

Banstead Village in Bloom

BRIEF FOR JUDGES

5th July 2019



Dear Hazel and Peter

This judges brief will be similar in format to last year's brief in that we work on the premise that a picture says a thousand words. The pictures are supplemented by brief bullet pointed text, which will not only reduce your reading time, but will give you an overview of the work done and indicate the all year around approach being adopted.

There is one major structural change for this year's brief, namely, the brief mirrors the judging route which lines up with the itinerary provided for the judging on 5th July. This will facilitate the task of judging by putting all relevant information about the different specific elements in one place. There will be a short section outlining places which you will not have time to visit; a brief description of other activities; and finally, conclusions.

This is our third year and we have made much progress. We will eagerly await your feedback as a basis upon which to build and develop our entry for 2020.

The help and support of the whole community and our numerous volunteers has been essential and we record our thanks to everyone.

We hope you have a most enjoyable visit to our lovely village of Banstead.

David Martin MBE

Chair of the Banstead Village in Bloom Steering Group

11th June 2019

Introduction



- As indicated above, we have provided you with an itinerary which sets out timings; the route, points of interest and people you will meet.
- Fundraising, communications and marketing remain important to us and has been advanced during the year. The net effect being that Banstead Village in Bloom is more widely known and better supported.
- We held a fundraising quiz night in October 2018 which raised over £1,700; we held a music night in April 2019 and raised another £1,700; we have been successful in generating over £1,600 in sponsorship from local organisations and businesses. We have appointed a Treasurer and opened our own bank account.
- Administration and organising the BVIB entry – over 400 volunteer hours were expended this year covering; the executive group and council meetings and allied site meetings; minutes and actions arising from meetings; and preparations for our entry. We commenced our monthly meeting schedule in September 2018 some three months earlier than previous years in order to better schedule work, to avoid the last-minute rush before judging and to maximise the availability of R&BC Greenspaces Team.
- The BVIB colour theme this year is purple, white and lime and we provided participants with advice and guidance on what plants could be used – see Appendix A.
- **Key developments this year** – In summary, the formation of a volunteer team that work regularly twice a week and is available for specific projects including revamping and replanting flower beds at the Memorial roundabout, extensive work on All Saints’ Churchyard and Orchard and replanting of the library gardens. The High Street floral display outside Tesco re-designed by our key sponsor; an additional six oversized sponsored wheelbarrows provided and planted up; and the revamping of Lady Neville recreational grounds to be carried out by our partner Reigate and Banstead Council Greenspaces Team.
- **Key horticultural achievements** – We have successfully undertaken new projects and continued to upgrade others, broadening the range of plants for year-round impact: from naturalised planting, to more formal areas and increased container contribution. We have developed plans (illustrated in the appendices) for systematic replanting of designated areas with a view to providing long term sustainable mixed plantings. We have invested a significant amount of the funds raised in plant purchases to meet these planting projects. Forward planning is in place for further seasonally

appropriate planting in autumn. Development of horticultural skills and understanding in new volunteers has been achieved by training them in pruning and a range of planting techniques: e.g. bulbs, bare root and container planting. The level of horticultural achievement from the wider community continues to contribute to a consistent and valuable high standard overall.

- **Community participation** – The key addition this year is a group of local volunteers, currently in excess of 22 people, who regularly litter pick local roads every Monday morning, and on Friday work at All Saints' Churchyard and Orchard, the arrangements for which have been formalised this year. Furthermore, for the last two months they have been meeting on a Wednesday morning too to assist with ongoing projects. A total of 750+ volunteer hours have been used on these endeavours. Local schools and colleges have been engaged in competitions, planting, litter picking and construction of the wheelbarrows. Care homes have been supported in horticultural matters, have assisted with the poppy making for last year's centenary celebrations of WW1 and have sponsored wheelbarrows. One of our hospices and one of the care homes are developing sensory gardens which will be made available to the wider public. Whilst not all our projects record the number of volunteer hours, we have included them where known. We have co-opted local groups to water containers and borders and have maintained a loyal core of active participants in developing flower displays. We have encouraged and supported both allotment groups in project development, and community groups with advice and support on colour scheming and planting choices. A best front garden competition is being run again by the local horticultural society, which also offers a range of educational and fun options open and advertised to both members and non-members.
- **Summary of environmental responsibility achievements** – We have sought to recycle materials for the construction of bottle shelters and for use in the children's alien competition. Within the allotments there is an array of environmental initiatives set out in the body of this brief. Overall, we remain sensitive to: the need to conserve water, by the use of mulching and using watering cans instead of hoses; to the need to allow and encourage nature to flourish and to encourage wildlife by planting wild flowers and managing woodland areas; and as indicated above keeping recycling foremost in people's minds. Sourcing plants from a local nursery reduces environmental footprint, as does use of home produced and grown on plants to augment purchased plants. Use of ground cover plants reduces watering requirements once established, as does soil improvement and plant choices suited to the local growing conditions.

The Judging Route – elements to be viewed

1. Banstead Community Junior School (BVIB Lead Janet Marder)

- There has been a successful lunchtime gardening club at this school for the last 13 years.
- The children, staff and volunteers are very keen on growing fruit and vegetables, and planting insect loving plants.
- This award-winning school is also very supportive regarding recycling with a bottle greenhouse and guttering for their 'window boxes'.



- The school received hedgerow plants from The Woodland Trust. With the assistance of the council rangers the school children planted the school hedgerow.
- The Gardening Club are kept busy making fairy gardens, planting out their class troughs and poly tunnel with vegetables and making hanging baskets to sell at their open day.



- Last year we had 5 schools who supported Banstead Village in Bloom with various community projects and this year we have 8 schools involved.
- The schools are very keen to recycle so to commemorate 100 years since to end of WW1 they made poppies from plastic bottles.
- This summer schools have decorated bikes using the village colours of purple, white and yellow. The bikes will be placed on the village roundabouts.
- The children for the various schools replant their wheelbarrows with seasonal plants.
- 210 volunteer hours were expended by the two Community School projects, the preparations for Remembrance Day celebrations, wheelbarrows and St Anne's School gardens.

2. Banstead Infant School - Forest School (BVIB Lead Janet Marder)



- Banstead Infant School we are very lucky to have a beautiful woodland within our grounds full of many mature native trees such as yew, holly, hazel and lime.
- They make use of this valuable resource as part of our forest school ethos.
- Forest School children learn through play and exploration. Through experience they connect with things they can see, hear, smell and touch.
- Forest School is about making a connection with nature and creating a lifelong interest and love for the natural environment.
- The woodland setting is central in supporting this approach to learning as forest school children will become sensitive to the changing of the seasons and aware of the slightest differences within our setting. Forest School will enable all learners to create memories that will remain with them for years to come.



