

Tonight Ladies and Gentlemen we are here to honour those unsung heroes, who go about our town and make Shrewsbury what it is today...somewhere we love to live, work, play and visit. Many of these people just get on and do what they do without question, fuss or attention.

It's not about who has done the best, it is about who has done their best for our town, for in some way shape or form we can all contribute to town life.

Our Mayor and Deputy Mayor have witnessed first hand the work of these individuals, organisations and community groups and both are extremely supportive of their nominations tonight.



We begin with the **Business Category**;



Oberon Clothing & Accessories (SILVER) – One of Shrewsbury’s biggest offers in the number of independent shops and this entrant is one of them. This business has been trading in Wyle Cop for over 30 years. Having a friendly relaxed environment means staff are happy, customers are happy and Shrewsbury retains a vital and viable town centre.

Salop Design & Engineering (SILVER) - This locally run business has won awards before for its innovative business models and more recently its significant investment into developing a credible Apprenticeship operation locally rather than young people having to commute for training. But this award is given to reflect its commitment to the local community and in particular helping us instigate our Alternative Giving Scheme. We needed to develop a donations box that could withstand war in Beirut, was watertight, couldn’t be on set fire, and was relatively easy to open and collect the donations from but that also needed to be pleasant to look at. “No problem, leave it with us” they said. A couple of weeks later we took delivery of 4 boxes and they have been in the town centre now for over a year and have raised over £1600 to support the genuine homeless.



Tesco Extra Battlefield (Gold) - With their Strapline “Every Little Helps”, Tesco Extra at Battlefield have established themselves as a central focus for community life in North Shrewsbury. They have recently developed a Community Room, which has been used by many individuals and community organisations free of charge for everything from exercise classes, baby groups, adult education, hobby classes, charity meetings and much more.

Business Award Winner



Tesco Extra Battlefield



Shrewsbury Town Council



Now on to the Built Heritage Awards:



Cambrian House (GOLD) – This 1960s Office Block has for many years been under-occupied and redundant becoming a blot on the landscape right in the town centre. Now, after a meticulous £3m facelift, this building has had a major change of use into flats and, in the case of the penthouse apartments at the top of the building, some of the most sought after views of the town. Cambrian House now proudly sits in its setting as one of the key gateways into the town centre.

Rowland Court (GOLD) - Rowland Court has become Severnside Housings Flagship Development. The site housed an outdated sheltered housing scheme consisting of 88 one-bed flats and bedsits, which due to its age were no-longer fit for purpose, difficult to let and therefore under-occupied. By developing an open market development the proceeds could be used to subsidise affordable housing provision elsewhere. With great attention to detail this development was created to fit into the existing Victorian and Edwardian Streetscene, so much so that you would think they had always been there.

St Nicholas Bar & Grill (GOLD) - Once a Grade II Listed Chapel and then the home of the former Borough Council Benefits Office, this building has been meticulously up-graded and transformed into a Moroccan-inspired Boutique Hotel, Bar, Café and Spa Facility right in the heart of the town centre. This is a fine example of making the most of a beautiful building and changing its use for a more contemporary lifestyle.

Built Heritage Award Winner



Cambrian House



Shrewsbury Town Council



In a place like Shrewsbury, tourism plays a huge part in promoting the town and generating the local economy.



The Big Busk (SILVER) - The Big Busk is a celebration of community, music and talent in Shrewsbury. Performances cover a whole range of musical genres from opera and classical to contemporary and folk. But it has a serious side remembering local Busker Ben Bebbington and raising much valued funds for the Shrewsbury Ark.

Mark Hooper (SILVER) - Mark is the Office Manager of Sabrina Boat organising bookings for coach parties, developing packages with other businesses and tourism providers and encouraging organisations to work together. He has had an active involvement in the Shrewsbury Tourism Association and contributed greatly to the town's accreditation as a Coach Friendly Town. From my perspective he is the one that makes the town's involvement in the two national Tourism Exhibitions happen. I pay the bill and he does the rest.

