

Donna is delighted to be nominated in this years Chichester Observer Community Awards 2017 in the Best Volunteer category and Best Local Voluntary Group for her work with the Four Streets Project. Donna founded the initiative in January of this year and the team provide food, water, hot drinks, blankets and coats to those people who find themselves homeless in Chichester. The voting has already closed but the awards are to be held on December 4th in Bognor Regis.

www.chichester.co.uk Thursday, November 2, 2017

The Observer series Community Awards

Celebrating YOUR community heroes

In association with
ROLLS ROYCE

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ALL THE CATEGORIES

BEST VOLUNTEER - SHIRLEY HENRY AWARD
Sponsored by
George Ide Solicitors

GEORGE IDE LLP

Nominees:
Liz Stanleigh-Turner (0001)
Donna Ockenden (0002)
Jean Simmons (0003)

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD
Sponsored by
HR Dept

Nominees:
Mike Harvey (0015)
Enk Jack Harris (0019)
TS Sturdy (0020)
Caroli Bell (0021)

BEST COMMUNITY PERSON
Sponsored by
Guardian Angel Carers

Nominees:
Paula Chatfield (0004)
Mandy Hine (0005)
Pamela Sweet (0006)

HERO TO ANIMALS

Nominees:
AlphaPet (0022)
Nigel Mundy (0023)
Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital (0024)

BEST SCHOOL
Sponsored by
Chadney Bulgin

Nominees:
Chidham Parochial Primary School (0007)
The Regis School (0008)
Central CE Academy (0009)

BEST LOCAL VOLUNTARY/ CHARITY GROUP
Sponsored by
Chichester Rotary

Nominees:
Heartspace (0005)
My Sisters' House CIC (0026)
The Four Streets Project (0027)
St Wilfrid's Hospice volunteers (0028)
Tyler's Trust (0029)
PAGAM (0030)

SCHOOL STAR
Sponsored by
Great Ballard School

Nominees:
Sheagh Legrave OBE (0010)
Anne Gwerlan (0011)
Jo Lewis (0012)

BEST COMMUNITY EVENT
Sponsored by
Anderson Rowntree

Nominees:
Pagham Pram Race (0031)
Singing for the Soul (0032)
Chichester Parkrun (0033)

BEST COACH

Nominees:
Linda O'Leary (0013)
David Churcher (0014)

CONTRIBUTION TO ARTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Nominees:
Kate Bennett (0034)
David Tinsley (0035)
Story Factory (0036)

SPORTS TEAM OR SPORTS PERSON OF THE YEAR
Sponsored by
KIWI Recruitment

Nominees:
Chichester Runners juniors (0015)
Chichester City Ladies football first team (0016)
Chichester Priory Park Cricket Club 1st XI (0017)

OBSERVER AWARD FOR SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT
Sponsored by
Rolls Royce

Chosen by the Observer, this award recognises the special achievements or effort by an individual or a group.

Who will become this year's award winners?

Time is running out for readers to decide who should win one of our magnificent Observer series Community awards.

There are so many deserving candidates it is going to be hard to choose from our shortlist of fantastic nominees (on the left)! There is a voting form on this page, where you can choose one winner for each category.

If you wish, you may pick a winner for each and every category, or you can just choose the ones you particularly wish to vote for.

The only stipulation is that you can name only one person in each category you choose to vote in.

Votes can be made only on the official form from the Observer newspapers (no photocopies will be accepted) or by text with voting closing at 11.30pm on November 9.

To text send a message to 85100 comprising of CCO followed by a space COMM a space then the four digit voting code of the nominee you are voting for (eg CCO COMM 0001). Voting by text costs £1.50 per vote plus one standard network rate message.

The winners will be revealed at a fantastic awards evening at Butlin's in Bognor Regis on December 4 at 6pm. All are welcome to attend.

Voting by text costs £1.50 per vote plus one standard network rate message. Don't forget the spaces! You can vote as often as you like before the text line closes at 11.30pm, November 9, 2017. By entering, you are indicating that you are happy to receive offers from Johnston Press Plc. by SMS. Please add NOINFO at the end of your text entry if you do not wish to receive these. www.johnstonpress.co.uk/competition.

This year's Observer Community Awards are taking place at Butlin's in Bognor Regis on Monday, December 4. The winners will be chosen by readers (with the exception of the Special Achievement Award which will be chosen by Observer staff). The winners will be announced at our free awards ceremony to which all members of the community are invited.

TO BE A SPONSOR OR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ATTENDING THE EVENT: Get in touch with Claire Carter on 01243 534147.

FULL DETAILS: JPSOUTHEVENTS.CO.UK



Story Factory, left, and coach David Churcher, above right



Erik Jack



Shelagh Legrave



Pamela Sweet



The Four Streets Project, left, and The Regis School, above



space is a community group which organises a variety of activities for all ages of adults. Singing, cooking, and other creative events are put on regularly to promote good mental health and wellbeing in the community. Katrina, who set up Heartspace a little over a year ago, said: "Our emphasis is on self expression and getting together, being social and expressing your inner creativity."

My Sisters' House CIC
Based in Bognor Regis, the centre has helped hundreds of vulnerable women across Arun and Chichester. It provides a safe, welcoming, non-judgemental place where women with a variety of difficulties can talk to someone and be offered support. The team of five staff and 26 volunteers have created a sanctuary for the many they have supported since opening in 2015. Founder Julie Budge said: "Everything we do is rooted in the belief that when they have hope, every woman with multiple challenges has the capacity to change."

The Four Streets Project
This small group of around 19 compassionate volunteers provide food, water, hot drinks, blankets and coats as well as a friendly and non-judgemental ear to Chichester's homeless seven nights of the week. Going out in pairs since January 2017, they have not missed a single night so far in 2017, and have become an invaluable service to a growing number of rough sleepers in

the four streets of Chichester. Together with the Observer, they ran a community coat rack which saw 200 coats recycled to families who needed them.