3. The Horseshoe and the Pot People
(BVIB Lead Janet Marder)

- Banstead Community Junior School developed the idea of ‘pot people’ and displayed them at their open day.
- These pot people are displayed in The Horseshoe.



4. Banstead Library and Crocus Planting
(BVIB Lead Diana Beck)

- BVIB initiative with volunteer teamwork 10 individuals and over 120 hours all in.
- Upgrade concrete forecourts with planters and bright plantings (library staff watering).
- Remedial maintenance and formative pruning on roundel and island beds.
- Bark used on island bed from recycling local tree surgeons shredding.
- Perennial planting from home grown plants and local nursery supply: for year-round interest.
- Planting information and ‘I Spy’ game promoted in library.
- Twice weekly watering by library staff (planters) and Surrey Choices (who work with people who have a range of disabilities) are watering in the new plantings in the beds.
- This was financially supported by Specsavers Banstead.



5. Wheelbarrow Planters and Zizzi’s Display and Banner – (BVIB Lead – Janet Marder)

- 6 new oversized wheelbarrows and one extra-large wheelbarrow have been built by North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT) students for the cost of the wood only.
- The original wheelbarrows are sponsored by five local schools; who have paid for the materials; planted the barrows up; and will maintain them with the assistance of the children.
- The 6 new wheelbarrows are sponsored by a mix of care homes and local businesses.
- Volunteers have made the bases for the wheelbarrows.
- There are now 9 wheelbarrows at the library end of the High Street and three at the Memorial end.



6. Library Roundabout, Under Tree Planting along the High Street (Leads R&BC and Janet Marder)



- Daffodils planted for spring.
- Heathers removed for 1.2 metres around the outside edge and replaced with heuchera and geraniums for summer 2018 which are still in place.
- Christmas tree cut, transported and erected by Banstead Rotary Club, see below.
- In addition, BVIB have installed and planted the gigantic wheelbarrow; have supplemented the existing Council planting to add colour; and we have erected summer bicycles.



- Banstead Business Guild together with Banstead Rotary Club and other local organisations cut, transport and erect the Christmas tree at the roundabout; and enjoy an evening of celebrations along the entire High Street including the Orchard. Father Christmas attends on his sleigh and switches on the lights.

7. Planters in High Street (BVIB Lead R&BC and Janet Marder)

- Some of the planters are planted and maintained by Banstead Community School whilst others are planted and maintained by the Council.

8. All Saints' Church Yard and Orchard and Briarwood Corner Planting (BVIB Leads Marion Hayns and Kerry Garner)



- The work on All Saints' Churchyard and Orchard has been undertaken by a group of volunteers who work every Friday morning to maintain the grounds and develop different areas, by clearing and planting as required. Whilst clearing a very overgrown area at the very back of the Churchyard two large kitchen knives were discovered where they had obviously been abandoned. These were correctly disposed of thus ensuring the area was safer for all.
- 512 volunteer hours have been expended on this work.
- A very neglected Garden of Remembrance has been transformed over several months into an open and well cared for area. The shrubs have been thinned, pruned and shaped. The beds weeded and some plants repositioned. A log pile for an insect house. Borders and pathways edged. A bench will soon be reinstated in the garden.



- On a sunny morning in November volunteers from BVIB and All Saints' Church met to leaf sweep and tidy the Orchard and graveyard, prior to all the commemorative celebrations taking place to mark the centenary of the signing of the Armistice at the end of WW1. In total over 100 bags of leaves were collected – this year we will be enabled to retain and compost some of these ourselves with the addition of our new compost bins.



- **Car park bed** – A forgotten space by the entrance to the car park has been transformed. We removed the grass and weeds, and planted using donated plants which our volunteers have grown on from seedlings or from splitting.

- **The Orchard Banjo** Volunteers did a good mornings work rejuvenating the ‘Banjo’ at All Saints’ Orchard. The Orchard pathway needed a huge amount of work. The brick edging had been lost after years of neglect. Using shovels and edgers we dug out the lost border. Exposing the old brickwork. More digging out and then removing all the weeds and grass by hand. And finally, a morning’s work completed.



- Despite our best efforts, this shabby path in the centre of the much-used Orchard, has continued to look unloved and neglected. Having obtained 4 comparative quotes, a local businessman has responded to our request for a donation towards the cost of refurbishment by offering to gift the entire project and personally oversee the work involved. At the time of writing we are waiting on a positive response from the Church’s PCC.
- **Front Bed** - In Autumn 2018 a team from Banstead Horticultural Society weeded and planted spring bulbs and wallflowers in layers to enable long period of flower.



- The Friday group of volunteers has obtained much pleasure over the spring months in hard pruning overgrown shrubs or in some instances moving pruned shrubs once they had finished flowering to more suitable locations. This has enabled us to thoroughly weed, remove sprawling roots where possible and replant the front beds with low growing colourful perennials which enhance rather than obscure the Orchard area as was the case previously.



- An ancient, wobbly and frankly not fit for purpose wheelbarrow once owned by the father of the Church's administrator has been given a makeover by a local couple, planted up in this year's colours and now sits in splendour on a redundant concrete base which was once used to anchor an anti-tank trap device across Banstead High Street if ever there had been an invasion during WW2.



- **2018 Crocus planting in the Orchard (Diana Beck)**
- 10,000 crocuses were planted in October 2018 in The Orchard at All Saints' Church by members of Banstead Rotary Club, Banstead Horticultural Society and The Beacon School.
- Banstead Rotary Club and Banstead Horticultural Society teamed up to plant the crocus bulbs as part of the Banstead Rotary Club's 'Purple for Polio' campaign.
- This time they were joined by very energetic pupils aged 11-13 from the Beacon School's gardening club, who worked extremely hard to set out the crocuses into the design.
- The locations lent itself to a skinny streamlet of crocuses in the library gardens, meandering around three larger 'pools'. Crocus, Tommasianus Ruby Giant, benefitted from quite deep planting using the cut and fill method, so that squirrels would find it more difficult to forage. In All Saints' Orchard similar methods were used. See photographic collage below.
- Hard work saw the planting completed in one afternoon: a fun, happy and for now invisible result.
- 18 volunteer hours were expended this year - excluding children and teacher assistance.



- Advertising and seek help - Below is an example of the posters we use to describe the work that is done by our volunteers and seek volunteers to assist.

