



# BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025



Brixham In Bloom couldn't happen without support from:



**BRIXHAM**  
TOWN COUNCIL





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**BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025**

## Brixham

Brixham is a charming fishing town located on the southern coast of Devon, within the English Riviera alongside Torquay and Paignton. Renowned for its colourful harbour and long-standing maritime heritage, Brixham remains one of the UK's busiest fishing ports. The harbour, lined with traditional cottages and seafood restaurants, is central to the town's character and still supports a thriving fishing industry. Visitors can explore the historic replica of Sir Francis Drake's Golden Hind, enjoy fresh seafood, or join a tour of the bustling fish market.

The surrounding coastline offers stunning views and excellent walking opportunities, particularly along the South West Coast Path and at Berry Head National Nature Reserve. Brixham's beaches, such as Breakwater Beach and Shoalstone Beach with its open-air seawater pool, are popular in warmer months. The town also hosts lively events, including the Brixham Pirate Festival, celebrating its colourful past. With its relaxed atmosphere, rich history, and natural beauty, Brixham offers a more traditional and authentic Devon seaside experience than its busier neighbours.







# BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

## Brixham In Bloom

Brixham in Bloom is a dedicated team of eight volunteers, including committee members, an IT specialist, and a graphic designer. We also work closely with a much larger network of local residents who generously give their time to help make Brixham a beautiful and welcoming place to live and visit. Our role in the town is to serve as an umbrella organisation for all local gardening groups, fostering connections, offering support, and sharing our collective passion for gardens.

Brixham in Bloom collaborates closely with the “*In Your Neighbourhood*” entrants, local businesses, and other organisations to promote the physical health and mental well-being benefits of gardens and outdoor spaces for people of all ages and abilities. We advance this message through community talks, social media outreach, and by encouraging inclusive participation in all our activities.

[Find Out  
More](#)





# BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

## Brixham In Bloom

Our own gardening competition, Love Your Brixham Garden (LYBG), is now in its fifth year and continues to grow in popularity. Open to all residents of Brixham, it welcomes entries ranging from single hanging baskets and small private gardens to large gardens, allotments, and vegetable plots; ensuring there is a category for every enthusiastic gardener. Separate categories are also available for businesses, including pubs, cafés, care homes, and guest houses, making it truly inclusive for the entire community.

Judging takes place over the summer, with artists and experienced gardeners reviewing the entries. In October, we host a grand celebration evening for all participants to come together and enjoy the sense of friendship and community that flourishes around a shared love of gardening. This year, we are delighted to welcome our local MP, Caroline Voaden, who will help present the awards.







# BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

## Brixham In Bloom

### Achievements this year:

- SILVER GILT IN PORTMAN CUP
- INCREASED NUMBER OF IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD ENTRIES TO 11
- UPDATED WEBSITE AND WIDER SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE
- PROFESSIONALLY DESIGNED MARKETING MATERIAL
- TOWN COUNCIL GRANT
- LARGER ENTRY NUMBERS OF LOVE YOUR BRIXHAM GARDEN ENTRANTS WITH NEW ONLINE ENTRY FORM
- REACH OUT FOR COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS
- FIRST PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER
- MORE PUBLIC TALKS TO LOCAL GROUPS THAN PREVIOUS YEARS
- BONSEY ROSE GARDEN REJUVENATION

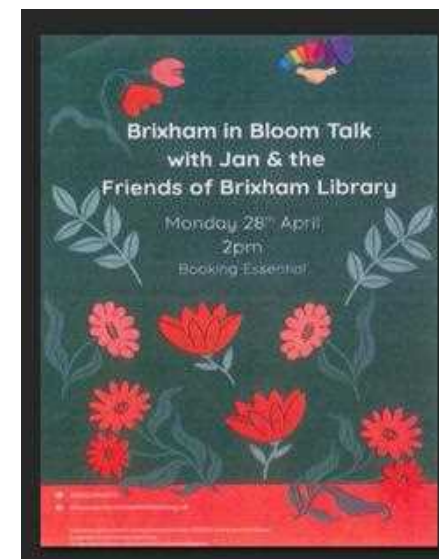


### Plans for the coming year:

- INCREASE THE NUMBER OF BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL LEISURE/ TOURISM ENTRIES INTO RHS SOUTH WEST IN BLOOM
- FUND RAISING THROUGH MERCHANDISING
- DEVELOP WEBSITE TO ENCOURAGE ADVERTISING
- ENCOURAGE MORE LOVE YOUR BRIXHAM GARDEN ENTRANTS THROUGH MORE AWARENESS
- INVOLVEMENT WITH 'THE BATON OF HOPE'

