



High Sheriff Youth Awards

Annual Review 2022-2023



Helping young people
make Surrey safer

High Sheriff Youth Awards



As the newly installed High Sheriff for Surrey, succeeding Chris Critchlow who has been an outstanding High Sheriff, I am delighted to be able to support the High Sheriff Youth Awards (HSYA). The HSYA is a charity that recognises the work of young people in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour. It does this by giving to carefully selected projects helping young people. The charity makes the county safer for its youth, enabling our young people to flourish and meet their potential.

Each year the HSYA distributes at least £50,000 in grants. All eleven Surrey Boroughs and Districts donate to the charity, as do Surrey County Council and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Dedicated HSYA volunteers reach out to support, and assess applications from youth organisations throughout Surrey. I extend my sincere thanks to all those who support the HSYA, whether financially or in kind.

I would like to urge all of you reading this to think of organisations and charities that work with young people and encourage them to apply for an award. Simply by applying for an award to make your community in Surrey safer, you are continuing a tradition of more than a thousand years of community service embodied in the role of the High Sheriff.

During my year as High Sheriff, I will seek to support the whole of Surrey from our leafy countryside, to our suburbs, to our towns – and within these towns both prosperous and more challenged areas.

My central theme will be mental health and I am looking forward to meeting and thanking many of

those who are involved in the immense challenge mental health presents to our communities.

Linked to this general theme, I will apply a particular focus on the challenges police and others face in carrying out their duties when dealing with people suffering an acute mental health crisis. It is a little-known fact that up to 30% of police time is absorbed dealing with issues around mental health. Working with Police Care and the Wates Family Enterprise Trust, I am sponsoring a report on what is happening in Surrey on this very important and sensitive issue. I hope the findings of the report will shine useful light and enable improved policy and resourcing decisions.

Of course, mental health will not be my complete focus and I look forward to supporting the judiciary and public services as well as the fantastic third sector and community organisations we are blessed with in Surrey.

Thank you again to everyone who has supported the HSYA in 2022-2023, and I look forward to continuing the tradition of supporting the cause in what I do as High Sheriff over the coming year.

Mr Timothy Wates DL
High Sheriff of Surrey 2023-2024

Review of the year 2022-2023



I sincerely thank the trustees and council members for their dedication to the HSYA and for their support throughout my year. In particular, it has been my privilege to learn what the members do.

The PCC and SCC once more kindly gave generous financial support. It was good to again receive contributions from the Boroughs and Districts, and earlier than usual, thanks to the help of the CEO of Guildford and Waverley, Tom Horwood, and the persistence of Mike Slee. The first High Sheriff Charity Golf Day on 6th June 2022 was a great success, and over £28,000 was raised.

The High Sheriff of Warwickshire, David Kelham, and I met and decided to hold a blind tasting of wines, gins and beers made in our respective counties. "The Taste Match" in late October at Denbies vineyard near Dorking raised about £2,500 for the HSYA. I thank my Under Sheriff and all who helped run the event, including the members who manned our stall and helped at Denbies. They assisted at the Golf Day, my Garden Party in June, at the University talks I arranged and at Guildford Cathedral on 1 March 2023 at the official opening of The Knife Angel statue. It's always good to publicise our charity and I often spoke about it, including on BBC Surrey. It was unfortunate that the Annual Award Ceremony could not go ahead, but notwithstanding that, it's been a good year in terms of fundraising and grants.

The theme of my year was "Against Abuse, for Recovery". Baroness Kennedy KC attracted a large audience to the University of Surrey. I hosted a dinner for 10 key people in Surrey who support domestic abuse victims and that produced ideas and closer connections. Some organisations that

help victims had stalls at my Garden Party and they received donations. I met women and children living in refuges in Surrey and learnt that awareness of DA is growing, and more victims courageously report it. I arranged a Law and Order Conference about our criminal justice system and what might be done better. A former Chief Constable, a top KC and the Director of the Prison Reform Trust, spoke about their concerns and what reforms they'd like to see introduced. The Police, the courts, and the prisons in Surrey are all under pressure because of the effects of Covid, the shortage of staff, and the delays to cases.

Covid and lockdowns impact upon mental health are now becoming better appreciated. Very young children, as well as teenagers and adults of all ages, are having difficulty coping with life after the pandemic. For many, it will take some time for a return to pre-Covid normal life.

It was a great privilege to be the High Sheriff of our beautiful county and to receive kindness from so many. I am grateful that this charity helps to meet the substantial needs of our young people. It is more than ever a difficult time for them because of social media pressures and the changes brought by the pandemic. The HSYA is important to all who work to help the young and I wish it continued success.

