

16. STREET AND GARDEN AWARDS AND COMPETITIONS

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Board on the outcome of this year's awards and to inform the Board, as requested, on garden award schemes in Burwood/Pegasus.

INTRODUCTION

There are various garden award schemes and competitions in Christchurch:

- Street and Garden Awards.
- Community Pride Garden Awards.
- Various competitions run by the Canterbury Horticultural Society, Christchurch Beautifying Association and many garden clubs in the City.

STREET AND GARDEN AWARDS

Board members will be aware that this scheme pre-dates the amalgamation of Christchurch Councils in 1989/90 and is administered by a joint committee comprised of representatives of the Christchurch City Council and the Christchurch Beautifying Association, 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 garden and street frontages, footpath berms and other efforts to enhance their street and neighbourhood and the city's garden image.

The Committee's role, which now embraces both the original Street Competition and the most recent Community Pride Garden Awards scheme, is to establish and monitor policy including budgets, promotion, award categories, liaison with the Council, service authorities and the like and acknowledgment of residents' efforts.

Awards are issued for the best street and best cul-de-sac in each of the six Community Board areas (first, second and third place). 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 area winners) and for the most attractive garden among the premier streets, 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 (see below) residents do not enter their street or garden.

Judging and selection of streets and gardens is advertised in advance through the local news media, judging then being undertaken by experienced members of the Beautifying Association during January and early February.

Funding to cover advertising, administration and vehicle running expenses etc 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 on a non-pointed criteria as outlined below:

- Evidence of effort or improvements made to garden and effect on street.
- Overall tidiness of property/garden and evidence of community pride.
- Horticultural/landscape impact of garden on street.

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

COMPETITIONS

It is evident from periodic enquiry and comment that there is some confusion in the community about the various garden competitions held in Christchurch and the role, if any, of the City Council with these.

Garden competitions are conducted by a number of organisations, including the Canterbury Horticultural Society (CHS), Christchurch Beautifying Association (CBA) and other similar groups. With each of these, garden owners are invited to enter their gardens in the appropriate class, either by telephone or entry form and gardens are then judged by panels of judges with points being allocated to set criteria.

The City Council has no involvement with the running of any of these competitions.

The CHS run their spring (October) and summer (February) garden competitions for all home gardeners as well as institutional and commercial properties and community gardens. In total, for summer, they judge in 12 classes and award 18 special prizes. For spring, nine trophies/shields are awarded. The whole garden is judged. In addition to these competitions, the CHS manage the Award of Excellence for outstanding gardens in Canterbury and the Native Gardens Award, the latter as a joint venture with the Council. The CBA run their competitions on similar lines with the difference being that the judging is done on the criteria of "as viewed from the street".

As well as the above City-wide competitions, various garden and horticultural clubs in the City hold competitions in their area. In the Board's area, only the New Brighton Horticultural Society holds competitions. They have various categories and have sections for different abilities. They have a summer competition only and make every effort to encourage residents to participate. Their area is approximately from the Spit, north to Parklands and west to Bassett-Avondale-Breezes Roads.

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
Most attractive garden:	11 Tavistock Place	
Group of three or more frontages:	11 to 27 Ben Nevis Drive	

Burwood/Pegasus Street Awards:

1. Avonside Drive
2. Anglesea Avenue
3. Waygreen Avenue

Cul-de-sac:

1. Oregon Place
2. Scoular Place
3. Belair Place

2001 RESULTS - COMMUNITY PRIDE GARDEN AWARDS

This year, 30 certificates were awarded in the Pegasus Ward and 47 in Burwood. These certificates have historically been made available to Community Board members to deliver. This year's certificates will be available for distribution by Board members in June. Certificates not uplifted by Board members will be posted with an appropriate covering letter.

Chairperson's

- Recommendations:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That the criteria for Street and Gardens Awards and Community Pride Garden Awards be set for the Burwood/Pegasus area to recognise the difficulty in establishing gardens in the harsh coastal environment and to encourage sustainable plantings.