

RUSHMOOR VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS 2025



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AND



THE
SIXTH
FORM
COLLEGE
FARNBOROUGH

Message from the Mayor

One of the greatest privileges of serving as Mayor has been seeing the extraordinary dedication of volunteers across Rushmoor.

Every day, people give their time, energy, and compassion to support neighbours, strengthen local groups, and bring hope where it is needed most.

Volunteering is about far more than the tasks completed. It is about connection - the friendships formed, the bridges built between cultures and generations, and the sense of belonging created when people come together for a shared purpose. This spirit of kindness and generosity is what makes Rushmoor so special.



Tonight's celebration is a chance to pause and recognise those whose efforts often go unseen, but whose impact is felt throughout our borough. To each and every volunteer - thank you.

Thank you for strengthening the fabric of our community, for showing that Rushmoor is a place where people care for one another, and for reminding us that together, we can achieve so much more.

Calum Stewart

CALUM STEWART,
MAYOR OF RUSHMOOR

RUSHMOOR
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Message from RVS Chair of Trustees

As Chair of RVS, it is my great pleasure and privilege to welcome you all to tonight's Volunteer Recognition Awards Ceremony, supported by Rushmoor Borough Council. This evening is dedicated to celebrating the incredible people who give so much of their time, skills, and energy to support our community and help make Rushmoor a better place.

Volunteering lies at the very heart of our local area and your collective efforts touch every corner of our borough. It is only fitting that we come together to shine a spotlight on the remarkable achievements and selfless contributions made by volunteers across so many organisations and causes.

**ANDREW LLOYD,
CHAIR OF RVS**



These awards are a small token of appreciation for the countless hours and unwavering commitment you bring to your roles. Your actions inspire others and remind us of the power and importance of community.

On behalf of RVS and RBC, I thank you sincerely for all that you do. Please join me in celebrating the wonderful achievements of our volunteers – you are the lifeblood of our community and truly deserve this recognition.





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Art, Culture and Heritage



Keith Bean

**Nominator:
Cllr. Sophie Porter**

Keith's dedication to preserving Aldershot & Farnborough's cultural heritage is outstanding. He offers his time to lead historical walks, give community talks, and author books that keep the town's rich military history alive. Keith's commitment ensures that the stories of the past continue to inspire and educate future generations.

I love Volunteering because:

I love volunteering because its worthwhile and fun! Meeting some great people, and helping great causes and events!

~ Keith Bean



RVS Responder Team



Do you want to volunteer but don't have time for a regular volunteering slot?

Then becoming an RVS Responder could be for you! We are looking for volunteers to join our Responder Team for bite size (one-off) community events in Rushmoor.

What type of events can I volunteer at?

Opportunities could include a sports event, music festival, Remembrance service, Christmas event, summer fête, litter pick or conservation day.

Thrive Together Programme

In addition, our responders are able to access the RVS Thrive Together Programme which includes well-being sessions, social activities and training.

Volunteering in Rushmoor



Do you want to volunteer?

Look no further than the Volunteer North Hampshire website for over 400 exciting volunteering opportunities.

Are you looking to recruit volunteers?

You can advertise your volunteering roles for free on the Volunteer North Hampshire website.



volunteering@rvs.org.uk



www.volunteernorthhants.org

Community Champions



Marquetta Lyte

**Nominator:
Lashana Williams**

For the past five years, this dedicated volunteer has provided invaluable companionship to elderly individuals through regular phone calls, emotional support, and meaningful conversations. Their consistent efforts have brightened the lives of isolated seniors, creating a lasting impact on mental wellbeing and community bonds.



**Just4kids
Aldershot
Volunteer Team**

**Nominator:
Ellie Simpson (CSSEF)**

The team work so hard getting all donations ready and keeping our shop flowing while raising funds for Chloe's and Sophie's Special Ears Fund while always smiling. They offer great customer service and friendship to our community too.



Cohesion Buddies

Nominator:
Katie Wilson (RVS)

Cohesion Buddies play a key role in our project's success. Their support helps migrant community members volunteer with community partners, contribute meaningfully, and develop a sense of purpose, connection, and inclusion in their local communities.



Chris Fuller

Nominator:
Srijana Paudel +
Frances Osang (The
Vine Centre)

Despite what's happening in Chris' personal life, he continues to give his time to the Vine Centre. He is dedicated, reliable and efficient at performing his role of picking up donations from supermarkets two days a week, as well as organising our pantry. He is very helpful and is an asset to the vine.



Carol Cross

Nominator:
Max Bridger

I am nominating Carol Cross to highlight her dedication and commitment to supporting the Farnborough and Aldershot Lions Club.

Carol goes above and beyond to support the community, demonstrating a genuine passion for helping others.



Sarah Hughes

Nominator:
Nicola Booth (Single Parents Support and Advice Services)

Sarah has been volunteering with us for a few years, she goes above and beyond to support our most vulnerable members collecting surplus food from the supermarkets, making it into parcels and then delivering them direct to the clients. Nothing is ever too much and Sarah always does all she can to bring smiles to our members.



