



Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Mayor, Councillors and Officers of Shrewsbury Town Council, I am delighted to welcome you to this, our ninth Mayor's Awards Ceremony.

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. For many of those nominated tonight, it will have been a shock to receive an invitation, and we apologise for being very vague in the invitation to join us tonight.

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**; nominations were invited for small businesses, larger businesses and young entrepreneurs, and those organisations who have shown a commitment to supporting our local economy through employing local people, expanding their businesses (particularly in these hard times) and promoting Shrewsbury as a local economic centre or taking their Corporate Social Responsibilities in supporting the local community.



**John Poole Photography (SILVER)** – They always say a picture paints a thousand words. Well photographs do much the same thing and this recipient has taken a fair number of photographs in his 50 years in business. For many years he had a studio in town and one of his regular visitors was the Mayor of Shrewsbury for official portraits. He also took the newborn baby photos at Shrewsbury Hospital for many years and many in this room will have been snapped by him at weddings. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a silver award to John Poole Photography

**Ready Steady Let's Get Messy (SILVER)** - Children like nothing more than getting messy, and getting messy at play sessions when mummy isn't going to get cross is even better. This business provides such sessions, does birthday parties and even themed events at the successful Button & Bear bookshop in town. To add to her recent Business for Children Award we have great pleasure in awarding a silver award to Ready Steady Let's Get Messy.



**Reech Media (Gold)** – It goes without saying that many people don't know this marketing agency but they will know the organisations they represent. This local agency now employs 30 people and has grown from humble beginnings in 2009 to projections for a multi - million pound turnover in the next few years. This firm always gives back to the local community and has such charities as Lingen Davies cancer fund, Severn Hospice and Shrewsbury Town in the Community on their books. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to Reech Media.

**Shrewsbury Watch (Gold)** – Since taking over the old Pubwatch and Shopwatch system the Business Improvement District has taken the safe management of Shrewsbury to another level. This is a partnership between the BID, all of the businesses in the town, MRS communication who operate the Radio system, DISC the digital information sharing system and CCTV control which is the hub for all communication. It means those committing crimes are more easily caught and brought to justice, businesses have less thefts from their stores and most importantly the public feel safer as they enjoy the town centre. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to Shrewsbury Watch.

**Links Café CIC (Gold)** – It takes guts to set up in business and Heather, Cheryl, Karen & Tom have used their speech and language therapy, teaching and catering skills to set up a local café which specialises in helping people with communication difficulties. They bring their own style of warmth and patience to their café which is based in the Signal Hub in the Riverside Shopping Centre and over the last 3 years they have built a steady and loyal clientele. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to the Links Café CIC.

*Business Award Winner*



Reech Media



Shrewsbury  
Town Council



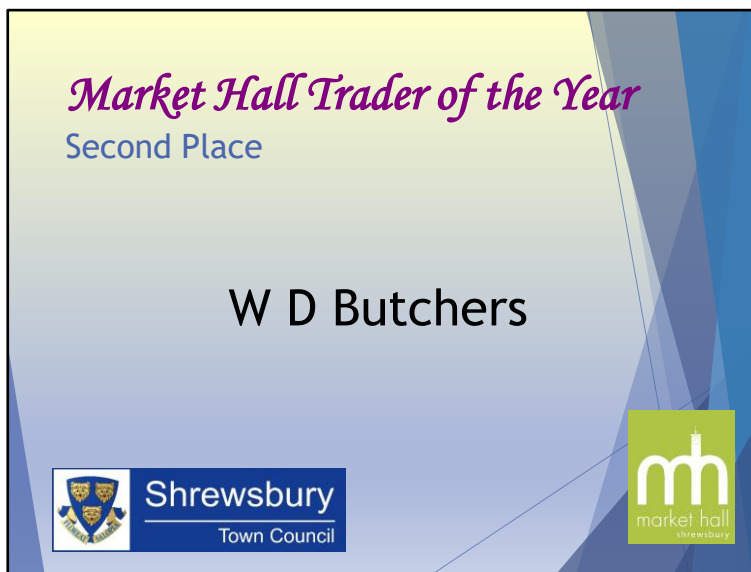
We are very fortunate in Shrewsbury having a vibrant Market Hall, with a variety of stalls, an electric atmosphere and great feel good about the building.

For the last couple of years we have decided to acknowledge the hard work of our traders and have given the local people the opportunity to vote for their favourite.

This category instills the greatest excitement from staff and there is always a fight to open the box and count the votes. The best voting slip was the lady who wanted to vote for every stall as she loved everything about the Market Hall. Just on a technical point, if the Shrewsbury Market Hall is Britain's Favourite Market, surely it goes without saying the winner of this category is Britain's Favourite Market trader – only saying!



**Market Buffet (3<sup>rd</sup>)** - It is fair to say The Market Buffet is the market, having traded as a family business for as long as the building they operate in has been running as a Market Hall and over those 50 years of trading it is estimated that the Maddox family served 2.5 million people. The Maddox association with the Market Buffet came to an end in February this year, but rest assured it still remains the best place for sausage, egg and chips and a mug of tea



**W. D Butchers (SECOND)** – William Dodd has been trading as a butcher for 18 years the last of which he's spent in the Market Hall and from there he not only sells to the public but also supplies to many of the pubs and restaurants in the town centre. If its quality you want and local quality at that, he's your man.





**Café Aleoli (FIRST)** – By far and away the most popular stall. Café Aleoli offers that little bit of Spain right in the heart of Shrewsbury, where else would you go for your patatas bravas tortilla and meatballs in lovely surroundings, served by happy attentive staff. Felicitaciones go to Café Aleoli.



Now on to the Built Heritage Awards:

We have a town with over a thousand years worth of architecture with many of our fine buildings nestling against each other mixing modern with Georgian; Victorian with Tudor; even some of the 60's vernacular has its place!

