



Queen Elizabeth II

1926 - 2022



The news on Thursday 8th September 2022 that Her Majesty had died brought a huge sense of loss, shock, and deep emotion amongst us all. We admired her total commitment with stalwart loyalty to duty which brought universal admiration. Throughout the 70 years of her reign, she was an example of how to conduct yourself with dignity and decorum as well as being much loved and respected at the same time.

We profoundly mourn the loss of an exemplary monarch but as she would wish, we must continue to uphold her desire to recognise those in the county that go the extra mile doing something that has a positive impact on others. She wanted to support businesses, encourage community life, recognise achievement, benevolent activity and spread goodwill which she saw as being essential. As a Lieutenantcy we hope to be able to continue to do this in the future on behalf of His Majesty.

To me, Our Late Majesty was an icon whom I have felt honoured to be a servant to, I shall always feel a sense of pride that The Shropshire Lieutenantcy has tried its utmost to uphold the dignity of The Crown and show the respect due to the legend she was.

The last time she was in Shropshire was for her Diamond Jubilee in 2012, when more than 35,000 came to celebrate her visit to RAF Cosford. It was such a happy occasion filled with displays from thousands of school children and for many will have been the last time they saw the monarch in the county, but what incredible memories we have.



LEGACY

We believe that Her Majesty the Late Queen Elizabeth, through her lifetime of service, was the “ultimate” volunteer. She passionately believed in the power of volunteering, setting the most selfless example personally, volunteering her whole life to the service of the country and the commonwealth.

She recognised the huge impact of volunteers on virtually every aspect of our lives in this country. Not only did she visit many voluntary organisations to thank and pay tribute to them, but she also decided to mark her Golden Jubilee in 2002 by launching a very special and prestigious award, to those organisations who give so much of their time to improve the lives of so many.

Her introduction of the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service in 2002 to recognise organisations bringing clear benefit to the community across a wide range of areas such as culture heritage welding and social support has been hugely successful; fifty-eight local organisation, large and small, have been honoured in the county.

This annual highly coveted award is given for outstanding achievement by groups of volunteers. In order to be awarded this highly prestigious award, often referred to as the “MBE for voluntary groups, organisations must be functioning at the very highest level and have done so for a minimum of three years, although in reality many of those awarded have given decades of service to their organisation. During covid Her Majesty the Late Queen acknowledged just how strong the volunteering spirit was in this country. Volunteers undertook a wide range of tasks, from those who cooked endless meals, delivered prescriptions, mentored those struggling with mental health into gardening projects and farmers supporting those living in rural areas to avoid suicides, an issue particularly prevalent amongst farming communities. All of these were extremely worthy winners of the Queen’s Award for Voluntary service.



QUEEN'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE 2022

We are delighted to say Shropshire again scooped four awards, covering a wide range of voluntary activity. The award winners, announced on June 2nd were.



SRS volunteers receiving their award from the Lord-Lieutenant.

SHROPSHIRE RURAL SUPPORT

Formed in 1991 Shropshire Rural Support is a group of volunteers mainly farmers living in rural Shropshire who provide confidential support and practical help with a wide variety of problems. Identifying "protection of life" as their key aim, volunteers have worked tirelessly for more than three decades to tackle mental health in rural communities. Long before wider society recognised the prevalence of mental health issues, they made the links between rural isolation and depression, with suicides and set about preventing them through voluntary and partnership effort.



PODS volunteers celebrating their award at Enginuity

PARENTS OPENING DOORS (PODS)

Pods is an exceptional organisation helping support parents and families who have a child or young person with a disability or additional need. They also offer specialist/lived experience help to parents or carers of fostered and adopted children who often have specialist or complex needs.