RVS Responder Team

Nominator:
Heather Chalkley (RVS)

Whatever the challenge RVS Responders step up to meet it! From big events like Victoria Day to joining the Poppy Appeal, you can rely on them to play their part. Having backup for urgent appeals gives us confidence that we can be there for our community.



GRNC Volunteers

Nominator:
Sushila Magar (GRNC)

Dhan Gurung and his team have long supported Nepali beneficiaries at Community Grub Hub through interpreting, registration, and guidance, while also assisting GRNC with workshops, appointments, and travel, ensuring vital community access, awareness, and inclusion.



Jan May

Nominator:
James Douglas
(Community Grub Hub)

Jan, a dedicated volunteer, arrives early to manage inbound food with energy and consistency. She tirelessly supports the team, moving supplies across the building dozens of times a day. Her commitment and reliability make her a vital contributor truly deserving recognition.



RCIB Judges

Nominator:
Angela Wilson (RCIB)

Rushmoor Community in Bloom judges dedicate their time, expertise and passion to: support local gardening projects; encourage community involvement; enhance our environment; and celebrate creativity, pride and achievement across the borough. Thank you!

I love Volunteering because:

I love volunteering because I get to meet some amazing people, learn more about the community and get involved with new opportunities.

~ Sue Hathaway



Disability & Accessibility



Chloe's and Sophie's Special Ears Fund Team

Nominator:
Donna Bowers

Karen and the team at CSSEF work tirelessly raising funds via events, sales and fundraising to support local education settings throughout Rushmoor. They ensure that any child with a hearing loss or impairment is supported with equipment, and provide training for the people around them to give them the best education possible.



PAG Committee

Nominator:
Ren Hawes & Jacqueline Jones

The volunteers at Parent Action Group for special play (PAG) are the heart and soul of the charity, bringing unwavering dedication, compassion, and energy to everything they do. Their commitment to supporting families and advocating for positive change is truly inspiring. Simply put, PAG wouldn't be what it is without them.



Olivia Beaumont

**Nominator:
Lynsey Rimmington
(Parent Action Group
for special play)**

Olivia is a great volunteer for PAG. She supports with children and young adults with disabilities / additional needs, giving them confidence to be part of the group. Olivia will always do her best to be there for PAG events and weekly groups. Charities like ours couldn't run without people like Olivia.

Environment



Judith Layzell

**Nominator:
Lyn Bruty**

Judith very kindly volunteers with our small, local group North Camp Clean Up Rangers to help beautify North Camp village. Clearing car parks of leaves and debris; weeding etc. She is also involved with Edible Wellesley - growing food to eat on the Wellesley development. All these small actions build up to make a big difference!



Bikestart Team

Nominator:

Peter Shears (The Source Young People's Charity)

This amazing team has recycled, refurbished and sold unwanted donated bikes for 10 years, in Rushmoor Borough. All profits are used to support local young people struggling with their wellbeing and mental health through The Source Young People's Charity.



Richard Price

Nominator:

Hazel Chant (Blooming Marvellous - Supported Volunteers)

Richard has been going to water the Farnborough Rotary Accessible Garden (FRAG) consistently every evening throughout the summer - keeping the garden alive, in production and looking fantastic.

I love Volunteering because:

I love volunteering because It's a great way to be involve in my community and to make a positive contribution.

~ Judith Layzell



WALK LEADERS

We would love you to join our team!

- **Can you spare an hour or two per week?**
- **Do you enjoy a walk and a friendly chat along the way?**

For more details contact

walks@rvs.org.uk

01252 398450

Project managed by Rushmoor Voluntary Services
Reg. Charity No. 1059794



VOLUNTEER BEFRIENDERS

- **Do you enjoy a chat either over the phone or face to face?**
- **Could you commit to about one hour a week?**

Get in touch with us today to find out how you could you make a difference

MORE INFORMATION

 Rachel.PleydellBrown@rvs.org.uk  01252 398450  www.rvs.org.uk



Health and Wellbeing



Volunteer Befrienders

Nominator:
Rachel Pleydell Brown
(RVS)

The team of Volunteer Befrienders are instrumental in making the Social Inclusion project a success. Residents look forward to visits and calls. Feedback includes: “my Befriender is a ray of sunshine,” “phone calls are a godsend,” and “it makes all the difference.” This nomination thanks the whole team for their commitment.

community
grubhub

Carole Hambleton

Nominator:
Deidre Tripp

She works tirelessly as a volunteer, always giving her time, energy, and dedication to help others, and her consistent efforts at the Grub Hub have made a huge and lasting difference to the community and the people who rely on its support.



John Hood

Nominator:
Beverley Jones (RVS)

This nomination recognises and thanks John for his dedication, enthusiasm, and the many hours he puts into the Wellbeing Walks project. John reliably leads two walks every week. Whatever the weather, he warmly welcomes and supports our walkers to increase physical activity and form friendships along the way. We are very grateful to him.

