

Outstanding Community Contributor Award



ANDRE LAMBERT



Andre is always there—whether it's delivering meals, helping neighbours with shopping, or offering emotional support during tough times.

She's described as a quiet, gentle presence who provides life-changing help without judgement. From taking children to school during a family crisis, to setting up a fundraiser for someone who lost everything in a fire, Andre's actions speak volumes. She checks in on neighbours, cooks for vulnerable residents, and volunteers at the community hub. Andre, your humility and heart make you a pillar of your community. Thank you for everything you do.

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LOU AND DANNI



This award recognises individuals who embody the spirit of community through selfless service. Lou and Dani are the very definition of that spirit.

Despite personal challenges—including Lou’s recovery—they continue to give tirelessly. From volunteering at the community hub, to helping neighbours in crisis, to cooking meals and delivering newsletters, their generosity knows no bounds.

They’ve supported neighbours through medical emergencies, run hubs, built fences, and even helped care for a guide dog. Their kindness is quiet, constant, and deeply impactful.

Lou and Dani, your compassion and commitment enrich every life you touch. You are true community heroes.

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Liesl Sheppard has brought beauty, care, and connection to Churchill Court. She's looked after her neighbour for years, and when they went into hospital, she stepped up without hesitation. Liesl saw a need to brighten the area and took it upon herself to paint sheds and benches, transforming the space. But her impact goes beyond aesthetics—she's inspired others to join in, leading a communal gardening effort that's improved mental health and brought neighbours together. Liesl, your initiative and kindness have created a space where people feel proud to live. You've turned a courtyard into a community.

Engaged Tenant of the Year

RESIDENT

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FESTIVAL

SAMANTHA PACKER



This award celebrates a tenant who has actively shaped the future of tenant engagement. Sam Packer is a standout example of dedication and thoughtful involvement.

Sam gives her time generously, serving on multiple panels and committees. She comes prepared, asks insightful questions, and holds people to account with respect. Her contributions help improve services and strengthen the relationship between tenants and the council.

Sam is also a valued supporter of the Communities Team. Her commitment, intelligence, and integrity make her an exceptional tenant advocate. Sam, thank you for being a voice for others and a force for positive change.

Community Group of the Year

COMMUNITY HUBSTERS



This award honours a group that has transformed lives through connection, care, and creativity. The Community Hubsters have done just that. The volunteers and all who attend are celebrated with this award.

Week after week, they offer a welcoming space for neighbours to gather, share meals, and take part in activities. For many, the hub is more than just a place—it's a lifeline. It's where isolation turns into friendship, where support is always available, and where laughter fills the room.

One tenant said, 'Sometimes it's the only hot meal I get in a week.' Another shared, 'I live alone and would be really lonely without them.' These words speak volumes.

Young Champion of the Year



This award celebrates a young person who's made a meaningful difference in their community. Our winner, Baylie Roberts, has shown remarkable dedication to helping others.

Baylie has been a constant presence in the community garden, mowing lawns for neighbours, and helping older tenants with weeding. These acts of service may seem small, but they have a big impact—bringing people together, brightening days, and showing that age is no barrier to friendship. Baylie, you're a true community champion.

Exceptional Officer of the year

RESIDENT

CONNECT

FESTIVAL

MARY PALUCH



This award recognises an officer who has gone above and beyond in their role, showing unwavering commitment and compassion. This year's winner, Mary Paluch, is described by tenants as 'one in a million' and 'worth her weight in gold.'

Mary has supported families through incredibly difficult times, offering not just practical help but genuine care. Whether it was being there for someone's father in his final days, or continuing to check in on loved ones long after, Mary's kindness leaves a lasting impact.

She's been called a fabulous support officer, a heart of gold, and an asset to EDDC. Her dedication, humour, and humanity make her truly exceptional.