

Banbury Flower & Produce Show is proudly sponsored by Rosemarie Higham

Rosemarie was born in Banbury in 1942, daughter of Harold & Mary (nee. Humphris of Aynho). Flowers are in the family's blood, Mary was a keen gardener and Mary's uncle wrote several books on Aynho, was a expert Orchid grower and supplied Queen Mary at Buckingham Palace.

Rosemarie worked from an early age at the family's business, *Higham Solid Fuels*, in Calthorpe Street. Following her fathers ill health Rosemarie ran the business and in the 1980's opened her retail shop that many know as '*By The Fire*'. This was a much needed venture and supplied fires & fireplaces, etc to properties from small bungalows to Baronial mansions in the surrounding Shires. She has appeared in many televisions programmes relevant to the coal trade, including panorama

Over many years Rosemarie has been a great supporter and promoter of Banbury. Having entered *By the Fire* into the best kept business category of Banbury in Bloom she took home the first place trophy on many occasions. This progressed into sponsorship of the Banbury in Bloom Tallest Sunflower category, seen in the photo presenting awards.



Rosemarie has served on three Councils and delighted at having been Banbury Town Mayor. She was also chairman and president of the Chamber of Commerce. In Rosemarie's honour Ball Colegrave Seeds bred a Fuchsia named '*Rosemarie Higham*' of which stocks can be obtained throughout the country.

To Rosemarie's great delight a piece of land, adjacent to which was once the storage depot for coal from 1899, will be named **HIGHAM WAY**. This accolade would make her father and great grandfather very proud, and of course the rest of the Higham family.



Thank you to Rosemarie for her support of the Town and its Community Events