

Green Community Award for Bailey's Back

Bailey's Back community garden continues on the winning streak with yet another award. This year, Brushes Estate has received the Green Flag Communities Award for their Bailey's Back site, a sign that the site is a well-managed and welcoming place, central to the local community and one of the best community-run green spaces in the country.

Bailey's Back is one of a record number of parks and green spaces receiving the Community Award this year, ensuring that even more of us now have access to well-managed, high-quality green spaces.

In 2011, 1,288 parks and green spaces will fly either the Green Flag or Community Award, a sign that the value of green space is widely acknowledged as vital to our communities.

Phil Barton, Green Flag Plus Partnership chairman said: **"In these challenging financial times it is heartening that the number of Community Awards continue to grow. As the value of green space and the role it plays in our communities strengthens, we must ensure these high standards remain."**

Baileys Back is an area of land situated in the centre of the Brushes Estate in Stalybridge, Cheshire. In 2002 the management board leased the land from [New Charter Housing Trust Group](#) in order to maximise its usage and create an area on the estate that would provide a secure play area for the local children and a pleasant environment for all age groups to enjoy.

And this year they really pushed the boat out with a very colourful nautical theme. An old rowing boat, which was found in a local waterway and completely refurbished, was given the red, white and blue treatment with bedding plants placed in the shape of the Union Flag.

All award-winning sites now have the chance to receive a further award from the Green Flag Plus Partnership, the People's Choice Award. This award is voted for by the public, so if you want to see your local park receive a national accolade as the People's Choice, then visit the Green Flag Award website now to register your vote; www.keepbritaintidy.org/greenflag/getinvolved/voteforbestgreenflagaward



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NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. New Charter formed in 1999 as the new landlords to own and manage homes transferred from Tameside council in Greater Manchester. With a turnover of £70million a year and a workforce of 880, New Charter is one of the region's largest registered providers of social housing, and is regulated by the Tenant Services Authority, a Government watchdog. By incorporating Gedling Homes, the Group owns 18,600 homes. It was named in the Sunday Times best 100 companies to work for in 2009.

2. Brushes Estate Management Board (EMB) was a product of tenants and landlord New Charter working together to set up the first tenant management organisation from a transfer housing association. Since 2003, tenants and residents have undertaken some of the housing management responsibilities for the 266 homes on the estate, and have also developed social life in the neighbourhood.

