



Catterall in Bloom 2018
‘The Garden Village’

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Turning grey to green at the War Memorial, Catterall 2018

Catterall Garden Village

Catterall people have always been hard working and industrious. They are also keen gardeners and proud of their heritage! Catterall in Bloom embraces the ethos that-

'People who work together, grow together'

Catterall is a large village located on the A6 between Preston and Lancaster, with Blackpool to the West and the Bleasdale fells to the East. In the early 17th century, drovers herded their animals through Catterall on their journey north, stopping at the Inn on Joe Lane dated 1606.

Catterall lies along the southern bank of the rivers Calder and Wyre. Water from the River Calder was vital to the early development of industry in Catterall. It was used to power printing and worsted mills. Examples of the block printed muslin and calico dated 1792 are held at the V & A museum in London. Leather boots and wooden clogs were made here, but today the main industry is dairy farming. The largest industrial employers are the Franklaw Water Treatment Works and Collinson plc who manufacture agricultural and industrial buildings.

Catterall in Bloom has helped transform the village by the addition of a community garden, wildflower meadows and sustainable permanent planting features. We have developed a strong identity as a Garden Village and feel proud of the successes achieved in Regional competitions.

- 2015 North West in Bloom- Silver Award
- 2016 North West in Bloom- Silver Gilt Award
- 2017 North West in Bloom- Silver Gilt Award

Following feedback from the RHS judges, the Bloom team has been reorganised in 2018, so that every member has a specific area of interest and responsibility. We are an independent group with a constitution and a bank account linked with Catterall Parish Council. We are building on our previous success and enhancing areas of the village which were previously neglected. Our aim is to maintain a **'Garden Village'** for the benefit of residents, visitors and wildlife.



Horticultural Achievement 2018

The Bloom team has worked together, planning and designing for 2018, looking at innovation in different village areas, incorporating appropriate use of plants in different places, for good colour, texture and sustainability, including pollinating plants. Special features are the Farm Cart, Cow Byre and Petrol Pump. The Stone Cross Community Garden has a range of vegetables, salads, fruit and herbs. The stone bench is surrounded by nectar rich, fragrant and colourful plants. The inclusion of pollinating plants is at the core of our planning.

Autumn into Spring

In autumn 2017, we planted 'Kingsman' red tulips at the Peace Garden and a mixture of daffodils and narcissi in the Catterall Cart. Wildflower areas were mown and the cuttings removed. For the community garden at Stone Cross, we ensured that the plants we bought were nectar rich and sustainable for all year round interest.

Spring and Summer 2018

We planted the third malus 'Everest' in the community garden at Stone Cross. Evergreen trees were planted at the Village hall entrance, with one being grown for future use as the village Christmas tree. The Queen's trees, planted in 2017 are thriving in Keeper's Wood and new grassy paths made for walkers through the wildflower meadows. Hundreds of bedding plants were used for raised beds and planters, with many insect friendly plants grown from seed. We like to mix bedding plants with nectar rich flowers in our planting scheme to support wildlife in our garden village.



Our Village is Growing! 2017-2018

September	Bloom team planning meeting
October	Spring bulbs ordered and planted
November	RHS North West in Bloom results at Southport
December	Bloom Christmas Dinner at Auction Eats Catterall Playing Field plans for new Community Garden
January	Catterall in Bloom team review of RHS judges' comments
February	Front gardens competition sponsors confirmed Plans for tree planting/ Bird nesting boxes in village with Countryside Ranger Bedding plants ordered for RAF centenary raised bed display
March	Catterall in Bloom sponsors approached for funding Catterall Gardening Club begins new season Wyre in Bloom meeting Civic Centre, Poulton (3 in total for 2018)
April	Bloom meetings at Stone Cross Gardens 7pm – The Wednesday Weeders! Catterall in Bloom planning meeting and social event Lancashire Highways Officer approval for new 'Welcome to Catterall' signs
May	Catterall in Bloom leaflets delivered Stone Cross Garden – perennials, salads and vegetable planting New - Malus Everest planted at Stone Cross Gardens Cloughton WI support the Bloom team
June	Planters and bedding plants scheduled for delivery New for 2018 – Cow Byre planter for Duckworth Cottage Bridge Catterall's water bowser 'Big Bertha' ready for use Residents informed regarding RHS judges visit on 19.07.18 Village Litter Pick event
July	RHS Wyre in Bloom judges visit Bill Blackledge and Jim Leak

