

South Ribble Garden Competition 2020 Final Results

Category - Garden Club Member

No entries.

Category - NHS, Care and Key workers

Class - Front – Insufficient entries and class declared void

Class - Rear – Winner **Gill Holt** of Leyland who presented a tiny garden packed with imagination and skill. It included a lady cave, significantly raised beds lifting the garden up to facilitate viewing (and tending) small plants, dining and seating areas with heater and a putting course on the artificial grass paths. The garden was built around a perfectly clipped favourite plant, a bay tree, received as a present 26 years ago and 3 of its offspring who are at different stages of growth, tree ferns and a wide selection of mature plants and topiary provide interest in depth and the feeling of entering a fairy grotto with lots of delightful experiences.

Class – Vegetable – no entries

Category - Rotarian

Class – Front – no entries

Class - Rear – Winner **Ed Carson** of Penwortham with a newly built summer house and seating area complementing a delightful curved wall and full border to show off the garden.

Class – Vegetable – Winner **Richard and Carole Lea** of Much Hoole with a newly established generous area boasting a full menu of well grown crops including small orchard plantings of fruit and a wilderness area in development.

Category – Other

Class - Front – Winner **Joseph Scahill** of Penwortham with a wonderful coordinated display of hanging baskets, stands and beds bursting with colour. So many different levels of garden are created by these stands and baskets. The marvellous centrepiece in the lawn is created with baskets and pouches. Lots of thought has gone into making the garden attractive and Joseph makes all the stands and hangers himself to get it just right.

- Runner up – **Geoff Wilkinson** of Penwortham

Class – Side/Rear – Winner - **Trudy Scarisbrick** of Leyland. Also overall competition winner. A description of her entry follows later.

- Runner up – **Linda Taylor** of Whitestake

Class – Vegetable – Winner – **John Wareing** of Penwortham who has an allotment and greenhouse bursting with a full range of well grown produce and, when he takes the crops off, his partner Anne slips in and plants flowers!

Feature Prizes

These are awarded across all categories and classes and the winners are listed below (in random order) for exceptional features.

Ed Carson of Penwortham - for his beautiful planted troughs.

Jill and Dave Pye of Whitestake – for their robinia lace lady specimen plant.

Eileen and David Lawrie of Leyland – for a garden beneficial to wildlife.

Linda Taylor of Whitestake – for an exceptional cottage garden.

Debra Ditchfield of Penwortham – for numerous varied pots with imaginative planting.

Jacqueline Wilson of Penwortham – for a fantasy garden.

Elizabeth Rowlandson of Penwortham – for a plants-woman's garden.

Sheila Thorpe of Sablesbury – for her passionflower.

Anne Edmundson of Walton le Dale – for her hanging baskets.

Rosemary Whiteside of Walton le Dale – for her hanging baskets and specimen trees.

Barbara Hinchcliffe of Penwortham – for her water feature.

Overall Competition Winner - Trudy Scarisbrick

Judge Dave Toft – a retired landscape architect – wrote:

“WOW! What a surprise this was – the marvellous and imaginative use of a small space with fish pond, man-cave, cactus house, log store and the star of the show exotic planting including *Gunnera manicata*, New Zealand tree ferns and a banana. Lovely forms and textures of luxuriant green. Totally unexpected and off the wall planting brilliantly executed”.

The standard of entry was very high and, in addition to the 18 winners, 26 certificates of Commendation were awarded for gardens of a high standard.

Prizes of garden nursery vouchers for £25 per winner of each class within each category have been presented and the overall winner has generously been invited to take tea for two by The Mill Cafe at St Catherine's Hospice and given a bottle of Prosecco to aid the celebration. Feature winners have each been given a £10 garden nursery voucher."

The judges want to thank all the entrants for their hard work and for making their task truly difficult! And my personal thank you to the Judges, Tony Stevens and Dave Toft, for their professional help and diligence in making this event possible.

Will all gardeners please, please support our sponsors who helped at a time when many businesses were desperately concerned about their future. And nurseries/garden centres worried about their stocks of plants. Our sponsors were - in random order:

Embley's Nurseries Liverpool Road, Much Hoole. PR4 4RL <http://embleysnurseries.co.uk/>

Blundell's Hardware and Garden Supplies Liverpool Road, Longton. PR4 5AB

Newgate Nurseries Newgate Lane, Whitestake, PR4 4JU <https://newgatedirect.co.uk/>

Humph Johnson, Hon Secretary to the South Ribble Garden Competition 2020, the Rotary Club of South Ribble and now confirmed to be an inadequate gardener but trying.