

SUMMERSDALE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

It's Your Neighbourhood

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The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), It's Your Neighbourhood (IYN), scheme seeks to capture the enormous power of the volunteers - people who are committed to their community giving their time to maintain and enhance their neighbourhood environment.

Following its AGM in February – when Councillor Richard Plowman outlined Chichester City's entry into the Britain in Bloom competition - the **SRA agreed to make an entry into the RHS It's Your Neighbourhood**. Ray Carter kindly offered to co-ordinate residents' efforts and activities.

The RHS campaign aims to support communities who wish to improve their quality of life through gardening. IYN is a non competitive scheme for groups who want to “green up” their areas. There is plenty of **existing evidence that Summersdale has been in the forefront of neighbourhood environmental action:**

- **Residents operate as Litter Pickers** - some in their immediate vicinity others over much larger areas. This is probably the most important single activity we can all contribute to.
- **Pathways and kerbsides are swept by residents**, particularly in the Autumn, to clear slippery leaves and assist collection by the Highways Authority.
- **Grassed roadside verges are increasingly being tended by householders** unhappy with the service provided in difficult economic times by WSCC.
- We applaud the efforts made by the Local Authority to retain Summersdale's tree lined roadways, and also thank the local tree wardens and individual residents who **weed and water newly planted trees**.

The **residents of the Broadway have already shown the way** to the rest of Summersdale. Congratulations to all those who organised and funded the **replanting of trees** along the length of the road. The early blossom on these saplings already rewards the efforts of those who have invested for the future pleasure of residents. We must all guard these vulnerable assets from attack as they mature and take the responsibility to report anti-social behaviour.

The SRA Committee has **enhanced the green space** at the junction of Highland Road and the Broadway* by the **planting of a group of trees**.

- A variety of **spring bulbs**, which do much to enhance the area in the springtime have been, and are being, **planted by groups and individuals**; note the striking display at the entrance to Marchwood this year.

The CDC **agreed to create a border** on the green space* to enable IYN Summersdale Residents to make a **planting of wild flowers**. Planting was on Sunday, 22 April - (see photos)



What else can you do?

A walk through Summersdale illuminates the pride and horticultural expertise with which residents **tend their front gardens**. The IYN would encourage individual efforts to use a bit of diplomatic neighbourly TLC to promote the care of those front gardens which have fallen into neglect.

*If anyone is interested in supporting the IYN Scheme, please contact **Ray Carter** (details above)*