

ISSUED ON BEHALF OF COW & GATE

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SHARON IS COW & GATE CHILDMINDER OF THE YEAR

SHARON Mornin from Ballymoney won the Cow & Gate Childminder of the Year 2008 Award at the finals in Malone House.

The award is run in conjunction with NICMA – the Childminding Association of which Sharon is a member.

Six childminders from all over Northern Ireland competed in the finals after which Sharon was presented with a specially-engraved Tyrone crystal trophy and cheque for £500.

Speaking at the awards, Alison Hanna of Cow & Gate, said that all six childminder finalists were winners as the parents of the children they mind thought so much of them that they had nominated them for the Award.

Sharon was nominated by three parents whose children are in her care- Paula McKeever, Donna Connor and Sabrina and Bryan Moore, also from Ballymoney. All these parents believe Sharon provides a fun and loving atmosphere and a warm and inviting home for their children, a view which was confirmed by the Awards judges-Gerry Conway a Children's Services Planner in Foyle Health Trust and Rugby star, Clinton Shifcofske.

Paula said, "Sommer and Sienna are constantly stimulated with lots of different activities to participate in, they are very well looked after and fed good honest home-made food. Seeing them smile and hug Sharon when they see her makes us as parents feel reassured."

Donna said, "I can go to work knowing that my child is being well looked after in a place with people whom she loves."

Sabrina said, "Sharon provides a home away from home and truly deserved the title of Cow & Gate Childminder of the Year."

The five runners up were Teresa O'Reilly from Enniskillen, Linda Foster from Armagh, Sandra Wilson from Strabane, Angela Manning from Belfast and Ethna McCluskey from Bangor, who each received an engraved Tyrone crystal runner-up trophy and a cheque for £50.

