

24th January, 2014

Dear Sponsor,

Firstly the In Bloom group would like to thank you for sponsoring a tub during 2013. The effect of the floral enhancement during the last few years in Kirkbymoorside goes from strength to strength and we thank you for your part in that.

The year ahead is a special one in many ways and we would wish to reflect something of that in our floral displays this year. It will be 100 years since the outbreak of the First World War; that defining moment in history that changed lives and social structures for ever. The In Bloom group hope to make our War Memorial and War graves part of the focus of our thoughts on sacrifice and peace.

It will also be the 50 Year Anniversary of the inception of "Yorkshire In Bloom" and we hope to celebrate this in our colour schemes incorporating the theme "Growing for Gold". The In Bloom group in Kirkbymoorside will also be marking a 10 Year Anniversary this year. We would like to think that the changes the group have brought to the quality of life in the town should be a cause for celebration and recognition.

Yet again we faced challenges with the weather this past year. The adverse conditions earlier in the year resulted in the Spring judging round of the Yorkshire in Bloom competition being cancelled for the first time in its' history. Summer Judging did go ahead and we were delighted to receive the high accolade of Silver Gilt Award. We also received a Special Commendation for our work within the community: the judges commenting on the high standard and impact we have with such a relatively small group of volunteers.

Taking on the planting of the hanging baskets ourselves this year generated very positive comments; "the best yet" we were told! Our very popular Open Gardens Event was another landmark success. This year we are scheduling the same event for Sunday, 27th July. Do make a note in your diary! We will also be running our usual cake stalls and coffee mornings and dishing up goodies at the 10KRun. Our first Cookery Book proved to be a first rate publication; an enormous thank you to so many of the businesses who contributed to the great success of that! We suspect that the fruits of this venture are being tasted across the country.