Get Involved

There are lots of ways to get involved with Banstead Village in bloom.

We work year-round on maintenance projects, you don't need to know about gardening, there are many jobs that everyone can do.

Ask us for details or visit: www.bvib.co.uk

All Saints' Church

Working together with All Saints Church, Banstead Village in Bloom volunteers meet every Friday morning to work on improving the churchyard and orchard. Improvements so far have been made in The Garden of Remembrance, the High Street Wall and in the Orchard.

Anyone wishing to join us please just come along at 9.30am, we're there every Friday.

Volunteering

Would you like to get involved? Meet new people and improve the village? Please speak to one of the volunteers or find us at www.bvib.co.uk.

Monday morning litter picks - a group of volunteers meet every week to collect litter around Banstead. Call Kerry on 07981 915117.

Wednesday in the High Street - volunteers work in the High Street on Wednesday mornings. Weeding, watering and dead heading. Come along and join us - we meet at the library at 9.30am.

Friday at All Saints' Church - meeting at 9.30am each week. We maintain and enhance the churchyard, orchard and memorial garden. More volunteers are always needed.

There are many different ways to get involved and make new friends. Flower beds to water. There are things to make and mend.

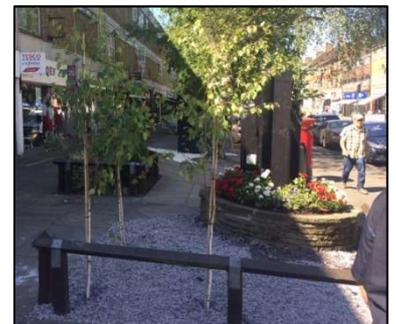
There are things to make and mend!

Winkworth Woodland Community Project meets twice a month on the second Saturday and third Monday of the month at 10am.

www.bvib.co.uk

9. High Street Floral Display (BVIB Lead David Martin)

- Last year



- **Developing the display**
- Here you can see the work being undertaken on this year's display – which will be magnificent.

- **This Year**
- This floral display has been generously developed over the last two years by Centro plc - a local Real Estate Agent and Property Management Company.
- The Managing Director Ray Harwood is a local resident and has been very hands on in developing the display himself.
- The bench seat was erected by volunteers and sponsored by the local Rotary Club.



10. Waitrose (BVIB Lead Marion Hayns)

Despite this being the most prestigious supermarket in the village it has proved a constant struggle to encourage the staff to engage in keeping the gardens at the front of the store well maintained. Recently we have been informed that a gardener has been employed by Head Office after we made representation to John Lewis but to date very little appears to have improved.

- As a consequence, BVIB has offered advice, guidance, and hands on support by volunteers.
- BVIB supplied list of recommended long season plants for autumn planting. Examples: Rosa Rugosa (flowers and hips), Euphorbia Characias, Anemone Honorine Jobert (autumn), grasses for movement, and annual Cosmos, spring bulbs. There is little evidence of this having happened.
- The manager of the store produced a most imaginative display of planted trollies last summer, these were subsequently refurbished by BVIB in the spring using plants and compost from the store and are awaiting refreshing for the summer.
- Lastly, at the front of the store the plastic cover housing the gas supply to the store has been broken for years – representation has been made by ourselves to get this repaired. We await a reply.



11. Christchurch (BVIB Lead Marion Hayns)



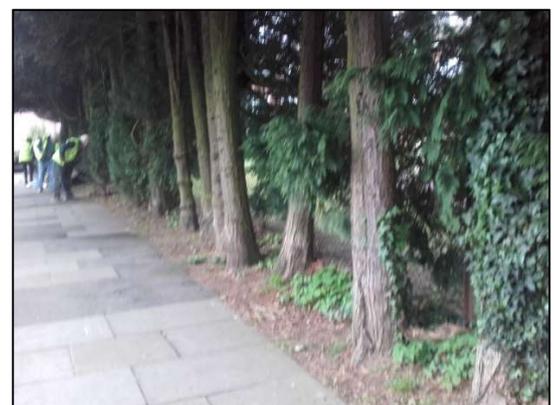
- In November to commemorate the Centenary of the signing of the Armistice at the end of WW1 a heart shaped design of poppies was made from recycled plastic bottles and displayed on the wall of Christchurch.
- These poppies were created using recycled materials, collected by local schools and other organisations.
- Poppies were created at three workshops run by our team of volunteers at a local school. All of these poppies were then attached to the netting to create the heart shape.

12. Aliens Competition (BVIB Lead Marion Hayns)

- On 29th June the judging, by Tim Vine - comedian and local resident, of An Alien from Outer Space competition will take place in the Orchard in front of All Saints' Church.
- These are to be constructed from the type of debris collected from litter packs.
- 98 boys from 5 Beaver Colonies are taking part.
- The competition is sponsored by Seven Oaks Hearing, Banstead High Street, and the winning aliens will be displayed in the window of Seven Oaks Hearing for two weeks.



13. Chiltern Close Display, New Planting at Memorial Roundabout and Under Tree Planting (BVIB Lead Kerry Garner)



- This forgotten and neglected piece of the High Street has been adopted by our BVIB team and given a makeover by our volunteers.
- We are endeavouring to introduce hardy planting under the conifer trees.
- Approximately 20 hours of volunteering work has been expended.
- Resident watering the planters twice a week.

14. Memorial Roundabout Raised Flower Bed and Wheelbarrows (BVIB Lead Diana Beck)

- Raised flower bed. 50' x 10'.
- A planting plan and schematic is attached at appendices B to D: submitted and approved by Council. NB some changes are in place due to lack of supply and or theft. Some planting withheld until the autumn.
- Choices made for drought resistance, all year colour, movement and wildlife.
- The Council removed tired old shrubs, osmanthus was retained. The soil was enriched.
- The walls and coping needed repairs which were undertaken by volunteers.
- Planting delayed by lead's bereavement. A decision made to plant shrubs in autumn to reduce excessive watering during establishment in first year.

