

Canoe England Volunteer & Recognition Awards 2010

Now in their fourth year, the awards took place on 4th December 2010 at PGL Liddington, Swindon. This year, two awards were presented in memory of Ruth Holdway who sadly died in 2009. A previous winner of these awards, Ruth introduced hundreds of young people into the sport and was a passionate coach at Trentham and Stafford & Stone. Ruth's parents, Kath and Paul Holdway, attended the evening to present the Ruth Holdway Awards for Community Volunteer and Olympic K1 500m Bronze medallist Ian Wynne presented the remainder of the awards.



Paddlepower Coach

John Stoner, Break Out Canoe Club

As a level 3 coach, John is the club's head coach and oversees the annual programme of awards, trips and competitions encouraging young paddlers to develop through the Paddlepower scheme. As club chairman he is the driving force of the club.



Male Volunteer Coach

Mark Preddy, Meridian Canoe Club

Mark plays a part in the club's success at national and international level in Canoe Polo and Canoe Slalom including coaching the under 21 men and women's polo world champions and European silver medallists respectively. He is also a polo referee and developed the London International Canoe Polo competition.



Female Volunteer Coach

Samantha Rippington, Wokingham Canoe Club

Samantha organises training sessions for young people at the club. She takes an active role in promoting canoeing to women organising women days at local clubs and is now coaching canoeing to Paralympic rower Helene Raynsford.



Male Teacher

John Gibbison, Morecambe Community High School

John is committed to young people and the local community providing thousands of canoeing opportunities during his 35 years of teaching. He has been fundamental in creating school club links with Lancaster & District Canoe Club.

John is pictured with PDO Ray Hudspith who presented the award at the teachers retirement party.

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Female Teacher

Maira Blackhall, Collingwood School Morpeth

Maira is the PE Teacher at a school for children with different needs and is influential in ensuring canoeing is accessible to everyone. Maira also dedicates herself as chair to registered charity and approved centre Coquet Shorebase Trust ensuring Watersports are accessible to everyone.

Maira is pictured at the schools nativity play receiving her award from school headteacher Richard Jones.



Employed Coach

Alex Nikonorov, GB Canoeing

Since August 2000, Alex has worked for GB Canoeing as sprint racing technical coach committing himself to the men's 200m kayak squad. His athletes' accolades include European and World Champion Ed McKeever; and European Champions and World Bronze medallists Jon Schofield and Liam Heath.



Coaching Impact

Gary Quittenton, Lincoln Canoe Club

Ex-international paddler Gary returned to the sport three years ago developing a clear pathway for local young people to canoe. Gary was commended by Lincoln Education Authority for developing links at schools and more is now working with Newark's 4 A's disabled paddlers who are now affiliated to the club.



Young Volunteer

Chloe Glendenning, Hexham Canoe Club

Chloe spends numerous hours arranging slalom sessions for the club and helping at local events. She helps with the maintenance of club kit and is youth rep on the club committee. Chloe puts the club before her own paddling and is motivated by helping younger club members.

Chloe is pictured receiving her award from PDO Ray Hudspith and Newcastle United's Shola Ameobi.



Impact on Disability Canoeing

Leon Nicholson, Southampton

Leon coaches a group with learning disabilities and works hard to progress the group to race and paddle regularly with one athlete gaining selection for the 2011 Special Olympics. He has been instrumental in raising money for the group to attend a course to help build their own boats.

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Official

Cathy Wynne, Canoe Sprint

Also secretary of the Sprint Racing committee, Cathy qualified as an ICF official 10 years ago and is chief official at regattas. She has officiated at many international events, senior world cups and has been a key official in European and world junior championships.



Ruth Holdway Award for Community Volunteer

Sam Keegan, Fairlop Canoe Club

As well as coaching young club members from disadvantaged backgrounds, Sam has helped to secure £16,000 of Youth Opportunities Funding towards canoe storage and liaises with Jack Petney foundation to benefit the club. Sam also joined the London Regional Development Team in 2010 as treasurer.



Ruth Holdway Award for Community Volunteer

Matthew Harbord, Westminster Boating Base

After being made redundant in 2010, Matthew volunteered 4 days a week at the centre coaching and generally helping. In 2010, Matthew led a 45 mile 'Round London Paddle' raising £2500 for new equipment; ran the Windermere Marathon raising £550 and became the founder member of an independent adult paddling club at the centre.



Impact on Community

Nicky Cresser, Tees Tigers

Despite his own slalom racing commitments, Nicky juggles full time work with coaching. After only two years, Nicky is the lead coach and committee member bringing structure to the sessions. Nicky was also key in the tendering for, and the organisation of, the Canoe Polo National Championships 2010.



Outstanding Contribution

Joan Veal, Itchen South District Scouts & Guides

Joan was founder member of the club and is pivotal in organising taster sessions, courses, day trips and weekend expeditions. On expeditions, Joan takes on the role as driver and acts as coach coordinator, cook, shuttle driver and bank support for the paddlers.

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Outstanding Contribution

Monty Smedley, Winchester Canoe Club

Monty set up a website to help local coaches and raise the profile of Sea Cadets in the South. He has been involved in the sport for numerous years and coaches at Winchester Canoe Club.

Monty is pictured receiving his award from PDO Chris Edge.



Outstanding Contribution

Viv Kendrick, Pennine Canoe Club

Viv is a key volunteer in developing Paddle-Ability to become one of the country's leading sports disability programmes. As well as being a qualified ICF classifier, Viv has also coached at her club for over 25 years and is club secretary.



Outstanding Contribution

Tom Thomas, Wansbeck Paddlesport Club

Tom established the club and spends much of his time coaching and coordinating other coaches. He dedicates himself to provide opportunities to experience paddling in different settings by organising and running trips.



Outstanding Contribution

Kevin & Nicky Mansell, Jersey Canoe Club

The husband and wife team have been club stalwarts since the 1970's. Kevin's coaching provides new ideas to other coaches and he is founder and motivator of Jersey Sea Kayak Symposium. Nicky is the backbone to the club behind the scenes and deals with membership.



Outstanding Contribution

Paul Ralph & Cherry Bapty, Reading Canoe Club

Over the decades, Paul and Cherry have been dedicated members of the Devises to Westminster Committee with Paul being director for 5 years and Cherry dealing with communication throughout the event. Paul also played a huge part in developing the Rocket Junior K4.

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Outstanding Contribution

Peter Travis, Falcon Canoe Club

Peter encourages community integration providing links between the club, university and community. He encourages paddlers from all backgrounds to join the club and works hard to link with Oxford Bangladeshi Boat Club and organises the annual Bangladeshi festival, nowka bais.



Long Service Awards:

Mark Windham, Guernsey (30 years)

Tony Leach, Guernsey (30 years)

Malcolm Cleal, Guernsey (40 years)

Brian Aplin, Guernsey (30 years)

Keith Tillen, Midland Canoe Club (25 years)



Additional Winners not present at the awards:

Young Coach:

Naomi Dean

Tyne Valley Canoe Club

Access Advisor:

Adam Box

Devon & Cornwall

Tony Carter

Norfolk

Outstanding Contribution:

Peter Ambrose

Salisbury Canoe Club

Alan Tordoff

Wild Water Racing