

### 13. GARDEN PRIDE AWARDS

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Board on the outcome of this years awards and to inform the Board, as requested, on efforts to improve street frontage gardens in the area.

#### STREET AND GARDEN AWARDS

Board members will be aware that this scheme pre-dates the amalgamation of Christchurch Councils in 1989/1990 and is administered by a joint committee comprised of representatives of the Christchurch City Council and the Christchurch Beautifying Association (CBA), namely the Christchurch Street and Garden Awards Committee (formerly the Christchurch Street Competition Committee). This Committee has been in existence for over 40 years.

The aim of the awards scheme is to foster community pride and encourage residents in maintaining attractive gardens, street frontages, footpath berms and other efforts to enhance their street, and neighbourhood together with the city's garden image.

Awards are issued for the best street and best cul-de-sac in each of the six Community Board areas. Awards are also issued for the city's premier long street, premier short street and premier cul-de-sac, (selected from the six Community Board areas winners) and for the most attractive garden among the premier streets and the most attractive three or more adjoining street frontages and for the most attractive gardens (all as viewed from the street) in each of the city's "Gateways", namely Memorial Avenue, Main North Road, Main South Road, Yaldhurst Road and (for the first time this year), Ferry Road.

It is important to note that in contrast to the traditional garden competitions, residents do not enter their street garden.

Judging and selection of streets and gardens is advertised in advance through the local media, judging then being undertaken by experienced members of the Canterbury Beautifying Association during January and February. Funding to cover advertising, administration and vehicle running expenses, is provided each year by the Christchurch City Council.

#### COMMUNITY PRIDE GARDEN AWARDS

The Community Pride Garden Award Scheme is a Council initiative to acknowledge the contribution made to the Garden City image of Christchurch by many private residential properties. Gardens are selected for these awards as part of the street competition, which is a partnership between the Christchurch City Council and the Christchurch Beautifying Association. The assessments are undertaken during the months of December and February and are based upon a non pointed criteria as outlined below:

1. Evidence of effort or improvements made to the garden and its effect on the street.
2. Overall tidiness of the property/garden and evidence of community pride.
3. Horticultural/landscape impact of the garden on the street.

The owners of gardens selected are presented with a certificate which acknowledges the effort and contribution made by residents to maintaining the Garden City image of Christchurch. This award scheme is sponsored by the Community Boards.

#### 2001 RESULTS – CHRISTCHURCH STREET AND GARDEN AWARDS

Premier long street	Lancewood Drive	Wigram
Premier short street	Waygreen Avenue	Burwood
Premier cul-de-sac	Tavistock Place	Waimairi

#### Hagley/Ferrymead Street Awards

1. Staffa Street
2. Park Terrace
3. Wakatu Avenue

#### Cul-de-sac

1. Kestrel Place

2. Brigid Place
3. Teal Close

#### **2001 RESULTS – COMMUNITY PRIDE GARDEN AWARDS**

This year, 71 certificates were awarded in the Hagley Ward and 155 in Ferrymead. All of the certificates have been posted with an appropriate covering letter to recipients apart from those which were delivered by Board members.

#### **ELDERLY PERSONS HOUSING AND COMMERCIAL AWARDS**

Due to the Parks and Waterways restructuring early this year, the judging was later than usual, but the quality of the gardens was not greatly affected because of the continuing fine weather. Forty eight gardens in the Council's housing complexes were judged as worthy of receiving awards, with fourteen commercial gardens reaching the required standard. As is the normal practice, an afternoon tea will be arranged at a time suitable to the elderly gardeners and Board members at which the certificates will be presented. Members will be advised.

In an endeavour to lift the quality and numbers of commercial properties installing and maintaining gardens in front of their premises, the Board supported an advertising campaign in certain areas of their wards this year. Early in February, pamphlets were delivered in the Ferry Road and Sydenham areas, and in the vicinity of the Arts Centre.

This was a very limited coverage and neither the Christchurch Beautifying Association nor the Parks and Waterways Area Advocate noticed any specific benefits resulting from this coverage. If the Board wishes to pursue this type of promotion, it is recommended that this be done by personal contact with the business managers. This would have to be contracted outside the Council and the Christchurch Beautifying Association may be interested in doing this, although they have indicated that their current members are fully committed at that time of the year.

#### **REVIEW OF THE PROCESS**

Concern has been expressed at the time taken to complete the process from judging to the completion of certificates and distribution of these. A review of the process has been conducted and for the future a six week time frame will be achieved.

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.

#### **Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** For discussion