Shrewsbury Festivals Ltd (SILVER) - Shrewsbury Festivals Limited are the UK's only tribute Festival and they have been a nationwide success with locations up and down the country. So it was good to attract the festival to Shrewsbury last year. So if it's Queen, the Jam or the Foo Fighters - this is the festival for you.



Shrewsbury Morris (GOLD) - The Shrewsbury Morris Dancers have been going for over 40 years. They have been entertaining our residents and visitors with their own indomitable style. Unbeknown to many, they are made up of three teams; the Shrewsbury Lasses, the Shrewsbury Bull & Pump Morris Men. They have done much to promote the town with not only their fun, frolics, music and dance, but also their social media presence which has over 73000 followers across the globe.

Stan Sedman (GOLD) - Whilst I would always give him an award for being a fellow Yorkshireman, Stan is a volunteer Town Guide imparting his love and interest in his adopted town on our visitors. Of late he has been imparting his knowledge on the 3000+members of the "For the Love of Shrewsbury" Facebook Page, offering guided tours and raising over £1000 for the Lingen Davies Centre, a local facility close to many people's hearts.

Tourism Award Winner



Shrewsbury Morris



Shrewsbury Town Council



On to the Environment Awards.



Ray Parry Playground Services Ltd (SILVER) - Open space and play is extremely important for the development of young people's life skills from communication to risk management. These areas also provide great social places where we can all enjoy our local environment. The design of these spaces clearly adds to that area and we are lucky that we have a quality play area provider on our doorstep. With his strapline "Putting the Play into Playgrounds", Ray has at times lived and breathed the design and installation of some of our play facilities; the most ambitious of which was the £375k development of the Quarry Play Area & Splash Park. He knew it had to be spot-on in terms of quality because literally we knew where he lived and his life wouldn't have been worth living! I think all those who visited the Quarry Play Area last summer will agree that the children love the facility and over the spring we have taken hundreds of calls from people wanting to know when the Splash Park will be open, so we now look forward to a very warm and wet summer in the Quarry full of happy screaming children.



Alun Lines (GOLD) - Alun is a regular dog walker and visitor to Monkmoor Recreation Ground. Everyday he voluntarily clears the rec ground of litter and dog mess and even carries spare poo-bags for those forgetful dog walkers. He has become someone Town Council staff have come to rely on as he provides those eyes and ears for when staff are not around. It is so rare these days that a member of the public is so community minded.

Shrewsbury Food Hub (GOLD) - The Shrewsbury Food Hub is an umbrella group for charities and projects in Shrewsbury who can benefit from donations of surplus food from local companies. Their aim is to cut down the town's food waste and help conserve the planet's natural resources. They work with all the major supermarkets and supply to 32 groups including Severn Hospice, Food Banks Plus & Shrewsbury Ark. Much of this has been the product of their bid last year to the Sainsbury's Waste Less, Save More campaign where their bid got down to the last 5. A commendable achievement in itself.

Environment Award Winner



Alun Lines





On to the Community Awards;



Frances Knight (BRONZE) - Frances went to Signal to seek help and support for her hearing disability. Since then she has become a highly committed and dedicated volunteer. She understands the isolation and marginalisation endured by people who have this hidden disability. With her warm, welcoming personality she has been able to increase people's confidence and help them live with hearing loss.

Interfaith Shrewsbury (BRONZE) - Interfaith Shrewsbury was set up in 2010 to encourage understanding between faiths including Christians, Muslims, Hindus, Baha'l and Buddhists. The aim was to break down divisive stereotypes between people through listening to each other, sharing our understanding of faith and getting to know people as people.

Lalage Jean Bown (BRONZE) - A Somerville College Oxford Alumna and an Emeritus Professor in Adult and Continuing Education from the University of Glasgow, this 90 years young resident of Shrewsbury retains the wit and feistiness of someone a third of her age. She has been passionate about her town, its vernacular, its civic life and heritage, and more recently the role that the University Centre Shrewsbury will play in moulding not only our young people but also those not so young people who want to see what continuing education has to offer.

