

SPIOTA Chairman's Report 2016/2017

It is with great pride that I report that SPIOTA has had another good year and continues to thrive.

We have planted and maintained 130 tubs, 2 roundabouts, the Library bed, Manor House Wall, Cenotaph, Memorial Garden, the Mill Wheel Site and the Ziggurat and have had lovely floral displays for most of the year.

My grateful thanks go to a dedicated committee, wonderful group of volunteers affectionately known as the Thursday gang, all those who help with watering or supply water and all those who sponsor us.

It is amazing to report that we have added to our list of volunteers and on one occasion this year there were 18 of us!

We managed to plant the outer ring of the roundabout with pansies in the Spring and geraniums in the Summer thanks to added sponsorship from the town council and local businesses. Thanks to Fred Lee the said businesses have agreed to make it an annual donation.

The ziggurat was planted in red, white and blue this Summer to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Snow drops from the local community were again planted on West Green and I'm hoping for a really good display in the years to come. Bulbs received from Strikes and the "Purple for Polio" Rotary crocuses were planted on the grass near the showfield and along the river bank from the Memorial Garden to the garage.

Thanks to members of the Thursday gang led by Caroline the piece of rough land at Angel Court has been transformed.

What a difference it has made. The locals are most appreciative.

I must report that although we were highly praised by the assessors for the Queen's Award for Community Service we were not successful in gaining the award.

In conclusion may I repeat my thanks to all who help in whatever capacity and to Derek for making sure that Stokesley and the surrounding area know we exist. You all do an amazing job and our community appreciates it.

Linda Purnell chairman