



A Floral FLOURISH

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 XXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXX
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

The East Midlands is blooming. That was certainly the feeling engendered by the latest East Midlands in Bloom (EMIB) awards which attracted a healthy 50 main competition entries, with Derbyshire entrants Belper, Rosliston and Elmton each winning their categories for the second year running. Announcing its campaign as ‘the best in the country’, EMIB Chairman and Awards host Jeff Bates said that council cuts have had a ‘dispiriting impact’ on communities but added that ‘there are hopeful stories wherever you find a Bloom group.’

Spirits are certainly high in Rosliston which not only won the Village category with a Gold Medal for the second successive year but also, a fortnight later, earned a Silver Gilt Medal, also for the second year running, as the only Derbyshire entry in the Britain in Bloom National Finals.

Rosliston in Bloom Secretary Caroline Alston said that the EMIB campaign ‘helps to bring the



Milford resident receives ‘thank you’ note

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



Bakewell

community closer together’, with South Derbyshire District Council Leader Bob Wheeler applauding the village for its ‘hard work, resolve and passion’ which has made Rosliston ‘a beautiful place to live, work and visit.’ There was further recognition for the village with Rosliston-based Chapman’s Nurseries winning the Best Retail/Commercial Premises Award. According to the judges: ‘All plants seen at the nursery were just begging to be taken home.’

In the north of the county, another Derbyshire winner was Elmton in the Bolsover District, receiving Silver in the Small Villages category. There was a Gold Medal for Spire Infant School, Chesterfield in winning EMIB’s Best

School Garden. The school has a remarkable record at EMIB, winning this award in four of the five years it has entered (Spire wasn’t allowed to compete last year as it had won in the previous three consecutive years). The EMIB award comes a year after the school won Natural England’s Big Wildlife Garden of the Year and follows another award earlier in 2011: the Royal Forestry Society’s Excellence in Forestry.

The schoolchildren were commended for growing a wide range of fruit, vegetables, trees, flowers and herbs; for creating a ‘Woodland for Wildlife’ area; and for forming five gardening clubs. ▷

HOW DERBYSHIRE FARED IN EMIB 2011



Elmton

Small village

- **Silver & Category Winner** – Elmton – ‘colourful hanging baskets, a beautifully maintained Pinfold and a colourful frontage to the Elm Tree Inn’ – with Judges Award for ‘the work done in protecting the rare and beautiful Bee Orchids on the Green.’

Village

- **Gold & Category winner** – Rosliston – ‘tremendous levels of community involvement’ – with Judges Award for ‘the involvement of young children in environmental initiatives throughout the village’,

- **Silver** – Middleton by Wirksworth - with Judges Award to the Eco Centre for ‘the well designed facility and active programme to train and educate adults in traditional country skills such as dry stone walling.’



Middleton by Wirksworth

- **Silver** – Milford – ‘impressed by the well-organised and presented tour’ - with a Judges Award for the new Hopping Mill development – ‘its design, layout and inclusion of heritage features and the well maintained front gardens.’

Large village

- **Silver** – Tansley – ‘impressive hanging baskets and a fantastic natural area in Tansley Wood which enhances one’s visit to the village’ – with Judges Award for Tansley Primary School staff and pupils for ‘the continued effort and hard work to develop the school grounds.’



Tansley

Small town

- **Silver** – Bakewell – ‘Bakewell Gardening Association, community orchard and allotments all very impressive’ - with Judges Award ‘for the spectacular display and outstanding maintenance at Bath Gardens.’



Belper

Town

- **Gold & Category Winner** – BELPER – ‘very impressed by the heritage bedding theme’ with a Judges Award to the residents of Meadow Court for ‘the high standard of their gardens and floral displays.’

- **Silver Gilt** – ILKESTON – ‘forward looking approach to the Bloom’ – with Judges Award to The Spanish Bar for ‘the transformation of the Beer Garden into a well landscaped oasis overflowing with good quality floral displays.’



Ilkeston

Long Eaton



• **Silver Gilt** – LONG EATON – ‘presentation of highways was excellent, as was the floral impact at The Green’ – with Judges Award for ‘the restoration of Long Eaton Cemetery Chapel, the approach roads, avenue and entrance gates.’

• **Silver** – MATLOCK – ‘particularly impressed by the colourful floral displays in the town centre and centenary bedding in Hall Leys Park’ – with Judges Award for ‘the commendable Friends of Matlock Railway Station adoption scheme.’



Matlock

Urban community

• **Silver** – LITTLEOVER – ‘numerous improvements achieved by an enthusiastic Bloom group’ – with a Judges Award for ‘the successful Shop Fronts competition run as part of the Bloom entry.’



Chesterfield

Small city

• **Silver Gilt** – CHESTERFIELD – ‘Taplow Park and the Crematorium Gardens were great strengths with impressive work by schoolchildren in designing banners for lamp columns’ – with Judges Award for ‘refurbishing the sensory garden at Holmebrook Country Park.’

Its your neighbourhood

• **Level 5 Outstanding Award** – FRIENDS OF CHADDESSEN PARK – ‘top of the tree for community involvement, both enthusiastic and self motivated.’

• **Level 3 Award** – KIRK LANGLEY COMMUNITY ORCHARD – ‘a great example of cross generation activity that has a future spanning decades.’



Discretionary awards

• **Best Retail/Commercial Premises** – CHAPMAN'S NURSERIES, ROSLISTON
• **Best School Garden** – SPIRE INFANTS SCHOOL, CHESTERFIELD



Digital photography competition

• **Winner, Class A (Reception, Years 1 & 2)** - MIA WRAGG, Bakewell C of E Infant School - ‘The eye is immediately drawn to the bright, vibrant colours of an image bursting with life. A remarkable sense of composition from a 6 year-old.’



Mia Wragg's winning photograph