His Honour Christopher Critchlow DL
High Sheriff of Surrey 2022-2023

The High Sheriff Youth Awards in



“Youth club is where I feel safe to be my true self, without any judgement. If youth club wasn’t here, I wouldn’t be here”.

South West Surrey Domestic Abuse

This year South West Surrey Domestic Abuse Service launched its Youth Ambassador Board. This consists of 4 young people who over this last year have attended quarterly ‘Hear the child’s voice’ meetings and become ambassadors in their local communities. They created a QR code to share with peers listing local services that can support young people.

These 4 individuals aged 12-16 then made the decision that they wanted to courageously document their experiences of domestic abuse and how services like ours can support. This video has been used as a training tool in schools and has been presented at various professional platforms. These young people are committed to making social changes and to educate professionals on how to help in a child centred way.

They have created a legacy for children survivors of domestic abuse everywhere and for this we are truly grateful to the High Sheriff Youth Awards funding for making this possible and we could not be prouder of what they have achieved.

Woking Youth

Woking Youth is a charity based in Woking, providing long term support to local young people, no matter the situation they find themselves in. We offer safe spaces for young people to participate in purposeful activities with positive role models to help them to be encouraged, engaged and empowered individuals. We are really grateful to The High Sheriff Youth Awards who have enabled us to provide a weekly youth drop-in session at the Sythwood Estate, led by two qualified youth workers.

This is a free session open to all young people aged 11-19 years. We provide a wide range of activities and free refreshments to all those attending.

“Youth club is somewhere where I feel safe to be my true self, without any judgement. If youth club wasn’t here, I wouldn’t be here”. (Young person)



east to west

east to west received a grant from the HSYA to support the launch of a new project supporting young people between 16-18 moving from school to college. Led by Adele and based at Brooklands and Woking Colleges, she's delivered 212 1:1 sessions (180hrs) to 23 young people since September.

The majority of Adele's work has been supporting the transition from school to college, helping young people address and manage the anxiety they're feeling. She has been highly successful with this, with the majority of students accessing their learning and further education.

Working alongside the colleges, the remaining students have been given access to the additional help and provision they need. Adele has worked with 'Clare' who was pregnant when she arrived at College. Adele has worked with social care and the hospital to put the care and support plans in place needed in preparation for the birth of Clare's daughter. Adele continues to support Clare and they are hopeful that she'll return to her learning in September 2023.

Eikon

Eikons Summer Transition programme focusses on providing bespoke and intensive support for young people in the Elmbridge Borough, transitioning from primary to secondary school. The young people who are referred are at risk of exclusion, low school attendance or have anxieties about school. For them the move from primary to secondary school is a daunting prospect which can negatively affect their mental health and behaviour if not supported early and handled sensitively.

The HSYA helped enable a series of one-to-one sessions, summer holiday workshops and parent support. The project was a huge success and feedback very positive. The children felt more comfortable and confident as a result of meeting other children who were going to their school. They also felt less anxious as they felt they learnt about secondary school and learnt valuable coping skills to build resilience and regulate their emotions.

One young person said *"you guys were understanding and it was a fun environment. All the games were fun"*

Mane Chance

Mane Chance welcomes young people to spend educational or therapeutic time with our 38 rescued horses in 67 acres of Surrey countryside. We work with our animals to provide children with poor mental health or high anger management issues, coping tools to take back into their own lives away from the Sanctuary. Having joined with the nationally-recognised AQA Unit Award Scheme for young people who struggle in mainstream education, this year alone we have awarded over 150 certificates covering site maintenance, environmental work and animal care.

Mane Chance has community at its heart, and we are honoured to have been supported by the High Sheriff Youth Awards Scheme – this generosity has enabled us to provide sessions to over 150 children in Surrey who need our support. As one child told us *"You have helped me relax and stop bad thoughts overwhelming me..."*

The High Sheriff Youth Awards in



“If I look back to a year ago, it doesn’t really seem like that’s me. I’m a different person now.”

GASP

GASP Motor Project delivers life-changing training in motor mechanics across Surrey, to some of this county’s most disengaged and disadvantaged young people, often on free school meals or having SEND needs. We welcomed financial support from the HSYA which enabled us to deliver courses at Glyn, Epsom, and Rodborough Schools in the Spring of 2023, using our fully-equipped mobile workshop vans. At each school six students were selected to undertake the GASP vocational training, with one GASP mechanics tutor supporting every three students. The children were fully engaged, succeeding in achieving AQA accredited units. As one young person remarked *“It was the best thing in my week”*.