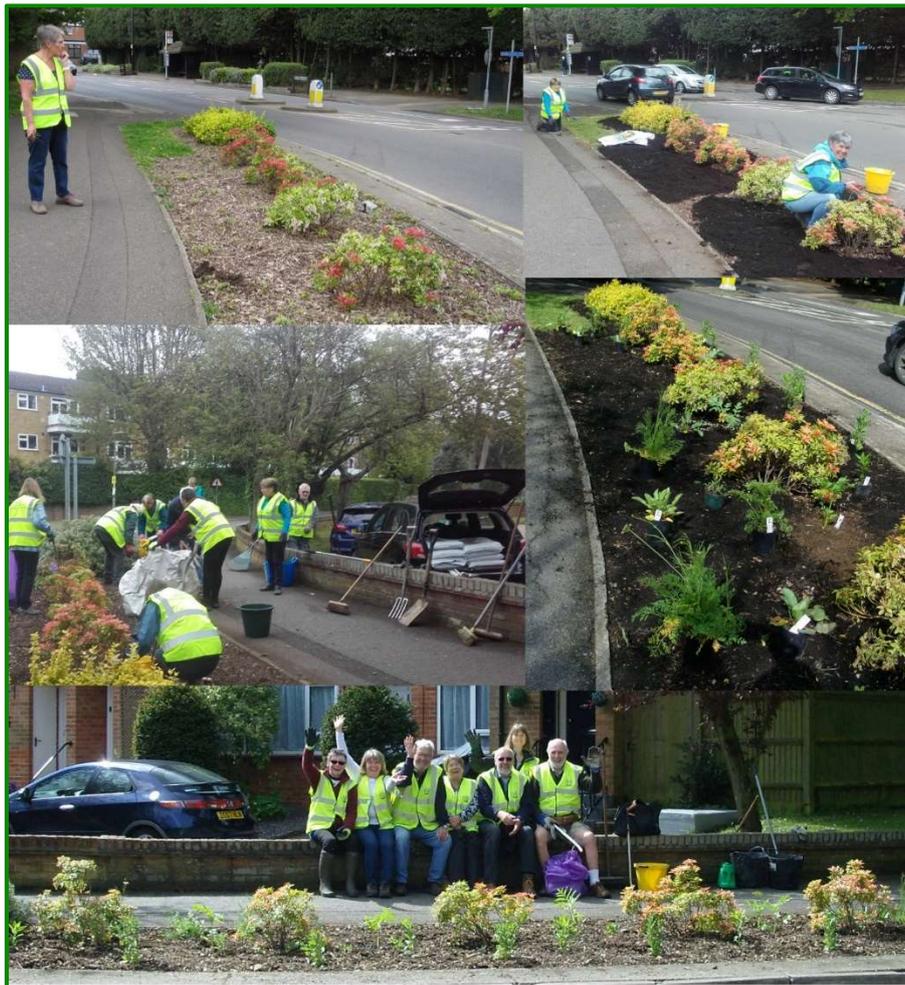


- Perennials chosen for long season interest and augmented by annuals to fill spaces during establishment. Further planting in autumn planned for autumn perennials, shrubs, and spring bulbs.
- Training given to volunteers on planting and watering techniques.
- Volunteers have provided regular water 'to the plants' by hand: it has been a very dry spring, and undertaken regular weeding pending the application of the mulch.
- Planting took place over several weeks in short active applications. A local school provided a team of 12 volunteers for one hour in which they succeeded in planting the entire stock of annual plants.
- Plants have been sourced in the main from a local nursery that grows on site from seed, thus saving the ecological footprint. Response needed to thefts: new tree chained in to concrete base. Other losses tolerated: will be replaced in autumn.

- Mulch from locally sourced felled trees save water and weed competition on the site as well as manage the ecological footprint
- Background trees: With the assistance of the volunteers group the area beneath the trees has been cleared and planted; and the sleeper bed planting has been supplemented this year with temporary pending a complete revamp next year.
- Over 80 volunteer hours expended.

15. Memorial Roundabout – Ground Level Bed (BVIB Lead Kerry Garner)

- The neglected flower bed has been worked on by our volunteers. Woodchips were removed, the site dug, compost added, planted up and woodchips reinstated.
- Details of planting can be seen in Appendix E.
- 40 hours of volunteer time has been expended.



16. Cheyne Court (BVIB Lead Diana Beck)

- Continuing on from last year 17 out of 19 flats contributing to maintenance.
- Funding donated by the management company for volunteer with RHS experience to plant upper floor window boxes which are maintained by the residents and with volunteer support from a resident gardener.
- Pretty planting initiatives now in most ground floor properties (since 2017).
- From last year: council removed troublesome overgrown tree
- A few of the dying cherries on site have been removed and replanted.



17. The Well (BVIB Lead David Emery)



- The 18th century wellhead structure is a listed building and houses the well winding gear.
- The 'public' well was sited near the then centre of the old village at the eastern end of Banstead High Street.
- The well is about 300 feet deep.
- Volunteers wash down the wellhead structure each year.

18. Community Hall Roundabout and Gardens (BVIB Lead Diana Beck)

- **Landscaped Gardens:** with many special trees planted and dedicated to Banstead people.
- The Hall is filled to 87% capacity with local community groups and events.
- **The Perennial Border:** designed in 2017 around existing roses by Lilian Spring: President of BHS. Continuous assessment of replanting requirements for seasonal effect for extended seasonal colour and spring bulbs.
- Regular 2-hour maintenance sessions by 5 BHS volunteers: 30 hours approx. Which includes additional planting for 2019. Regular deadheading and watering only for establishment of new plants.



- Financed by personal contributions and a grant by Banstead Arts Festival Society (BAFS).
- **The roundabout:** Established and maintained in the main by Margaret Chignell from the Flower Club with keen support from others. Low plants required for visibility.
- Bulbs and divisions of perennials donated over winter, with a small contribution from BHS. Perennials established last year have filled out and a few bedding plants planned for this season.
- The Community Hall Border voluntary hours for the border is maintained at 40-45 hours.

19. Board Mini Bus for Transport to remaining elements of our entry – To be viewed on the Journey

- The new wildflower bed on left as approach the Sutton Lane roundabout.
- The bicycle displays on Sutton Lane Roundabout.

20. Lambert Road Allotments

- The focus on good communication, community, wildlife and sound horticultural practice by steward; valuing wildlife corridors and plantings; creative recycling in abundance: raised beds to assist less able gardeners: a section which focuses on community – social area for tea and cakes; community composting; and raised beds for a wider group of users.



- **Environment Issues**
- Plastic bottle shelter/greenhouse is currently under construction by volunteers to include recycled roofing and structural supports.
- Volunteers upcycled old shed into “the swap shed”.
- Old metal table been upcycled into “seedling table”.
- 3 old wheelbarrows have been planted up with pretty flowers.
- Wildlife area on the northside. Former composting area. Now covered in nettles plus plot holders have been sprinkling wild flower seeds in the area. Plot approved by Council for upgrade. Pegged out and left unmown.
- Plot holders have wildlife areas eg plot 2 Gloria’s; Lots of ponds eg plot 7; Bird boxes on sheds and Log pile houses on people’s plots.
- Large insect hotel in planning stage. Pallets from local businesses and smaller insect hotels attached to their compost bins etc facing southward.
- 20 Lavender plants donated from BVIB funds to colour co-ordinate with new plot numbers (to be hand painted purple) so that bee friendly plants will ornament each plot.
- Other flowers being grown to attract bees eg foxgloves along the perimeter fence as well as on individual plots.



