

News from Suffolk Community Foundation



As many of you will know Suffolk Community Foundation has, for a number of years, partnered with the High Sheriff of Suffolk to produce an annual award ceremony and grants programme.

There has never been a more important time to celebrate the voluntary contributions people make to improving our society. As austerity measures cut ever deeper, funding for key projects becomes increasingly difficult to find. Over 50% of us seek support and advice from local charities each year and 83,000 people (including 21,000 young people and 25,000 older people) continue to live below the poverty line in our county. We all need to pull together and say thank you to Suffolk's 60,000 volunteers for their important work and encourage others to step up and make a difference in any way they can.

Could we please ask you to consider this important message from our High Sheriff, William Kendall. Please spread the word and encourage nominations for this year's awards. Thank you.

The High Sheriff of Suffolk



I am writing to ask for voluntary groups and individuals to submit their entries to the annual community awards. The High Sheriff's Awards are designed to reward the volunteers in Suffolk who devote their time and energy to improving the communities in which they live and work, making Suffolk a better and safer place to live.

If you know of or are a voluntary group or someone who deserves special recognition for work in the community and making Suffolk a better and safer place in which to live, make sure you apply for a prestigious High Sheriff's Award. High Sheriff's Awards have often been a turning point for organisations who have found the publicity from winning them has accelerated their subsequent development.

This year I have created a brand new award for 2017: "The High Sheriff's Special Award for Work in the Environment" sponsored by Muntons plc of Stowmarket. This award will be given to the individual or group whose voluntary work involves enhancing Suffolk's natural environment in any way.

Entries can be submitted for seven categories:

- **Corporate Community Partnership of the Year**

- Corporate Group or Organisation of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Under 25 Young Volunteer of the Year
- Youth Organisation of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Special Award for Work in the Environment

Nomination forms can be found using this link <http://suffolkcf.org.uk/grants/high-sheriffs-awards-2/> where you will also find the criteria for each category. Each award consists of a trophy and a cheque for the not-for-profit groups involved.

The closing date for the nominations for this year's High Sheriff Awards is next Thursday 26th January 2017 and the award ceremony will take place on Thursday 23rd March 2017 at Snape Maltings.

For further information or if you have any queries, please email either Laura Ripman at laura.ripman@suffolkcf.org.uk or Amy Everest at amy.everest@suffolkcf.org.uk at the Suffolk Community Foundation. Alternatively please call them on 01473 602602.

With best wishes

William

Charity Number 1109453