Glyn School’s Learning Mentor commented, *“The way that the participants grew in confidence and skills was amazing to watch. The course made students feel like they were really capable of achieving and finding a job when they finish their education.”*

SparkFish

SparkFish is a local charity based in Redhill that exists to inspire young people in faith, hope and love. SparkFish has three strands of work:

1 Hope – supporting young people during times of challenge through mentoring, ‘drawing and talking’, small groups, and transitions support for year 6’s.

2 Think! – we create spaces where young people can reflect mindfully on their lives and the world around them.

3 Learn – we support RE provision in schools by providing seasonal events, lessons and assemblies.

We greatly value the opportunity through the HSYA grant to offer mentoring sessions to young people free of charge in schools.

Young people who have engaged with our mentoring programme say:

“You can tell them anything and they always find a way to help.”

“I like how I can be here unjudged. I have learnt how to view stuff more positively.”

We firmly believe our mentoring with young people improves self-esteem, increases resilience levels and creates healthier young people at secondary school age and beyond.

2022-2023



Surrey Care Trust

STEPS is an Alternative Learning provision for 14–16-year-olds who have fallen out of mainstream education. Often, vulnerable young people with severe struggles in their lives face exclusion from school. This will simply compound their disadvantage. Instead, these struggling teenagers come to our STEPS Learning Centre in Goldsworth Park, Woking, where we provide them with a personalised, caring education that helps them get their lives back on track. The young people we support face a number of different disadvantages but have all ended up in a similar place: without STEPS' support, they will not get an appropriate education by the time they enter adulthood.

STEPS was a last resort for Olly, whose social worker had been trying to help him turn his life. He hadn't really attended school for almost a year, instead spending his time socialising with a group of bad influences who were often in trouble with the police for fighting, shoplifting, and stealing bikes and mopeds. In Olly's own words:

"I was in with the wrong people, and I was heading to prison."

"If I look back to a year ago, it doesn't really seem like that's me. I'm a different person now." Olly says the personal attention and support from STEPS' staff is what changed him.

St Peter's West Molesey

2022-2023 has been another fantastic year for us here at Bespoke Youth. We have seen the number of regularly attending young people almost double since this time last year. We have increased our regular weekly projects from 7 to 8 which now includes a music project. We have seen 200+ children and young people attend our free to access holiday sports camp, running each half term holiday. We were able to take some young people away to a youth festival in the summer of 2022 which they really enjoyed.

A big part of our HSYA funding goes towards the cost of our gap year volunteers who come and serve the youth work. They give up a year and work for free and we provide them with accommodation. Without them it would not be possible for us to do as much youth work as we do.

Skillway

We create opportunities for young people in our workshops, teaching them a variety of practical skills and life skills. Our students are often lacking in confidence and not engaged with their academic life. Our skilled staff and volunteers encourage them to engage in projects predominantly using wood, metal, and other creative materials such as glass. Through this they have the opportunity to learn new things and have a different kind of focus.

The HSYA grant was hugely beneficial in allowing us to upgrade the tools we use, this has meant the students can see the advantage of using more up to date equipment and learn to use tools that are contemporary with the working world. Using more efficient tooling also enables the students to complete more complex projects.

We really appreciate the HSYA grant and the benefits that we can pass on to our students is immensely valuable.

The High Sheriff Youth Awards in



“This is the most fun day with my new friends. I feel so lucky.”

Big Leaf Foundation - Summer School 2022

Big Leaf provides an annual Summer School, with language and skills sessions designed to minimise social isolation, improve English and help displaced young people prepare for the new academic year. With generous support from the HSYA, we provided activities focusing on work and careers, living safely, and health and well-being throughout August 2022. These sessions included collaborations with GASP Motor Project, Surrey Outdoor Learning and Development, Surrey University School of Law, Surrey Police, and Kings College Guildford.

“This is the most fun day with my new friends. I feel so lucky.”

We had a fantastic month, and the feedback from the young people was overwhelmingly positive. Improvement in language skills, confidence, and knowledge of UK life was immense; we saw friendships grow and vague career ideas become firm goals. BLF would like to extend a special thank you to the Surrey High Sheriff Youth Awards (HSYA) for funding our Summer School programme this year. We are so grateful for this support.

Surrey Clubs for Young People

The Borough of Spelthorne has suffered from an endemic issue of youth related anti social behaviour (ASB) in a number of locations, but mainly the town and Sunbury Cross. To combat this, the police have often authorised dispersal orders under their powers within the recent ASB, Crime and Policing Act. These orders are reactionary, not sustainable in the long term and do not provide a long term resolution. It has been noted that many of the youths have troubled backgrounds.

