



**Corks Lane
Hadleigh
Ipswich IP7 6SJ**

**MEDIA RELEASE
7th February 2003**

COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2003 – FULL LIST OF WINNERS

Babergh District Council has published the full list and biographical details of the 24 winners of the Community Achievement Awards for 2003.

According to Sue Carpendale, the Chairman of Babergh District Council "Babergh is very fortunate in having so many residents who give up their precious spare time to make life better for others in their local community"

Once again, the awards ceremony which is now in its 11th year, allows Babergh and the nominating Parish and Town Councils to say 'thank you' to the many local unsung heroes. Presided over by BBC Radio Suffolk's Mark Murphy, the two dozen winners will receive their awards from both Sue Carpendale and Robert Audley, Managing Director of Prolog, who for the second year running are sponsoring the event.

Mr Audley said "As a local company, Prolog are once again delighted to have our name associated with an event which highlights the strength of local communities."
ENDS

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Notes to editor: the list of winners and their biographies are attached as part of this media release

UNDER 18 years

HEIDI STUBBINGS – (SUDBURY) is 16, attends Sudbury Upper School and has been a member of a local drama group for 4 years. During that time she has not only taken part but managed all the choreography for productions such as the Wizard of Oz, Guys and Dolls and Robinson Crusoe. Heidi arranges and takes extra rehearsals and also steps in at short notice wherever necessary in order to make the productions successful. She also contributes enormously to productions at Sudbury Upper School.

HELEN WILSON – (ELMSETT) is 16 and is involved in many different groups and organisations. When asked to help with the village survey from a young persons perspective she readily agreed, putting in many hours of her spare time into analysing and presenting people's views in order to formulate a plan for the future of the village community. She has also provided music for village pantomimes, been an active member of the Girls Brigade and using her musical/dramatic talents to the full at school.

REBECCA WOOD – (SUDBURY) is 15 and has been a very valued member of Libertys Youth Club for over 3 years. She has given up a lot of her own time to organise different events for the rest of the members, such as a residential weekend with a Murder Mystery theme. She also organises Discos for Halloween and Christmas.

REBECCA ANDREWS – (SPROUGHTON) is 19 but the judges felt she still deserved a young adults award! Rebecca has Downs Syndrome, a severe heart condition and is registered blind. Rebecca is unable to do very much but once a year, for the last 10 years, she delivers and collects RNIB envelopes from the houses in the street where she lives. There are not many houses but it can take Rebecca several days to complete the task.

OVER 18 years

LIZ ELMER – (SUDBURY) has given a great deal of support and commitment to working alongside students with learning disabilities as part of The Bridge Project. Liz helps the Project on a weekly basis in the Courtyard Café but more often than not will readjust her personal life to fit in when extra help is required. Liz is also heavily involved with Mencap and other social activities for people with learning disabilities.

JENNY COX – (HINTLESHAM) is a supporter/organiser of all fundraising events held in the village for many worthy causes. She is a friend and confidante to all who seek advice and help but is especially involved in the Church and The Chattisham & Hintlesham Amateur Dramatic Society (CHADS). In previous years she has been a stalwart at the childrens' holiday club.

CHRIS BARBER – (WHATFIELD) was Whatfield's milkman for 31 years – a great achievement all by itself but he has done so much for the community above and beyond the call of duty and the remit of his job. He kept an eye on anyone living on their own and seemed to be a mobile solo-social service department but in the most friendly and neighbourly way. On one occasion Chris was concerned that an elderly lady was not up and about as usual and with assistance was able to render first aid.

HAZEL KING – (ELMSETT) has recently retired after working for 22 years fund raising on behalf of Mencap. Hazel and her husband opened up their homes every year to sell Christmas cards etc. on behalf of Mencap. Hazel also freely provides refreshments for the over 60s, WI functions and the Church. She is also a person who other people turn to for advice and always offers a shoulder to cry on. All this is done in a quiet unassuming way.