Nominations are invited to acknowledge those who have undertaken new builds or refurbished existing buildings in the area that have in turn enhanced the local environment



**Shrewsbury Railway Heritage Trust (SILVER)** – The Shrewsbury Railway Heritage Trust was set up in 2003 to raise awareness of the railway heritage in Shrewsbury and whilst we are never likely to see those lines brought back into action, to understand where those lines connected communities together and brought trade to the town is important to our past. The trust has meticulously restored the old Abbey Foregate Station and with the help of grant funding created their very own visitor centre to tell that story. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to Shrewsbury Railway Heritage Trust.



**Big Town Plan (GOLD)** – We usually associate this Built Heritage Category with the physical built heritage, but the Big Town Plan is the built heritage of a different sort. This is the collective efforts of the Town Council, Shropshire Council and the Business Improvement District in building a vision for the town which very much reflects the heritage of our past but looks forward in creating a future where Shrewsbury can grow, attract the right businesses and retain that quality of life that we have all come to expect. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to the Big Town Plan.

**The Hermitage Centre at Belle Vue Methodist Church (GOLD)** – In a time when many churches have seen attendance numbers decline, the Belle Vue Methodist Church set about the mammoth task of fundraising to transform parts of the church that had fallen into disrepair and expand at the back. This has seen members of the congregation really get behind this project right from Mervyn Bradley who undertook a sponsored swim, to people like Martin Beardwell who diligently applied for local grants to ensure they had sufficient funds to build the project and kit it out in to the wonderful centre that it is today providing valuable facilities for the whole community. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to The Hermitage Centre.

**Shrewsbury Cathedral Orchard Café (GOLD)** – For over 150 years Shrewsbury Cathedral has stood proud above Town Walls looking out onto the River Severn. Built following the original designs of Augustus Pugin, this Grade II listed building has always suffered from poor access with access to and from the west entrance straight off Town Walls. Recent work have changed that entrance as well as the front entrance creating better access and the added inclusion of a very modern café has created a wonderful Visitor Centre where people can sit and dwell. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to Shrewsbury Cathedral.

*Built Heritage Award Winner*



# Shrewsbury Cathedral Orchard Cafe



**Shrewsbury**  
Town Council



In a place like Shrewsbury, tourism plays a huge part in promoting the town and generating the local economy. We have in the past had some fantastic nominations and this year is no different.

All of this year's nominations show the ambassadorial spirit, promoting everything that is good about Shrewsbury and encouraging everybody to visit our fantastic town.



**My Shrewsbury (SILVER)** - My Shrewsbury is a dedicated lifestyle magazine for the town of Shrewsbury. With very experienced writers and journalists contributing to its content. It is the top end of the free publications and one that sits very comfortably on the coffee table in hotels and B&B's and as a visitor publication showing the best the town has to offer. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to My Shrewsbury.



**The DarwIN Shrewsbury Festival (GOLD)** – This group of organisations including the BID, the University, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, the Museum and Shrewsbury Heritage worked together to celebrate the town's links with Charles Darwin with a festival like never before. This two and a half week programme has helped to celebrate Shrewsbury's rightful position as not only the birthplace of Charles Darwin but the inspiration behind his independent thinking which went on to change areas of society such as science, arts and technology. From guided tours to lectures and dance performances not to mention lions and tigers appearing in Wyle Cop, this event has raised the profile of Shrewsbury as a town going places. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to the DarwIN Shrewsbury Festival.

**Love2Stay (GOLD)** – Love to Stay is the new £6m caravanning and glamping resort adjacent to Salop Leisure at Emstrey. Open in May last year the facility has already attracted 100,00 day visitors with an estimate £2.5m generated for the Shrewsbury & Shropshire economy. This facility brings 5 star luxury to caravanning and this quality fits with the quality tourism experience of the town and the county. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to Love 2 Stay.

**For the Love of Shrewsbury (GOLD)** – It's not that long since Lorraine Fletcher set up for the Love of Shrewsbury Facebook page, bringing people together from all over the world who have a love of our market town, sharing pictures past and current, providing snippets of information about its history and sharing those stories about what makes the town special. Over the last year she has teamed up with Stan Sedman to organise walking tours of the town allowing those virtual friends who met up on Facebook to meet up for real. Long may this site continue to add to its 9000 strong members. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to For the Love of Shrewsbury.

**Andy McKeown (GOLD)** – We are very lucky in Shrewsbury to have individuals who have an international reputation for their skill and profession, but never leave their roots or their keenness for promoting the town. One such person is Andy McKeown. He has lit up buildings across the world, but it is here in Shrewsbury that we see his talents. This last year he has illuminated churches inside and out, has celebrated light for the Belle Vue Arts Festival and projected the names of every one of the 5286 people of Shropshire who lost their lives in the First World War on the Market Hall facade. But it is sometimes the simple things that have the most striking effect. It was the pictures of his projection of the tricolore on the façade of the



Market Hall within hours of the terrorist atrocities in Paris marking Shrewsbury's condolences that went viral. It is with great pleasure we award Gold to Andy McKeown.

**Shrewsbury in Bloom (GOLD)** -We come to expect flowers in Shrewsbury but the logistics of planting 300,000 plants in the town and promoting them to a wide audience falls to the Shrewsbury In Bloom team. A partnership of Councils, Business and people with a genuine interest and love of horticulture come together to create award winning displays. So the opportunity of being part of the BBC 2 series Britain in Bloom was too good to miss. We have already had messages from across the world saying how fantastic they thought the programme was and we are sure the programme will put Shrewsbury on the Blooming tourism map. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to Shrewsbury In Bloom.

*Tourism Award Winner*



Love2Stay



Shrewsbury  
Town Council



On to the Environment Awards. We invited nominations for individuals, community groups and businesses who have shown great commitment to preserving and protecting the local environment.