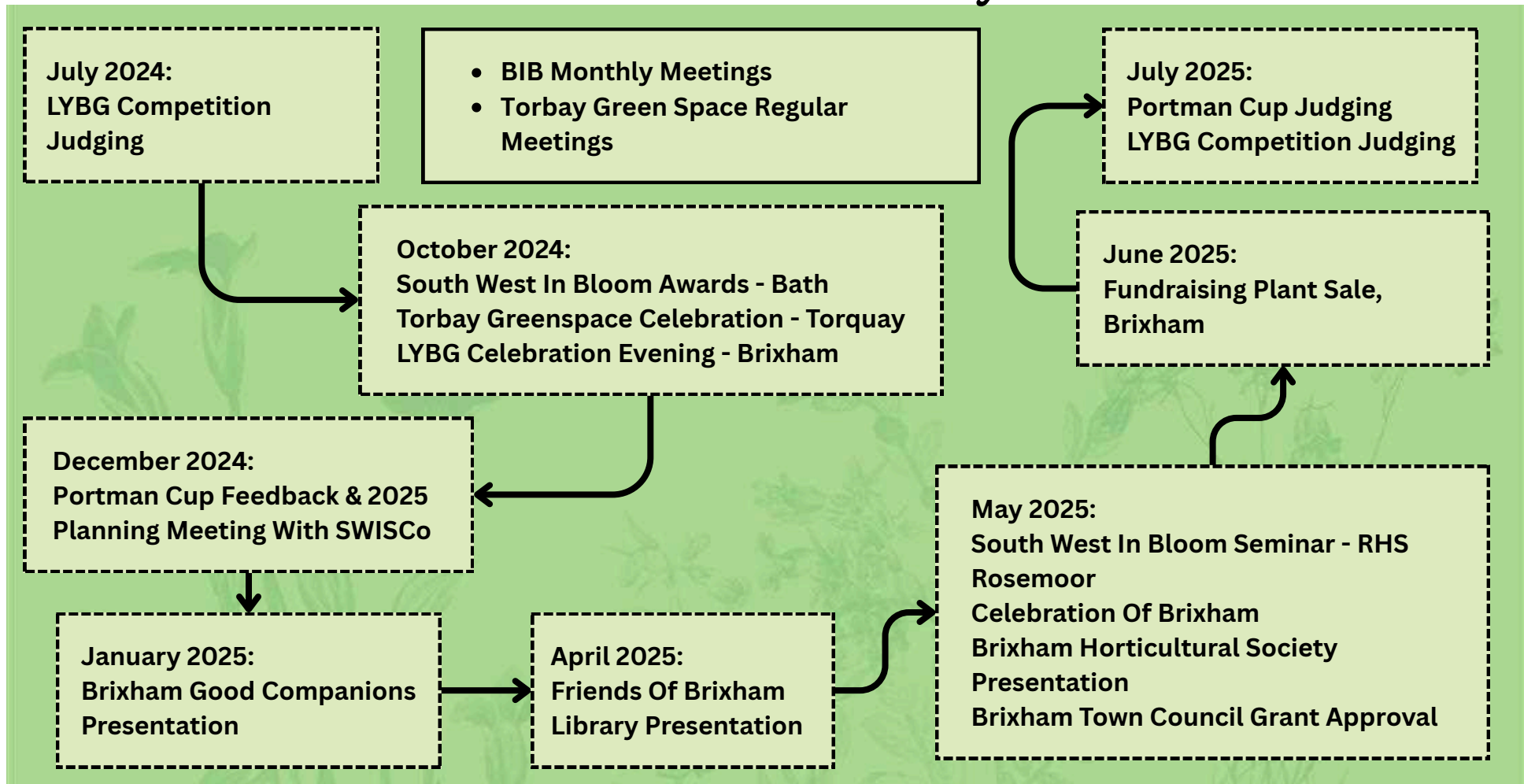
### Local Volunteer Group Partners:

- BRIXHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
- BRIXHAM GOOD COMPANIONS
- HEALTHY MINDS TORBAY
- FRIENDS OF BRIXHAM LIBRARY
- BRIXHAM CHILD MINDERS
- BRIXHAM FUTURES
- BRIXHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





## Brixham In Bloom - 2024/25 Diary





**BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025**



## Brixham In Bloom

The biggest project taken on this year has been the refurbishment of the Bonsey Rose Gardens. Many of the existing roses were past their best and reaching the end of their lives. Thanks to a generous benefactor, the main rose bed has been completely replanted by SWISCo, giving the whole garden a new lease of life.