Sue Gorbing & Sal Hampson (BRONZE) - These two ladies have dedicated a huge amount of their time and energy to voluntary organisations that benefit many people, creating community cohesion and inclusiveness of marginalised groups. They founded Safe Ageing No Discrimination to enhance the lives of older and old LGBT people; Salopian Rainbows, which organise the National Festival of LGBT History; as well as volunteer for the Shropshire Rainbow Film Festival. This has gone a long way in making Shrewsbury a more welcoming and inclusive place for all.



Ashleys Wine bar (SILVER) - Ashley & Lisa Davies converted a redundant town centre office into a thriving bar and café enhancing Shrewsbury’s café culture in the daytime as well as a offering a night-time visitor experience in the evening. It is businesses such as this that helped us to achieve Purple Flag accreditation in 2015 and reaccreditation again in 2016. Furthermore, whilst developing this thriving business, they have helped to raise money for local charities.

Eric Smith (SILVER) - Eric has lived in Shropshire for 27 years so we can just about call him a local. He has been waking us up on the Breakfast Show for the past 18 years. Getting up at 4am every morning is award-winning in itself, but it is the things he does outside the Breakfast Show that this award is given. As we all know Eric is Mr Pantomime from mid-November onwards and, whilst still getting up at 4am, in the odd hours he has free, he has still managed to assume that all important MC role at Christmas Events such as the Christmas Lights Switch-on and Carols in the Square.

Grace & Pete Hough (SILVER) - This couple have been involved in running for many years; initially for the Shrewsbury Athletic Club but more recently as volunteers for the Shrewsbury Park Run, turning up weekly to make the run one of the most successful Park Runs in the country.



Participate Contemporary Artspace CIC (SILVER) - Participate Contemporary Artspace is the creation of 10 artists who have established an Artists Quarter right in the heart of Shrewsbury. It is set in the former Co-op Building in the Riverside Shopping Centre and what better use of a redundant building than to create opportunities for emerging artists, curators and event organisers to provide temporary gallery space, studios and project space to test people's innovation and experimentation and, in doing so, making the arts more accessible to as wide an audience as possible.

ROAB The Shrewsbury Castle Tom Scott Lodge (SILVER) - The Royal Anti-Diluvian Order of Buffaloes dates back to 1822 created by stage hands and theatre technicians. With their hallmark values being Justice, Truth, and Philanthropy, they strive to work towards a better understanding of the community they serve.

Shrewsbury Walking Football Club (SILVER) - You don't need to be young, fighting fit and able to sprint the length of a football pitch to enjoy our national game. At Monkmoor Recreation Ground there is a group of 50 somethings who play walking football on a Thursday morning. This club offers significant mental and social benefits in keeping ageing gentlemen active and enjoying companionship. And woe betide anyone who starts running!



The Royal Society of St George Shrewsbury (SILVER) - Established in 1894 the Society was designed to improve English Patriotism. Attracting members from all walks of life, the Shropshire Branch celebrates important dates in English history, as well as supporting and encouraging young people to share and maintain our culture, heritage and traditions - something very important to a town like Shrewsbury.

Shropshire Bangladeshi Welfare Society (SILVER) - The Shropshire Bangladeshi Welfare Society's aim is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Shropshire (whether members of the society or not) and in particular those of Bangladeshi origin. It does this by promoting good citizenship in a multi-racial, multi-cultural and multi-faith society, through promoting good relations, celebrating the Bangladeshi culture and history, providing advice and information, and by working with local authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants, to provide recreation and leisure facilities. Through the Muslim Prayer Centre and the Multi-cultural Days, they have ensured that Shrewsbury continues to be a safe and inclusive place that is welcoming to all.

University Centre Shrewsbury (SILVER) - They all say from acorns, mighty oaks grow. So this acorn is setting the foundations for a mighty educational establishment providing alternative post 18 education for our young people. This award isn't given for the University's educational attainments, more for its commitment to the local communities of Shrewsbury. It has opened the doors of the Guildhall, supporting many local groups by providing meeting space and young community champions to further their community aims.