In the past we have had recycling initiatives, litter pickers, community gardeners even the local jogger with his carrier bag collecting rubbish, all doing something that we collectively benefit from.



**Red Kite Network Limited (SILVER)** –Red Kite is a multi-disciplinary practice providing specialist landscape, ecology, greenspace and environmental consultancy. Based locally they have developed green space strategies and masterplans for areas of the town which will provide sustainable and environmental benefits for those sites and the people who use them for years to come. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to Red Kite Network Ltd.

**Cuan Wildlife Rescue Centre (SILVER)** –It is probably fair to say that very few of us had ever heard of the Cuan Wildlife Rescue Centre until last year. The centre rescues, cares for and rehabilitates sick, injured and orphaned wild animals and birds releasing them back into the wild. Their most high profile rescue was the Night Heron from the Dingle. This little chap, thousands of miles from his usual migratory path had decided to make his home in the tranquil setting of the Dingle, entertaining our visitors, not to mention the posse of twitchers with very big lenses and slowly munching his way through our fish collection. As winter drew in he was affected by the cold and dwindling fish stocks, the centre rescued him and we are pleased to see he has been taken to warmer climes. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to Cuan Wildlife Rescue Centre

**Darwin's Childhood Garden (SILVER)** –“I often think of the garden at home as a paradise, on a fine summers evening when the birds are singing, how I should like to appear like a ghost amongst you”. This was part of a letter Charles Darwin wrote to his sister in 1833 whilst aboard the Beagle. The Shropshire Wildlife Trust bought a fragment of the Darwin Family Garden; this is the only bit of the original garden that is accessible to the public and includes the ice house used by the family and the Thinking Path used for thought and reflection. So was Darwin influenced by the Thinking Path, he created his own when he moved to Down House in Kent. The Shropshire Wildlife Trust are commended for keeping this little piece of garden with such national significance in the public domain. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to Darwin's Childhood Garden



**Shrewsbury Food Hub (GOLD)** -The Food Hub in Shrewsbury was established in 2016 and has gone on from strength to strength. With left over food being collected from 10 local supermarkets, re-distributing it to 36 local charities including The Ark, The Food Bank and Severn Hospice. Their aim is to reduce food poverty and support the local communities. Since starting 44 tonnes of food have been delivered from landfill helping 2000 people every week. Places like Severn Hospice have been able to reduce its annual food budget by 30%. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to the Shrewsbury Food Hub.

*Environment Award Winner*



# Shrewsbury Food Hub



**Shrewsbury**  
Town Council



On to the Community Awards; this year's standards as in previous years has been exceptionally high and proves there are lots of people and organisations who do great things to ensure the well-being of our town is high, everyone in the community is supported and we encourage a healthy nation.

Tonight ladies and gentlemen we are going to do things slightly differently as we have 22 awards! So we will be inviting first our Silver nominees to come up to the right of the stage to receive their awards, have their photograph taken and exit down the central aisle. Then we will do the same for the Gold nominees.



**Neil Southern & Julie Griffiths (BRONZE)** –This brother and sister team are being commended for setting up and running the Shrewsbury Darts Organisation at the Friday night Premier Darts League over the last 10 years. They have been at the forefront of creating a real community spirit both within the darts family but also supporting many local publicans at a time when we see pubs closing on a daily basis. Throughout, they have helped to raise funds for local and national charities and in 2017 alone £8,000 was given to Hope House, Diabetes UK and Bloodwise. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a silver award to Neil Southern and Julie Griffiths.

**Sara Heath (BRONZE)** -Sara is nominated for her work in running a group called Autonomy in Shrewsbury, helping people with autism lead normal happy lives, organising pub socials, bowling events and fun days. This group now has 100 members and is credit to an organisation which receives no external funding and relies on its own ability to raise funds. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a bronze award to Sara Heath.





**Omega the National Association for End of Life Care (SILVER)** -The stark reality of life is that 3.5 million people over 65 live alone in the UK and 21,000 older people a year die without family or friends. So it is so important that organisations like Omega Care are in existence, providing a flexible befriending service, supporting friends and family to help care for loved ones who have life limiting illnesses and ultimately supporting the bereaved. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to Omega Care for Life.

**Julia Baron (SILVER)** –Many will know Julia in her day job as the Chief Executive of the Shropshire Rural Community Council, providing valuable support to our very rural county, helping playgroups, youth groups, village hall management committees and others do great things in their communities. But her community engagement doesn't stop there, she was the treasurer of the first Shrewsbury Scout Group, regularly volunteers at the highly successful Charity Christmas Card Shop at St Marys Church and chairs the Basil Houghton Memorial Trust she set up 16 years ago supporting people with learning difficulties. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a silver award to Julia Baron.

**Frank North (SILVER)** –Frank single handedly runs an organisation called Arts for All, providing an extensive programme for local people organising otherwise difficult travel to arts events. In any one year he organises trips to some 90 events from music recitals and concerts to interesting houses and gardens and over 600 people are regular beneficiaries of his activities. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a silver award to Frank North.

**Aisha Ennebly, Abdellatif Ennebly & Kariman Yakhoul (SILVER)** -These three have been pivotal to the success of Shropshire Supports Refugees and the ability of integrating refugee families in to Shrewsbury life. Their translation and interpretation skills have been a god send with them answering calls, attending meetings, visiting families, taking them to hospital and doctors' appointments with Aisha even being present when one lady gave birth recently. It gives us great pleasure in awarding silver awards to Aisha Ennebly, Abdellatif Ennebly and Kariman Yakhoul.



**Rebecca Wall (SILVER)** –Over the last 6 years Rebecca has raised £81,000 for various charities including Severn Hospice, Hope House, Safety Sky Angels, Dogs Trust, West Midlands Air Ambulance, the local branch of the National Autistic Society and the Autonomy Group; with her doing daring activities including sky dives, bike rides and zip wire runs. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a silver award to Rebecca Wall.