- **Community Matters**
- Fixing, repainting and re-siting of shed to become swap shed. Team of five.
- Setting up a seedling table. Team of three.
- Spreading wood chip mulch. Team of six.
- Social meet ups. Planned ones – eg 23rd June BBQ. Impromptu ones – at communal seating area.
- WhatsApp group set up for allotment holders. Notices posted by all participants eg availability of onion sets.
- Raised beds constructed for the less able.
- New members supported and encouraged by longer term tenants e.g. very positive feedback from Sarah plot 6a (1) who started 2019.
- The site steward, BVIB representative and team participants in various projects are all volunteers.
- Liaison with local business e.g. nursery supplied lavender plants at cost and local tree surgeon supplies wood chip mulch at no cost. Infant stages of local history society opening up an old unused area for an archaeological dig. Liaison via the council with regional charity “Men in Sheds” to supply wooden numbered posts.
- **Horticulture Matters**
- Plots are generally organic to encourage an increase in the hedgehog population. Plot 2 periodically releases “cured hedgehogs” from a local hedgehog charity. The council representative awarded six certificates at the last site inspection for extremely good practice/tidiness.
- All allotment plots are occupied and historic waste has been removed by the council.
- Woodchip mulch is put on mypex around raised beds, along paths etc. Some plot holders are practising a “no dig” strategy.
- Excess produce is donated to a local school, as well as to elderly Banstead residents.
- Productivity has increased enormously as plot holders fully manage their sites.
- **Plans**
- Communal seating using mypex and woodchip.
- Wildflower meadow (R&B Council approved).
- R&B approval for 420 hedgerow saplings (Nov 2019).

21. Winkworth Woodland Project and Village Sign (BVIB Lead Brian Ransom)

- A new village sign, paid for by public fund raising and to be positioned on the corner of the site is being made at present. Planning permission and a licence to erect the sign has been obtained from Reigate and Banstead Council. The sign will be erected by the end of July.
- Brambles and nettles were cleared from the Winkworth Road pavement side of the plot as they snagged passers-by. We replanted with low growing native English plants e.g. honesty, foxgloves, red campion, violets and aquilegias.
- Dangerous overhanging trees and broken branches were removed from above the Winkworth Road footpath and the 'wild harvest' hedge extended along that side.
- The wildlife haven area is being isolated by informal woodpiles.
- Two stands of hazel were layered to encourage the hazel to establish further growth for coppicing in future. Unsuccessful so far.
- A volunteer made 6 bird and bat boxes. Installed in January 2019.



- Another 18 Kg of daffodils planted during October in the roadside verge. They thickened up and improved the display for this spring.
- A wildflower bed was established for 2018 in the front corner. This was planted with seeds provided by the Kew Gardens 'Grow Wild' scheme. It suffered in last year's hot weather but burst into life later in the summer. Only the seeds grown in pots survived and thrived.
- Seven WWCP volunteers have grown on another set of seeds from Kew and all these will be used to extend the wildflower area along the Bolters Lane frontage.
- Over 200 volunteer hours expended.

Intended future work:

- Plant a bluebell glade for the spring.
- Continue to harden the footpaths with chippings sourced from the site.
- Take advice on how to clear and dispose of ash trees with die-back.

22. Age Concern Community Garden at Greenacres (BVIB Lead Diana Beck)



- Located alongside residential home to provide healthy outside space for residents' reflection.
- Ethos - ornamental kitchen garden encouraging pollinators.
- 8 volunteers cover maintenance and twice weekly opening to public: good publicity in hand.
- Funds raised from plant and produce sales at the Banstead summer fair in the Orchard.
- Age Concern community garden 600 volunteer hours for the whole year

- Horticultural/Environmental impact: more established with trees, shrubs, fruit and perennials. some of the same vegetables and annuals this year, as well as new varieties.
- Wildlife area is more established with birds regularly visiting the feeders, and noticeably large numbers of insects including bees and butterflies.
- The operation is fully organic.
- Community- Regular visits from our lunch club members, and Dementia 1st are due to visit with 12 members and 5 carers at the end of June 2019. Regular visits from residents of Greenacres and their families, and the twice weekly opening usually results in 1 or 2 members of the public.
- Produce is sold at the annual Open day in September as well as on a stall at Banstead Village fayre in July.

Other Places We Bloom - but will not be visited

23. Lady Neville Recreation Ground (BVIB Lead R&BC)



- Considerable works have been carried out over the past year to improve the standard of this park to improve this important recreational/community facility.
- Outdoor exercise equipment has been installed.
- This recreational ground is entered in the S&SE in Bloom Competition.

24. Allotments Holly Lane and Partridge Mead (BVIB Lead Diana Beck)

- Allotments – 24 in borough with 3 in Banstead.
- **Holly Lane** – Focus is on wildflowers with meadow planting to attract bees; and a course has been run to teach tenants how to build bee hives and bug hotels.
- New Compassionate Community initiative by Princess Alice Trust to operate therapeutic gardening to those bereaved or facing terminal illness: trained volunteers will offer support on site.
 - Grand opening to public on 29th June 2019
 - 2 volunteers trained, Excellence in Volunteering course - 12 hours and on-site practical training - 4 hours. Further volunteers from the community being sought
 - Raised beds in place and 3 recycled compost bins donated
 - Possibility to extend to wildflower development
 - Local businesses have been approached to assist in pre-opening tidy up
- All volunteers attend a training course for patient facing volunteers – this includes confidentiality, safeguarding, boundaries, grief and loss, customer service, equality and diversity as well as an understanding about the hospice. Role specific training is part of their induction which includes health and safety as related to the role and also operational issues regarding the allotment.



Holly Lane allotments, late winter

- **Partridge Mead** – Focuses on wildlife habitats; a wildlife pond built by volunteers with materials being donated by local businesses; and bird boxes, bat boxes and hedgehog homes have been built.



