

Grimsby Community Awards 2014: Celebrating the best of the borough

By Grimsby Telegraph (/people/Grimsby Telegraph/profile.html) | Posted: November 27, 2014



Winners of all the awards on the night. Pictures: Duncan Young.



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NORTH East Lincolnshire's unsung heroes enjoyed a night in the limelight at the 2014 Grimsby Telegraph Community Awards.

Held a night after Grimsby was shown in a poor light on [national](#) television on Channel 4 programme Skint, the event at the Humber Royal Hotel celebrated the very best of the borough.

Awards were presented in 11 categories, recognising the dedication and hard work of those people that go the extra mile for others – whether they be teachers, health workers, volunteers or friends and neighbours.

And the overall prize, the Grimsby Community Award, went to 16-year-old James Hancock, winner of the [friend](#)/neighbour of the year category.

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The Franklin College student had been nominated by his friend Alicia Clarke to say thank you for supporting her in her battle with Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

Alicia, 16, who also goes to Franklin, was named Young Personality Of The Year for the second year running.

Speaking after the ceremony, an emotional James said: "I'm speechless.

"It has brought a tear to [my](#) eye and I'm not one to cry at anything.

"I would just like to thank Alicia. Without her I wouldn't have won this award and I couldn't ask for a better friend.

"My mum is one of the proudest mums ever. I didn't expect to win these awards. The other nominees' stories were inspirational and I feel honoured to be in the same category. Trophy or not, everyone is a winner tonight."

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Each award was sponsored by a local business or organisation, with a representative from each presenting the trophies to the winners.

The main prize was presented by last year's winner Pam Hodge, on behalf of the event's main sponsor the John Ross MBE Community Fund.

Pam said: "It was a great evening and it is nice for people to be appreciated for all the hard work they put in.

"To win the award last year was overwhelming and it was a real honour to present this year's award."

John Ross's widow Gill Ross, said: "There are some very special people in this [town](#) and it could not do without them.

"This is a night for the town to say a huge thank you for all they contribute and after Monday night's TV this is something worthwhile and very positive and I'm delighted to be part of it."

Carl Roberts, partnership director at North East Lincolnshire Council's partner Cofely, who sponsored the volunteer of the year award, said: "We are very keen to support these awards which recognise the efforts of those individuals who go the extra mile. It's heart-wrenching to see people that have gone through so much and have still got a desire and determination to support others."

David Christy, managing director at Ramsdens, which sponsored the Young Personality Of The Year Award, said: "After last year we were all very moved by the people who were nominated for awards.

"These awards are all about putting something back into the community which the Ramsden family has always done over the years."

The event was hosted by local actor and director Jamie Harris.

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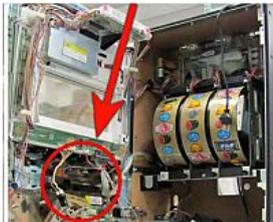
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