Pauline Jones (GOLD) - Pauline began fund-raising for the Cobalt Unit (as it was then) in 1979 when Bernard Lingen urged local people to support the building of a dedicated Cancer Centre at RSH. At that time she worked in Ambulance Control and raised £1000 which nearly 40 years ago was a lot of money. Since then she has dedicated many hours to organising rummage sales, book sales, concerts and 24 hour whist drives. She has also undertaken some personal fundraising challenges: Walking the Sydney Harbour Bridge for her 70th Birthday and doing a Zip Wire for her 80th. A truly inspirational lady.

Richard Coles (GOLD) - Richard has had a long service with WMP and recently retired from the force. The last 3 years have seen him based in the Shrewsbury Town Centre acting as the town centre police sergeant during which time he has been instrumental in developing Team Shrewsbury. He admitted recently that he thought the concept would never catch on, but it has gone on to become one of the most effective partnerships tackling ASB and other public realm issues. Richard has been integral to the development of the Alternative Giving Scheme, the Homeless Outreach Street Triage Scheme, the Public Space Protection Order, and not to mention our Purple Flag accreditation. With a great sense of humour and humility he has received the respect of all who have come across him.

Safe Place Shropshire (GOLD) - The Safe Places Scheme was established by Mencap and led locally by the Shropshire Disability Network. It is a simple system: locations advertise themselves as a Safe Place by displaying a sticker. This tells people who may become vulnerable whilst out and about that they can receive support and assurance at that location. They will be safe. To make this contact easier, the vulnerable person may have a card with details of who to contact on their behalf. There are about 85 Safe Places in Shrewsbury.



Shrewsbury Charity Christmas Card Shop (GOLD) - This must be the ultimate in pop-up shops. The Shrewsbury Charity Christmas Card Shop in St Marys Church has been running for over 50 years and is run by volunteers with 40 charities participating. Each year they sell over £60k worth of cards, which helps local charities to raise valuable funds and more importantly enhances their local profiles.

Shropshire Disability Network (GOLD) - The Shropshire Disability Network provides a valuable service to many of our most vulnerable members of society. Whether they are young children who are deaf or are being bullied at home, young adults with learning difficulties wanting a helping hand into the working world, or adults with mobility and parking issues, they have been able to provide support and signposting to those organisations who can help. The Network has maintained strong links with other more specialist organisations which all helps to ensure that residents in Shrewsbury have a happy, inclusive and enjoyable life.

Shropshire Telford & Wrekin Age UK (GOLD) - This local branch of a national charity, Shropshire Telford & Wrekin Age UK, work with and for older people to improve the quality of later life by providing them with information and advice to enable them to make choices; providing services to help older people remain as independent as possible; and generally campaigning for better recognition and services both locally and nationally. The local centres have provided great support for those attending, together with great companionship and an overall great feeling of certainty and comfort.

Steven Maddox (GOLD) - This is a posthumous award to acknowledge the service of this individual to the scouting and guiding community. Steve sadly passed away suddenly last month. He spent his life working with beavers, cubs, scouts and explorers and has even volunteered with the brownies at Monkmoor. There have been literally hundreds of young people who have benefitted from Steven's love of scouting.

