



Tuesday 13th September 2011



Scottish Borders Beautiful Scotland winners announced

A Scottish Borders community picked up a major prize yesterday (Monday 12th September 2011) at Keep Scotland Beautiful's prestigious Beautiful Scotland award ceremony in the Pavilion, Rothesay on the Isle of Bute.

Four other Scottish Borders community groups were also presented with medal certificates by the Chief Executive of Keep Scotland Beautiful, Derek Robertson, and Scottish actor and comedian, Johnny Beattie.

The award ceremony is the climax of a year of continuous work by local people throughout Scotland and, as well as category awards being presented, gold, silver gilt, silver or bronze medal certificates are also given to the community groups who have worked tirelessly to improve their local environments.

Melrose in Bloom was presented with the Large Village Trophy and also went home with a Gold medal certificate in the Large Village Category.

Bonnie Peebles was awarded a Silver Gilt medal certificate in the Medium Town category; **Floral Gateway Gathering** a Silver medal certificate in the Small Village category; **Gala in Bloom** a Silver medal certificate in the Medium Town category; and **Paxton Village Enhancement Group** walked away with a Silver Gilt in the Wee Village category.

Michael Russell MSP, Scottish Government Minister, said: "I know that such hard work by all groups involved is well rewarded, not just by getting national recognition, but also by ensuring that one's own town or village is looking its best and reflecting best practice in this modern, greener, world. Everyone who has worked to make their special place even more special deserves the thanks of their fellow citizens and of Scotland because we want the whole country to look as good as possible, and to

be as environmentally aware as we can make it. That benefits all of us, draws people to us, and secures a better future."

Derek Robertson, Chief Executive of Keep Scotland Beautiful, and master of ceremonies at the Awards said, "Beautiful Scotland celebrates the communities which are working to improve and enhance their local areas through environmental education, community participation, and encouraging litter-free environments as well as horticulture. These awards presented today go some way to recognising all the hard work that volunteers and local authorities put in throughout the year to ensure that visitors and local community members are able to enjoy clean, sustainable and beautiful surroundings."

The five communities from the Scottish Borders were competing with 65 from across Scotland in the 2011 Beautiful Scotland competition and were visited by highly-experienced judges during a national tour in August to discover the cleanest, most sustainable and beautiful community in Scotland. The judges assess three themes, namely: horticultural achievement, environmental responsibility and community participation.

- Ends -

For further information, please contact: Juliette Camburn, Information & Events Officer on 01786 477 171 or at juliette.camburn@ksbscotland.org.uk.

For a list of all the **2011 trophy winners**, visit: <http://www.beautifulscotland.org/award-winners.asp>

For a list of all the **2011 medal winners**, visit: <http://www.beautifulscotland.org/medals.asp>

The national and other regional press releases, and images, are also available for download at the Beautiful Scotland media centre:
<http://news.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/BeautifulScotland.asp>

Notes to editors

- Keep Scotland Beautiful is Scotland's leading environmental charity. It works across Scotland, from Shetland to the Scottish Borders, cleaning and greening up communities, schools and businesses, and has been doing so since 1970. We work in partnership with all 32 of Scotland's Local Authorities, 700+ community groups, 3,850 of Scotland's primary and secondary schools, over 100 businesses and have empowered in excess of 100,000 volunteers to assist in community action. Keep Scotland Beautiful is a committed partner of Government and shares in the government's vision for Scotland to be a cleaner, greener, safer and more sustainable country. Further information can be found at www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org
- [Zero Waste Scotland](#), the lead supporter of the Beautiful Scotland campaign, is the programme created by the Scottish Government to support delivery of its Zero Waste plan. Zero Waste Scotland has been created to provide a one-stop-shop for support and advice to individuals, businesses and local authorities in order to help them reduce waste, recycle more and use natural

resources more efficiently. It integrates the activities of WRAP Scotland, Waste Aware Scotland, Keep Scotland Tidy, Remade Scotland, Envirowise in Scotland, NISP in Scotland, and some programmes delivered by the Community Recycling Network for Scotland.

- [Beautiful Scotland](#) is an independent campaign, run by Keep Scotland Beautiful, working for the improvement of local environments and has been successful in transforming communities of all sizes throughout Scotland during its 44 year existence.
- [Scotland's Islands](#) provided grant support for the Awards Ceremony.