

WALES IN BLOOM 2007

GWENT CREMATORIUM



Judge's Comments

An absolutely wonderful effort demonstrated by the very committed Head Gardener! Every aspect of the crematorium grounds offered something completely different. I was extremely conscious that the gardens had been designed to create a spiritual and mystical atmosphere. Walking around the peaceful and tranquil gardens certainly left me feeling as if I was on a spiritual journey through Heaven – very well designed! I was pleased to have seen that small pocket areas had been created with seating, which allowed those who mourn an opportunity for privacy.

I was extremely impressed to see that the Head gardener had made a conscious effort to be totally environmentally friendly, avoiding the use of chemicals, encouraging companion planting, maximising the use of different grades of recycled organic matter, throughout the whole of the garden, as soil conditioner/mulch to suppress weeds. I was also very pleased to see how the Head Gardener had engaged with some of the local nature societies, particularly with the RSPB, in order to learn how to encourage and accommodate more wildlife into the gardens – excellent!

A wonderful feature of interest, which I believe deserves a special mention, has to be the wonderful floral tribute viewing area. This area has been created with a natural theme, which incorporates the use of a variety of ferns, and some wonderful *Dickensonia Antartica* specimens.

Well Done! A well-deserved 1st place – keep up the good work.

Jennie Judd, Judge