Community Award Winner



Shrewsbury Charity
Christmas Card Shop



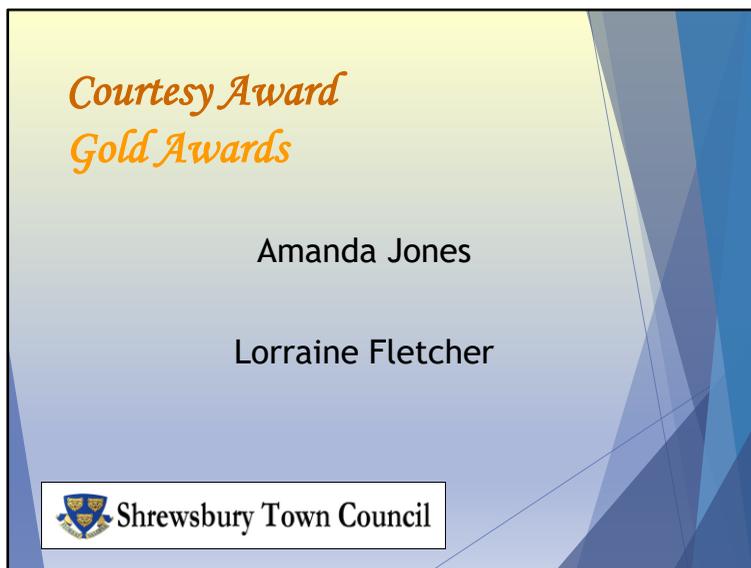
Shrewsbury Town Council



Courtesy is what makes Shrewsbury special.



Paul Coope (SILVER) - Paul is the Signal Hub Manager at their Riverside Shopping Centre Base and has helped over 25,000 people improve their quality of life as they learn to live with the impact of hearing loss. Additionally he provides a safe space and dementia friendly support to all visitors to the hub. Recently visitors were asked what words summed up the service received at the hub and courteous words such as relaxing, pleasant, friendly, caring and understanding were regularly used.



Amanda Jones (GOLD) - We have all been touched by the Syrian Refugee Crisis but Amanda decided she couldn't just sit back and let the atrocities unfold. She organised a fundraising event and raised £3k, bought a caravan and supplies and headed off to the refugee camps in Calais. Since then she has helped 16 families relocate to Shropshire and has made them feel at home. A commendable courteous achievement.

Lorraine Fletcher (GOLD) - In March 2015 Lorraine set up "For The Love of Shrewsbury" Facebook Page to bring together people with a common interest in our beautiful town, its buildings, landscape and its history. This site now has 3100 members and unlike many pages, the goodwill, humour and engagement is always positive which stems very much from its courteous administrator.

Courtesy Award Winner



Amanda Jones



Shrewsbury Town Council



On to the Youth Awards.



Grinshill Class (BRONZE) - This class at Wilfred Owen School has been very creative. Firstly, with the help of a professional artist they created two Indian Elephants which went on display in the Darwin Shopping Centre and the Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery. Then they created a Fair Trade Cook Book to celebrate Fair Trade Fortnight. This project involved them getting crowd funding for the printing costs and all proceeds go to the Shrewsbury Ark.

Shrewsbury Town in the Community (BRONZE) - With its strapline being - Health, Inclusion, Education, Participation - the First Division Club's community arm has run a Community Sports Programme targeting 4-19 year olds, providing educational programmes which give students the opportunity to study in a unique learning environment and encourages children, young people and adults to develop a healthy lifestyle.

Shropshire Youth Theatre (BRONZE) - Established in 1993, the Shropshire Youth Theatre provides a professionally staffed youth theatre for students in Shrewsbury, by providing high quality productions of traditional drama and classic texts. Their latest production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* performed to sell-out audiences at Theatre Severn last month.



Denise Lee (SILVER) - Denise is the School Games Officer at Sundorne Academy working across the two school sites and its feeder schools. She offers children many opportunities to enjoy sports and games and to become active and healthy citizens. She was instrumental in Harlescott Junior School becoming the first school in Shrewsbury to be awarded with Gold Standard in the Sainsbury's School Games Mark.

The Prince's Trust (SILVER) - Now in its 40th year, the Prince's Trust is the leading charity for young people, listening to their issues and concerns in order to provide the best possible support. Locally in Shropshire, and particularly in Shrewsbury, the Trust has helped young people from those with mobility issues and disabilities to those caught up in the negative trappings of crime, to embrace their potential, make a difference and become active and vital adults in society,

Shrewsbury Children's Bookfest (SILVER) - Founded in 1999, the aim of the Festival is to bring the world of books alive for children and to inspire and enthuse them with a love of reading. Aside from the festival, they organise a series of annual projects with schools and families.

Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service Shrewsbury (SILVER) - Through their involvement with the Chernobyl Children's Lifeline, SFRS organise an annual respite visit for children from Chernobyl. Usually a dozen youngsters between 10-12 make the trip. These children weren't born when the nuclear reactor exploded 30 years ago but they are suffering the effects because surrounding land is still heavily contaminated and people are eating and drinking contaminated food and water. By being here for just 4 weeks, they can increase their life expectancy by 2 years. A startling fact.



Alison Stevens (GOLD) - With the Strapline “Teaching Music, Changing Lives” the Shropshire Music Service provides instrumental, vocal and curriculum support for schools throughout Shropshire. The aim of the Music Service is to provide, develop and support the highest quality of music education in Shropshire and to give young people performing opportunities in schools and in the community. Alison manages the Shropshire Music Service and is an accomplished pianist and an Associate of the London College of Music. She spends much of her working week as well, as her private life, promoting the opportunities that music gives to young people. Truly an example of an individual going above and beyond.

Debate-Ed (GOLD) - The Debate-Ed Programme was re-launched in September 201 and involved over 200 students from Priory School, Meole Brace School and Prestfelde School participating under the mentorship of 8 Sixth Form College Students. The programme is designed to give young people the opportunity to develop their critical thinking, analysis, speaking & listening skills and develop leadership and teamwork particularly around a number of very key topics. Could we see the politicians or even Prime Minister of tomorrow being nurtured on our doorstep?

Shrewsbury Junior Parkrun (GOLD) - Following on from the success of the Shrewsbury Park Run, which attracts upwards of 500 runners navigating the 5km route around the Quarry, the event organisers designed a new 2km route for 4-14 year olds. Its inaugural event in February attracted 150 youngsters and best thing about it is: it’s free.

Shropshire Kids Festival (GOLD) - Started in 2016 this event in the Quarry was designed for children from birth to adults and in the first year 10,000 came along. Tickets were purposely kept to a minimum but once inside the Quarry Gates over 150 activities were free.

Youth Award Winner



Alison Stevens



Shrewsbury Town Council



We are very fortunate in Shrewsbury having a vibrant Market Hall



Ewe & Ply (3rd) - Whoever thinks knitting is the only domain of your granny is sadly wrong and research has shown that wool-related crafts are a very good way of enabling people to heal themselves or cope with illness or bereavement as well as to bring people together to reduce isolation. This is a wool haven where people can find everything wool orientated from 10g of Shetland fleece for felting to some really swanky silk yarn and everything in between.



Snapdragon Wholefoods (SECOND) – Snapdragon Wholefoods sells organic fruit, nuts and pulses as well as an extensive range of flours, teas, herbs, spices, ecover cleaning products and chemical free products.

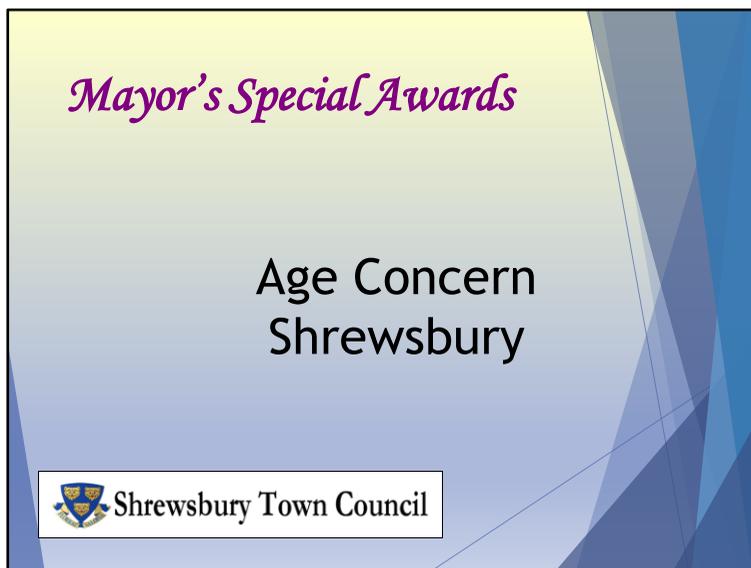


Market Buffet (FIRST) – Market Buffet is a well-established family-run business, serving a delicious selection of things to eat including scones, cakes, pastries, hot & cold snacks and the best sausage egg and chips in town!