Community in Bloom

The Stone Cross Garden, created in 2015, is an example of community gardening at its very best. Catterall Parish Council instigated this work which is tended to by the residents of Stone Cross Gardens as well as the Bloom team, who meet here every Wednesday evening. Local children help by planting vegetables, weeding and watering. The stone seating was funded by the Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative. It provides a meeting place in an area of calm enjoyment. The most recent addition to the garden is a third crab apple tree. We have had other donations too, such as two compost bins, a bird table and a small wooden hen house which has been converted into an insect shelter and is home to frogs!



This is where the Bloom team's **Wednesday Weeders** meet every week, posting updates and photographs on the **Catterall in Bloom Facebook** social web page. Wyre Borough Council support us by their yearly funding, providing security and enabling us to plan for sustainability in our new projects such as the purchasing of vegetable plants and new trees for Stone Cross Garden 2018.

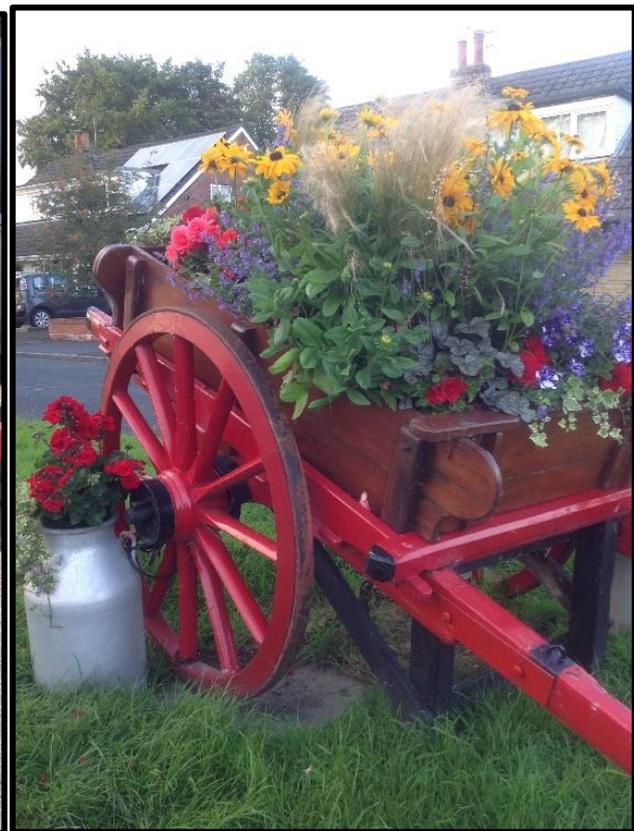
Business areas and premises 2018

Our local businesses take pride in their properties. Sturzaker House Farm has beehives and a garden full of pollinating plants, and a visit to Lodge Park shows how well a business can encourage wonderful planting areas. In 2018, the Cow Byre feature at Duckworth Cottage Bridge, funded by local businesses is our new addition, continuing the farming theme. The logo 'Catterall in Bloom' featured on every planter and also the printing on our Hi Viz vests were donated by a local business. Collinson PLC has donated a 'Welcome to Catterall' sign which is to be placed at the village entrance later this summer. A local blacksmith, Austin Walmsley, has also created a new village sign, depicting farming life in the area.

Numerous funding sponsors ensure that the village is supported financially and provide security for the future of Catterall in Bloom.



