

## Charity awards night puts volunteers firmly in the spotlight

Some of Nottingham's most deserving unsung heroes were recognised last night, Thursday 26th November, at the BIG10 Awards Ceremony, organised by the Partnership Council charity and held at Djanogly City Academy Nottingham on Gregory Boulevard from 6.00pm - 8.30pm.

The BIG10 Awards were launched by the Partnership Council to recognise and reward the work of people who go the extra mile to help others and their communities. There were 10 awards up for grabs, with the 10 winners being chosen from a shortlist of 30.

### The winners were:

**Ron Booth** who won both the Older Person of the Year Award and the Outstanding Community Contribution of the Year Award for his volunteer work raising money for the Royal National Institute of Blind People - for the last 43 years to date! In addition 76-year-old Ron supports a range of local community organisations as a volunteer and plays a very active role in community life. For example, Ron is frequently asked to give talks in local schools about his experiences as a former miner and what life was like growing up during the Second World War. Ron also writes for the Bygones section of the Nottingham Evening Post.

**Amdani Juma** who won the Volunteer of the Year Award for his volunteer work as an advocate, interpreter and campaigner at the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum, Terrence Higgins Trust and NHS Nottingham City.

**Abundance** a green project run by volunteers addressing a number of environmental issues such as growing food locally, sharing resources and local community resilience, who won the Green Project of the Year Award.

**Farrah Farooq** who won the Young Person of the Year Award for providing advice to the local community as a volunteer, especially those who don't speak English as a first language and for organising workshops, events and activities for other young people voluntarily.

**Adrian Newbold** a Police Community Protection Officer from Radford Road Police Station who won the Partnership Worker of the Year Award for his role in developing community cohesion in Nottingham.

**The Nottingham Arimathea Trust** a small charity who won the Community Group of the Year Award for providing assistance and volunteering opportunities to refugees and asylum seekers.

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**The Pearey Family** Mick, Lynne and Rebecca, who won the Skills Exchange of the Year Award for being such reliable and enthusiastic volunteers who are always willing to help others.

**Bar Deux** in Sherwood, who won the Community Business of the Year Award for allowing community groups to use its premises for free, whilst showing how a local business can benefit from supporting its local community.

**The Students Learning & Sports Academy** a small community group who won the Neighbourhood Project of the Year Award for helping children and providing them with a range of activities which support learning.

All 10 winners were presented with a BIG10 Awards trophy and a certificate whilst winners and nominees were treated to a champagne reception and buffet.

The evening was attended by some very special guests who presented the winners with their awards including, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mick Wildgust and his Lady Mrs Wildgust, Nina Dauban from the Nottinghamshire Community Foundation, Clare Goff, Deputy Editor of the national magazine New Start, Nigel Cooke and Maggie Grimshaw from One Nottingham, Amy Bladen from Nottingham City Council, Jo Dean and Bill Tomson from Nottingham CVS and Leon Hayward and Tom Huggon from the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust.

**To find out more about the BIG10 Awards, including any of the winners, please contact Ruth Greenberg or George Moulson on 0115 970 8200 or email [ruth@partnershipcouncil.co.uk](mailto:ruth@partnershipcouncil.co.uk) or [george@partnershipcouncil.co.uk](mailto:george@partnershipcouncil.co.uk)**

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