EMBARGOED UNTIL 09.00 ON WEDNESDAY 2nd JUNE 2021



News Release



2nd June 2021

THE QUEEN RECOGNISES TWO LOCAL CHARITIES WITH THE GOLD STANDARD OF VOLUNTEERING

Two of the Bailiwick's leading voluntary organisations have been recognised with a national award from Her Majesty The Queen.

The Guernsey Branch of the RNLI and Creative Learning in Prison (CLIP) both feature in this year's list of 241 volunteering groups that have been selected from across the UK and Crown Dependencies to receive The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (see notes 1 and 2). The Guernsey Branch of the RNLI is also one of 164 groups in this year's list to have also been selected for a special designation to recognise impactful Covid-related support provided during the pandemic.

The equivalent of an MBE for volunteer groups, The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service is the highest award available to local volunteer groups. The Award recognises outstanding work by voluntary organisations to benefit their local communities. It was created in 2002 to celebrate The Queen's Golden Jubilee.

The Lieutenant-Governor, Vice Admiral Sir Ian Corder, welcomed the news: 'I'm really delighted that two of our best charitable organisations feature in this year's list of recipients of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. They are both outstanding examples of the life-changing impact of volunteering.'

His Excellency added: 'This highlights once again the quality of the Bailiwick's voluntary sector, which is very reassuring in view of the ongoing challenges resulting from the global pandemic. I would encourage anyone who knows of a particularly deserving local charity to consider nominating them for 2022.'

Award winning organisations are announced each year on 2nd June; the anniversary of The Queen's Coronation. All nominations for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service are made by members of the public who have either been helped personally or witnessed the benefits of a group's work within their community.

Each year, a shortlist of several hundred eligible groups from across Britain is reviewed by the National Award Committee, which makes recommendations to the Cabinet Office. A final list is then submitted to Her Majesty The Queen for approval.

More///...

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The Guernsey Branch of the RNLI and Creative Learning in Prison (CLIP) have both earned the Award for their outstanding voluntary work within their respective fields (see notes 3 & 4). They will each receive a certificate signed by Her Majesty The Queen and a domed glass crystal, which His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor will present. In addition, two volunteers from each charity will attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace in May 2022 (depending on restrictions at the time).

In addition to the two Guernsey charities, this year's Award winners include an inclusive tennis club in Lincolnshire; a children's bereavement charity in London; a support group for those living with dementia and their carers in North Yorkshire; a volunteer minibus service in Cumbria; a group supporting young people in Belfast; a community radio station in Inverness and a mountain rescue team in Powys.

This year's announcement takes to 30 the total number of voluntary groups in the Bailiwick to be accredited with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

For details of eligibility for The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service and to nominate an organisation, visit <u>https://qavs.culture.gov.uk/</u>. Advice, if required by potential nominators, can be obtained from the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor Tel. 226666. Nominations for the 2022 awards will close on Wednesday 15th September 2021.

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