

10 November 2008



National Awards to be Announced for Green Communities

At an Awards Ceremony in the Albert Halls in Stirling on Monday 10th November, environmental awards are to be presented to communities throughout Scotland for their efforts in creating beautiful, clean and sustainable neighbourhoods.

The green accolades, called Neighbourhood Awards, are to be presented to the communities from the following areas in recognition of their successful improvements to their local streets and green spaces:

Aberdeen City	Fife
Argyll & Bute	Glasgow City
City of Edinburgh	Highland
Dumfries & Galloway	North Lanarkshire
Dundee City	Moray
East Ayrshire	Perth & Kinross
East Dunbartonshire	South Lanarkshire
East Renfrewshire	Stirling
Falkirk	

During the assessment visits in August, communities were marked on four sections:

- the involvement of the wider neighbourhood community and sponsorship/fundraising
- the introduction of horticultural and landscape features
- environmental quality, e.g. absence of litter, provision and maintenance of street furniture, wildlife conservation
- overall impression of the effort made in the improvement of their local environment

The Neighbourhood Awards are a non-competitive initiative designed to give support and recognition to community groups across Scotland and are part of the Beautiful Scotland campaign. A group can be made up of two keen individuals or a whole neighbourhood, and anyone from toddlers through to retirees can participate. Each group is given hints and tips to help improve their efforts towards doing better in the future – with the aim of encouraging them to move up to the main Beautiful Scotland campaign after three years.

Keith Jackson, Chairman of the Beautiful Scotland Advisory Group, said, “We are delighted to present the Neighbourhoods Awards. The entrants have worked extremely hard all year so it is wonderful to be able to reward and recognise this achievement. The Awards Ceremony is a

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fantastic local publicity opportunity for these groups and brings great pleasure and delight to all participants. The Neighbourhood Awards scheme has been running for four years and each year the number of groups signing up keeps on growing. The scheme is a superb starting point for long-term environmental improvements and provides an opportunity to give people a sense of pride in their local area, as well as bringing increased tourism and benefits for local businesses in the areas.”

Keith Jackson added, “Of the 45 entries this year we had 26 new entrants and involvement in six new areas – Dundee City, East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Fife, North Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire. Hopefully their success will encourage other communities to join us in next year’s Neighbourhood Awards.”

Community groups can enter next year’s Neighbourhood Awards by contacting Beautiful Scotland on 01786 471333 or by emailing beautifulscotland@ksbScotland.org.uk

- Ends -

For further information, please contact:

Juliette Camburn on 01786 468 796 or 07595 779 668, email juliette.camburn@ksbScotland.org.uk or logon to www.beautifulscotland.org

Notes to news editors:

1. Neighbourhood Awards are part of the Beautiful Scotland campaign and are funded by the Scottish Government, Keep Scotland Beautiful and The Royal Horticultural Society/Britain in Bloom.
2. The Neighbourhood Awards are non-competitive i.e. the judges will not judge one community against another or announce a winner. Instead the campaign recognises that communities are just starting out and each will approach the needs of their local areas very differently.
3. The Neighbourhood Awards were first piloted in 2003 in conjunction with The Royal Horticultural Society. The first year of Neighbourhood Awards in Scotland was 2005.
4. Beginner groups making local environmental improvements are invited to enter one of three categories depending on the size of their neighbourhoods:
 - small neighbourhoods with a population of up to 300
 - neighbourhoods with a population between 301 and 1,000
 - large neighbourhoods with a population of more than 1,001.
5. There are four levels of Certificate that groups can obtain: Participation, Improvement, Merit, & Outstanding Achievement.
6. Beautiful Scotland is an independent campaign working for the improvement of local environments and has been successful in transforming communities of all sizes throughout Scotland during its 42-year existence.
7. This year, hundreds of thousands of people from villages, towns and cities benefited from an improvement in the quality of their local environment as a result of communities' participation in the Beautiful Scotland & Neighbourhood Award campaigns. Local businesses also benefited from the increased volume of tourists and visitors going to see the improvements for themselves.

