

# St Just In Bloom



2018

# Views of our town



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# AN INTRODUCTION TO ST JUST IN BLOOM

St Just has a strong local community who are very proud of their town situated in the far West of Cornwall above the only Cape in England. However being on the edge and exposed to strong winds and salty air poses many horticultural challenges.

People living in the town support their local businesses and St Just has a diverse selection and many have been in the same family for many years. Not only do we have a very good selection of shops, cafes and pubs we have both primary and secondary schools, a doctors surgery, a library and fire station. For a small town St Just really has everything.

St Just in Bloom work hard throughout the year with limited funds and resources, keeping the town weed free, maintaining 12 plots, 66 tubs, planted mine stacks and boats, murals and painting lamp posts, railings and bins. We have developed unused and waste areas around the town which are now used by the community. We have planted a variety of plants, such as wild flowers, sustainable plants such as shrubs and perennials and colourful displays of bedding plants in the spring and summer. We have been working together with the schools and last year we created a new community area with them to add to the existing public areas such as the recreation garden and our old Churchyard. We try to involve the community with the gardening, photography and painting competitions and the shops and businesses create their own displays each year to bring added colour to the town.

St Just is an old mining town and we are proud of our heritage. Geevor mine was awarded World Heritage status by UNESCO in 2006 and many celebrations were held in 2016 to celebrate its' tenth year. Some of the disused mines in Botallack and Levant were used as filming locations for the recent adaptation of Poldark and we attract German visitors to the area as Rosamunde Pilcher books have been adapted for a popular series in Germany. St Just has been used as a location for several scenes.

St Just in Bloom had another successful year last year winning a Gold award and in 2016 we shared the Champion of Champions award with Sherbourne. Since we started our face book page we have received some very positive comments and last year we up-dated our website [www.stjustinbloom.org.uk](http://www.stjustinbloom.org.uk), which now has much more information showing how we have developed over the years and detailing the work we do.





## SPRING IN ST JUST



**Daffodils around the town in April**





**Snow in March**



**Violas on display**





# DIARY

## July

- Entry forms for the Garden Competition are available at Phil Wilkins shop
- The poly tunnel and raised beds at the school are being weeded and cleared
- The Jo Cox Tea Party at the WI was attended by volunteers including some of our members
- A plaque is being placed by the cartwheel at the top of Nancherrow Hill
- The school painting competition has been judged by artist Lynn Horne
- Planting day was a big success with many people from the community helping
- A mural in Chapel Road has been painted by artist Emma Scott
- Contributions from collecting tins and community donations amount to £258

## August

- No committee meeting was held but watering and dead heading continue to be done by hand by our members

## September

- There were over 20 entries for our garden competition which was judged by Geoff Rowe from Penberth Nurseries
- We agreed to take someone from the Pathfinder Project run by the local police to help with maintenance jobs

## October

- South West in Bloom awards in Torquay
- We were awarded for It's your Neighbourhood category 12 outstanding, 4 thriving and 3 developing
- St Just was awarded Gold
- The painting competition from all 3 age groups went to St Just
- Presentation evening for the community painting, gardening and photography awards was held at the Town Hall
- Our Chairman gave a talk and received £30 donation and a further £20 from collecting tins

## November

- The Wesleyan Chapel Remembrance display was a painted replica of a Cornish hedge with handmade poppies draping over the wall
- Remembrance Parade was attended by our members who laid a wreath
- Next years colour scheme will be the same as last year as we had very positive comments
- A man from the Police Pathfinder scheme rubbed down the war memorial railings

- It was decided to put a notice on the notice board to say we have collecting tins in local businesses
- The new Head Teacher at the comprehensive school is happy to be involved with St Just in Bloom
- The Feast Parade was represented by one of our members
- One of our members gave a talk to the U3A about the work we do
- Boscavern Community Farm would like our spent compost when the old tubs are emptied. One of our members said she would collect bags of green waste to take to the farm

