

**HASSRA SOUTH EAST
ANNUAL AWARDS 2017**



PRESENTED AT

***LIBERAL CLUB
LONDON***

WEDNESDAY 21st MARCH 2018.

SOUTH EAST ASSOCIATION AWARDS FOR 2017

Our awards start with recognising the efforts of members through Merit Awards.

These are much coveted and are issued sparingly.

Merit Award –

The first award goes to someone who since joining the HASSRA committee has been instrumental in driving forward Well-being. She instigated bulk purchasing of personal attack alarms that were sold to HASSRA members at cost price; this has helped people to feel safer when working later into the evening due to Employee Deal.

She has also arranged for the purchase of 4 Fitness Trackers that HASSRA members can loan for a month at a time. This has provided a great source of discussion around the office and our members have proved to have competitive streaks which have become apparent after comparing the amount of steps walked.

Sharon is happy to take the lead on organising some events and ensures that all HASSRA members are included, an example of this this was the Christmas buffet which is free to HASSRA members. She ensured that the main area for the event was decorated with festive items & also replicated this on the ground floor so that our members who have difficulty going upstairs were also catered for. She also arranged for a buddy to deliver lunch to these staff after they had picked their choices from a menu she had generated of available items. The award is made to **Sharon Wiggins** from Milton Keynes Bowbeck House

Merit Award –

The next award is to someone who is instrumental in keeping the local tuck shop running smoothly and regularly shops for items in her own time, ensuring there is stock to sell. She visits a variety of shops so we can get the best bargains to pass on to our members. She helps to run our club events, cleans up afterwards if required, & always ensures that we have the correct equipment available. She is an essential part of what makes an event run smoothly & efficiently.

She liaises with retired members informing them of any items of interest. She checks with Team Leaders to see whether any of our HASSRA members are due to retire or if any have been off sick (long term) so we can send the relevant cards and gift awards to them. She also informs them of any HASSRA events that are approaching in case they are able to attend.

She has supported her deputy ensuring she is fully knowledgeable of everything related to our accounts so that she can step in at very short notice & cover any absences. She also ensures that the accounts are kept up-to date and does any banking in her own time.

As a member of the Regional Board of Management, she offers considered opinions, both within the meetings and also replies to all email requests, whilst also being a vital part of the Finance Sub Committee

The award goes to **Amanda Chuch** from Milton Keynes

Merit Award –

The next recipient goes above and beyond to ensure that the local club provides activities for members. She cooks the baked potatoes and bacon/sausage rolls to sell to staff. She ensures that our tuck shop is always fully stocked so that we can raise money for charity. She promotes our competitions, auctions and raffles and can often be seen with clipboard in hand doing the rounds of the staff across the Jobcentre, encouraging them to take part. She even bakes cakes to bring in for charity fundraising events. She works tirelessly for the local club and it is fair to say that she is the driving force behind almost everything we do. She is committed to HASSRA and ensures that we comply with regulations at all times, making sure we have update meetings every two weeks and continually identify new activities that we can do to encourage HASSRA membership, ensure that existing members get full value for money from their membership, and raise money for local charities. This award is for **Shona Honeysett** from Eastbourne

Merit Award –

The next award goes to someone who has been a HASSRA member for many years and has been Secretary for their local club for the past 4 years (holding the post of Deputy Secretary before then).
An enthusiastic HASSRA member, who has played netball, attended festivals and Sports Days but more importantly to our club she goes the extra mile to support us. She always come up with ideas, finds the information we need, makes any arrangements and deals with any collections for dress down days and charity events. She even does the shopping in her own time. This is no mean feat when she has her own family life outside work to juggle.
Somehow she also finds the time to support and participate in any events arranged. Even in what has been a difficult year for her personally her support for the club and her friends and colleagues has been consistent.
She has a unique personality and is so full of warmth and good humour. She is like a daily breath of fresh air and her presence boosts the moral of all those she comes in contact with. She is an asset to the club and to our office.
She is moving out of the area at some point this year and she will be sorely missed by everyone in the office. This award is long overdue and goes to **Lucy Alford** from Ashford.

LOCAL OFFICE CLUB AWARDS 2017

Highly Commended and £100 – Gatwick Diamond Cluster

A club that is getting better and better and was close to winning one of the major awards.

Best Small Club Runner Up £150 - MILTON KEYNES – BOWBACK HOUSE

A very close run thing for first and second, a variety of events throughout the year provides local members with an excellent opportunity to take part in all things HASSRA

Best Large Club Runner Up and £150 - Worthing

An excellent submission that showed that an active committee can achieve a lot of good.

Best Small Club and £250 – HASTINGS & BEXHILL

This Club will now be submitted to the National Awards committee in the Best Small Club category.

