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EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM



EAST MIDLANDS

From the Chairman...

For the first time for several years I have to report that it isn't a record year for East Midlands in Bloom – we have 62 main Bloom entries this year, whereas last year we had 63! However, given that this is the second best number we've ever had, I'm still thrilled at the continuing success of our wonderful community campaign.

We have 5 completely new Bloom groups joining this year – Friends of Dallington Village and Redbourne in Bloom are in the Village category, Laceby in Bloom are a Large Village, Desford in Bloom a Small Town and in the large town category is Duston Parish Council. We hope that you enjoy your first year in East Midlands in Bloom and will be with us long into the future. All except one of the eight new entrants last year are in again this year, and there is a good reason why the one 'drop-out' occurred...it was Beeston BID, which ended its contractual existence at the end of 2015.

As always we are doing our best to keep recruiting new judges, and so I hope that those of you lucky enough to meet Derek Bilby, John Constable, Steve Dando or Nelly Jacobs will make them very welcome in your communities. Both Derek and Nelly have long experience in Bloom from the entrant perspective, with Oakham and Bourne respectively. Steve and John each have many years' experience in the horticulture industry within our region (and of course John is one of the sons of our much-missed former President Frank Constable MBE).

At the time of writing, It's Your Neighbourhood entries are still coming in (though the closing date has actually passed), and currently there are over 157 entries to be assessed during July and August. A training event for new and 'nearly-new' assessors took place towards the end of May, in Nottingham, which was very well attended; this was facilitated by Julie and Caroline from Nottingham in Bloom, and included chance to view a community garden – and all the trials that can go with this – at the Forest Recreation Ground.

School Gardens entries do not close until mid-June, so it is too early to say how many there will be, but no doubt the quality will once again inspire Graham Lamb and his team of visiting judges to enthuse about the contributions of young people to the future of our villages, towns and cities.

Our sponsors remain an essential part of East Midlands in

2016 Bloom entries by category

Small Village: Elmton, Little Cawthorpe PC, Ranby, St Crispin Village. Judges: Chris Beal & Andy Boyton.

Village: Dallington Village, Habrough, Lark Hill Village, Middleton by Wirksworth, Redbourne, Wessington. Judges: Chris Beal & Andy Boyton.

Large Village: Barrow upon Humber, Burgh le Marsh, Caistor, Laceby, Little Eaton, Market Bosworth. Judges: Martin Hardy & Doug Stacey.

Small Town: Alford, Blidworth, Bracebridge Heath Events Group, Clowne, Crowland, Darley Dale, Desford, Draycott, Holbeach, Long Sutton, Quorn Village, Uppingham, Waddington PC, Winterton. Judges: Richard Stephen, Richard Welburn, John Constable & Stephen Dando.

Town: Bourne, Earl Shilton, Immingham, North Hykeham, Oakham. Judge: Simon Lucas.

Large Town: Belper, Boston, Buxton, Duston PC, Gainsborough, Ilkeston, Long Eaton, Louth, Market Harborough, Newark, Sleaford, Spalding, Syston. Judges: Jeff Bates, Jo Tarrant, & Derek Bilby.

Small City: Chesterfield, Loughborough, Oadby & Wigston. Judges: Dave Bramwell & Peter Benham.


City: Mansfield, Northampton. Judges: Mel Henley, Diane Moore.

Urban Community: Old Clee, Evington, Littleover. Judges: Peter Benham & Nelly Jacobs.

Coastal: Cleethorpes, Mablethorpe, Skegness, Sutton on Sea Gardening Group. Judges: Mel Henley & Diane Moore.

Business Improvement District: Mansfield BID, Melton BID. Judges: Dave Bramwell & Peter Benham.





Bloom and its continuing success. We are delighted that all our 2015 supporters remain on board: Amberol and Amethyst Horticulture are both Silver Sponsors; Bronze Sponsors are Barcham Trees, DART Training, Moulton College, Naylor's Flower Bulbs and The Art Department. We also welcome a new Bronze sponsor this year, TDP of Wirksworth.



We have strong representation in the RHS Britain in Bloom National finals in 2016. On 1st August Sue Wood and David Jamieson will be visiting Cleethorpes in the Champion of Champions Category; 2nd August sees Kim Parrish and Keith Jackson visit Mablethorpe (small coastal category); 3rd August has Roger Burnett and Teresa Potter visiting Middleton by Wirksworth (village); Immingham (town) has Jon Wheatley and Bill Ronald visiting on 4th August; the first judging week ends with Loughborough (small city) being judged by Nigel Bishop and Brendan Mowforth, and Market Harborough (large town) by Jim Goodwin and Mel Henley on 5th August; the second week sees just one visit, to Evington, Leicester (Urban Community category) being judged by Martyn Hird and Glenn Dale on the 10th. As always, we hope that the sun shines on their visits to your splendid communities and that you all get the results that your efforts deserve.

Jeff Bates,



DIARY DATES 2016

Fri 10 th June	Closing date for EMiB Best School Garden Special Awards (extended from June 3 rd)
4th -15th July	EMiB Judging Period
July-August	IYN Assessing
Wed 14 th September	EMiB Awards Presentation* at John Fretwell Complex, Mansfield NG19 8LL

** Representatives of all Bloom entries 2016 will be invited to attend. Invitations will be sent in August*