To round off our presentation we have the Mayor's Special Awards, awarded to those the Mayor has observed during his year in office and who he would personally like to commend and show his personal gratitude.

These awards are given to individuals, organisations and businesses that the Mayor believes has gone that extra mile in helping others, promoting our town and generally making Shrewsbury that extra special place.



Age Concern Shrewsbury - We have already heard of the wonderful work of Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin in providing Day Care Centres for the elderly in our society, but the local Shrewsbury Branch have been dedicated to raising much needed funds to provide transport links to these services. The Mayor has seen first-hand how their efforts really help the elderly to be more independent and confident in order to lead as fulfilled a life as possible. Local transport gets people out of their houses and helps them to socialise with others.



Co-Op Monkmoor, Copthorne & Mount Pleasant Branches - The Co-op operates under clear values and principles that embeds them in the communities that they serve. Staff are encouraged to help in whatever way they can to promote sustainable development in their communities, be that through providing donations to organising and promoting activities or getting staff to help - they are there to help. The Mayor has seen first-hand how all the Co-op branches throughout the town have helped their respective communities.

Mayor's Special Awards

Joe & Jenny Pingrui Zheng

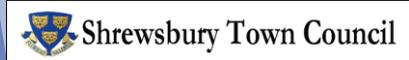


Shrewsbury Town Council

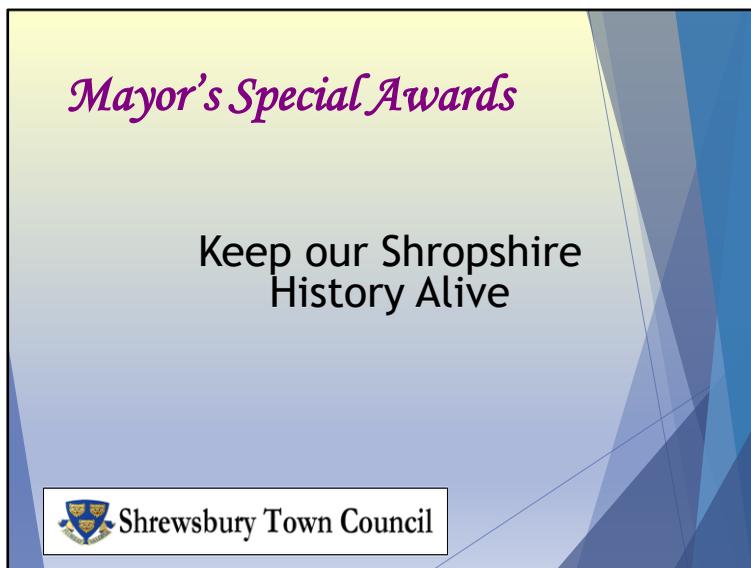
Joe & Jenny Pingrui Zheng - The Harry Hotspur is a fine example of a pub being a community asset and its managers Joe & Jenny Pingrui Zheng have embraced their local community and opened their doors to help support local community groups and raise much-needed funds. They have been very supportive of the Mayor this year and made a curry lunch to welcome our submariner visitors from the nuclear submarine HMS Talent last November. Lovely change to the usual beer and pizza.

Mayor's Special Awards

John & Val Taylor



John & Val Taylor - This husband and wife team have provided years of support and dedication to the Shrewsbury Castle and the Shropshire Regimental Museum, from helping to manage the many volunteers working at the Castle to welcoming the thousands of visitors and tourists who want to see what's inside.