**North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours (SILVER)** –North Shrewsbury friendly neighbours is a registered charity in Castlefields providing support to the local community; from practical support like shopping, picking up prescriptions and dog walking; providing emotional support particularly to those who live on their own or who are bereaved to Friendship Groups, keeping people active in both mind and body. This year the Mayor was delighted to join them in celebrating their 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary and their move to new premises. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to the North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours.

**Claire Crackett (SILVER)** -Behind the engines of any well-oiled organisation there is always one person who makes it happen and in the case of St Chads Church that is their Parish Secretary Claire Crackett. This award is for her unending dedication to a 4 year project to recognise the sacrifice that the 5286 men and women made during the First World War to ensure that you and I can live free and safe. Claire is the one who diligently tweeted every one of those names over the last four years and weekly recognised everyone in the 5pm service every Wednesday. As those centenary commemorations draw to a close we would like to thank you for keeping that historic record close to our hearts. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to Claire Crackett.

**Castlefields Action Team (SILVER)** – Castlefields Action Team was set up in 2004 with a distinct aim of making the area better for the residents who live there. They have organised litter picks and clean ups of grot spots, organised activities on the local recreational ground and paid for things like CCTV, Christmas Lights and lighting in the area. They have been a local voice for the area campaigning to retain the local post office, lobbying with Network Rail to improve the Dana Footbridge and most importantly keeping local people informed by distributing a quarterly newsletter to 1500 houses. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver Award to Castlefields Action Team



**Amanda Cundell (GOLD)** –Like many who serve in the RAF in the area, they get the Shrewsbury bug and settle here. But she has retained her interests in the forces and organised a Veterans Breakfast Club in 2016. In its second year, the club attracts between 50-100 people to its fortnightly meetings. So successful are the breakfast clubs that in 2017, it was the chosen venue to present the Legion d’Honneur to Reginald Steventon a regular attendee who was honoured for his efforts in liberating France in the Second World War. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to Amanda Cundall.

**Shrewsbury Food Hub Volunteers (GOLD)** –The Shrewsbury Food Hub was established in 2016 and collects left over food from 10 local supermarkets, re-distributing it to 36 local community groups. These community groups would not benefit if it weren’t for the volunteer team of 40 drivers who get up at dawn every day to harvest the left over food and get it to groups all across town. To give you an idea of the amount of food they collect, in December alone they re-distributed 6.5 tonnes of food, enough to make 15,000 meals. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to the Shrewsbury Food Hub Volunteers.

**Kirsty Walsh (GOLD)** –In September last year Kirsty faced the tragic reality that her husband Shane was missing following a night out in town. Volunteers from the West Mercia Search & Rescue were called out to help search the river and sadly his body was recovered the following day. Despite such devastating loss and a need to care for her young family, she has been actively involved in raising the profile of West Mercia Search & Rescue and campaigning on the needs to be safe near the river. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to Kirsty Walsh.

**Mad Cow Productions (GOLD)** –This amateur theatrical company was set up in 2003 by Alex Hinton and Lisa Lowarch and have been putting on performances at Theatre Severn using local talent of all ages from 16+, inspiring, supporting, enhancing supporting, enhancing the life of and giving unfound confidence to members of its community. This isn’t a commercial theatre company; it is one that does it for the love of creating art and performing. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to Mad Cow Productions.



**Homeless Outreach Street Triage (GOLD)** –HOST is an initiative brought forward by Team Shrewsbury to support and engage with the rough sleeping community in Shrewsbury and Shropshire. It is a partnership between Shrewsbury Ark, the Council’s Housing Options Team, West Mercia Police, Redwoods Centre and the Shropshire Recovery Partnership. Their work has reduced the number of people sleeping rough, helped them turn their lives around and hold down jobs and accommodation. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to Homeless Outreach Street Triage.

**Stan Sedman (GOLD)** –Stan has received a Mayor’s Award in the past for his commitment to promoting Shrewsbury as the Town of Flowers not to mention his work as a Town Guide. But this award comes from his involvement with the “For the Love of Shrewsbury” Facebook page. He and Lorraine Fletcher have made a great team organising tours of various parts of the town helping people to learn more about and love the town they live in. They have also raised so much for charity too. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to Stan Sedman.

**Lingen Davies Cancer Fund (GOLD)** –Sadly cancer touches the lives of all of us, with us all either having suffered cancer personally or have witnessed friends and family suffering. In Shropshire we have benefited from the charity the then Mayor of Shrewsbury Bernard Lingen started in 1977. Since then they have contributed around £18 million in today’s money to improve cancer services in the area with around £75,000 having had their cancer treatment and care improved through the cancer fund. To mark their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary next June they have an ambitious plan to raise £1.25million to raise public awareness of cancer, invest in equipment to detect cancer and provide diagnoses and provide online information and support for people concerned about cancer or who have recently been diagnosed. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to Lingen Davies Cancer Fund.

**Microvideo (GOLD)** –Their mission is “to provide tailored services to client needs and to be respectful of budget, venue, and hold your hand through bringing a project from design to fruition”. This family business has helped so many local groups, schools and events promote what they do and what the town is about. They have helped relay the towns remembrance service outside of St Chad’s, the Countdown for Christmas lights switch on around the town and such events as Carols in the Square and the Folk Festival around the world so the Salopians wherever can keep a track on what’s going on. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to Microvideo Shrewsbury Ltd

**Shrewsbury Brass Band (GOLD)** –Shrewsbury Brass Band is a community band and their repertoire consists of a varied programme which provides something for everyone. Formed in 2012, the band was previously Sabrina Brass and has performed widely to support local charities. From marching for Remembrance and the Mayor, to concerts at Theatre Severn to afternoon concerts in the bandstand in the Quarry there is something for everyone. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to Shrewsbury Brass Band.



