

## **Buckingham Trader of the Year 2016**

The people of Buckingham have chosen their favourite local trader for 2016. Well over 500 people took part in a poll organised by the Buckingham Society, and voted for their favourite Buckingham trader. Overall, more than 50 different traders received nominations covering a huge range of goods and services. Many of the voters commented that it was very difficult to choose just one trader to nominate as there are so many good shops, cafés and service providers in the town.

In a very close result, the winner was “At Home”, based in the town’s “Hidden Quarter” in Well Street and they are now entitled to call themselves Buckingham Trader of the Year for 2016. They pipped the runner-up, “Leeder’s Hardware” from Meadow Walk, by just one vote with “Clay’s the Butchers” and “Smart’s fish and chip shop” very close behind them.

There were also awards for the Market Trader of the Year, won by the “Isla Jane Bakery” stall and Café Trader of the Year which was carried off by the “Gyre and Gimble” coffee shop.

The Mayor of Buckingham, Councillor Andy Mahi, visited the award winners and presented a shield and certificate to the overall winner and certificates to the other winners and the overall runner-up. He said, “I am delighted that the Buckingham Society took the initiative to create this new award. It is great that so many people voted and recognised the number of really top class traders that we have in Buckingham”.

Roger Edwards, Chair of the Buckingham Society said, “This is the first year that the Buckingham Society has run this competition and we are really pleased by the response of the people of Buckingham to our poll. Having more than 500 people voting is a magnificent turnout. And it is not just the winners who should be celebrated. The wide range of nominations shows just how many excellent and popular shops, cafés and market traders we have in our lovely town. We are very fortunate to live here”.

The Buckingham Society is very grateful for the support of AVDC, the Destination Buckingham Group, County Councillor Warren Whyte and members of the Buckingham Traders Association.