Keep our Shropshire History Alive - Being a former Army man, the Mayor has been an active supporter of the work of this organisation, which is determined to save the Regimental Museum in Shrewsbury so that it continues to be an attraction for future generations to enjoy. The Shropshire Regimental Museum tells the story of Shropshire Regiments past and present through a huge collection of memorabilia, artefacts, medals, paintings, photographs and documents. This year has seen the museum losing £30k of Ministry of Defence funding plunging its future into doubt. But with a steely grit the group is on a drive to raise that funding locally.

Mayor's Special Awards

Mayor's Cadets -
Angus Buchanan &
Joseph Turnbull



Shrewsbury Town Council

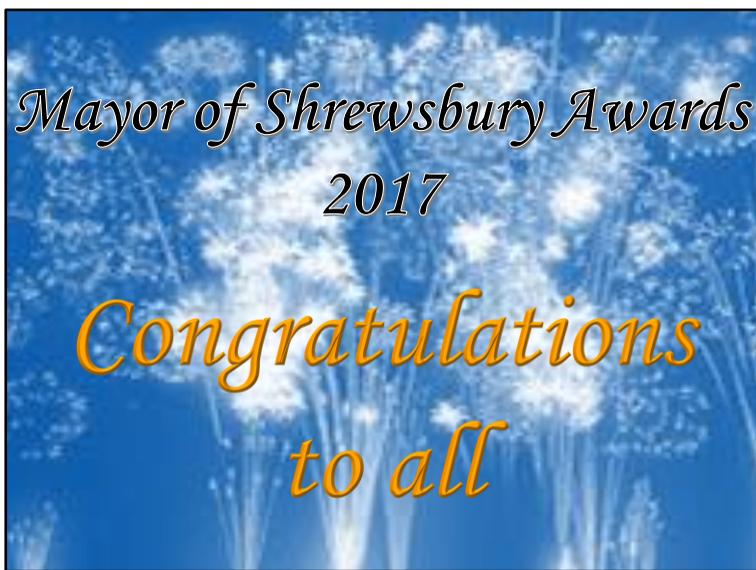
Mayor's Cadets – Angus Buchanan & Joseph Turnbull - As an ex-army man, the Mayor wanted to support the uniformed youth groups by giving them a role in his Mayoral Year. Angus is a member of the Shropshire Army Cadet Force and Joseph is a member of 119 Shrewsbury Squadron Air Training Corp both based at Copthorne Barracks. The Cadets have played a supportive role accompanying the Mayor at civic events, carrying wreaths at remembrance and acting as ambassadors for their respective Cadet Forces.



North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours - This is a group close to the Mayor's heart serving his local community well. Set up on 2002, the North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours provide one-off short-term and long-term practical and emotional support for residents in the north Shrewsbury area, providing companionship to combat isolation and loneliness and signpost people to additional help.



Vernon Bushell - As you can imagine, Mayor's Special Awards are very personal to each Mayor, but no one could argue against this award. Vernon made Shrewsbury his home in 1963 when he came here to work for Rolls Royce and it was during this time that he became a Councillor for Harlescott. He was Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1988 ably accompanied by his dear wife Nora. Throughout his 34 years representing Harlescott he has championed his local area well, campaigning for more affordable housing, better transport links, a safer and cleaner environment, addressing feelings of isolation, discrimination and loneliness. Over the last 7 years, he and the Mayor have become a formidable team, working closely together and supporting each other. Vernon has earned the respect of his residents, fellow politicians (regardless of political colour), council officers and stakeholders & partners. Truly a gentleman. We wish you every good wish for your retirement and you know our door is always open if you need anything.



On behalf of the Mayor and Mayoress we would like to thank all those receiving awards for the valuable work you do to ensure that Shrewsbury is the gem we all love. Thank you to their friends and families who I bet have had to play second fiddle to their community work and also a big thank you to those who took the time to nominate the award winners – you are equally as community-minded as you too appreciate what makes a good community.

Ladies & Gentleman the Mayor's search for the 2017 Super Community Heroes is over but early in the New Year the New Mayor's search for the 2018 Super Community Heroes will begin. Nomination papers as ever will be available on our website so, if you know of someone you feel is worthy, please do fill in one of those forms.