## Rawdon in Bloom achieve success

## Rawdon in Bloom - Judges comments - Gold

Overall Impression: It is evident from meeting the core members of the RIB group that they are very passionate about their village, and their passion and obvious enthusiasm shows in the results that their hard work around the village has produced. It is obvious that the group are constantly working to improve the overall look of the area, and the newly created Layton rockery as you enter from Horsforth into the village is a very pleasant sight. Their ethos of self-sufficiency and recycling are to be commended. With over 85% of the bedding plants seen around the village being grown by RIB members. The recycling of wood from the village, and skills provided from local residents to create signs and planters made an impressive addition to Rawdon. Trinity Church, the Garden of Remembrance, the lovely Crowtree planters along with the very well-kept Victory Garden Allotments were very pleasant stops on our tour. The ninetynine white iceberg roses planted at the Littlemoor memorial stone and gardens was a place of peace and reflection for the local villagers. A number of the local businesses were seen to be supporting RIB



with the very lovely planters outside their properties. All in all – a lovely village to visit. Judges feedback on areas for consideration.

Because of the building work being carried out at the local Primary school the judges did not get a chance to see the work carried out at 'The Hive'. It would have been nice to have seen evidence of bird houses, bug hotels possibly being placed in this area.

In addition to the above the Vice Chairman of Rawdon in Bloom Phil Gomersall, was awarded 'Community Champion' award, presented to 'individuals who have gone above and beyond to make their community gardening projects a success', by the RHS Yorkshire In Bloom, under their Discretionary Yorkshire Rose Awards.

Whilst Phil is very honoured by this award, he would like to stress that the success of the projects in Rawdon is and has been due to a dedicated team effort.

Phil Gomersall, Vice Chairman, Rawdon in Bloom.