Green-fingered winners celebrate their success

THOSE responsible for creating three stunning gardens in Gloucestershire have celebrated winning the Echo and Citizen’s Glorious Gardens competition.

We had a total of 184,000 votes cast after inviting readers to enter the competition last month.

Each of the three category winners receive £500 worth of vouchers to spend with garden furniture firm Reformed Plastics.

Jacek Superson was overjoyed to have won the best residential garden award.

The 30-year-old, of Matson Lane, Matson, Gloucester, said: “I am so positively surprised and excited knowing that there are people out there who appreciate my hard work. “I will use the £500 vouchers to buy new plants, tools and furniture for our garden.”

He said he had worked very hard to transform what had been a very scruffy garden in November last year when he and his fiancée, Dominika, and their two young daughters, Nina and Elena, moved to the property.

Michael Overthrow admitted he had no idea what he would spend his vouchers on. But he was none-the-less delighted to win the best hanging basket/planter category.

The 73-year-old, of Abbeydale, Gloucester, said he took great pride in nurturing the eight hanging baskets that bring a huge amount of colour to his property.

Each packed with petunias, fuchsias and begonias, they adorn the wall of his house, his garden fence and his garage wall.

He said: “I’m very pleased to have won. My garden is looking really beautiful. “I water the baskets for an hour in the morning and an hour in the evening and at dinner time if I get a chance. “A lot of people get them wet and don’t water them and then they die off.”

He said his wife Maureen appreciated too.

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Leila Rosenberg, Sasha Brown and Rae Edwards with the investors in People accreditation

Community Foster Care. It provides community-based family support services to the community in Gloucestershire, including training, support and guidance to families. Its key purpose is to enable children and families to stay together.

Family Care Manager

Sasha Brown said the award marked an important milestone.

“Investors in People is recognised as a mark of excellence and we’re proud that the support we offer our staff is acknowledged at that level,” she said.

The assessor also renewed parent organisation Community Foster Care’s Investors in People award for the third time.

Chief executive of both organisations, Hugh Pelham, thanked his team for their support. “I’ve made quite a few changes in the last year and everyone’s been brilliant,” he said.

Care staff praised during appraisal for leading award

STAFF at Community Family Care in Staunton have been praised for their motivation, passion and professionalism in their first appraisal for the Investors in People Award.

Inspector Jane Roberts noted in her 13-page report a “highly motivated workforce, passionately intent on the provision of the best care possible”.

She added: “It was evident that a great deal of knowledge-sharing, coaching and peer support takes place on a day-to-day basis.”

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