

GOLDEN SUCCESS FOR CHERRY TREE NURSERY

Northbourne's Cherry Tree Nursery is celebrating the announcement that they have gained the Queen's Golden Jubilee Award for voluntary service by groups in the community.

Specialising in high quality perennial plants and shrubs, the nursery provides meaningful training, work experience and support for people with mental health problems. Its proven track record of reducing the level of hospital re-admissions for people involved in the project is in line with the Bournemouth Community Plan's Caring for People objective of improving public health and increasing personal independence. The project is supported and part funded by the Council.

The Queen's Golden Jubilee Award is billed as recognising outstanding achievement by groups who improve the quality of life and opportunity for individuals or groups. It comprises a certificate signed by The Queen and a commemorative piece of crystal providing a lasting legacy of the Golden Jubilee. The Lord Lieutenant of Dorset, Captain Michael Fulford-Dobson, and some of the nursery workers subsequently attended a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.

Cherry Tree, which is the trading name of the Sheltered Work Opportunities Project, can use the award title on letterheads and promotional material adding even more status to their already prestigious reputation. Commenting on the honour, Cherry Tree's Manager Jessica Davies said, "This is particularly rewarding for us as one of the award criteria is to have generated a high level of goodwill and respect amongst those it serves and the community as a whole."

As an independent charity the commercial trade nursery welcomes visits from members of the public and is currently looking for volunteers who can offer support in a practical or take the nursery's volunteer workers on the regular trips out that contribute so much to their independence and well-being. Cherry Tree are also looking for people who can help organise events like the Christmas Party or sell plants in the shop, at shows or at car boot sales. So if you have some time on your hands and skills you'd like to use please get in touch with the nursery by phoning 593537.

You can also take advantage of Cherry Tree's next reduced price plant sale on Friday 24 October between 8am and 3pm. Their regular opening hours are Monday-Friday 8.30am – 3.30pm plus 9.00am – 12 noon most Saturdays and you can find them off the New Road Roundabout at Northbourne.

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