



Press Release

18 September 2009

Top 100 UK local shops are recognised

Communities across the UK woke up today to find a new champion in their midst as the Independent Achievers Academy published its Top 100 independent shops list that recognises the best local retailers and their staff.

Set up to promote retail excellence and to help local shops compete with the supermarkets, the IAA assesses how good your local shops really are, benchmarking how well they display products, what's on sale and the quality of their service.

More than 50,000 shops are invited to take part each year and hundreds accepted the challenge of proving to themselves and their shoppers that they are doing a great job. The winners (see list that follows) are selected following a mystery shopper visit that checks the shops and their staff against 12 key criteria.

"The IAA Top 100 is a way of congratulating local shops on their achievements. It also gives independent retailers the opportunity to thank their loyal customers and celebrate the success of their community shop with them," says Kate Dickenson, IAA project manager.

"We believe the vitality of the independent shopkeeper and their staff is reflected in these 100 shops, demonstrating the strength in depth of the UK's retail sector."

Shoppers are expecting ever higher standards from their shops and the IAA assessment shows that local retailers are responding.

"These retailers are working harder than ever before to put themselves at the heart of their local communities," says Kate Carr, managing director of Field Sales Solutions, that conducted the shop assessments.

"The range of ideas and initiatives displayed really impressed our auditors."

The IAA, now in its fourth year, is supported by major retail trade suppliers and culminates in a gala dinner in London this November at which the overall best local retailer is named.

Ends

Notes to News Editors:

- A full list of the top shops is provided and entrants are encouraged to seek local publicity
- IAA sponsors: News International, Wrigley, Coca Cola Enterprises, Imperial Tobacco, JTI, Booker, Nestlé, Skillsmart Retail, Cadbury, National Federation of Retail Newsagents, P&G

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The IAA UK Top 100 Independent Retailers

NORTH

Doncaster
Harrowgate
Hornsea
Kirkby Overblow, Harrogate
Liversedge
Liversedge
Scarborough
Shire Cliff, South Yorkshire
Newburgh

Montrose Food & Wine
Cold Bath Road Post Office
Greenway Stores
The Shoulder Shop
Londis
Nisco News, Food & Wine
Top Shop News
Premier Singhs
Mitchells Newburgh

NORTH WEST

Cheadle Hulme
Greasby, Merseyside
Hollingworth, Cheshire
Liverpool
Prenton, Merseyside
Stockport
Wallasey, Merseyside
Waterfoot, Lancashire
Wirral, Merseyside
Withington, Manchester

Faz Convenience Store
Premier
Hollingworth Village Store
McNaughtons
Premier
Lifestyle Express
Premier
Watts News
Premier
Malik News

NORTH EAST

Gateshead
Sunderland
Sunniside, Newcastle upon Tyne
South Hylton

A Sockett & Son
Wilsons Super Shop
Chapel Food Store
Costcutter

WEST MIDLANDS

Binley Woods, Coventry
Bromsgrove
Church Stretton
Coventry
Dorrington, Shrewsbury
Gains Park, Shrewsbury
Leamington Spa
Leominster
Shrewsbury
Tamworth
Walsall
Weaton Aston
Wolverhampton

K&P News
Vickys Convenience Store
Newsworld
Ahmed's Newsagents
Dorrington Village Stores
Nisa Local
S&S Londis
Premier Shobdon Post Office & Stores
Monkmoor PO & Newsagents
Galaxy News
Lifestyle Express
Lifestyle Express
Lifestyle Express

EAST MIDLANDS

Burton-on-Trent
Etwell, Derbyshire
Ironville
Mansfield
Market Harborough
Matlock, Derbyshire
New Whittington
Shuttlewood
Wigston, Leicester

EASTERN COUNTIES

Fakenham, Norfolk
Norwich
Peterborough
Houghton Regis

SOUTH EAST

Andover, Hampshire
Ascot, Berkshire
Belvedere, Kent
Canterbury University
Charing, Kent
Cold Ash
Crowthorne
Dartford, Kent
Eastbourne
Gravesend, Kent
Hermitage, Berkshire
Hurst Green
Lindford
London
Margate, Kent
Northfleet, Kent
Penge, London
Rochester
Rowledge, Farnham
Sevenoaks
Stroud Green, London
Thamesmead Town, London
Watford

SOUTH WEST

Barnstaple
Callington
Castle Cary, Somerset
Dideford, Devon
Exeter
Honiton, Devon

Good News
Londis - News 'r' Us
Ironville Store
Market Place News
Connaught Road Post Office & Supermarket
Londis Matlock
Londis
Kings Newsagents
Londis

Corder's Budgens
Premier Express - Blofield Heath Post Office and Store
Padholme Road Filling Station
Nisa - Local

Hexagon Store
Londis Ascot
Newscentre
Kent Onion
Wady & Brett
Cold Ash PO
Best One Crowthorne
Londis
Paperlane
Singlewell Post Office
Hermitage PO
Ashdene Service Stations
The Taylor Green's Londis
Haria Newsagents
Days News
Nisa – Local
Fosdicks
RSS News
Best One Rowledge Village Store
Richlands Convenience Store
Londis
The Front Page
Londis

Frankmarsh Store
Smiphee's
Martins of Castle Cary
Best one Barton Tors Stores
Dawn till Dusk
The Paper Shop

Whitstone, Holsworthy
Meadvale, Worle
Yorkley, Gloucestershire

NORTHERN IRELAND

Craigavon, Armagh
Donaghadee

SCOTLAND

Bellshill, Larnarkshire
Bishopton, Renfrewshir
Dundee
Duns, Berwickshire
Edinburgh
Falkirk
Glasgow
Glasgow
Glasgow
Paisley
Portgordon
Rosewell
Shieldhill, Falkirk
Whitehills, Banff

WALES

Henllan
Powys
Roath, Cardiff

Whitstone Village Stores
Hayes
Yorkley PO & Store

Poole's Supervalu
Centra Moat Filling Station

Siddiq Convenience Store
Woodrows
Pricecracker
Blackadder Mini Market
Lifestyle Express
Wishing Well Newsagents
Keyshop
Lifestyle Express
Lifestyle Express
Sinclair Barr Newsagents
Keystore Portgordon
Rosewell Licenced Grocer
Premier Shieldhill Convenience
Whitehills Convenience Store

Henllan Village Store
Harry Tuffin
AJ & B Dudden