25. St Anne's Catholic Primary School (BVIB Lead Janet Marder)



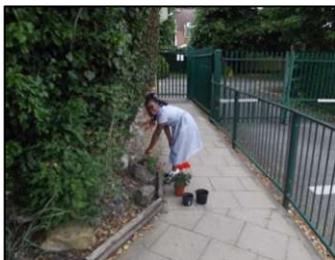
Look what I've got! (see seedling)



Peace garden hedge



Let's get watering



- The grounds are divided into different green spaces for play and gardening. Newly planted wildlife hedge for a peace garden.
- Raised vegetable beds for each year-group, made by local tech college Nescot: children do the planting and water daily in their breaks: i.e. taking responsibility in their own time.
- A children's allotment for vegetables and flowers, with one parent volunteer.
- Sponsored and planted a wheelbarrow planter by library.
- Member of the Banstead Horticultural Society schools' group.

Other Activities

26. Front Garden Competition (BVIB Lead Diana Beck)

- This competition, now annual, is run by Banstead Horticultural Society (BHS).
- The competition is judged in May and again in August, with the award being presented at the September Show by the Mayor.



27. War Memorial (BVIB Lead Janet Marder)



- The pupils of Banstead Community Junior School are the guardians of the War Memorial.
- With the local wildlife ranger, they planted the area with tulips.
- A row of poppies has also been planted along the hedge.
- 250 poppies were hand knitted by local residents, which were used on the displays and wrapped around the trees and lampposts in the High Street.

28. Quiz Night (BVIB Lead David Martin)

- The 2018 winning quiz team above – the next quiz night is scheduled for 26th October 2109.
- Community: Over 130 people came together into teams to have fun and contribute to the In-Bloom campaign. Friends, old and new, scratched their heads to find answers, relaxed and enjoyed a marvellous buffet and contributed generously to raise further funds through a raffle.
- Horticulture: Prettily presented pots of seasonal cyclamen were enjoyed on each table to represent the horticultural element and won by table raffle.

- Environment: the evening's waste was recycled thoughtfully into the different waste collection groups and taken away by each table group for disposal.
- Everyone's a winner: Over £1,700 was raised for the village in the 2019 entry.



29. Music Night (BVIB Lead Marion Hayns)



- In April a wonderfully toe tapping evening was enjoyed by us all as we listened to the local Shadows Tribute Band Breakthru' and were transported by familiar melodies from our very own Banstead Show Choir. Both these groups very generously gave their services for free thus enabling us to raise over £1,700 which has been used on projects over the summer. We are also very grateful to Banstead Preparatory School for allowing us to use their sports hall at a reduced rate and for their patient assistance on the night.

30. Litter Picking (BVIB Leads Kerry Garner and Marion Hayns)

- This year a litter picking group has been set up. The volunteers meet weekly. A total of over 200 volunteer hours expended and more than 400 bags of litter has been collected.
- The annual MegaClean is expected to be an even bigger success this year due to our Facebook page and increased numbers of volunteers.
- With such a good turnout we are able to clean roads and places well beyond the route.

Litter Picking - Adopt a Road

Or pledge to pick up one piece of litter a day.

If every person picked up just one piece of litter today, there would be over 65 million fewer pieces of litter.

If you and your friends spend just one hour today picking up litter in your own neighbourhood, you will not only pick up thousands of pieces of litter, you will also make a tremendous impact on your community.

Banstead Village in Bloom are looking for volunteers who will commit to litter picking a road on a regular basis. Litter pickers, bags, gloves and hi-viz vests can be provided. Please leave your name and email address so we can contact you or just sign our pledge to pick up one piece of litter a day.



Be part of Banstead's litter picking volunteer group and help to keep Banstead litter free.

Litter Picking

Autumn 2018 litter picking group is formed. Starting with two volunteers, we soon grew to four. Collecting litter at The Horseshoe. Huge amounts of litter on the footpath from A237. 8 bags collected in 90 minutes.



Quickly the volunteer group grew to seven and a litter pick tool, placed on New Year's Eve. We collected over 25 bags of litter along Winkworth Road and the woods at Winkworth corner. Car parts and other large items were removed from the wooded area behind the golf course.



4 weeks clearing Holly Lane. 80 bags of litter taking 44 man hours to collect.



We now have 12 volunteer litter pickers in a group that meets every Monday morning for 2 hours.

To date we have collected over 250 bags of rubbish.



Banstead Village in Bloom MegaClean

Please come along and support our Banstead MegaClean on Saturday 22nd June. We need your help to remove that litter, wash down those street signs and make our lovely village sparkle prior to the judging of Banstead Village in Bloom.

Bags, litter pickers, gloves and hi-viz vests will all be provided. We look forward to seeing you there! Volunteers will meet at 9.30am in the Banstead Community Hall car park, in Park Road.




Saturday 22nd June 2019
Banstead Community Hall car park
Park Road, Banstead

- Overgrown local footpaths have been cleared by a similar team of volunteers.
- 6 families signed up for 'adopt a road' scheme.
- In addition, we have repainted all the benches in the High Street and the Churchyard (excluding those in the Banjo Area which are to be treated when the rest of the work there is undertaken).



31. BVIB Residential Homes Project (BVIB Lead Diana Beck)

- Explore setting up gardening clubs/planting workshops for all residential/care or independent living homes in Banstead. All Homes contacted would like to take this idea forward.
- Rosebery Manor: Club /activity 1 hour a month during summer and autumn 2018- 1 volunteer.
- Autumn Bulb planting activity undertaken in Five residential homes reaching 27 residents and a further 6 residents on decorating their cache pots.
- Greenacres (5), Roseberry (6), Bolters Lane (10), Anchor Homes 12 Residents 2 volunteers each location: mixed ability.
- A new Care Home – Banstead Manor is due to open in May – they have sponsored one of the new wheelbarrows.
- Sunrise home is developing a sensory garden which they intend to be opened to the public.
- Bolters Lane have a sensory garden.
- All participants enjoyed the activity and the Homes asked for further contribution in the summer 2019 (on hold due to bereavement).