Fundamentally, PODs stop parents and families going into crisis thereby helping reduce the impact on local services. Throughout the pandemic they were an essential lifeline to many families and would not operate without the army of volunteers



WMSAR receive their award from the Lord-Lieutenant

WEST MERCIA SEARCH AND RESCUE (WMSAR)

WMSAR is an organisation made up of volunteers who look for and find missing people in the Severn, other rivers and in floodwater whenever they are called, on any day or night of the year. An official Lowland Rescue Unit, they train, work, and adhere consistently to the highest National standards and are engaged in pioneering new methods. They are among the first to employ kayaks and four-by-four quad bikes in the search role, sometimes to seek people demonstrating intent towards self-harm. These impressive yet modest people serving Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire show abundant courage, sometimes in treacherous waters with people in serious jeopardy. They are always on call, always professional, modest people doing heroic things in our communities for those in crisis



Robert Green Chairman of ESTN

EAST SHROPSHIRE TALKING NEWSPAPER (ESTN)

Set up in 1990 ESTN is a charity which helps people who are blind or visually impaired listen to the news, a service that people really value and can be a lifeline against loneliness.

The charity, which has forty volunteers, covers areas including Telford, Newport, Market Drayton, Shifnal and Broseley. Approximately 160 people listen to the Talking Newspaper every fortnight using memory sticks which ESTN send out, as well as those able to listen online,

QUEEN'S AWARD FOR ENTERPRISE 2022

HM The late Queen Elizabeth was also acutely aware of the importance to our economy and the success of our country that British businesses play.

The Queen's Awards scheme was first introduced in 1965 and ultimately in 1999 was renamed The Queen's Awards for Enterprise.

Since then, some of the most outstanding Shropshire businesses have been honoured with this award. It is a highly sought-after award and given for outstanding achievement for innovation, international trade, sustainable development or promoting opportunity through social mobility



DERWEN COLLEGE

Derwen College and Derwen College Charity's award is for promoting opportunity. The specialist college for young adults with special educational needs and disabilities has developed a range of opportunities for their students to learn real life skills offering a range of outlets including their shops and restaurants. All provide work experience and opportunities for their students. Derwen College has sites in Gobowen, Ludlow, Telford and Walford.

I2R PACKAGING

Company, I2r Packaging, has been awarded the Queen's Award for Enterprise: Innovation, which follows on from success in 2020 in being awarded a Queen's Award for Enterprise for their International Trade. Based in Telford, the aluminium foil tray manufacturer was established in 2007 as an environmentally responsible packaging company and has focused on new product ranges, diversifying into new geographical regions and market sectors, championing engineering innovation.



JESMONITE

Jesmonite Ltd was awarded the Queen's Award for Enterprise in the International Trade category. Based in Bishop's Castle and established in 1984, Jesmonite provides innovative solutions for architects, manufacturers, and the creative arts sector. Jesmonite is a two-part system product that when mixed together can be used to create laminated structures or cast pieces. Its products are used around the world and can be seen in the King Saud Mosque in Riyadh, at Westfield Whitford City in Australia, in art installations such as Fons Americanus, which was exhibited at the Tate Modern in 2019, and on cruise ships such as Saga Cruises' The Spirit of Discovery.

STALLION AI SERVICES

Based in Shropshire, Stallion AI has taken its technology, that it used in the equine world for over two decades, to new levels to help save endangered species and subsequently, were awarded the Queen's Award for Innovation.

Based in Whitchurch and having been in operation for over 22 years, Stallion AI Services use the latest technology in their laboratory to offer a wide range of services including semen freezing and storage, fertility testing, fresh and chilled semen collection and distribution, training courses. Stallion AI Services is also behind the creation of Nature's SAFE, a Living Biobank. Nature's SAFE is one of the World's charitable facilities, capable of the long term storage of live cells from animal species that are at the greatest risk of extinction, in order to preserve them for future generations. To date, they have saved over 140 different species, including a Southern White Rhino, an Asian Elephant and Bengal Tiger.



Looking to **THE FUTURE**

The Shropshire Lieutenancy is looking forward to serving His Majesty King Charles III and ready to embrace any changes he may wish to instigate. I have no reason to believe there is a necessity for change but new perspectives may bring fresh ideas, we will continue to act as eyes and ears in discovering and reporting back to The Cabinet Office on so many of the good practices that happen in our county.



So, how can you help?

I would love to hear what is going on in all parts of the county and if you feel we can help by supporting any of your initiatives please do get in touch. The easiest way to do this is to reply to the mail address that has sent you this newsletter.

We are looking to link with as many schools, churches, voluntary organisations and businesses throughout the county as possible, so that we can see all the fantastic work that is taking place and, where appropriate, share your news through our own platform.

To find out more about the Shropshire Lieutenancy visit our [website](#)
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