**Shrewsbury Town in the Community (GOLD)** –Shrewsbury Town in the Community is the official charity of Shrewsbury Town Football Club, striving to make a positive difference for all across Shropshire through sport and learning. They do this by providing fun, safe and enjoyable activities for people of all ages and abilities, whilst ensuring sessions are accessible and delivered to the highest of standards. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to Shrewsbury Town in the Community.

**Belle Vue Arts Festival (GOLD)** –The Belle Vue Arts Festival was the brainchild of former Mayoress of Shrewsbury Judy Townsend who in 2003 created an inspiring week of arts events for the local community. Fifteen years on it goes from strength to strength providing gallery and performance space, staging quality events and exhibitions, organising arts workshops and competitions and encouraging local community participation. Look out for their events during their festival from 2-16 June. It gives us great pleasure in awarding Gold award to Belle Vue Arts Festival.

**Mark Chadwick (GOLD)** –In 2013 upon the retiring incumbent of St Chads we awaited with interest who the new Mayor’s Chaplain would be. It came back that he was in his forties and he was from Australia – Crocodile Dundee meets quintessential English Shrewsbury we thought! How wrong could we have been. Mark has fulfilled his role as the Vicar of the United Benefice of St Chad with St Mary and St Alkmund with energy and enthusiasm. He has tackled some of the key issues and made St Chad’s more modern in its thinking and engaging with its congregation. As our chaplain we have enjoyed working with you at our annual Mayor’s Service, those sombre reflections of Battle of Britain Service and Remembrance to those celebrations of Military Parades. We wish you well in your new endeavours; our loss is certainly the Military’s gain. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to Father Mark Chadwick.

*Community Award Winner*



# Homeless Outreach Street Triage



**Shrewsbury**  
Town Council



Courtesy is what makes Shrewsbury special. Yes we have beautiful buildings and great shops and fine floral features. But more importantly we have wonderful people who care, bring joy to other people's lives and generally make people go about their daily lives with a smile and a spring in their step.





**Mike Jones Antiques (SILVER)** -Mike has been trading in Britain's Favourite Market for many years and as a typical Yorkshireman he is ever outspoken about market life, which sometimes doesn't go down well with markets officers and neighbouring traders. But when he witnessed a theft of money from one of those neighbouring stalls he was instrumental in apprehending the thief, detaining him and bringing him back to the market until the Police arrived. A lot of people these days are fearful of intervening because they worry about the consequences, but Mike put other stall holders possessions as a priority rather than consider his own health. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a silver award to Mike Jones.

**The Darwin International Institute for the Study of Compassion (SILVER)** - "As man advances in civilisation, and small tribes are united into larger communities, the simplest reason would tell each individual that he ought to extend his social instincts and sympathies to all members of the same nation, though personally unknown to him." Those were the words of Shrewsbury's favourite son Charles Darwin, for whilst written in 1871, still hold true today. In this era of escalating global conflict and strife, with such massive movements of displaced people, the overarching threat of climate change and ever-widening gaps between rich and poor, the Darwin International Institute for the Study of Compassion looks to developing that critical and analytical understanding of what we need to do to be greater friends with our people and our planet. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to the Darwin International Institute for the Study of Compassion.



**Clear (GOLD)** - Clear is a local marketing agency and has been trading for 15 years. To celebrate their anniversary they decided to do 15 Acts of Kindness to support local charities, businesses and the community. Their acts of kindness have included; Undertaking free social media training for charities, Paying the Kingsland Bridge tolls for morning commuters, Building a free website for Rupert's Revenge, Cooking for the homeless at The Ark, Running the Shrewsbury Half Marathon, Donating hot drinks for parents of the Children's Ward at PRH. What wonderful acts of kindness. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a gold award to Clear.

**Shrewsbury Market Hall (GOLD)** -It might be in an ugly 1960's carbuncle of a building, but the Shrewsbury Market Hall has developed of late into a vibrant buzzing centre of trade and social interaction. Every year the National Association of British Market Authorities runs a national vote to find the most favourite market. This year was slightly different. The top 6 would be pitted against each other and judged by a panel. We would be visited by a couple of judges where we would have an opportunity to show them round. We would also be visited by Mystery Shoppers. You can imagine our delight at being awarded Britain's Favourite Market 2018, but it was the comments by the mystery shoppers which were more delightful. It praised the helpfulness of the traders and the kindness they showed to their shoppers. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to Shrewsbury Market Hall.

**Shropshire Sanctuary (GOLD)** - Sadly, the number of people showing mental distress, anxiety and associated issues is on the increase and whilst there are pathways for these individuals during the daytime there is very little for those out of care hours, with often Police having very little option but to take them to A & E. Both the Police, Street Pastors and the Samaritans have witnessed first - hand anxious individuals attempting to end their life and they have had to coax them off bridge parapets. The Shropshire Sanctuary has been a fantastic partnership of public and voluntary organisations creating a haven for individuals to go to out of hours care, where trained staff can provide a caring environment and begin to signpost individuals into more structured support. So successful is this project that in March alone 48 people accessed the service. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to the Shropshire Sanctuary.

*Courtesy Award Winner*



## Shropshire Sanctuary



Shrewsbury  
Town Council



On to the Youth Awards. This year's nominations feature individuals both young and old, clubs and organisations all of which have provided valuable support and opportunities for young people. There are also nominations for young people themselves who have put themselves out to help others and really give us all comfort in knowing our great town under their future guardianship will remain a great town.

