

EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM

Spring Newsletter 2015

2015 Bloom entries by category

Small Village: Elmton, Little Cawthorpe, Ranby, St Crispin, Wessington (Judges: Martin Hardy & Mel Henley)

Village: Habrough in Bloom, Lark Hill, Middleton by Wirksworth in Bloom (judges Chris Beal, Peter Benham)

Large Village: Barrow upon Humber, Burgh-le-Marsh, Caistor in Bloom, Little Eaton in Bloom, Market Bosworth (judges Chris Beal, Peter Benham)

Small Town: Alford Town, Bakewell, Blidworth, Bracebridge Heath Events Group, Crowland, Darley Dale, Draycott in Bloom, Holbeach in Bloom, Long Sutton, Messingham Village, Quorn, Uppingham in Bloom, Waddington Village, Winterton in Bloom (judges Richard Stephen, Diane Moore, Andy Boyton)

Town: Bourne, Clowne in Bloom, Earl Shilton in Bloom, Immingham in Bloom, Oakham (judges Doug Stacey, Simon Lucas)

Large Town: Belper, Boston, Buxton in Bloom, Gainsborough, Ilkeston, Long Eaton, Louth in Bloom, Market Harborough in Bloom, Newark, North Hykeham in Bloom, Sleaford, Spalding, Syston (judges Jo Tarrant, Jeff Bates)



From the Chairman...

Welcome to the spring update on our wonderful campaign, responsible for bringing colour, health and cheer to our region and all of us that live in it and visit!

A constant theme for several years now has been 'another record year for East Midlands in Bloom', and, strange to say, it is, again, another record year. 63 entries in the 'main' Bloom campaign and over 160 RHS It's Your Neighbourhood entrants means that Irene has been very busy getting information compiled and then disseminated to our judges, who will be in contact with you to agree visit dates very soon.

At time of writing this, we have not closed entries for Best School Garden, and the Children's Painting and Digital Photography, (the latter two have the closing date extended to **Friday, June 19th**) but I hope and expect that we will once again have excellent standards demonstrated by all of the young people involved 'In Bloom'.

Eight first-entry Bloom communities this year are Waddington (Lincolnshire), Quorn (Leicestershire), Clowne in Bloom (Derbyshire), North Hykeham in Bloom (Lincolnshire), Old Clee in Bloom (North-East Lincolnshire), Sutton-on-Sea Gardening Group (Lincolnshire), Mansfield BID Company Ltd (Nottinghamshire) and Beeston BID (Nottinghamshire). It is great



2015 Entries by category continued...

Newark, North Hykeham in Bloom, Sleaford, Spalding, Syston (judges Jo Tarrant, Jeff Bates)

Small City: Chesterfield, Grimsby, Loughborough in Bloom, Oadby & Wigston (judges Richard Welburn, John Simpson)

City: Mansfield, Northampton (judges John Simpson, Richard Welburn)

Large City: Nottingham (judges Richard Stephen, Richard Welburn)

Urban Community: Evington in Bloom, Littleover in Bloom, Old Clee in Bloom (judge Dave Bramwell)

Coastal: Cleethorpes, Mablethorpe, Skegness Partnership, Sutton-on-Sea Gardening Group (judge Dave Bramwell)

Business Improvement District: Beeston in Bloom, Mansfield BID Company Ltd, Melton BID in Bloom, Nottingham BID (judge Doug Stacey)

Number of IYN main areas at time of writing:

Derbyshire - 2

Leicester - 40

Lincolnshire - 5

Loughborough - 38

Newark - 2

North East Lincolnshire - 10

Nottingham - 58

Northamptonshire - 7

Others - 4

TOTAL 166 entries

to have you all and I hope you will find Bloom enjoyable, inspiring and fun.

We are also pleased to welcome back, after short breaks, Burghle-Marsh (Lincolnshire), Oakham (Rutland) and Skegness Partnership (Lincolnshire). I fully expect that those communities who have taken a break this year will soon be back, as once bitten by the Bloom bug, it is hard to escape!

Our dedicated team of judges and assessors has been reduced this year by health, work, retirement and family commitments, so for one or other of those reasons we will not be able to call on the services of Peter Fields, Jo Hull, Andy Chambers, Robin Allen, Richard Adams and Ian Cooke. I thank them all for their contribution over the years with EMiB, and know that we will continue to see several in their other roles with Bloom groups even though not able to judge with us. I hope also that Richard Adams will continue to be our 'Awards' photographer for the foreseeable future.

