

Celebration for Rushmoor's volunteers' hard work

An evening of entertainment, certificates and speeches was held at the Princes Hall, Aldershot to celebrate the valuable contribution made by Rushmoor's many volunteers.

The Rushmoor Volunteer Recognition Evening, organised by Rushmoor Borough Council and the Rushmoor Volunteer Centre on Friday 12 February 2010, officially thanked the many people across the borough who give their time to help others and work on community projects.

Around 100 volunteers came along to the evening, representing a number of local voluntary organisations including Scout and Guide groups, schools, churches, the Citizens Advice Bureau, , The Aldershot Military Museum, Cove Brook Greenway Group, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Help for Heroes and many more.

The evening featured a number of guest speakers including the Mayor of Rushmoor, Councillor Roger Kimber; Rushmoor Voluntary Services Chief Executive Greg Alexander and Rushmoor's Town Twinning Officer, Alison Boukhobza. There was also a live dance performance from the Greater Rushmoor Nepalese Community and songs from the new musical, Stand By Your Beds, written by local man, Paul Tickner.

Mr Michael Betts and wife Dee, from Aldershot, were awarded a 'Certificate of Appreciation' for their continued work to raise money for Help for Heroes (pictured). Since November, Mr and Mrs Betts along with the help of Terry Suderby, have raised more than £14,000 for the charity and have many more fund raising events planned.

Mayor of Rushmoor, Councillor Roger Kimber, said: "This year's event has been the busiest since we launched the special evening seven years ago. There are hundreds of people across the borough giving up their spare time to help others and this is the ideal opportunity for us to show our appreciation on behalf of the community of Rushmoor."

Volunteering in the borough is co-ordinated by the Rushmoor Volunteer Centre, based in Farnborough. The centre helps support voluntary and community groups working in Rushmoor and membership is free. For more information, or to become a volunteer, visit www.rushmoor.gov.uk or www.rvs.org.uk

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