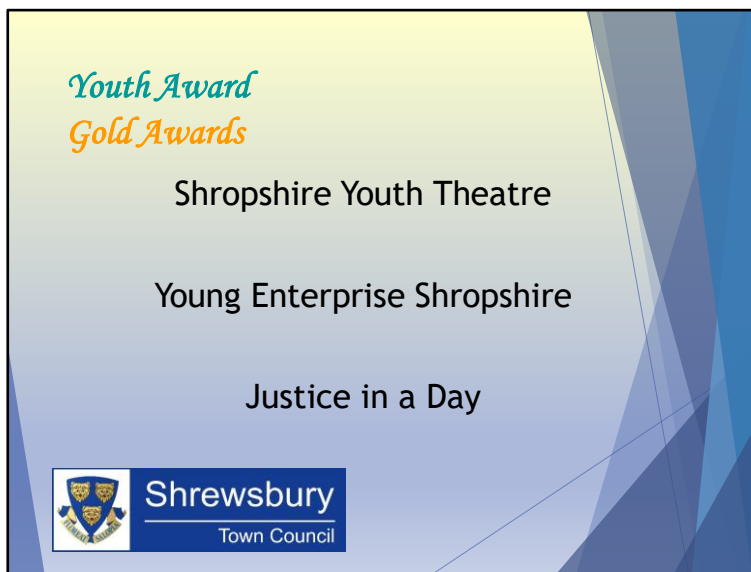


**Debate-Ed Programme (SILVER)** -The Debated Programme has been running for 3 years and nearly 170 students from schools in Shropshire have taken part in interactive workshops designed to help them improve their analytical, presentation and debating skills. Students have engaged in lively debates on a variety of topics including gun control, smartphones in Modern society and medical testing on animals. The programme has attracted judges from numerous organisations, charities and businesses including Lanyon Bowdler, Shropshire Disability Network and BBC Radio Shropshire. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a silver award to the De-bated programme.

**Embrace Physical Education (SILVER)** -With Shropshire's growing child obesity figures Embrace PE's aim is to deliver engaging physical activity to facilitate the development of young people and help them choose a healthier lifestyle and reduce health related diseases. But it's not just about sport, it is the added benefits of team building, competition and skills application that help to develop the adults and leaders of tomorrow. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to Embrace Physical Education.

**Pandemonium Children's Festival (SILVER)** -The Pandemonium Children's Festival is part of the very successful Shrewsbury Folk Festival and is open to the young folkies to have an amazing weekend of music, dance, song, drama and crafts. Right in the heart of the village there are lots of activities for young people and the weekend culminates in the magical lantern procession around the site on the Sunday night where musicians, children and parents proudly parade around the site displaying the fruits of their labours. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to the Pandemonium Children's Festival.

**Belle Vue Youth Club (SILVER)** -Based in Rocke Street the Belle Vue Youth Club is an independently run youth club for young people aged 8 – 18. It provides a safe and friendly environment to develop social and personal skills and to access up to date information and support from non-judgemental adults. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Silver award to the Belle Vue Youth Club.



**Shropshire Youth Theatre (GOLD)** -The Shropshire Youth Theatre was established in 1993 and provides theatre activities for children and young adults aged 5 – 20. These range from basic training in theatre skills, through street theatre and devising projects to large scale performances staged at Shrewsbury’s Theatre Severn. Over this last year their production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Much Ado About Nothing* have been outstanding. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold Award to The Shropshire Youth Theatre.

**Young Enterprise Shropshire(GOLD)** -Young Enterprise is the UK’s leading enterprise and financial education charity reaching over 250,000 young people every year. They make connection between school and the world of work enabling young people to develop the knowledge and attitudes they need to succeed. Building on 8 key skills – communication, confidence, financial capability, initiative, organisation, problem solving, teamwork, resilience. Here in Shrewsbury the Mayor had the privilege in seeing first- hand what is being done to support young people locally. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to Young Enterprise Shropshire.

**Justice in a Day (GOLD)** -Now in their seventh year, teenagers have been given an insight into the youth justice system through theatre and education. This year they expanded their work to Shrewsbury, creating a lasting impact with more young people, encouraging them not to go down the route of criminality. It is deliberately hard-hitting and uncompromising in its approach to give young people a basis upon which to make informed decisions about the choices they are presented with. It gives us great pleasure in awarding a Gold award to Justice in a Day.

*Youth Award Winner*



Shropshire Youth Theatre



Shrewsbury  
Town Council



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

A number of these awards go to individuals who have helped the Mayor in raising awareness of and fundraising for her chosen charity the Shropshire Recovery Partnership. This year the Mayor has raised over a staggering £15,000 To help support the work of the partnership in assisting and supporting individuals affected by drug and alcohol use.





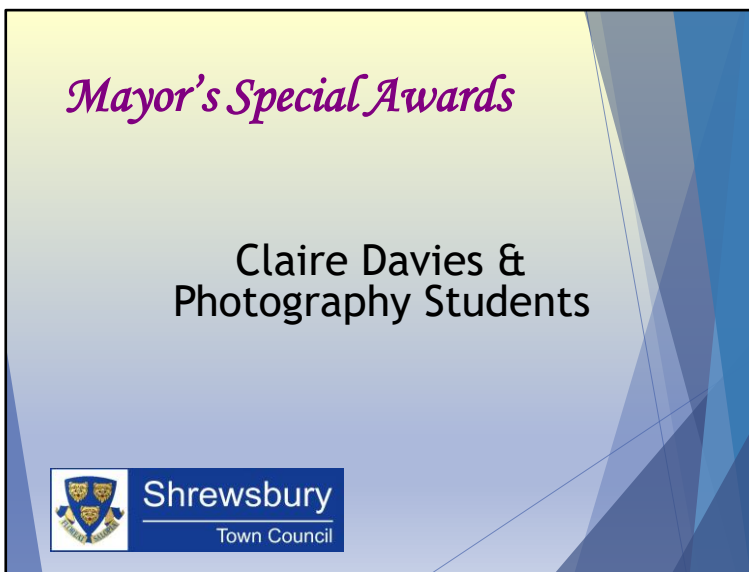
**Charlie Adlard**- If you are a Walking Dead fan you will instantly know who Charlie Adlard is. Another Shrewsbury resident with a huge international reputation. But it is for his support of the Mayor's Charity that this Comic Book Artist receives a Mayor's Special Award. He has brought his artistic, creative flair to the Mayor's activities this year.

