

## **PRESS RELEASE - ISSUED 21st September 2023 - EIGHT PAGES**

### **ATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL ALLOTMENT AWARDS 2023**

Atherstone Town Council Allotment Awards were presented at the Town Council Meeting on Wednesday 20th September 2023.

The Town Council manages two allotment sites in the Atherstone, one on Gypsy Lane and one on Bracebridge Road.

Over 150 tenants are eligible to enter the annual allotment awards and once again the standard of entries was very high.

If anyone is interested in renting an allotment in Atherstone there are waiting lists at both sites and enquiries can be made to the Deputy Town Clerk on 01827 720829.

#### **List of Winners Merevale Allotments:**

First Prize Full Plot – Mr Steven Ford Plot 15  
Second Prize Full Plot – Mrs Ellen Chetwynd Plot 32  
First Prize Half Plot – Ms Liz Peel Plot 38b  
Second Prize Half Plot – Mrs Gillian Kiteley Plot 33a  
Best Newcomer – Ms Liz Peel Plot 38b  
Commendation – White Hart Community Group Plot 50

#### **List of Winners Gypsy Lane Allotments:**

First Prize Full Plot – Mr and Mrs Hart Plot 38  
Second Prize Full Plot – Mr Kenneth Knight Plot 8  
First Prize Half Plot – Mr Roger Fildes Plot 22b  
Second Prize Half Plot – Mrs Yvonne Stone Plot 33  
Best Newcomer – Mr and Mrs Airey Plot 25a  
Commendations – Mr and Mrs Strugnell Plots 4b and 4c  
Mr Garth Strugnell Plot 4a  
Mr Chris Boss Plot 11a

#### **Report by Cllr Jones on behalf of the Judging Panel**

Despite the plant nourishing rain showers it was a privilege to spend the evening inspecting the Merevale View and Gypsy Lane allotments. We were all impressed by the work, skill and ingenuity demonstrated in so many of the plots.

Gypsy Lane had the tallest beans (Plot G41) and the most enormous squash plant (Plot G11a) and Merevale had the exciting Dahlia show flowers (Plot M21b) and a community plot (Plot M50) that earned a special commendation. Judging which plots to present awards to is a subjective matter where the judges had their own preferences.

Is a beautiful tended vegetable plot (Plot M54a) more worthy than a well run pigeon loft (Plot G7)? Is a well stocked chicken run (Plot G13) higher ranking than a pollinating bed complete with a bee hive (Plot M38b)?

Despite not having a set of predetermined scoring criteria the judges' deliberations actually presented clear award winners for each category, along with a few special commendations for extra skills on display.

**Please see the attached photos on behalf of the judging committee.**

# ATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL ALLOTMENT AWARDS 2023

Judging took place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

Allotment (judging group) representatives are:  
Cllrs Jones, Wickham-Young, Forwood, Barnett

**Merevale – 6pm to 7.30pm**

**Gypsy Lane – 7.30pm to 8.30pm**

## Merevale Allotments:

## Winners

First Prize Full Plot – **Trophy + £25 + certificate**

**Plot 15**



Second Prize Full Plot – £20 + certificate

**Plot 32**



First Prize Half Plot – **Trophy + £15 + certificate**

**Plot 38b**



**Merevale Allotments:**

**Winners**

Second Prize Half Plot – £10 + certificate

**Plot 33a**



Best Newcomer – £15 + certificate

**Plot 38b**



Special Commendation (Excellent variety)

**Plot 50**



**Gypsy Lane Allotments:**

**Winners**

First Prize Full Plot – Trophy + £25 + certificate

**Plot 38**



Second Prize Full Plot – £20 + certificate

**Plot 8**



**Gypsy Lane Allotments:**

**Winners**

First Prize Half Plot – Trophy + £15 + certificate

**Plot 22b**



Second Prize Half Plot – £10 + certificate

**Plot 33**



**Gypsy Lane Allotments:**

**Winners**

Best Newcomer – £15 +certificate

**Plot 25a**



Special Commendation (Really organised)

**Plot 4**



Special Commendation (Stunning squash plant)

**Plot 11a**



ENDS

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**NOTES FOR EDITORS**

For more information contact Sally Oldham (Town Council) on 01827 720829

Photo attached. Allotment prize winners pictured with their certificates and trophies presented by the Atherstone Town Mayor, Cllr Ashley Wickham -Young.