SHIRLEY MORRIS – (SUDBURY) has given her time freely as a volunteer for The Bridge Project for the past 9 years. Not only does she regularly help on a weekly basis but often readjusts her personal life when extra help is required. Shirley is so flexible that her skills have been utilised in most areas of training, including pottery, literacy, community skills and cookery.

EDNA ALLEN – (GREAT WALDINGFIELD) is 74 has lived in the village for over 45 years. She is a regular churchgoer and a practicing Christian. She made the ceremonial banner for the church and is famous for her bric-a-brac stall at Church fetes! She delivers Meals on Wheels, visits people in hospital and drives people without cars to visit others. She also cares and keeps an eye on elderly neighbours and has been on the committee of the Acton/Waldingfield Friendship Club for the elderly.

JO BROWN – (GLEMSFORD) as well as holding down a very stressful job as a practice nurse for many years, has recently worked very hard in co-ordinating the setting up of the Glemsford First Responders Scheme. This scheme works in conjunction with the ambulance service and volunteers from the village have attended training courses on how to do basic first aid and how to use a defibrillator. When an emergency call comes through to the emergency services the volunteer will go out to the patient and administer first aid before the ambulance arrives.

GRANVILLE BENDALL – (SEMER) has involved himself in so many aspects of village life. He has been a member of the Parish Council, the Village Hall Committee and the main pillar of the Church in Semer for over 40 years. Granville also served as a Special Constable for 25 years. We are told Granville can always be relied upon, whether it is to cut hedges, collect people with no transport, or to collect the wine! (for cheese and wine functions!) He is also a regular blood donor and has given 84 pints over the years.

MARY SQUIRRELL – (WHATFIELD) is a founder member and a trustee of Whatfield Village Hall and a founder member of the Community Council, on both of which she still serves. Mary also started the over 60s Club and introduced a fund for the maintenance of grass areas and graves in the Churchyard. She has been Caretaker at Whatfield Village School for 33 years and recently she has given the school garden a make-over donating plants and pots. In the past she has been a Home Help for several people in the village.

EVELYN LEACH – (LAYHAM) is over 80, has lived in Layham for 56 years and has twice served on the Parish Council. It was her recognition for the needs of the elderly wishing to remain in the community that led councillors to pursue development of suitable accommodation in Upper Layham, a project that is ongoing. Evelyn is dedicated to the work she does for St Andrews Church, arranging flowers and preparing for services every week.

CLIVE PEARSONS – (WASHBROOK) was a member of St Peters Church Choir for over 30 years and in the late 60s and early 70s he ran the village Youth Club with his wife. He has been on the Parochial Church Council and held the post of Treasurer at

one time. Clive was also Treasurer for 15 years of the 24th Ipswich Scout Group which many village boys attended. He has also been involved with Copdock & Washbrook Village Hall Management Committee for many years and seen the erection of the new Village Hall, where he undertakes licensee duties, voluntarily working behind the bar, ordering stock and organising the bar staff!

KENNETH AND PEGGY BECK – (SUDBURY) have done a great deal of work for The St Nicholas Hospice. Peggy has individually raised over £50,000 in 17 years for the Hospice and has also worked voluntary for many years in the St Nicholas Hospice Shop. Kenneth was instrumental in setting up, via the Probus Club, the successful help unit which has been run for 14 years and arranges transport for those in need. Ken also repairs items for sale at local Hospice functions, runs Neighbourhood Watch and represents the occupants of Minden Road, where he lives, on local issues.

BERNARD MILLS – (LONG MELFORD) has worked as a volunteer for many years at Long Melford Football and Cricket Clubs, taking care of grounds, buildings, acting on committees, treasurer duties and fundraising. He often covered expenses (which were many) for materials etc. out of his own pocket. During his working life as a Dairy Roundsman he took great care of his customers, often visiting, collecting and delivering groceries/mail etc, as well as delivering the milk!