## *Mayor's Special Awards*

Chip Somers



**Chip Somers**- Chip Somers was a former drug addict turned government adviser who got Russell Brand off heroin. He was invited by the Mayor to attend her Mayoral Charity Ball to raise awareness of alcohol and substance misuse and their need to raise much needed funds for the local Shropshire Recovery Partnership.



**Claire Davies & Photography Students**- It is wonderful when students can be involved in a real life project that is designed to make a difference. This year the photography students at Shrewsbury College took on a photography project with a difference photographing the Mayor's Ball.

## *Mayor's Special Awards*

Dan Owen



Shrewsbury  
Town Council

**Dan Owen**- Dan Owen is a local musical artist who has been gaining in reputation. This year he agreed to perform at Theatre Severn with all the proceeds going to the Mayor's charity. As a result of his performance, pre sales of his new album Stay Awake With Me must be going through the roof!

## *Mayor's Special Awards*

Sally Maybury



Shrewsbury  
Town Council

**Sally Maybury** -It is every parents dread that they should outlive their children, and Sally suffered the tragedy of losing her eldest son Tom in 2013 to alcohol addiction at the young age of 29. She threw her efforts into raise the awareness and dangers of addiction. She is chairwoman of the Lost Days Charitable Aid Trust.

## *Mayor's Special Awards*

Henry Maybury



Shrewsbury  
Town Council

**Henry Maybury-** Henry Maybury is a singer songwriter who made his singing debut in 2014. His initial song “Lost Days” was written for his brother Tom who died as a result of alcohol addiction aged just 29. His video became a social media sensation with TV celebrities sharing his YouTube video.

## *Mayor's Special Awards*

Jo Gerrard



Shrewsbury  
Town Council

**Jo Gerrard**- Jo Gerrard works for the Shropshire Recovery Partnership, the Mayor's chosen charity for this year. The partnership kindly donated a day a week of her time to supporting the Mayor's charity activities.

## *Mayor's Special Awards*

Jonathan Smith



**Jonathan Smith** - In 2016 Councillor Jones introduced Mayoral Cadets. It is an opportunity to not only give an insight into civic life for cadets but also acts as good PR recruitment for Army and Air Cadets. This year's cadet is Jonathan Smith from the Shrewsbury Air Cadets.





**Kerry Vamplew & Fashion & Textile Students** -This year the Mayor had a very extravagant purple theme for her Mayoral Ball and Fashion & Textile students from Shrewsbury College put their skills to the test and designed the wonderful decorations. They also made purple bows and sold them with proceeds going to her charity.



**Maggie Love**-Maggie Love is well known as being the Artistic Director of Shropshire Youth Theatre and the inspiration for many artistic celebrations in the county. But directing a whole theatre company is a piece of cake compared to directing a very excitable Mayor. Maggie added the touch of professionalism, theatrical prowess and artistic interpretation to the Mayor's fundraising activities.

## *Mayor's Special Awards*

Amy Liebich



**Amy Liebich** – Throughout her year in office, the Mayor has had to rely on friends and family to help out with everything from blowing up balloons to selling raffle tickets to cajoling people to offer their services and donate raffle prizes. The Mayor wants to recognise the sterling work her daughter Amy has done to make her Mayoral year an enjoyable one.

## *Mayor's Special Awards*

Mary de Saulles



**Mary de Saulles** – We are blessed with having a town full of individuals who go about their lives showing great commitment to the town. These are the individuals who if you cut them in two have Shrewsbury running through them. One such person is Mary de Saulles. An architect by profession with a passion for fine design and conservation, Mary over the years has become an informed knowledge of the town with her Story of Shrewsbury gracing many people's coffee tables.

## *Mayor's Special Awards*

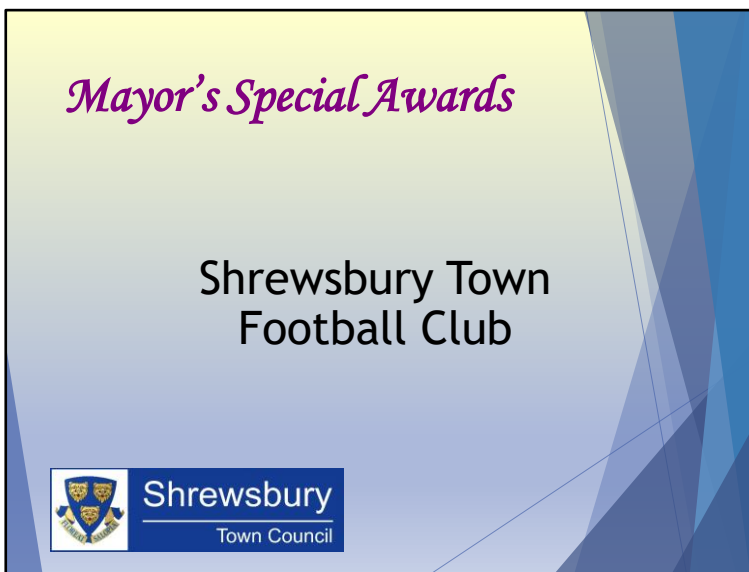
### Turtle Doves



**Turtle Doves** - Reuse of things is important to the Mayor and she was delighted to attend the official opening of the Turtle Doves Shop. Turtle Doves started in 2009 making accessories from charity shop jumpers. This is now a big business employing 40 people.