Before



During



Newly Planted





**BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025**



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# Brixham In Bloom

After: The new roses are already looking good, May 2025





**BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025**



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# Life On The Edge Project

Life on the Edge is a 5-year heritage lottery funded project of the South Devon National Landscape, which aims to restore wildflower rich coastal grasslands along the South Devon coast to provide habitat for 30 rare and endangered invertebrates, as well as provide benefits for many more. In addition, we are also aiming to encourage people to get out and explore our amazing countryside and coast and to increase understanding of how important the area is as a beautiful landscape for people to live, work and play in.

[Find Out More](#)



## Wildlife Gardening in Brixham

A number of community organisations and individuals were already doing some wonderful work across the town to make our green spaces even better for insects and wildflowers, many of which were asking for support. We therefore decided to create a project umbrella that could include all of those smaller bits of work in an effort to multiply the impact.



The project began by printing a Brixham version of the Habitat Group's already-successful 'Gardening for Wildlife' booklet, and with the help of Brixham Community Partnership. The first 1000 free copies were distributed via community and local retail outlets across the town. This excellent booklet is a glossy reference guide packed with tips on how local residents can attract nature to their green spaces, whatever size they are.

Life on the Edge also offered two learning opportunities as part of the project, a walk on Berry Head with their conservation officer and a representative from Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust, and an insect surveying and recording session in the meadows up at Sharkham Point.



# BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

## RHS IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

### Friends Of Furzeham



In 2015, after the local council withdrew its funding, a community group called The Friends of Furzeham Green took over the care of three flower beds in the middle green area. Their dedication has kept the beds well-maintained, with volunteers regularly watering and weeding, especially on Sunday mornings. Although Swisco still maintain one of the beds, they also kindly help water an additional bed managed by the Friends when time allows.

[Find Out More](#)



### Brixham Library



As part of the charity Libraries Unlimited, Brixham Library aims to make a positive difference to people's lives by offering resources, experiences and a place to meet and connect. We aim to bring ideas, imagination, creativity and knowledge to enrich lives and help support Brixham in continuing to be a thriving community. Our Friends Group run monthly coffee mornings, fund and maintain a defibrillator for the use of all and also stock and maintain our beautiful flower boxes at the front of the building.

- We have held a "mini green fingers" event to decorate plant pots, make seed bombs, and plant flowers, vegetables and herbs.
- Introduced a hugely popular seed swap.
- Run regular free monthly community breakfasts to tackle social isolation.

[Find Out More](#)







# BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

# RHS IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

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## St. Marys Park Friends Group



St Mary's Park Friends Group in Brixham, Devon, is a dedicated community group committed to enhancing and preserving St Mary's Park, a cherished green space in Higher Brixham. The park features amenities such as tennis courts, a playground, football pitches, and a wildflower meadow, making it a popular spot for both recreation and relaxation. The friends group actively participates in maintaining the park's natural beauty and biodiversity, contributing to its status as a vibrant community hub.

- The Green Flag was awarded for a second year 24/25 and judging takes place for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year on 12th June 2025 for 25/26.
- Brixham Rotary again donated 1000 crocus bulbs and aided planting them in their efforts to promote the Purple for Polio campaign, making a bright entrance inside the park.

[Find Out More](#)



## Very Eager Growers



Based at Dixon's Land Allotment, locals residents have come together to form the Brixham V.E.G community growing group. An accurate acronym, these Very Eager Growers hit the muddy ground running transforming a 6m x 10m plot of oxalis and grass into a garden providing for people and nature.

- Collaborated with Brixham library and swapped seeds with them
- Collaborated with Life on the Edge to create a brochure called Wildlife Gardening in Brixham, to encourage people to do things in their own back gardens to encourage more wildlife.
- Very active whatsapp group of volunteers arranging who is going to weed, plant and water to keep it rotating well.
- Given away Rhubarb to people in the community.