Conclusions

- a) Some of the hands-on work pressures on individual BVIB Executive Committee members has been reduced by the regular use of our new volunteer teams who undertake work. The pressures on these individuals has subtly moved to that of leadership, organisation and logistical support for the volunteer teams, although it is still necessary for executive members to regularly get their hands dirty.
- b) Whilst not all volunteer hours are recorded, we can say with certainty that over 2,450 volunteer hours have been expended on this year's entry.
- c) Austerity continues – money remains tight, especially with R&BC and Surrey CC. This has resulted in the need for BVIB to assume responsibilities for work previously undertaken by R&BC and Surrey CC and to work in closer partnership with them.
- d) Our fund raising has been very successful having raised a total of over £3,400 with our annual quiz night and our newly introduced music evening.
- e) Sponsorship has also been expanded having successfully raised over £1,600 for projects; and we have secured the continued support of Centro in the development of the High Street floral display outside Tesco.
- f) Specsavers Banstead, another very generous supporter has indicated that they would like to be our official sponsor from the autumn, helping us with fundraising together with general assistance and support. In particular they would like to encourage children and families to get inspired by offering free plants. This is a suggestion we can take forward and develop for next year.
- g) Use of social media, Facebook page created (185 followers) and regularly updated to promote the work we are doing and to encourage more volunteers to come forward. Two village fayres attended, a stand at both to show BVIB's work. BVIB took part in the May fayre parade, 23 people took part. Fund-raising events, supplemented by information boards and banners will continue, in order to maintain and improve our profile within our community.
- h) The wearing of our personalised hi-viz jackets whenever we are engaged in outdoor activities has raised our profile considerably and resulted in both increased funding and support for our work.

APPENDIX A

Banstead Village in Bloom Summer Planting Guide 2019

Purple, White and Lime

| Plant choices: check growth habit and ultimate size for suitability in your container | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| | White | Purple | Lime |
| A | Cosmos Nigella African Bride | Nemesia | |
| B | Pelargonium Petunia Osteospermum Euphorbia Hypericifolia | Osteospermum Petunia Verbena Pansy, Viola | Petunia, Nicotiana Helychrysum (leaves) Lysimachia (leaves) |
| G | Stipa Tenuissima | Pennisetum Purple Baron | Briza maxima Carex morrowii |
| P | Artemesia and silver plants | Purple Sage (foliage), Campanula, Heuchera, Penstemon | Heuchera Golden Sage (leaves) |
| S | Variegated evergreens | Lavender, Hebe, Buddliea (small cultivar) | Ivies |

A = annual, B = summer bedding, G = grasses, P = hardy perennials, S = shrubs

The lovely thing about planting for just one or two seasons, is that you can create impact in a small space and then change it. This need not just rely on expensive summer bedding plants but can be drawn from a versatile range of plants perhaps already in your garden. This guide suggests some easy plants in the colour range, and then offers an approach to selection for use in containers/baskets. It is not essential to use all of the colours equally, or all of the colours at all. Look up on line for listed plants you don't know.

A few guidelines to choosing your plants: Go safe or go wild!

- Any one of these colours could be 'dominant' with the other two in support
- Purple is less visible in the evening than white, so think about your time of day
- Use one colour in different shades: eg purple/lavender/lilac/maroon, white/cream/very pale 'white' pastels, lime/yellow green/variegated or yellow leaves
- Foliage, particularly greens can add colour impact as much as flower, bulbs too
- Vary mono-schemes with texture: rough/smooth, hairy/silky
- Extend the season with perennials, evergreens or structural plants (check size)
- If it the scheme is just too tame for you, then add **one** bright zingy colour for contrast eg orange, red, blue, yellow but keep the background in the key colours
- These are colours to be used in the High Street. A strict colour use creates impact as all examples add up together. Being distinctive is also allowed!

APPENDIX B

Raised Brick Bed Banstead High Street/Sutton Lane Renovation and Planting Proposal

Location: Raised brick bed, set in grass on north side of High Street at junction with Sutton Lane alongside roundabout.

Existing planting: Tired, over pruned shrubs lack distinction and character.

- In New Year R&B Greenspaces team have agreed to remove all plants except the osmanthus edging, enrich and level the soil ready for new planting

Structure: Brick built (intact but repointing needed).

- Perimeter coping 20cm coping edge (some missing) In need of local repair
- Approx planting dimensions: (Internal) 18m by 2m at each end: bowed front edge extend to 3½m in centre

Aspect: Bias south west to north east: mainly south aspect at front, north at back.

Soil: R&B enrichment, humous at planting.

Visual focus and impact: Full sunlit landscape view from Park Lane and corner of Cheyne Court. Pedestrian pathway on shady side behind.

Renovation plan: See proposed plan at Appendix C below.

Features:

- Year-round interest and wildlife benefits: woodland ambience
- Consideration of landscape views from Park Lane, and for pedestrians passing behind on the paths.
- Will be fronted by sponsored wheelbarrows containing bedding
- Bedding only in early years
- Long term self-sufficiency with minimum maintenance/watering requirements once established
- 1/3 to 1/2 evergreen content

Watering:

- Incorporation of humous rich material on planting
- Minimised by thick bark mulch in spring and autumn
- Frequent watering (Council) will be required when establishing (years one and two)
- Planting should be self-sufficient in normal seasons once established
- Annual bark mulch

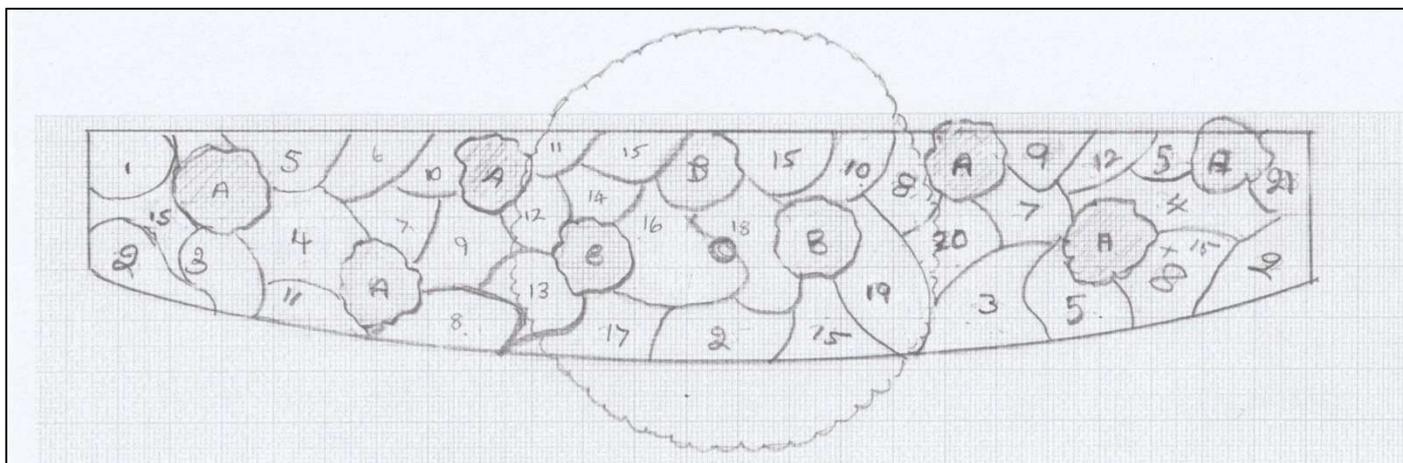
Pruning:

