

Press Release



Mr Potter Plants with Pride

The Australians once told us, "everybody needs good neighbours". But as the news pages flood with stories on anti-social behaviour and violent crime, it is easy to forget the people who make a difference to our communities for the better.

This week we are celebrating those community-minded Nottingham residents who go above and beyond the duty of your average tenant as we announce the winner of this year's Nottingham City Homes Good Neighbour Award.

Albert Potter of Riseborough Walk, Bulwell, was chosen for his long term commitment to his neighbours and community as a whole.

Mr Potter was nominated by staff at the Bulwell Housing Office for his ongoing commitment to helping a number of his neighbours, and, in particular, Vera Noy. The pair have been neighbours on Riseborough Walk for more than 40 years and during that time Mr Potter has maintained Mrs Noy's garden all year round, every year, as well as keeping the surrounding area tidy and litter free.

Now 87-years-old, Albert will be awarded for his efforts on Monday December 1 at the annual Best Garden Competition award ceremony.

This takes place at the Council House in Nottingham. He will be joined by Mrs Noy at the awards and presented with his special prize.

In their nomination the staff at Bulwell Housing Office said "Mr Potter is continually tidying up the area he lives in and even goes out picking up litter in between gardening."

This year the award will be sponsored by one of our partners, Keepmoat. Keepmoat is supporting us in our drive to bring all Nottingham's council homes up to the Decent Homes standard by 2013.

Paul Senior, project director at Keepmoat, said: "At Keepmoat we are passionate about creating vibrant and sustainable communities that people are proud to live and work in. Building communities is not just about bricks and mortar, it is about the people who live in them."

Gill Moy, Director of Housing Services added: "When we were looking through all the entries to this year's competition, Mr Potter just stood out to us. He is a real asset to his local community, particularly to his neighbour Mrs Noy, who has found his help invaluable for more than four decades.

"On behalf of everyone at Nottingham City Homes I would like to congratulate Albert for winning this year's award, which is well deserved."

Ends

Notes to editors:

- **Photos of Mr Potter and Mrs Noy are available on request**

Nottingham City Homes was created on 1st April 2005 as an Arms Length Management Organisation (ALMO) to manage Nottingham City Council's rented and leasehold homes. We are now working hard towards bringing Nottingham's council houses up to the Government's Decent Homes standard by 2013.

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