

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

CELEBRATING GODALMING'S SUCCESS IN THE SOUTH & SOUTH-EAST IN BLOOM AWARDS 2025

Godalming Town Council is proud to celebrate another year of success in the **South & South-East in Bloom Awards**, recognising the hard work and dedication of its staff, volunteers, and community partners in making Godalming a greener, more beautiful town.

The South & South-East in Bloom initiative honours communities across the south and south-east of England – including Kent, Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire for their efforts to enhance local environments through gardening, sustainability and community action.

This year, Eashing Cemetery was once again crowned the overall category winner in the Large Cemetery sector—the second time in five years that this site has achieved top honours. Nightingale Cemetery also holds an impressive record, having previously won the overall award in the Small Cemetery category. Together, these achievements reflect the consistent quality, respect, and care with which Godalming's burial grounds are maintained.

The Council was also delighted to see the **Youth Service Garden** achieve a **first-time category win**, a testament to the creativity and commitment of young people and staff involved in its development and maintenance.

In addition, congratulations were extended to the **Farncombe Station Gardening Group**, whose dedicated volunteers continue to transform the station area into a welcoming, vibrant, and biodiverse green space enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.

Town Councillors formally recorded their **thanks to the Council's Grounds & Facilities Team** for their ongoing hard work and professionalism. Councillors noted that Godalming Town Council competes in a region that includes many much larger authorities with significantly greater resources.

These awards not only recognise aesthetic excellence but also highlight the **environmental and biodiversity benefits** of the Council's approach to grounds management. Through pollinator-friendly planting, habitat creation, and sustainable maintenance practices, Godalming Town Council continues to lead by example in promoting ecological wellbeing and environmental stewardship within the community.

Images: Godalming Town Mayor and Consort, Cllr Bob and Mrs Veronica Crooks, pictured with Holly – Godalming Town Council Grounds Maintenance team
Farncombe Station Award
Jane, Godalming Youth Service

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