

THE Elswickian

NEWSLETTER OF ELSWICK PARISH COUNCIL November 2012

Blooming Elswick

Last month at the North West in Bloom Awards Ceremony in Southport Elswick received the top **GOLD AWARD** for the third year running and was judged the **Champion Village in the North West of England**.

This is the first time that we have won the top prize and the North West Committee was so impressed with the village that we have been nominated to represent the North West of England in the National Finals next year.

Our thanks must once again go to Andrew Atkinson for his sterling work in looking after the flower displays and keeping the village so clean and tidy and to the Elswick in Bloom volunteers.

Being chosen to represent the North West in the National Final is a huge honour for Elswick and we will be competing against six or seven villages from other regions of the UK for the coveted Champion Village in Britain title.

To win the competition **WE WILL NEED YOUR HELP**. Contrary to popular belief the Britain in Bloom competition is not simply about flowers. Equal marks are awarded by the judges for Community Participation, Conservation, Heritage and Horticultural displays. The competition is judged on our efforts over 12 months and so we will be planning events throughout the next year including bulb planting, litter picking, painting of street furniture etc, etc. If you wish to help in anyway **please phone Paul Hayhurst on 670931 or Beryl Smith on 670689**.

Whether you can spare ten minutes or ten hours your help will be greatly appreciated and will not only improve our village but could also help to gain national recognition for Elswick. Your ideas are as important to us as physical efforts so please let us know what you think we need to do to improve our village and win this prestigious award. People in Elswick have many talents so let us gather them together to put Elswick on the map.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 25th November – We will be manning a Britain in Bloom display at the Artisans Market between 9-00am and 1-00pm in the village hall. Come along and learn more about the competition and our plans for next year.

Sundays 26th November and 2nd December – We will be planting 2000 bluebell bulbs and natural primroses in the Avenue of Trees from 1-00pm each day. Please grab a spade and come and give us a hand.