## **December**

- The man from Pathfinder will help make the new tubs
- Carol singing around St Just raised £83.50 and the local hotel provided free refreshment
- Christmas tree at the Wesleyan Chapel display is decorated in white stars and lights for our chosen nursery rhyme 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star'
- All the compost from the old tubs will be used on the beds or taken to Boscavern Farm and the wood and metal will be taken to the re-cycling centre at St Erth
- We have been awarded £1,000 grant towards replacement tubs from Cornwall Community Funding. We still need £588 so we will do a sponsored walk and we will apply for a grant from St Just Town Council
- We will apply to the Co-Op who support local charities
- Barclays Bank will match pound for pound for our sponsored walk

## **January**

- A notice was put in the Cornishman 'Down your Way' for more volunteers
- There is weeding to be done in the wall around the car park

## **February**

- We were successful in receiving £500 grant money towards replacement tubs from the Town Council
- One of our members has made 21 replacement tubs and hopes to get someone from the 'Pathfinder' community pay back project to paint them
- Our Chairman met with the Town Mayor and it was agreed we got quotes for extra grass cutting during the summer. Cornwall Council cut bi-monthly.
- We will be entering the Ayre Cup this year
- We have been approached by a member of the community who rescues injured hedgehogs and hoglets. She wants us to use an alternative to slug pellets. We have invited her to our meeting in April

## **March**

- 30 new tubs have now been made by one of our members
- There has been a rise in the amount of dog excrement around the town plus vandalism of the hose pipe and water butt at the recreation centre plot. We suggest more notices to clean up after pets

## **April**

- A lady from the Hedgepigs and Hoglets Rescue Society gave a ten minute talk about what she does and the steps we can take to protect them. She suggest using seaweed, egg and seashells and barricades such as ash, copper tape and citrus peel instead of organic slug pellets which have not been proven to be hedgehog friendly
- St Just in Bloom vote to continue to use organic slug pellets for 2018 to protect the bedding plants the Town Council fund
- We will build two hedgehog houses at the Old Churchyard and we suggest rescued hedgehogs could be reintroduced there.
- In future planting we will try to use slug resistant plants
- The St Just in Bloom Easter display at the Wesleyan Chapel is 'There is a Green Hill Far Away'. Chicken wire and artificial grass was used for the hill with granite stone and flowers around it. Three wooden crosses were made for the top of the hill

## **May**

- We agreed to purchase two ready made hedgehog houses for the old churchyard
- The sponsored walk will take place on Sunday 27th May
- Barclays have confirmed they will give £1 for every £1 we raise on our walk
- All the new tubs have been painted with the help of the young man from 'Pathfinder' community pay back scheme
- Two new wall planters are to be put outside the Town Hall
- The wall around the car park is to be weeded and damaged plants replaced
- Planting day this year is to be Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June
- The theme for this years school painting competition is 'It's a Bugs Life'

## **June**

- Planting of the tubs around the town went well with some additional help from the community
- Our sponsored walk raised £785 which has been doubled by Barclays Bank
- The three tiers and amberols have been put up
- The weather is very hot this month which is causing the tubs to dry out quickly
- The gardening, painting and photographic competitions are being judged



# HORTICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS

## Presentation Day at Torquay



**Our Chairman receiving a Gold Award**



**The three paintings which won their categories  
All from St Just Schools**

## COMMUNITY AND FUNDRAISING



**Our display at Miners Chapel for Remembrance**



**Making the Poppies**





**Christmas tree 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star'**



**Easter display 'There is a Green Hill Far Away'**



**Our Sponsored Walk**



**Feast Day Parade**



**Lafrowda**





**Bosavern Community Farm**



## **ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY**



**Bird boxes, bat boxes and woodpiles help the wildlife**



**The Old Churchyard is managed to encourage Wildlife**





**We have purchased hedgehog houses to provide shelter**

## **ONGOING AND NEW PROJECTS**



**Painting the lamp posts**



**Cleaning and tidying the wall in front of the garage**





**Weeding the car park wall**



**Planting the car park wall**



**Our Painted Lamposts**





**Planting Day**





**School children helping**





our work



**The new mural in Chapel Street**





**Making and Painting Tubs**

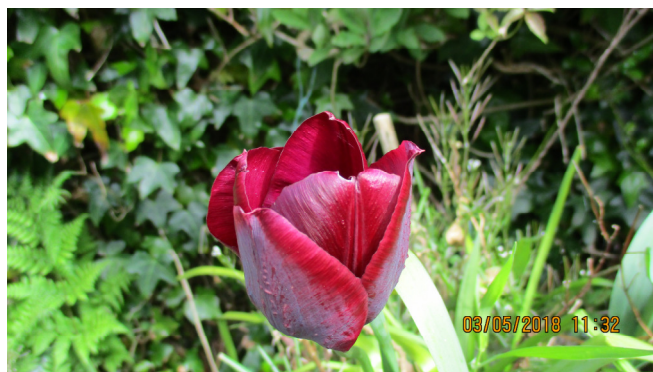
## CONCLUSION

This is now our fifteenth year since first entering the In Bloom competition and many of the original members of our group still play important roles and are driven to make improvements and develop new areas. This is not a wealthy area and it is difficult to attract new members with the time to commit regularly and so the growing tasks to keep our town looking cared for and attractive is spread thinly. This year we have concentrated on replacing the old tubs which has meant raising funds to pay for the materials and getting involved with the police 'Pathfinder' scheme to help with the painting. We have tried to be more environmentally friendly, continuing to take our green waste to the community farm and recycle as much as we can. We are introducing hedgehog houses in our old churchyard area and plan to use slug resistant plants in our tubs next year to try to eliminate the need for any organic slug pellets. Following the example of Penzance our town is now single use plastic free with all the shops, cafes and pubs on board.

We have raised additional funds through our Carol singing, talks and a sponsored walk. We have continued to keep our plots around the town weed free and have raised many new plants from seed or overwintered them in our polytunnel. We have continued to keep pavements tidy, oiled benches, painted lamppost, bins and railings and we do all our own watering by hand during the summer months.

We try to involve the community as much as we can through our competitions and fund raising and work with the schools. We have received funds from local businesses, which have sponsored our tubs, and they in turn have added to the summer display with their own tubs and baskets. Our local community farm is now taking our green waste to compost and the Allotment Association have been working on the raised beds at Cape Cornwall School and have been making use of the poly tunnel. If all goes to plan they hope to work with the children and produce vegetables and flowers together. This is a wonderful example of how we can all work together for the community.

We are a small town but a big community. We don't have the funds available which other bigger towns have so it is very much a community effort to get things done. We have 'weather' here, fog, horizontal rain, salty gales and this year we had very heavy drifting snow on two occasions in March which caused a great deal of damage to the tender plants such as Agapanthus, Euryops and Palms which usually overwinter here. Lets' hope for a kind, bright, floriferous summer!



## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month and the AGM is held in February.

The 2018 committee members are:-

- Chris Goninan (Chairman)
- Marlene Smith (Secretary)
- Nick Skerratt (Treasurer)
- Margaret Sedgeman
- Robert Matthews
- Pat Charlton
- Anita Rose
- Giles Trembath
- Stuart Coleman
- Pam Callaway
- Jyoti Hardy
- Basil Stephens
- Emma Gwynn
- Pauline Wooldridge





## SPONSORS AND HELPERS

Thank you to the many sponsors, organisations and individuals who have given donations, their time, their skills, raised money or provided facilities free of charge. We would not be able to provide the floral displays each year without your help.

St Just Town Council  
Cornwall Council  
Isles of Scilly Steamship Company  
The Star Inn  
The Commercial Hotel  
Clemo's Pet and DIY  
Webfooted Designs  
Cape Cornwall Comprehensive School  
The Old Town Hall  
The Franks family  
The Wellington Hotel  
Lands End Hotel  
Karen Harvey from Barclays  
St Just Cars  
Chris Sedgeman Scaffolding  
Bank Square Gallery  
St Just Garage  
Wilkins  
Neil McFadden (C.G.S.)  
Lynn Way  
The Jackson Foundation  
Artists Richard Guy, Lyn Horne and Emma South, Pete Sinclair and Nick Smith  
School Painting Competition judges Lyn Horne and Justus Hattam  
Gardening Competition Mr and Mrs Millfield  
Photographic Competition judge Sarah Lay  
Thanks to David James, and everyone who has contributed photographs.  
To anyone I may not have mentioned – THANK YOU.

