



Part of RHS **BRITAIN IN BLOOM**



Heart of England in Bloom Newsletter September 2022

Greetings

I hope you have had a good Summer. We certainly enjoyed going round judging again this year and appreciated the challenges of the incredibly dry weather. We noticed the efforts made to plant more sustainably and to encourage wildlife and pollinators. It would be good to hear more about any particular projects you have started to support these efforts. Please share your experiences.

We are getting ready for the two awards events, the first, at Harvest Fields Centre, Sutton Coldfield is on 15 September for Bloom groups and the second one is at the Tally Ho Centre, Edgbaston, Birmingham on 22 September. They are always very happy affairs and we look forward to seeing you there.

Carol

doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com



What has been going on across our Heart of England region?

This month we offer a selection. Whether you are a Neighbourhood or a Bloom group, send in your photos of this Summer. It was such a treat to be 'back to normal' again and I'm sure everyone would love to see more pictures.



**Bicton Heath Severn Hospice
Shrewsbury**

Leominster



Ledbury



This is clearly **Cookley In Bloom** - a small village near Kidderminster. But what are we looking at? We see a lovely roadside floral planter crowned by what appears to be a hot air balloon - and there are flowers and hot air balloons throughout the village. You do have to ask 'why?' don't you?

The answer was a local resident, Dominic Bareford, who is, would you believe, a World Champion hot air balloonist! And Cookley in Bloom really celebrated that.



How do you get to be a World Champion hot air balloonist? Is it about how far you travel? Is it about how high you fly?

Answer- neither of these.

It's all about navigation skills. You have to aim your air balloon (how?) to a fixed point where you drop your identification marker as near to the target as you can.

So now we know (and so do you). No wonder Cookley wanted to celebrate.

David Pritchard

Caldmore Community Garden, Walsall

At Caldmore, there is a fantastic composting system - it helps to have a former science teacher as a volunteer. There are bins for every stage of the process and these beautiful signs instruct people in what to do with different materials.



3



Dunchurch, near Rugby

Not everyone can have a thatched bus stop but in Dunchurch it must be a lovely place to sit while waiting for the bus.



- and it's not always about planting. Dunchurch had a particular way of celebrating the Jubilee.

Please send in more of your photos. People love to see what others have done.

