



## Blooming Marvellous



Howard & Sue McGill – both long serving employees attended the North West in Bloom Awards on Friday 23rd October and were delighted to receive a Glass Trophy on behalf of Gibbon Bridge as joint 2009 winners for Best Large Hotel.

Robert Lowe, Howard McGill and Alan Bamber are the team of gardeners at The Gibbon Bridge who are responsible for the gardens

blooming success. This is not the first time they have received this award. The Team, headed by Rob and under Janet Simpsons visionary inspiration work hard to improve the environment and develop the gardens visual appearance each year. New planting & projects are carefully thought out each year to attract a variety of wildlife, birds, insects etc. Over the years the creation of six ponds are bound with newts, toads, frogs, and a variety of fish – carp, tench, chub etc. Rob Lowe has worked on the gardens from the early days and has seen the poor farmland transform over the years.

Since last winning the award new developments have included, amongst many others - a private al fresco dining area surrounded by newly landscaped lawns and gardens; a new central pond to create a perfect backdrop for weddings and 2010 will see the building of an Orangery and the introduction of our own bee hives to produce our own honey.

The Gibbon Bridge Hotel is privately owned by Janet Simpson and is surrounded by 23 acres of gardens. The hotel is one of few hotels to grow its own cut flowers, which are seen in abundance in fresh flower arrangements. Plus a variety of vegetables, fruit and herbs, which are included into daily restaurant menus. The hotel rightly takes great pride in their gardens and special Gardening Days are organised throughout the year where guests are taken on a tour of the gardens including the kitchen garden.

For further information contact Janet Simpson – Tel no 01995 61456

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