

## **Press Release**

### **Callendar Park Flies the Flag**

Callendar Park is officially one of the best parks in the UK and has been awarded a green flag - a first for the Forth Valley area.

With Parks providing the perfect location for families during the school holidays, Callendar Park has been recognised as one of the country's best green spaces with a prestigious Green Flag Award announced today (Wednesday 28 July).

Green Flag Awards recognise and reward the best parks in the country and Callendar Park stood out after impressing the judges with its excellent use of green space, well maintained facilities and high standard of safety and security.

Only green spaces which are free to enter and open to the public are eligible to win an award through the scheme, run by environmental charities Keep Britain Tidy, BTVC and GreenSpace.

Councillor Adrian Mahoney, Convener of the Leisure, Tourism and Community Committee said: "Callendar Park is an absolute gem situated in the heart of Falkirk. We're absolutely delighted to secure Green Flag status for the park which shows our continued commitment to providing and maintaining high quality green spaces for both local residents and tourists.

"Thousands of people flock to the park each year to enjoy and use the wide range of facilities which are available throughout the year.

"We are working hard to bring all of our parks up to a good standard and securing a green flag for Callendar Park is great recognition of our work to improve our parks."

Callendar Park is without doubt 'the jewel in the crown' of the parks within the Falkirk Council area, covering over 170 acres. It is renowned for its beautiful spring displays of daffodils, its spectacular early summer shows of rhododendrons and azaleas and its autumn presentation of nature's artistry in shades of crimson, brown, russet and gold.

This year has seen the highest number of awards handed out - a record 1200 Green Flags and Green Pennants across the UK compared to 1,013 in 2009. Green Pennants are awarded to parks or green spaces managed by a community or voluntary group.

The applications for the Green Flag Awards are judged against eight criteria: a welcoming place; healthy, safe and secure; clean and well maintained; sustainability; conservation and heritage; community involvement; marketing; and management.

- Falkirk Council ( 28/07/2010 )  
[http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/about\\_council/news/article.aspx?pid=1029](http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/about_council/news/article.aspx?pid=1029)
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