[Find Out More](#)





# Brixham in Bloom 2025

## RHS IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

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### Middle Street Nature Garden



A little green oasis in the centre of the town. The garden incorporates materials and objects that are relevant to Brixham. The central planter is a boat that was repurposed by recycling, repairing, and repainting it. To maintain a nautical and environmentally themed atmosphere, shells are used as ground cover, while lobster pots, buoys, and fish netting contribute to the overall aesthetic. The project promotes wildlife conservation by planting bee-friendly flora and providing safe havens.

[Find Out  
More](#)



### Poundsgate Close



As well as looking stunning, the gardens at Poundsgate Close achieve so much more; creating a community hub that benefits all of the residents of the close. The health and social benefits of gardening are really at the heart of this garden. Some of the residents struggle to get out but can still benefit from looking at the gardens from their windows. The aim of the garden is to give pleasure to all the residents.

[Find Out  
More](#)





## BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

## RHS IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

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### Indigos Play and Ecology Centre



Indigos Play and Ecology Centre, is a vibrant community adventure playground nestled on a hillside in Brixham, Devon. Operated by the charity Play Torbay, it offers free, inclusive play sessions for children of all ages and abilities, featuring activities like den building, marshmallow toasting, and creative play with recycled materials.

- Continued to work collaboratively with a local Heritage project 'Life on the Edge' to help restore very endangered species.
- Deliver a weekly Forest School session for children who are home educated.
- Supported the Geopark Festival 2025 with a 'Let's Go Geo-Parking' day which attracted over 60 visitors.
- Created the Geopark Gateway that now provides a very special entrance to the woodland area.

[Find Out  
More](#)



### Moorings Reach



Moorings Reach, a housing complex built on the former site of Upham's Boat Yard, faced a challenge with two adjacent plots of land near its steps. In 2002, with council approval, two volunteers took over the plots and transformed them into unique gardens. To prevent vandalism, the management enclosed them with railings and lockable gates. One was developed into a carefully maintained cottage garden, while the other, known as the boat garden, evolved with various plantings, notably incorporating the original keel from the Pilgrim, gifted to and accepted by Rose Boyd. The gardens continue to evolve year on year.

[Find Out  
More](#)







## BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

## RHS IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

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### Pride In Brixham



Pride in Brixham was founded in 2006 to transform neglected areas around the harbour, which were plagued by rubbish and dog fouling. Around the harbour the group maintain several gardens including The Mayflower Garden, The Grenville Garden and The Bay View Garden. Volunteers meet, usually on Wednesday mornings, to care for Brixham's gardens. The appreciation from locals and visitors keeps them motivated, and new members are always welcome.

- Redevelopment of The Bay View Garden to continue.
- Continued upkeep of the gardens

[Find Out More](#)



### Shoalstone Pool



The outdoor swimming pool at Shoalstone dates back to 1896 and saw significant development in the early 1900s, evolving into the facility we know today. Originally operated by the local council, the pool was closed in 2012. In response, the Shoalstone Pool CIO was quickly established and has successfully managed the pool ever since. The team at Shoalstone organises a wide range of community events and activities, such as Wellbeing Days, Yoga sessions, Doggy Swims, Twilight Swims, Music events, and Creative Art days. The pool faces ongoing challenges including unpredictable weather, year-round cleaning and maintenance, the need for continuous fundraising, and the difficulty of recruiting qualified lifeguards.

- Created rewilding areas on our greenspaces to help wildlife.
- Continue to promote Shoalstone as a destination to visit

[Find Out More](#)





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**BRIXHAM  
TOWN COUNCIL**

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## Wishings Field

Wishing's Field exemplifies the power of community action in protecting and nurturing local green spaces. Through persistent advocacy and collaboration with local authorities, Brixham residents have transformed a once-threatened area into a preserved and accessible haven for public enjoyment. A restrictive covenant has been established to guarantee the land's continued use as a public open space.



In celebration of Brixham Rugby Club's 150th Anniversary, Brixham Town Council, in partnership with the club, planted 150 trees at Wishings Field as part of a year-long series of celebrations. Under bright, sunny skies, staff, councillors, volunteers from the Rugby Club, and students from Brixham Church of England Primary School gathered to plant a mix of native tree species. These trees were carefully selected to enhance local biodiversity, providing food and shelter for wildlife and creating a thriving habitat for years to come.







