

Harpenden Mayor presents awards at SHAGS annual ceremony



Award Winners at Park Hall

Councillor Rosemary Farmer, Harpenden Town Mayor, presented the awards at the South Harpenden Allotments and Gardens Society (SHAGS for short) Awards Evening at Park Hall on Friday, September 29th.

Chairman Mike Coble and Awards Officer Chris Wilson presided over the evening, which was attended by some eighty keen allotmenters. Gold, silver and bronze certificates, as well as a number of commendations, were presented to the winners, whose plots, on any of the society's eight sites, were judged according to a strict points scheme, the object of which being primarily to reward well-tended plots with a wide variety of good quality crops.



Richard Upton gains the Chairman's Shield

In addition to these awards the society also annually presents the George Turner Cup to the best site, which this year was won by Aldwickbury, with Sibley Avenue a very close second. The Chairman's Shield for the best plot over all sites was won by Richard Upton, at Aldwickbury, and The Percy Bradbury Cup, in memory of a much loved chairman of the society who died in 2002, for the plot judged to be the most attractive on all of the sites, went to Carole Pamphlett at Piggotshill. The Derek Green Tankard for the best newcomer was this year awarded to Stephen Gooding.

The South Harpenden Allotments and Gardens Society is in good health, and it is proud of its eight allotment sites, with about four hundred plots. There are currently a few vacancies available, so anyone interested is encouraged to see the Society's web page (<http://shallotments.weebly.com/>) to make contact with one of the lettings secretaries. The society also has a well-stocked shop (open on Sunday mornings) at its Piggotshill site, accessible from Dark Lane.



Chairman Mike Cobley thanks The Mayor

The formal part of the evening ended with presentations of bouquets to the Mayor and to Awards Officer Chris Wilson, who, after twenty years of service, will be standing down. A light buffet and drinks followed to round off this sparkling event.

Richard Gibbs
October 1st 2017