

CIVIC AWARDS

2019



**WELWYN
HATFIELD**



CIVIC AWARDS 2019

Welcome to the Presentation of the Civic Awards 2019.

This is the thirteenth year that Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council, this year in partnership with the Mears Group, has hosted its Civic Awards. We are also very pleased to have a Young Person Award sponsored by the University of Hertfordshire for anyone under the age of 21.

The response to the award scheme was once again positive and the community judging panel had a real challenge when it met to decide the winners. The range of achievements and work that takes place in the Borough is truly astonishing.

Details of the five winners are in this booklet. For those who were not selected for a prize this year, may I extend my genuine thanks for your contribution to life in our Borough. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who took the time to make a nomination.

My sincerest thanks also go to the sponsors of the awards, Mears and the University of Hertfordshire whose support for the Civic Awards is invaluable.



Councillor Barbara Fitzsimon, Mayor of Welwyn Hatfield Borough



Tony Skottowe

The Civic Award is presented in recognition of the work
Tony Skottowe has undertaken for many years
within the community and also with the
Welwyn Garden City Heritage Trust

Nominated by:

Angela Eserin and Councillor Malcolm Cowan

The following text is drawn from their nomination form:

As Chairman and a founder member, the Trust under Tony's leadership has, since its establishment in 2006, brought about some remarkable achievements which raise the profile of Welwyn Garden City both at home and abroad.

Tony has secured Heritage Lottery Funding to support projects on the town's history, including published books, three major exhibitions, the collection of documents and photographs and a library of over six hundred recordings of the memories of local residents providing a unique record of the history of Welwyn Garden City which is already being used by scholars.

A digital town trail has been established around the Handside area of the town and will be followed later this year by one covering the Peartree area. An annual lecture has become a feature for the Trust, usually organised by Tony personally. Study days for foreign visitors, latterly many from China, and walks around the town for student planners and other groups are regularly undertaken by Tony and other trustees.

Having a voluntary organisation to promote the town's history and to collect and preserve priceless memories and photographs which would otherwise be lost forever, is invaluable. The WGC Heritage Trust performs an increasingly important function, particularly with the approach of the town's centenary in 2020, and most of its success is due to the untiring enthusiasm, passion and abilities of its Chairman, Tony Skottowe.

Aimee McCormack

The Civic Award is presented in recognition of the work Aimee McCormack has undertaken with the homeless and other people needing help in the community

Nominated by:

Terry McCormack and Nicolle Bishop

The following text is drawn from their nomination form:

Aimee, who has five children, including one with additional needs, has still found time to help many people in this community with her project on Facebook.

Aimee helps the homeless on the street by giving them warm clothing, food and survival packs and also makes food hampers for night shelters.

Despite being ill herself last year, Aimee is kind and caring and still puts others first, managing to find the time to volunteer at Resolve and continuing her help for homeless people and shelters. She also prepares and cooks lunches for the homeless on Christmas Day.

Aimee is a role model, also helping people at the tills in the supermarket, on and off buses and has changed so many lives just by listening and talking to others. Her kind words are all they need to hear.

Aimee is special because she never judges anyone and always believes people can change and will change if they have support. Her motto is if she can make a difference then so can everyone.

Sue Jenkins

The Civic Award is presented in recognition of the work Sue Jenkins has undertaken setting up and for nearly fifty years running Riding for the Disabled Digswell Place Group

Nominated by:

Sue Clarke and Caroline McFarlane

The following text is drawn from their nomination form:

Sue and her mother set up Digswell Place Group RDA, nearly fifty years ago with two borrowed ponies. Under Sue's continued guidance over the years, Digswell Place has developed into the charity it is today.

There are now specially built stables and fourteen equines, providing over two thousand rides a year for disabled children and adults in the Welwyn Hatfield area. Over one hundred disabled children and adults now experience the benefits of riding with them each year. Sue works with over one hundred volunteers at Digswell Place and also helps other Riding for the Disabled Groups in the County.

In all weathers, seven days a week, Sue, as volunteer Yard Manager, still ensures that the stables, ponies, riders and volunteers run smoothly. If there is a problem, even in the middle of the night, Sue is there to sort it out.

Sue's volunteer dedication to Digswell Place is truly extraordinary – the work of a lifetime. Over the years hundreds of people have been inspired by Sue both as riders and volunteers.

David Treglohan

The Community Award is presented by Mears in recognition of the work David Treglohan has undertaken during his long commitment to the scouting movement

Nominated by:

Jennie Treglohan-Clayden and Simone Bothwell

The following text is drawn from their nomination form:

David Treglohan has volunteered in the community with young children for twenty five years.

He is a Cub Scout leader and people know him as Bagheera as all leaders have names from the characters of The Jungle Book.

Following in his footsteps are some of his children and grandchildren who have joined in with being a cub or scout and go on to become a leader or helper themselves.

David enjoys his role in the scouting movement, planning and leading evenings every week with fun and learning for all. These activities include learning knots, camping, first aid, trips to the local fire stations, cooking at the University of Hertfordshire and even circus skills.

David has been such a big asset to scouting during his long commitment to the movement.

Kaitlyn Foster

The Young Person Award is presented by the
University of Hertfordshire in recognition of
Kaitlyn Foster for her generosity to
homeless people

Nominated by:

Zoe Allen and Donna Allen

The following text is drawn from their nomination form:

Kaitlyn is five years old and at Christmas she asked to collect blankets, cushions and pillows which she delivered with her Mother to some homeless people.

When Kaitlyn sees a homeless person in town, instead of walking by, she always asks for her pocket money early to buy them a drink and some food.

Kaitlyn is completely selfless and always thinking of ways in which she can make other people's day a little better and if she can help in any way she will.

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The members of the panel who judged the
Civic Awards 2019 were:

Councillor Barbara Fitzsimon - Deputy Mayor of Welwyn Hatfield (Chairman)

Damon Ellis - Mears Group General Manager

Geraldine Ward - University of Hertfordshire Dean of Students

Father Norbert Fernandes - Parish Priest of WGC Catholic Churches,
Chair of Christian Leaders' Group, Catholic Dean of Stevenage

Christine Novelli - Welwyn Hatfield Alliance, Welwyn Hatfield Inter Faith Group

Peter Harrison - Welwyn Garden City Rotary Club Representative



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