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**Torbay Coast &  
Countryside Trust**

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## Berry Head

Berry Head is a striking limestone headland on the southern edge of Brixham, Devon, forming part of the English Riviera Global Geopark. Designated as a National Nature Reserve, Special Area of Conservation, and Site of Special Scientific Interest, it is renowned for its dramatic cliffs, rich biodiversity, and historical significance. The headland is home to one of the largest guillemot colonies on England's south coast, as well as rare species like the greater horseshoe bat and cirr bunting. Its unique habitats support over 500 plant species, including several that are nationally rare. Visitors can enjoy panoramic views, coastal walks, and wildlife spotting, with facilities such as a visitor centre and the family-friendly Guardhouse Café enhancing the experience.







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**Torbay Coast &  
Countryside Trust**

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## The Grove

The Grove is a significant section of Churston Woods, a semi-ancient woodland nestled between Brixham and Paignton in Devon. Encompassing over 100 acres, this area forms part of the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is managed by the Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust.



In 2017, the woodland faced a significant challenge when many trees were infected and had to be felled. In response, the Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust, alongside local volunteers, undertook a substantial reforestation effort, planting nearly 5,000 native trees.

Seasonal highlights include a vibrant display of bluebells and wild garlic in spring, and a wonderful display of early purple orchids. The Grove's transformation underscores the community's commitment to preserving and enhancing this cherished natural space for future generations.





# BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

**the cove**  
discovery project



## The Sea Grass Project

At Fishcombe Cove and Breakwater Beach in Brixham, Torbay, a vital seagrass conservation initiative is underway under the Blue Meadows programme, led by the Ocean Conservation Trust, Wild Planet Trust, and with The Cove Discovery project team as partners. Alongside signage installed around six sites - including Fishcombe and Breakwater - the project has raised community awareness, reduced anchoring damage, and promoted volunteer-led seagrass surveys. These efforts reflect a holistic, community-centred strategy: implementing technical protection tools, monitoring health, and cultivating stewardship of this “rainforest of the sea.”

- Brixham Breakwater - 5.5 acres (2.75 football pitches)
- Fishcombe Cove - 2.2 acres (just over the size of a football pitch)

[Find Out  
More](#)





## Murals Project

The project aims to repurpose neglected urban spaces by transforming them into vibrant murals that reflect Brixham's rich cultural and maritime history. Artists, including local talents like Ellie Johnson (known as Mrs Murals), have created artworks depicting scenes such as fishermen at sea, historic sailing trawlers, and literary excerpts from poets like John Masefield and Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

These murals are strategically placed on walls, gable ends, and alleyways throughout the town, forming a walking trail that adds to Brixham's appeal for both residents and visitors.

