Way for People</b>	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Actual Points</b>
Access for people including people with disabilities	15	10
Signage and visitor information	15	10
<b>SECTION B– Design</b>	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Actual Points</b>
Appearance and practicality of layout	20	14
<b>SECTION C– Welfare of Park Users</b>	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Actual Points</b>
Staff/voluntary presence *	10	8
Control of dog fouling	10	8
<b>SECTION D– Facilities (Appropriate provision, accessibility and appearance of facilities)</b>	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Actual Points</b>
Maintenance of facilities *	25	18
<b>SECTION E – Maintenance (Quality of horticultural and sports turf maintenance)</b>	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Actual Points</b>
Trees, shrubs, herbaceous, seasonal planting, ponds & lakes and sports areas	25	14
<b>SECTION F –Maintenance of hard landscape features</b>	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Actual Points</b>
Paths, benches, bins, play areas and artificial surfaces	10	8
Control of litter, graffiti & vandalism	10	7
<b>SECTION G– Environmental sustainability (Management of natural resources)</b>	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Actual Points</b>
Planting schemes which are achieving sustainability, reducing the use of scarce resources such as water and peat *	20	14
<b>SECTION H–Conservation</b>	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Actual Points</b>
Management of natural features, wildlife and flora *	20	12

<b>SECTION I –Community Involvement (Community involvement in park development</b>	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Actual Points</b>
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Promotion of park as a community resource	20	15
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<b>Maximum Points Available</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Total Points Awarded</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>Award Nomination</b>	<b>Silver</b>

**Assessors General Comments & Award Justification**

As a first time entrant, all the stops were pulled out to show the judge the full potential of the Park. The entrance to the Park through the Garden Gate shows the wisteria border and formal beds. The beds have been converted from annual bedding schemes to sustainable plantings. The Friends group is in the process of renovating the front wall of the Bothy, all that is left of the original building. Bedding and carpet bedding enhance the front and side of the main house which is used as a wedding/function venue. The Rose Arbour is planted and maintained by the Friends Group. Whilst this is commendable there seems to be very little control by the resident staff or the Council. Some roses are in a poor condition and there had been no dead heading done. The soil looked undernourished and it is recommended that a substantial feed and mulch be carried out in the Autumn. The wildflower area had been severely damaged by recent bad weather and was not looking its best. There has been some vandalism and this has not helped the appearance of the area. On the walk down to the old Nursery it would be advisable to weed out the ash and other saplings which have been allowed to grow in among the Lilacs. Much is made of the historic Graffiti but it is lost under the very large old Leyland Cypress trees, hopefully these will soon be removed to create a more open and interesting avenue with perhaps an information board nearby. The old greenhouses walls and bases do not give an appeal to an otherwise pleasant walkway, hopefully funding which has been applied for will improve the whole area. The volunteer Group, VOLES, do a good job in assisting with problem areas. The Pinetum is, at present, a difficult area to appreciate, trees have been allowed to overgrow and there is a great deal of dead wood in the trees. A tree trail would enhance the area once tree work has been carried out. The Parkland is well cared for and managed, interesting to see the corner stones of the old Palace. There are dog free areas and designated areas specifically for dogs. The tour of the Museum was interesting showing the history of the House but perhaps time would have been better spent elsewhere. Part of the Old Nursery area is being used by a Pre school Group and another part by the Friends/Voles groups. The Woodland area was not reached due to lack of time but there are coppiced areas and recording of butterfly sightings and flora count. Nonsuch has the potential to become a Gold winner in the future.

<b>Results</b>		
<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