

Usk in Bloom

ANNUAL USK TOWN COMPETITION - 2019

An integral part of the ethos of Usk in Bloom is the involvement of the whole community in the annual town floral competition. For those Usk residents who have lived here for many years this competition is second nature, but if, like me, you are relatively new to Usk I had no idea of the process until a Silver Award Certificate arrived through the letter box!

As the weather is warming up slightly and thoughts are turning towards planning summer displays **this seems like a good opportunity to explain the mechanics of the Town Competition**. Basically, the frontage of every single property, both Residential and Commercial, is visited and a short list by category is drawn up. We generally judge from the roadside (unless invited in). As you can imagine this is a mammoth task in itself! Independent judges from outside Usk are then invited to finalise the marking. They work to a matrix, scoring within the following Judging Criteria for both Residential & Commercial:-

- Initial Impression
- Colour Scheme
- Use of Available Space
- Imaginative Use of Plants & Features
- Quality of Plants & Maintenance

Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards are made in the following categories for Residential properties :-

- Front Garden
- Hanging Baskets
- Tubs, Windows Boxes, Troughs & Hanging Baskets
- Pollinator Garden
- House without Front Garden
- Most Improved New Garden

Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards are made in the following categories for Commercial:-

- Care
- Commercial/ Business
- Pub/Club/Hotel
- Public Building

There are also Overall Category Winner and Runner Up Awards for the highest scoring properties. In line with RHS guidelines Category Winners are not eligible to be entered for the overall award the following year, but can still be awarded a Gold Certificate.

TIME LINE – Make a Note of the following IMPORTANT DATES and INFORMATION:

- Week Commencing 5th August – Judging
- 7th September - The results will be published on Usk in Bloom Website, Usk in Bloom Facebook and a Paper Copy will be available in the Hub.

- 28th September – Deadline for Claiming your Award Certificate – Gold, Silver or Bronze

By email: sarahlouisepowell88@gmail.com or phone 07523027853

You may choose at the time you request your Certificate whether to collect at Awards Evening on 11th October or collect from the Hub during weeks commencing 14th October and 21st October during opening hours including until 7.00pm Thursday and Saturday morning.

NB: Usk in Bloom is committed to supporting the environment and cutting down on waste therefore **IF YOU WIN AN AWARD YOUR CERTIFICATE WILL ONLY BE PRODUCED IF YOU MAKE A REQUEST.**

- 11th October – Awards Evening – venue TBC
- 28th October – No certificates available after this date

This year's colour scheme is HOT, HOT, HOT! Vibrant purple, orange, pink, lime green etc.

Happy Planning, Happy Gardening and Good Luck Everyone!

Sarah Powell - Usk in Bloom Secretary - 07523027853