### Latest Additions:







**BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025**

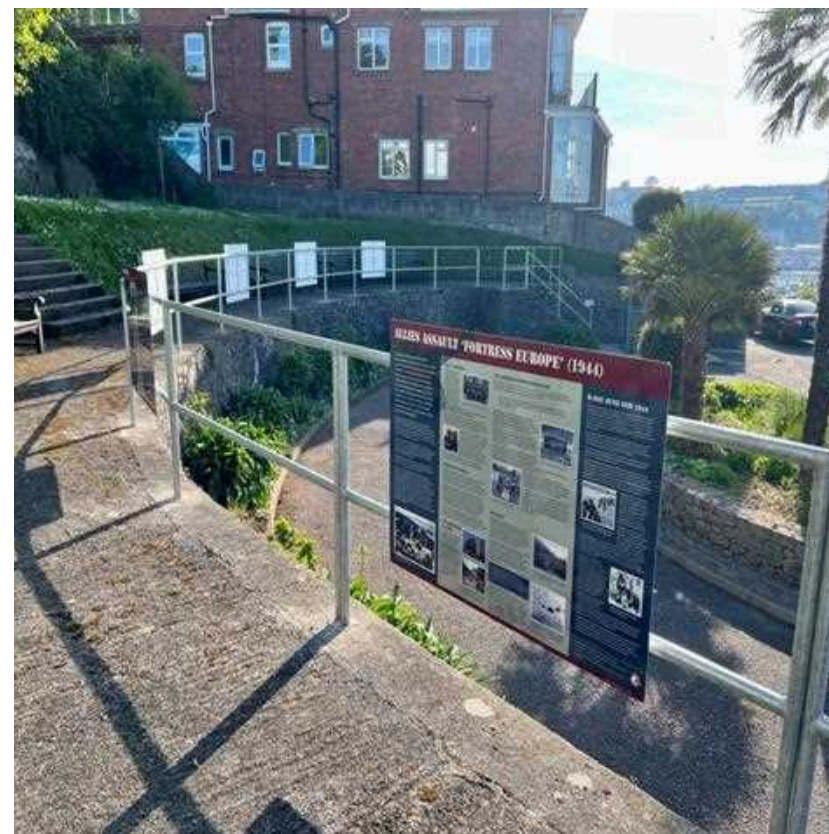


## Churchill Gardens

Historic site, located above Breakwater Beach where tanks unloaded and turned for embarkation below. Originally the site of two houses demolished in 1943 for D-Day, and subsequently purchased by local people as lasting memorial to Sir Winston Churchill and the fallen.

The text was researched and written by Brixham Future, and local people donated information, family stories and photographs.

The site was opened by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Nick Powe.





**BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025**

## The Gallery



Wildflower Meadow  
St. Mary's Park



Early Purple Orchid  
Berry Head



Shoalstone Pool



Crocus  
Furzeham Green



Oz-eye Daisy  
The Grove



Dunnock  
Battery Gardens



Broomrape  
Battery Gardens





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Daffodils  
Battery Gardens



Dog-tooth Violets  
Battery Gardens



Volunteer at Work  
Furzeham Green



Love-in-a-Mist Seedlings  
Middle Street Garden



Doggy Swim Day  
Shoalstone Pool



Red Valerian  
Oxen Cove



Welsh Poppies  
Battery Gardens



The Boat Bed  
Furzeham Green





## BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

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Poundsgate Close



Very Eager Growers



Friends Of Brixham Library



Peas For Bees  
Indigos



The Mayflower Garden  
Pride In Brixham



Yoga  
Shoalstone



Bug Hunting  
Indigos



## BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

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Alliums  
Furzeham Green



Poundsgate Close



Antirrhinum  
Middle Street Garden



Bee On Knapweed  
The Grove



Mini Green Fingers  
Friends Of Brixham Library



St. Mary's Park



Fund Raising  
Indigos - Forest School



Willow Workshop  
Very Eager Growers





## BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

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Shasta Daisies  
Middle Street Garden



Arum Lily  
Battery Gardens



Volunteers  
Pride In Brixham



Wild Rose  
The Grove



Greenhouse  
Very Eager Growers



Peas For Bees  
Indigos/Shoalstone



Red Campion  
The Grove



Primula  
Furzeham Green





## BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

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Wildflower Verges  
Shoalstone Pool



Crocus  
Furzeham Green



Very Eager Growers



Indigos



Summer Colour  
Furzeham Green



Mermaid and Swans  
Pride In Brixham



Brixham Library



Painted Shells  
for Middle Street



## BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025



Rewilding Team  
Shoalstone Pool



Dogwood  
Furzeham Green



Berry Head



Helebores  
Battery Gardens



African Daisies  
Oxen Cove



Mini Green Fingers  
Friends Of Brixham Library



Cyclamen  
Brixham Library





**BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025**

## Thanks and Acknowledgements

The Brixham In Bloom group would like to extend special thanks to all the people who have contributed in making Brixham look so beautiful again this year.

We would particularly like to thank the members of **Brixham Town Council** and **The Brixham Chamber of Commerce** for their support and encouragement throughout the year.

Additionally, we would like to acknowledge the following people and organisations that have contributed towards Brixham In Bloom in some form or other during this year:

- Torbay Council / SWISCo
- Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust
- Brixham Heritage Museum
- The Prince William
- Torbay Mini Buses
- The judges of the Love Your Brixham Garden competition
- Jan and Simon at Flour Flower
- Tom at Shooting The Dog
- Julie Williams Graphic Design
- Ralph at Furzeham Publishing
- All the groups who have put gardens together for the It's Your Neighbourhood contest.

**Most importantly - anybody else who we might have temporarily forgotten but has helped in some way to make this happen!**



And of course. all the wonderful residents and businesses of Brixham who enter the Love Your Brixham Garden competition every year.







# BRIXHAM IN BLOOM 2025