- Trees and shrubs will need formative pruning in the early years in spring and summer
- Thereafter in dormancy

Weeding: Kept to a minimum by bark mulch, and ground cover plants. Feeding annually in spring to encourage new growth and flowering.

| Tree | | | |
|---|--|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Centre | Malus Indian Magic: Spring Deep pink flowers, Autumn tan foliage, copper apples (berry size) | | 13-15 feet height and spread |
| Shrubs | | | |
| Key | | Stock held | |
| A | Hydrangea Madam Emile Mouillere | | Winter structure |
| B | Euphorbia Caracias | | |
| 2 | Cotoneaster Horizontalis | | |
| 15 | Osmanthus | Reuse from site | |
| 16 | Skimmia | | |
| HP | | | |
| 1. | Euphorbia Robbiae | Stock | |
| 3 | Geranium Macrorrhizum 'Ingwersons Variety' Geranium Biokovo | DB divisions | |
| 4 | Stipa Tenuissima | | |
| 6 | Kniphofia Timothy | Stock | |
| 10 | Hemerocallis 'So lovely' | | |
| 11 | Heuchera Lime marmalade | DB divisions | |
| 12 | Bergenia Bressingham Beauty | Stock | Evergreen |
| 13 | Alchemilla Mollis | Stock | |
| 14 | Hosta (Various) | DB | |
| 18 | Helleborus Corsicus x4 Helleborus Lividus x1 | stock | Evergreen |
| 19 | Asta Novae-belgii Kristina | | |
| 20 | Phormium Cream Wave | DB | Evergreen |
| 21 | Festuca Glauca | Stock | Evergreen |
| Annuals/ biennials/short lived perennials | | | |
| 5 | Verbena Rigida/Verbena Bonariensis | | |
| 7 | Digitalis Albiflora | | |
| 8 | Nicotiana Lime Green | | |
| 9 | Cosmos Purity | | |
| Infill/alternative plants | | | |
| | Campanula Portenschlagiana Nigella Damscena Double white or African Bride Lavandula 'Hidcote' Astilbe | Seed DM | |
| Bulbs (Spring planting 2019) | | | |
| | Galanthus- spring planting in the green | DB in the green | |
| | Cyclamen Hederifolium | DB | |
| Bulbs (Autumn planting 2019) | | | |
| | Early Narcissi | | |
| | Tulips early and late | | |
| | Alliums | | |

APPENDIX C



APPENDIX D

Raised bed renovation: Proposed Plants

Strict colour: Green, white and purple flowers: red berries and autumn colour

Some plants have been changed due to supply difficulty.



| Number | Name | Feature/care | Size & asp | Season of interest *=July | Colour | Illustration |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Tree | | | | | | |
| 3 | Malus 'Wedding Bouquet' | Formative prune when young Long lasting fruit in winter Trad form Wildlife friendly | ½ stand 4-5 m Height 15 m apart | Spring Autumn | White red berries foliage colour |  |
| Shrubs | | | | | | |
| | Leycesteria Formosa | Cut early spring | 6' x6' Woodland N facing Wildlife friendly | Summer Autumn Winter | White flowers/Purple bracts Purple berries green stems |  |
| Already in situ To be re located | Osmanthus Heterophyllus 'Variegatus' | To be left in bed (slow growing) | 8' (or trim) N facing Sun/part shade | Evergreen | Variegated White inconspicuous but scented |  |
| | Viburnum opulus 'Compacta' | For landscape Wildlife friendly | 6x6' | Spring Autumn | White flowers red foliage Red berries (lasting) |  |

| Shrubs cont'd | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|----------|---|--|--|
| | Cotoneaster (variegated) | Structure/ texture Wildlife friendly Wall edge feature | 5 x 8' | Spring Autumn | Pink flowers red foliage red berries |  |
| Autumn planting | Hydrangea Madam Emile Moulliere | | 5 x 3' | Summer Autumn/winter | White flowers Flowers fade/remain on shrub |  |
| Being grown at home | Fuchsia Delta Sarah | | 3' | Summer Autumn | White/Lilac |  |
| Autumn planting | 'Kew Green' (male) Skimmia japonica Kew white (female) | | 2' | Winter March to May Evergreen | Green Flowers White berries |   |
| Autumn planting | Rosa rugosa Alba | Cheap bare root | 5 x 5 | Summer Autumn | White Flowers Red hips. |   |
| Hardy perennials | | | | | | |
| | Helleborus Corsica | Sun Wildlife friendly Sap caution | 18" x18" | Winter Spring Evergreen | Green Flowers Long lasting |  |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| | Heuchera Lime marmalade Plant with geranium | Shade | 4- 18" | Summer | White flowers |  | |
| Home grown | Alchemilla Mollis Plant with geranium | Sun Interesting foliage Deadhead Aug | 2' x 2'6 | Summer | Green Flowers |  | |
| Various Euphorbis planted | Euphorbia characias Wulfenii | Deadhead Aug Structure Texture | 4' x4' | Spring Summer Evergreen | Green Flowers Green Flowers |  | |
| Home grown | Hostas (various) <i>Question: may we use wildlife /child friendly slug granules?</i> | Underplant with snowdrops Structure | various | summer | White/purple Texture/structure |  | |
| | | Campanula portenschlagiana | 6" x 2-3' | | |  | |
| | Plant with alchemilla and Heuchera | Geranium x magnificum deciduous | 2' | Early summer Autumn | Purple flowers Red leaves |  | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| Some home grown | Creates movement Interplant with Stipa | Verbena bonarienses | 3'-4' | Summer | Purple |  |
| Grass | Creating movement Interplant with verbena Spring tidy | Stipa tenuissima | 12-24 " | Summer>autumn Evergreen | White |  |
| Annuals and Biennials | | | | | | |
| From seed in summer? | Biennial | Digitalis | 5' x 2' | June/July | purple |  |
| From seed in summer? | Biennial | Lunaria annua Biennial Sun/part sh | 3' x 1'6 | Spring Autumn | Purple or white White seed heads |   |
| Replaced with Gaura (perennial and Malva) | Hardy Annual | Cosmos bipinnatus Purity | 3' x 2' | Summer | White flowers |  |
| From Wallington Nurseries | Half Hardy annual | Nicotiana | 2 x 2 | Summer | Limelight |  |
| | Hardy annual | Nigella damascene double white Or African bride | 2' x 1' 2' x 1' | Summer autumn | White Flower Green/purple Seed heads |   |