Sports and Recreation



Ride Rushmoor

Nominator:
Kath O'Rourke (RBC)

Ride Rushmoor, a long established social and physical activity group, welcome any adult interested in their free social rides. The passion of this small group ensures a friendly welcome and that no one is left behind. Special thanks to Joolz -involved from the start and a great advocate known for her commitment, knowledge and dedication to this sport.

Rushmoor Voluntary Services

Legacy Grant

RVS manage a small grants fund, which is available to organisations working in the Rushmoor area. In summary, the fund is available to support most charitable purposes *and is really easy to apply for.*

Successful applications are normally granted for bids up to £1,000 although requests for exceptional amounts will be considered.

Please write to tell us what you would like the funding for, how much you need and who will benefit.

For more information, or to simply apply, please email ceo@rvs.org.uk

COMMUNITY MINIBUS HIRE

transport@rvs.org.uk

We offer a flexible & low cost hire service for community groups, schools, care homes and other non profit making organisations supporting residents in Rushmoor and Hart districts.



Buses available for B1 and D1 licensed drivers. Call us to discuss your requirements:
01252 398450
transport@rvs.org.uk

Unsung Hero Or Good Neighbour



**Sarahjane
Commarford**

**Nominator:
Jamie Beaton (RAAG)**

Sarahjane has volunteered with RAAG since its formation and became Chair in 2024. She champions disability inclusion in Rushmoor, working tirelessly to engage professionals and residents and improve lives through advocacy, leadership, and community collaboration.

**I love Volunteering
because:**

I love volunteering because I'm passionate about supporting our local community to become more inclusive!

~ Sarahjane Commarford



Young Volunteers

Volunteer Highlight!

I love volunteering because I love to help my community and engage with others. I love to see the passion and support people have for their community and to be a part of it is a feeling I will never forget

~ Connie



Volunteer Highlight!

I feel grateful to be able to help those less fortunate, and to give back to those in need

~George

Young Volunteers



In House Volunteers

Nominator:
Megan Kerry (RVS)

Tony, Simon, Sandra, Keri, and David provide outstanding behind-the-scenes support at RVS. They maintain our website; update our multiple databases; produce our Members Newsletter; and tackle admin tasks. Their commitment, skill, and teamwork make a huge impact, and we are incredibly grateful for their contributions. Special thanks to Keri - since July 24, Keri diligently created RVS' fortnightly Members Newsletter, despite a busy Uni life, relocating and starting a new job!



Club helpers

Nominator:
Lindsay Graham
(Hart and Rushmoor Young Carers)

Our young adult leaders demonstrate outstanding commitment and dedication to supporting young carers.

Each of them has volunteered as a club helper at our weekly respite sessions for between 1 and 5 years, providing vital support, encouragement and a listening ear to younger carers. Their empathy, reliability and willingness to give their time make a lasting difference to the lives of those they support.



Where can I find out about social groups?



I need support with housing, where do I look for help?



I'm looking to become more active, what sports clubs can I join?



I need support with my mental wellbeing, where can I get help?

Rushmoor Link
your community directory

One place to find information about local activities, groups and community services.



www.rushmoorlink.org

RUSHMOOR
Voluntary Services
Local support for local people

RUSHMOOR
BOROUGH COUNCIL

A collaboration project with local partners

Rushmoor COMMUNITY LOTTERY

Support good causes in
Aldershot and Farnborough,
with a chance to win
up to £25,000!

Are you
part of a local
good cause that
wants to raise
money?
**Sign up
today!**



**150+ local good
causes to support!**



**£260,000+ raised
since 2017!**



**more than £59,000
of cash prizes won!**



Play in a syndicate

To buy tickets,
go to rushmoorlottery.co.uk
or call **01252 279727**



@RushmoorCommunityLottery

@RushmoorLottery

Thank you for attending the

Rushmoor Volunteer Awards

2025

As we bring this enchanting evening to a close, we hope that every moment has wrapped you in a warm embrace of gratitude and celebration. Tonight was about more than awards—it was a celebration of the countless smiles, tireless dedication, and selfless spirit that each of you brings to our community.

We trust that you felt truly valued, recognized, and celebrated, because your contributions light up our world in ways words can scarcely capture.

As Princess Diana so beautifully put it, “Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward... safe in the knowledge that one day, someone might do the same for you.”

May you carry the glow of tonight’s admiration in your heart, inspiring you to continue making a remarkable difference.

Thank you for being the vibrant heart of our shared journey.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO

- Glow Radio
- Shuffle Tunes
- RVS Volunteers
- Paul Mannering
- Aabhash and Ebere



Pictures from the Rushmoor Volunteer Recognition Awards will be shared on social media and added to the RVS website, along with this booklet.



@rushmoorvolunteers



facebook/rushmoorvolunteers



www.rvs.org.uk