**Repair Café** - The Mayor was invited to the Participate Art Gallery to see for herself the wonderful work of the Repair Café. The café encourages people to bring along broken items that need repairing. Their volunteers fix anything from toasters to woolly jumpers.

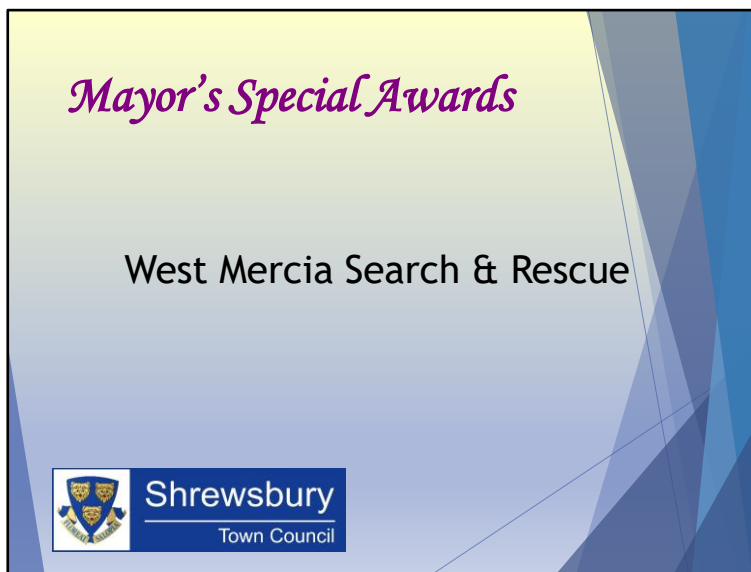


**Shrewsbury Town Football Club** - This year the Mayor has made wearing a chain of office and a blue and yellow scarf cool. But it is the efforts of the football team that has made Shrewsbury proud. From their success in reaching the final of the Checkatrade Trophy to securing a play-off place for the prize of championship football, the manager Paul Hurst and his team must be truly proud. We wish them all well in the play-off matches and I for one as a die hard Sheffield Wednesday fan can't wait for a 2 mile walk to an away match next season.



**Sophie Kear (cakes for Wednesday teas)**- Throughout the year the Visitor Information Centre based in the Museum, organise guided tours of the town. But if you book a Wednesday afternoon tour in the summer, you get the added surprise of tea with the Mayor in her parlour in the Castle. With tea and cake on the menu Sophie has diligently made cakes for the Mayor, and these cakes have been enjoyed by people from all over the world.





**West Mercia Search & Rescue-** The group started in 2007 as a small group of water rescue enthusiasts who trained as Community First Responders in the Worcester Area. In 2012 their operations expanded to cover Shropshire and over the years have been involved in some of the very high profile missing people cases including April Jones in Machynlleth, Georgia Williams in Telford and Daniel Hodgkin in Shrewsbury and most recently as we have heard Shane Walsh. Whilst rescue and recovery is a valuable part of their role, so too is raising the awareness of water safety through their Home & Dry campaign. Such a commendable effort from an organisation which has to raise every penny it spends.



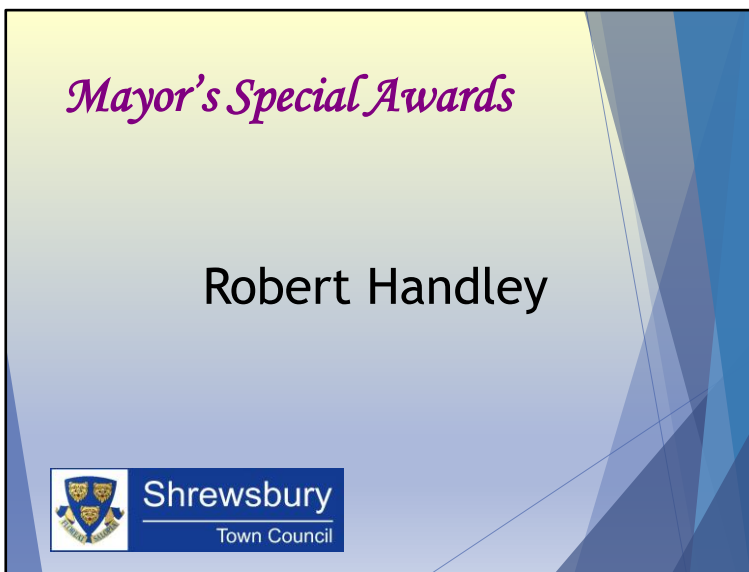
**Atlantic Ladies** - In December 2017 Di Carrington, Elaine Theaker and Sharon Macgrath with a combined age of 170 began the mammoth task of rowing the 3,000 miles between San Sebastian de la Gomera in the Canary Islands to Antigua in the Caribbean. They completed the task on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018. They now hold the world record for the highest average age for an all- female team to row the Atlantic.

## *Mayor's Special Awards*

Steven Doyle



**Steven Doyle-** As a civic officer you can expect that there is a dedication to supporting the Mayor in her civic role, but for the Mayor's Secretary that dedication usually consists of dragging her husband Steve along too. He's had to stand in as a Macebearer when we've been short, dress and undress Mayors at civic events, be a taxi service, a wine waiter, pot washer, raffle ticket seller, security guard for raffle money, the list goes on! The Mayor would like to thank Steve for his efforts, they never go unnoticed.



**Robert Handley-** Behind every good Mayor of Shrewsbury there is the Mayor's Officer. The one that gets the Mayor to events on time, the one that puts the mayor at ease so that they can do their role professionally and most importantly the only one who is brave enough to put them right if they overstep the mark. The one that has the coat of arms running through him if you cut him in half. Keep him sweet Madam Mayor, you are Chapter 27 in his kiss and tell novel "Dressing the Mayor".



On behalf of the Mayor and her Consort 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 2018 Super Community Heroes is over but early in the New Year the New Mayor's search for the 2019 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.