ANDREW & MALCOLM MACBETH - (POLSTEAD) This father and son team, together with various members of their family, have been involved in the cubs, scouts, brownies & guides all their lives. Andrew's parents started these groups in Nayland in 1933 and Andrew took over the cubs and scouts in the 1950s. Malcolm joined him in 1980 and now leads the group although Andrew continues to help. Andrew's sister ran the guide group and his daughter runs a group in a neighbouring village. Andrew was also a retained fireman in Nayland for 35 years and received a long service award on his retirement.

DOREEN CROXTON – (MONKS ELEIGH) is 80 and has lived in Monks Eleigh since 1960. She has been actively involved in almost every aspect of village life involving many hours of voluntary work. Doreen served on the Parish Council for 12 years, has been on the PCC since 1961 and a Church Warden since 1989. During her time on the PCC she has arranged and organised every aspect of Churchlife in the village, including the Historic Churches Trust annual cycle ride. Doreen was also School Governor at Monks Eleigh & Stoke by Nayland for a total of 21 years and Vice Chairman of the Suffolk Community Council for 10 years. She recently volunteered to help set up a Community Shop and still works part time in the Hospice Shop in Hadleigh.

RICHARD CRISP, MELVIN OXFORD & ALAN WIGNALL - (HADLEIGH) have been managers of their respective football teams for many years;

Richard has been Manager of the Goldstar FC since 1987. He has been playing football since he was 11 and involved in running football clubs since 1981.

Melvin has been Manager of the Royal British Legion FC since 1987. He has been a football manager since 1974 (30 years).

Alan has been Manager of Otto Campenelli FC since 1986 – 6 years with the youth league and 10 years in the men's league. Prior to this he played football for 20 years for the Nedging & Naughton FC where he was the longest serving player ever at the Club.

All their teams are local and almost entirely drawn from town residents covering those still at school, teenagers, youths and some of the more mature residents! They have all given of their time freely without financial reward, quietly ensuring the successful running of their respective teams.

ELIZABETH BENNETT – (SPROUGHTON) has, since 1977, led a group of Trustees and other volunteers to obtain and develop a 4.7 acre riverside meadow at Sproughton into a Green. She communicated with the Countryside Commission to help with the land purchase and legal matters and also contacted many Councils and organisations to finance the project. Elizabeth arranged for the Gipping Valley Rangers to give their expertise in the preparing, cultivation and planting of over 1000 trees on the site. She also encouraged the Trustees and helpers to work on the ground and has arranged fund raising events.

ALFRED ARKLEY – (SHOTLEY) has been active in many aspects of village life, including DJ and bar tender for the Shotley School Community Association – serving the best “Pimms” this side of Wimbledon; serving on the Shotley and Erwarton Jubilee Community Council and the Shotley Church Heritage Fund; Chairperson of the Village Hall Management Committee and sometime caretaker; actor and scene builder at the Drama Club; Committee member, Shotley Youth Club; member of Shotley Youth and Community Project undertaking the important background survey in support of the Ganges Wood project.

NATALIE BLYTH – (KERSEY) was a founder member of the Kersey Community Playground Committee and almost every year since then has organised a plant sale and quiz night to raise funds for the playground maintenance. She also organises the mowing and tidying days and the ROSPA inspections of the play area. Natalie has also been a very active member of the Village Hall Committee and was a member of the Parish Council for 6 years where she was an enthusiastic member of the Footpath Committee, joining volunteer repair groups when needed.

LIN BERWICK AND RALPH BOYCE – (SUDBURY) LIN, despite being blind, having cerebral palsy and needing wheelchair, is a tireless champion of handicapped people who heads a national charity despite her disabilities She heads the Lin Berwick Trust which runs a specially-built holiday cottage for disabled people and is raising funds for a second. Lin spends around 25 hours a week working for the charity but also finds time to work as a freelance journalist, counsellor, author and homeopath. RALPH, Lin’s husband, has been Chairman of the Trust since its inception and has worked tirelessly for the charity. Ralph has always been by Lin’s side, and despite suffering from Parkinson’s Disease and severe arthritis is her 24-hour carer. Lin herself says “Ralph has always supported me against incredible odds”.