

## Community

# Broxtowe certainly has got talent!

IT must have taken an extraordinary amount of courage and confidence to be first out and alone under the spotlight at the 'Broxtowe's Got Talent' finals evening recently. However, the seven year-old Gail Mormon showed no sign of nerves as she performed her dance solo in front of an audience of between 150 and 200 people. The Deputy Mayor of Broxtowe, Cllr Pat Lally, was guest of honour for the evening.

The Rotary Club of Beeston was responsible for

taking on this considerable undertaking to produce a homegrown talent show; it was a stroke of genius on their part to invite BBC Radio Nottingham's John Holmes to compete for the finals evening.

The skilled radio presenter subtly put each of the acts at ease as they came on stage, be they a miniscule seven year-old solo dancer or a soloist singing an impassioned cover version of 'My Heart Will Go On' days after the death of her brother-in-law.

The four judges at Broxtowe's own Talent show included Miranda Wilson, Head of Music at the White Hills Park Federation schools, professional entertainer Ray Lewis, Dancing School proprietor Peggy Payne, 50 years in the business, and Paul Turner of the Long Eaton Rotary Club.

Fourteen acts appeared in the finals at the Pearson Centre, Nuart Road, Beeston on April 24. Auditions had been held across the borough during the months of March and April, and now it was

time to face the music.

After the confident dancing of Gail Mormon, described by one of the judges as a 'fantastic little saucepot!' the acts ranged from stand-up comedy to musical theatre-type performances, from rap soloists to a rock band made up of three young teenager boys who practice in their bedrooms at home, and accomplished dance/gymnastic displays. "I'm pleased you didn't drop the girls when you caught them," said one of the judges. "I don't think the insurance

would have covered it."

After a lengthy break for deliberation and, they said, some agonised decision-making, the judges emerged to announce as winners the "absolutely fab" dance duo 'ABZTillie Fab'. These two girls, aged 11 and 12, had entertained the audience with an incredibly polished Fred Astaire style dance routine, with canes, gloves and trilby hats, to Michael Jackson's 'Beat It'.

The President of the Rotary Club of Beeston, Jack Walton, presented the

winners with their cash prize of £300 and a trophy.

Proceeds from the evening were to be donated to two charities, the Ripple Appeal at Treetops Hospice, Risley, and Life Education Centres.

## New Feature Attenborough Weather Notes

*A BRAND new and unique feature provided purely for the benefit of Beeston Express readers!*

*Once a month, Andrew Shaw, Education Assistant at the Attenborough Nature Reserve, will provide us with a look at weather data collected on the reserve.*

*Not only will he*

*factual data collected, we'll be treated to a retrospective weather report.*

*One thing you can look forward to. At least this weather report will be accurate!*

### Attenborough Weather data

From the weather recording station situated in Attenborough Nature Reserve.

**Highest temperature:** 19.8°C, April 28 (average April extreme max.: 21.5°C).

**Lowest temperature:** 1.0°C, April 22 (average April extreme min.: -0.8°C).

**Average temperature:** 10.2°C (daily min. + max./2) Normally 9.8°C.

**Monthly rainfall:** 27.1mm (57 percent of average 46.9mm).

### Attenborough Weather Notes

The first few days of April

were under the influence of low pressure with fronts bringing spells of rain and drizzle.

From the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> high pressure dominated the weather with no measurable rain recorded and plenty of gloriously warm and sunny days. This resulted in April being a very busy month for the Centre and the Reserve. Fortunately, the above-average sunshine allowed the solar panels on the Centre to generate electricity at maximum efficiency for most of the month.

For a lot of the month, the wind was coming from the northwest and some cool nights were recorded, such as 1.0°C on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

From the 23<sup>rd</sup> onwards, southerly winds brought in warmer air and the 19.8°C was observed on the 28<sup>th</sup>, the warmest day of the year so far.

The southerly winds also brought in many migrant species such as common terns and sand martins. The warmth of April also saw the first ducklings and coot chicks born, plenty of butterflies such as peacock

and brimstone flying, and the Reserve taking on a bright green hue as the willow trees came into full leaf.

The last few days saw low pressure in control, bringing cooler temperatures and spells of rain.