Therefore we felt the need to support them in a positive way. A football training session to steer youths away from criminal behaviour. These took place at Leacroft, an ideal location as it has an indoor football court, toilet facilities and side rooms which could be used for mentoring. The centre reopened at the beginning of April with a spare slot identified as Thursdays 6:30 - 8:30 pm. With any new project, there needs to be some flexibility and so to begin with it was simply a training session. Whilst the location is physically located in Staines town, it is open to all youths within the borough. Offending youths have come from Ashford, Stanwell and Sunbury Cross.



Surrey Fire and Rescue Youth Engagement Scheme (YES)

YES delivers targeted early intervention and support to vulnerable young people who have been identified, through a number of referral criteria, as being at risk of involvement in youth crime or anti-social behaviour. The week-long courses and follow up days engage young people in a variety of physical and social activities, experiences and challenges in a fire setting. The courses aim to help them to build their self-esteem, develop respect for themselves and others, develop their skills (such as communication and leadership), understand actions, consequences and boundaries and take ownership of their actions.

A school recently reported on a pupil: *'When he returned to school he was incredibly proud of the work he had done and it did have a significant impact on his behaviour at school. Since the programme, he has been working hard to behave in school and he has made such a positive improvement, even being nominated by his tutor group as the student most deserving of the tutor award in our Easter celebration assembly. I would wholeheartedly recommend this course.'*

Surrey Fire and Rescue Safe Drive Stay Alive (SDSA)

Safe Drive Stay Alive is a series of live educational performances which aim to make young people aware of their responsibilities as drivers, and passengers, and to positively influence their attitudes, with the overarching aim of improving road safety. Each live performance comprises a host and a series of films and live speakers, recalling how they and their families have been affected by a road traffic collision involving a young person.

The live speakers include emergency service personnel, as well as members of the public, who have either lost a family member, due to a road traffic collision, or a driver or passenger, involved in a fatal or serious collision.

One young participant said: *"The comments about phones in the car, showing how much of a distraction it can be influenced me. It made me very aware of other people's actions and I, several times, offered to set up/change directions on the phone, to make sure my parents don't interact with it in the car."*

Relate West Surrey

The funding Relate West Surrey received from HSYA went on to help 12 children or young people aged between 10 and 18 years. We offered each individual six 40-minute counselling sessions to help them with their mental health issues. They would not have received counselling if not for the financial support of the HSYA. Their issues included anxiety, poor family relationships, poor self-image and lack of confidence. We helped them by providing them with the tools to develop resilience and improved communication skills.

We measured how well each young person had done by setting up 3 goals, each of their own choosing. Each goal is scored from 1 to 10 at the start of the counselling sessions, and the same goals were scored again at the end of the sessions; the higher the scores, the more the goals had been reached. In the same quarter of July to the end of September 2022, the goal-based outcomes measure for children and young people showed an improvement of 62% on average.

From the outcome measures and case studies we receive from counsellors; we know that the work we carry out with young people provides them with the tools they need to develop the resilience needed to improve their mental health going forward.

Abridged Statement of Financial Activities

These figures are extracted from the statutory accounts which were given an unqualified report by the Independent Reporting Accountant* and which were signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Trustees on 13 July 2023. The statutory accounts are available on request to the Administrator. Please email: admin@surreyhighsheriff.org

for the year to 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Donations	73,313	65,200
Charitable expenditure		
Grants, awards and costs	79,598	50,497
Management and administration	2,920	4,812
	<u>82,518</u>	<u>55,309</u>
Increase (decrease) in funds	(9,205)	9,891
Balance brought forward from previous years	26,331	16,440
Balance available for future years	<u><u>17,126</u></u>	<u><u>26,331</u></u>
Represented by:		
Debtors less creditors	(500)	(2,144)
Balance at bank	17,626	28,475
	<u><u>17,126</u></u>	<u><u>26,331</u></u>

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Funders and Supporters

The High Sheriff Youth Awards scheme is grateful to its funders for their continuing generous support and for all donations received:

Public bodies

Surrey County Council

Office of the Police and Crime
Commissioner

Surrey boroughs and districts

Elmbridge Borough Council

Epsom and Ewell Borough
Council

Guildford Borough Council

Mole Valley District Council

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Surrey Heath Borough Council

Tandridge District Council

Waverley Borough Council

Woking Borough Council

Police Liaison

PS Emmie Harris

Press adviser volunteer

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High Sheriff Youth Awards

The High Sheriff Youth Awards makes grants for any amount from £500 up to £5,000.

Applications are welcome at any time and are considered by a Panel which meets quarterly.

See www.surreyhighsheriff.org for funding guidance and an application form.

High Sheriff Youth Awards

Registered charity No: 110187

Email: admin@surreyhighsheriff.org

Email: applications@surreyhighsheriff.org

www.surreyhighsheriff.org