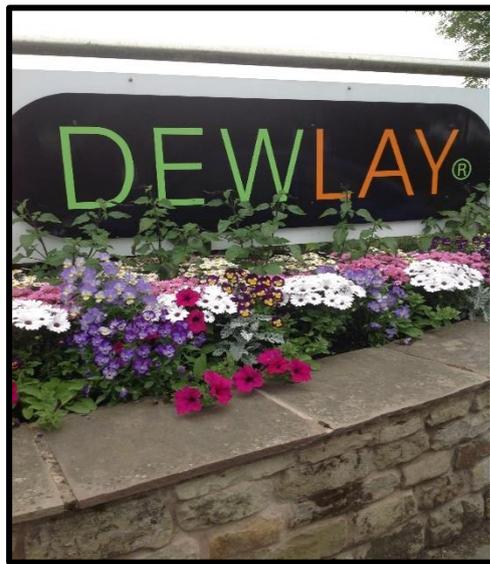
February 2016



The Catterall Cart

July 2017

In the Spring of 2016 Catterall Parish Council and the Catterall in Bloom team worked together to acquire and renovate an old farm cart which has become a floral feature at the heart of the village. Many businesses and individuals in the area donated funding, materials, time and effort to complete this permanent feature.



'Big Bertha' – Catterall's Water bowser using recycled items

Many gardening items which the gardening team use have been renovated using recycled or donated pieces of equipment and the one we are most proud of is the Water bowser, designed and built by a Bloom team member. The innovative Water bowser, complete with solar panel and flashing light, has been in frequent use during the summer months. It also provides an ideal opportunity for advertising and recognising local businesses who have supported Catterall in Bloom.

The Bloom team has considered ways of recycling and conserving resources this year and decided to use rainwater collected in water barrels for the watering of planters and crops at the community garden. Mulch has also been applied to retain moisture on flower beds and community raised beds. Stones Lane Neighbourhood has also started a swap and share

scheme where a dilapidated garden shed was swapped for new wooden storage shelving; spare plants were swapped for fresh eggs; farm manure shared out between neighbours!

Recycling is a strength and is done at many levels. We recycle plant pots at the village hall or use newspaper to make our own pots. We make good use of the local Community Recycling Centre where there is a Re-Use shop. We recycle chipped wood, use old Christmas trees to prevent erosion on the banks of the River Calder and water use rainwater. Sustainability is key to our planting scheme and many plants are donated or grown from seed.

Environmental Responsibility

The grass verges, playing fields and open public spaces are kept in good order by our Parish Lengthsman, as well as the Wyre Borough Council team. Catterall is fortunate to be surrounded by beautiful green spaces and open countryside. There are many circular walks in the village and this particular renovated path down Stones Lane, towards the river Calder and the canal is popular all year round. We value and respect these wildlife havens and continue to plant wildflowers in the village.



We are proud of our local heritage and ensure that features such as the unique Catterall milestone, dated 1750 and the old Farm Cart are well maintained. Local writer J G Waite has provided a book entitled ' **A ramble round Catterall and district** ' which shows the diverse history of our village.

Catterall Gardening Club



Catterall Gardening Club guest speaker Tim Smith from Lytham

The new Gardening Club was initiated in January 2015 as a result of the liaison with Catterall in Bloom. This small and friendly Gardening Club meets on the third Tuesday of the month at Catterall Village Hall and is attended by many Bloom team members.

Many members of this club bring along items such as home grown produce for sale at the monthly meetings- plants, eggs, or ceramic pots. Funds from the raffle and plant sales go to the gardening club, and we are grateful to them for purchasing a new floral planter for the Bloom effort last year and supported the purchase of a tree in their name.

Catterall Parish Council has been generous in funding the Bloom effort again in 2018 and we are grateful for the continued support of the Parish clerk and the Parish Council officers which has been exceptional.