Number of Awards by Local Authority Area

Aberdeen City	4
Argyll & Bute	1
City of Edinburgh	4
Dumfries & Galloway	1
Dundee City	2
East Ayrshire	2
East Dunbartonshire	1
East Renfrewshire	1
Falkirk	3
Fife	6
Glasgow City	3
Highland	7
Morayshire	1
North Lanarkshire	1
Perth & Kinross	2
South Lanarkshire	1
Stirling	5

Neighbourhood Awards 2008

Certificates of Outstanding Achievement

	area	contact name	tel no
Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre	City of Edinburgh	Thomas Brown	0131 315 4989
Barnhill Rock Garden	Dundee City	Jim Millan	01382 779304
Friends of Burngreen Park (Kilsyth)	North Lanarkshire	Fiona Murdoch	01698 420 863

Certificates of Merit

	area	contact name	tel no
Residents of Greenburn Drive	Aberdeen City	Drew Levy	01224 715592
Ruthrieston Residents' Association	Aberdeen City	Gregor McAbery	01224 581162
Alexandra Parade Wee Garden Group	Argyll & Bute	Elizabeth Madden	01369 703317
Greendykes Organic Allotments	City of Edinburgh	Mark McHale	0131 661 4566
Friends of Muir Wood Park Group	City of Edinburgh	Margo Arnott	0131 449 4319
Westburn Village Neighbourhood Council	City of Edinburgh	David Corcoran	0131 453 4881
Amisfield Gardeners	Dumfries & Galloway	Elizabeth Billson	01387 710183
King Street Broughty Ferry	Dundee City	Beatrice Martin	01382 730397
Auchinleck Community Development Initiative	East Ayrshire	Cllr Neil McGhee	07929 631453
Catrine Environmental Group	East Ayrshire	Maureen Kiernan	01290 551781
Hallglen Youth and Environment Group	Falkirk	Dawna Chisholm	01324 879064
Thornhill Court Housing Scheme	Falkirk	Angie Shanks	01324 635637
CLEAR	Fife	Allen Armstrong	01592 713078
Leslie Community Council	Fife	Jayne Smith	01592 564912
Leuchars Community Council	Fife	Mark Sharp	01334 839046
Thornton Community Council	Fife	Nina Paterson	01592 774251
BARTA	Glasgow City	Stephanie Loison	0141 337 6127
Dornoch Flowers and Fairs	Highland	Barbara Morrison	01862 810000
Kincraig Village Community Council	Highland	David Hood	07977 202287
Kyleakin and Kylerhea Community Council	Highland	Ian Sikorski	01599 534019
Lochcarron Greenfingers	Highland	Joy Moran	01520 722212
Milnafua Residents Association	Highland	Fred Ironside	01349 883068
Ormlie Community Association	Highland	Lorna Simpson	01847 891789
Watten Community Council	Highland	Elsie Fraser	01847 841 236
The Oaks Day Care Centre	Moray	Wendy Edwards	01343 562474
Aldour Gardens/Court (Pitlochry)	Perth & Kinross	Mrs M Dawson	01796 474 073
Viewlands Venture Group (Perth)	Perth & Kinross	Lorna Mutch	01738 632 870
Causewayhead Community Council	Stirling	Iain Sinclair	01786 461641
Colourful Killlearn	Stirling	Robin Veitch	01360 550372
Strathyre Village Association & Balquhiddier,	Stirling	Marilyn Dingle	01877 384208
Lochearnhead & Strathyre Community Council	Stirling	Anne Docherty	01877 330 996
The Greening of Callander	South Lanarkshire	Rena Whyte	01555 811747
Forth and District Initiative	East Renfrewshire	Ella Rae	0141 586 6700
Knox Place Pensioners			

Certificates of Improvement

	area	contact name	tel no
Bucksburn in Bloom	Aberdeen City	Drew Levy	01224 715592
Cove and Altens Community Council	Aberdeen City	Michele McPartlin	01224 890329
Milngavie in Bloom	East Dunbartonshire	Sheena Eason	0141 956 7644
Kirkcaldy High School Environment Improvement Group	Fife	David McEwan	01592 583405
Newlink Town T.R.A.	Fife	Isabella Jack	01592 268632
Glenoaks Housing Association	Glasgow City	Gillian Macphie	0141 638 0999
Leslie Street Conservation Group	Glasgow City	Anna Matthews	0141 433 2818

Certificates of Participation

	area	contact name	tel no
Cornton Community Council	Stirling	Lex McCrindle	01786 471639
Denny Community Flat Youth Consultation Group	Falkirk	Lynne Belton	01324 824623