A special mention must go to Sharon Sutton, who is standing down from all Bloom commitments this year; she has been a valued member of the Management Committee for several years, and of course one of my co-vice Chairmen. I hope that, in due course, she will be able to re-join us.

Also standing down this year is Rupert Atkinson, Best School Garden lead judge and coordinator; he has been central to the development of this important part of our campaign. Enormous thanks go to Rupert for his contribution, and I know that he has set Graham Lamb, who is taking over the role, a high standard to maintain.

All of these departures mean that we will be very stretched to cover the increased entry in 2015, so a number of you in the main Bloom campaign will only receive a visit from a single judge this year, and we may also have to extend into a third week if it cannot be avoided. So, if anyone out there in the Bloom Community feels that they have the skills and aptitudes to join the Bloom judging and assessing team, please let Irene know so that we can bring you into the fold for 2016.

On the subject of which, I am very pleased to welcome Andy Boyton, Head Gardener at the EMiB Award-winning Festival Gardens at Springfields, Spalding, who is joining the Bloom judges this year. Also, we are pleased that Mel Henley has been able to re-join the team this year after returning from his 'sabbatical' in the South-East...

On the subject of welcomes, I am also delighted to confirm that Stewart Swinburn, Chairman of Immingham in Bloom, has accepted our invitation to become Vice President of East Midlands in Bloom. He is, as I'm sure many of you know, a committed and enthusiastic bloomer, and has already been out and about supporting and encouraging groups in his local area in

the North of our region.

We have six representatives in the National RHS Britain in Bloom campaign this year, and wish them all the best for their 'day in the sun' during the first fortnight of August. So best of fortune to Caistor, Cleethorpes, Grimsby, Market Bosworth (in the Champion of Champions Category), Melton BID and Uppingham. (On a personal note I hope that Uppingham indeed has a day in the sun, as it will be visited by Sue Wood and me for their judging in this, their first time in the Nationals...)

Our commercial supporters remain essential to our campaign, so can I thank Silver Sponsors Amberol, and Bronze Sponsors Dart Training, Taylors Bulbs, The Art Department, Barcham Trees and Naylor's Flower Bulbs for continued support. I also am pleased to welcome a new Silver Sponsor, Amethyst Horticulture, to the fold as sponsors of the three Town Categories.

The RHS It's Your Neighbourhood category has received excellent news earlier in May, with the Royal Horticultural Society committing to support the growth of IYN for at least the next three years (2015-2017). The RHS has also re-branded the Britain in Bloom campaign this year, and you can see the new logo displayed on this newsletter.



A word on our existing logo and it's history, before it disappears: It was carefully designed

via a joint effort of Larissa and Irene Bates with assistance by Snake Lane Design Ltd. The six 'petals' represent the six EMiB counties of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland. The four segments they have been divided into, represent the four seasons of the year that the 'Bloom' campaign is all about. The 'square' represents the east facing side, which as a region we are, and the golden orange colour represents the warmth and happiness that the Bloom campaign inspires. Just in case any of you thought it was a random design!

Trials of possible new judging criteria:

The judges for Bloom will as usual be using the marking sheets with which you are familiar; however, there are potential changes for 2016, so some of your judges may also trial the draft form that is being discussed as part of the Britain in Bloom Federation. This will not affect any of the judging of entrants in East Midlands in Bloom 2015, but will be able to advise us of the suitability of the new criteria. Once we have that information we will be asking for your views, as the participants in the campaign, before considering use of the new criteria in 2016.

Jeff Bates

Chairman, East Midlands in Bloom

2015 EMIB DIARY DATES

- Fri 15th May** **Closing date** for EMiB Special Award entries
(*Frank Constable Award, Best Pub/Hotel/Garden & Best Retail/Commercial Premises*).
- Fri 5th June** **Closing date** for EMiB Best School Garden Award entry forms
- Fri 19th June** **Closing date** for Children's Art Competition
and Children's Digital Photography Competition (note extended date)

Mon 6th – Fri 17th July* EMIb Judging Period

Wed 1st – Fri 31st July* EMIb It's Your Neighbourhood assessment period

* These dates may be extended if necessary, to run into August/September

Wed 16th Sept EMIb Awards Presentation* -

Rutland Water Golf Club, Manton Road, Edith Weston, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 8HB

**Representatives of all Bloom entries 2015 will be invited. Further details to come.*

2015 Britain in Bloom Key Dates

3rd - 14th August	BIB judging fortnight
Fri 16th October	Britain in Bloom Awards, Sunderland
26th Oct - 1st Nov	RHS Wild About Gardens Week

Notable themes for 2015:

- Greener Streets : Better Lives
- Centenary of the Great War, WW1 continues