Community Participation 2018

The RHS 'Greener Streets – Better Lives' campaign has been the inspiration for our work in Catterall as we work with the community, relying on local support for new projects such as the Cow Byre planter and extending the Neighbourhood in Bloom scheme.

Amberol helped and advised regarding the best product for us and the self watering, recycled material half barrels were delivered and planted in June. Annual funding from local businesses has provided regular financial security, and donations of materials, such as woodworm treatment, paint and brushes for the renovation of the Farm cart were most welcome! This year we had tree support posts donated by Garstang Timber.

Using a mixture of annuals and plants from the RHS good pollinating online list a local Plant Nursery advised us on the best plants for the Cow Byre cart.

The Wyre in Bloom leaflets were delivered throughout the village and an article for the local Catterall Crier was published, encouraging people to take part in the Hampers Competition for either the most colourful front garden or the most wildlife friendly front garden. Hampers were donated by Dewlay Cheese and Booths Supermarket.



Tim Hoyles creating Wildflower meadows. Competition winner for most wildlife friendly front garden 2018.

Children in Bloom 2018



Cloughton St Mary's Primary School



Catterall 1st Brownies

Catterall in Bloom has worked with local Primary Schools, running a Gardening Club. This link has helped foster the love of gardening in the young in the village. Children in the village are always eager to help with weeding, planting and watering! Catterall 1st Brownies grew Pea shoots, donated by The Mammoth Onion, sown in individual recycled newspaper pots and each given a mini watering bottle. The Brownies decorated wooden bird nesting boxes donated by Catterall in Bloom, ready for the Countryside Ranger to position in the village.

Shaping Your Neighbourhood Award and Future Plans and Hopes

Planning for the future includes applying for grants and awards and funding is available for innovative and creative projects that will address the local needs and that demonstrate the project will make a difference to local people and communities.

Catterall in Bloom applied for and received funding in June 2015 for a Peace Garden to be created at the entrance to Catterall Village Hall. The planting is to complement the Remembrance Gate dedicated to the soldiers of Catterall who gave their lives for peace during the 1914 – 1918 World War. Work began in the winter of 2015 and bare rooted Field Maples were planted in a row, alongside perennials and evergreen shrubs. The Peace Garden has been improved by the addition of new seating and bulb planting in 2018.

Catterall Parish Council is planning great improvements to the Queen Elizabeth Park, having already installed the new play area which was officially opened by Ben Wallace MP in April, 2017. The play area is the first phase in an ambitious development plan which is to include a community garden and raised beds for all to share. In 2018, the Parish Council is providing further new facilities at the playing field – seating areas, a fitness trail, a play area for younger children and more trees and shrubs.

As Catterall continues to expand, and new housing developments appear, it is important that the green areas at the heart of the village continue to be looked after and cared for. We hope to encourage by example, adding colourful planting, wildflower areas which are sustainable and attractive to wildlife and show that we take pride in our village. Catterall in Bloom continues to do the best we can to support these innovative and creative ideas to develop our Garden Village.

Thank you!



Community Support 2018

We are grateful to the following for their valued support of Catterall in Bloom:

Austin Walmsley Blacksmith

Barton Grange Garden Centre

Braircliffe Nurseries

Brockholes Arms Auction Market

Carrs Billington

Catterall Gardening Club and Jan Finch

Catterall Parish Council and Gillian Benson, Parish Clerk

Claughton Service Centre

Collinson PLC

CPS

DCL

Garstang Timber- Hadlane Fisher

Gerry Dagger

John Singleton at G – bed

Leach's Ltd.

Marcus Worthington Ltd.

Michael Ward

Oakenclough Buildings

Printmob, Luke Pollard

Rockform

Tim Hoyles – Parish Lengthsman

W. Robinson's Seeds

Wyre in Bloom team, Jo Sharp

Catterall Parish Council and Wyre Borough Council have been generous in funding the Bloom effort again in 2018 and we are grateful for their continued support.

Thank you to the Bloom volunteers who work ceaselessly to make Catterall a better place.