St Wilfrid's Hospice volunteers
The nearly 500 volunteers play a crucial part in making St Wilfrid's Hospice what it is, whether it's helping in the shops, fundraising at events, working on the wards, transporting patients or leading activities in the day centre such as teaching patients how to make flower arrangements for their loved ones. The selfless volunteers find their work deeply rewarding, and have been instrumental in the fundraising efforts for the new St Wilfrid's Hospice currently being built in Bosham.

Tyler's Trust
Tyler's Trust is a wonderful charity that brings a little sunshine into the lives of youngsters going through a very difficult time. It provides tailored gift boxes for children with life-threatening illnesses while they are in hospital and is run by Tyler Murphy, a Barnham 20-year-old who has had a brain tumour since he was 12 years old. Run with his mum Jan, Tyler's charity supports many children and their families and the annual Tyler's Trust fun-day is always a brilliant occasion.

PAGAM
The Pagham and Aldwick Greenfields Action Movement was set up to fight and make residents aware of the thousands of new houses being proposed on

agricultural land in the parishes of Pagham, Aldwick and Bersted. Jenni Bennett said: "This amazing group of people work tirelessly for us, attending endless meetings with local councils and residents, organising fundraising events, preparing monthly newsletters to keep us all up-to-date with developments. You only have to look at their website www.PAGAM.uk to see the lengths they go to on our behalf."

BEST COMMUNITY EVENT

Pagham Pram Race
For many, dressing up in all manner of costumes and dashing around the pubs of Pagham pushing a lovely-prepared pram (or simply watching the fun unfold) is a firm Boxing Day morning tradition. Last year's was the 71th pram race Pagham has staged and saw 185 people take part, dressed as everything from Tim Peake to Donald Trump. Over the past three years the event has handed £35,000 to a variety of charities.

Singing for the Soul
A group of highly motivated volunteers from Dementia Support and the local community lead a weekly singing group for the over 50s at Tangmere Village Centre. The inclusion of people with dementia makes this weekly event significant. People with dementia have a special ability to remember songs and music becomes a route to communication and engagement. Singing for the Soul is well attended and although a relatively new community event, it is already bringing together individuals from the local and surrounding areas.

Chichester Parkrun
Chichester Parkrun regularly sees more than 200 people line up in Oaklands Park every Saturday morning for a 5km run, walk, chat and coffee. The national event is open to everyone, totally free and safe and easy to take part in. In the 164 events since Chichester Parkrun was set up in August 2014, 4,359 participants have collaboratively completed 23,617 runs, covering a grand

total of 118,085km. Fully run by volunteers, more than 400 people have given up their time in the first three years of the event. There are also half yearly collections for the Chichester Foodbank, and at the birthday event this year nearly 100kgs of food was handed over.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE ARTS

Kate Bennett
If there is a production hitting our local boards, the chances are that Kate Bennett is directing it. Kate, who works at the Regis Centre in Bognor, is one of the most prolific and successful directors in the area, always relishing a challenge, always getting the best out of her cast. She directs regularly for BRoS in Bognor Regis and for the Arundel Players, always winning the respect of audiences and performers alike.

David Tinsley
For years now, David Tinsley, as chairman, has overseen the happy running of the hugely successful Funtington Music Group, based at the University of Chichester. A unique venture, it combines music and education, offering lecture recitals to FMG members, the general public and University of Chichester students. Crucially, it also makes substantial donations to music education at the university, both in terms of bursaries to individual students and fundraising to buy instruments.

Story Factory Chichester
Writers Katy Lassetter, Vicky Edwards and the Story Factory Chichester team have been nominated by a very happy parent. Kate Jerome said: "My daughter has attended Story Factory for the past three years and absolutely loves it. Katy and Vicky offer such a unique opportunity for children to explore their creative skills. They come up with some really exciting themes and ideas for the group each time, and my daughter grabs the chance to write stories, create artwork and develop songs. There is nowhere else quite like this, offering such great creative opportunities for children in one session."

spite suffering hardship herself, her mum always puts her and her brother first, especially fighting for her autistic son when he became unwell, taking him to hospital appointments and fighting for him to be supported at home. Jennifer described her mum as her best friend and her hero for juggling work with always being there for her children.

HERO TO ANIMALS

AlphaPet
"When my two dogs had a fight over a bone, Kobie my one-year-old French bulldog had horrific injuries to his right eye," said Kerry Clarke in nominating the West Meads vets in Bognor. "I got him to the vets as quickly as I could and upon arrival Kobie had gone into shock and had to have surgery to remove his eye. "I can't thank the vets enough for how well and how quick they were in treating him. They were amazing. The vets' dog show each year raises money for charity and wildlife are also treated, with people often bringing in hedgehogs and birds."

Nigel Mundy
Pagham Pories founder Nigel Mundy has been nominated as

a hero to animals. Su Hauxwell said: "He has saved these horses and ponies from certain death and continues to look after them as if they were his children. He is totally dedicated to ensuring that all his ponies are well looked after and cared for. He is selfless and committed to ensuring they have 100 per cent love and care and he never misses a day up at the yard."

Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital
For more than 45 years, Brent Lodge has been an integral part of the community, each year treating more than 3,000 animals, including several species of birds, hedgehogs and other small mammals from across West Sussex and Hampshire. Staff at the Sidlesham centre are passionate about their welfare. Wherever possible they treat and release back into the wild. Their team is supported by lots of volunteers and their work ensuring hedgehogs have a future is inspiring, with numbers nationally in decline.

BEST VOLUNTARY/ CHARITY GROUP
Heartspace
Based in the Witterings, Heart-