Best Large Club and £250 – Newport IOW

This Club will now be submitted to the National Awards committee in the Best Large Club category.

BUSINESS SPONSOR OF THE YEAR 2017

Alas we had no nominations for a Business Sponsor this year, although every club has someone who takes this mantle and is responsible in ensuring the governance of running a local club.

SPORTPERSON THE YEAR 2017

Our nomination for Sportswoman of the Year is for someone who has supported HASSRA in her chosen sport for many years, finishing second in the 10K running event at the 2017 Festival to someone who was probably half her age. She has competed for the Region in this event at the Festival since it began.

A good club runner, her effort to get others interested has seen a walking club in the local office, move up to light running and there are now at least six people in the local office who compete almost every week, covering distances all the way up to full marathons and would not have done so if it wasn't for the support given and the hours donated to training alongside these people as they also found a love of running.

Outside of HASSRA, coaching sessions are provided for the local town's Running Club, marshalling races both locally and around the country whilst still being an active runner, winning races in her age group that it is too impolite to state but it can be said that becoming part time due to early retirement one or two years before civil service pension age gives you a bit of a clue.

Still an active runner, she will complete the town's half marathon this year on her 40th wedding anniversary and will be in the top 20% of finishes in all ages.

Although we are not aware of a national or county ranking, we feel our nomination deserves recognition.

This year's Sportswoman of the Year award goes to Steph Miller

PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR 2017

HASSRA is an organisation full of characters, all with their own way of doing things but with the common characteristic of being people who do a lot for the benefit of others.

They work hard to ensure that members get what they tell us they want.

A very popular members' benefit over the years is the numerous organised trips we put on, both at home and abroad, all excellent value for money and very well supported.

These have covered things like Theme Park tours, Disneyland Paris, the Harry Potter experience, trips to Amsterdam and lots of others – including an amazing offer currently to enjoy a 5 night Cruise at a snip of a price.

One of our Board members spends a great deal of personal time creating, arranging and managing these popular ventures and many of our members have enjoyed some tremendous bargains thanks to him.

For many years now he has been a very popular member of the SE Board and a key committee member in his local Club where he is a major influence. This larger than life character has a great sense of humour – mandatory as he is an Aston Villa supporter – and thoroughly deserves this recognition for his services to the HASSRA SE region over many years.

The SE Personality of the Year for 2107 is Pete Fincham.

CONTRIBUTOR OF THE YEAR 2017

Jo Slegg is a name known throughout the region and on the wider national scene as the ultimate contributor.

What she has done in 2017 has been replicated many times over for more than 20 years but in 2017 she showed the same energy, determination and enthusiasm as though she was just getting into the swing of things.

As a member of the South East Board, she always has something to say which is worth listening to; she is full of ideas and not only comes up with various innovations but has been willing and ready to participate in them to ensure good results.

For example, along with one other Board member she is the mainstay in organising our annual Sports Day in conjunction with the London region. This year she proposed a new idea of running a Silent Disco throughout the day, made all the arrangements for securing the equipment, engaged volunteers in running the event on the day and oversaw the entire event which was a huge success on the day. Alongside that, her input into the actual planning for and running the event is a major reason for the event's popularity and success.

Her track record as a competitor is unrivalled. She organised and played in the netball tournament and outside of Sports Day she is the region's hockey and netball organiser – sports in which she excels.

She has participated in any number of events at the Festivals, including netball, hockey, rounders, touch rugby and "it's a knockout" type events. She has often stepped up at short notice and will try her hand at anything rather than let the team down. At her Club level, she has been just as much of an influence; she has been their treasurer for as long as anyone can remember and has ensured a lively and successful Club atmosphere by her own example of joining in, encouraging and having such a positive attitude.

On top of all this, Jo is very much a social animal – one who will join in, encourage others, get them up on the dance floor and make sure that a good time is had by all. Throughout 2017, as in other years, she has been a major player at local, regional and national levels and over the years has received virtually all the major Awards that the SE region makes – including Personality of the Year, Sports Person of the Year and the region's highest award of all – the David Elgar trophy for outstanding service to HASSRA SE.

Jo is the type of individual on whom the success of HASSRA is founded and her contributions throughout 2107 and for many more years make her a worthy candidate for the Best Contributor award.

NGAIRE THOMAS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2017

This nomination is several years overdue. The nominee has been the local club treasurer for as long as can be remembered, at least 6-7 years. One could be mistaken for thinking of her as the chair and secretary too. Don't be mistaken in thinking that she wants all the jobs and all the power! It is because at one time or another, everyone has been "too busy" to completely fulfil their role and they always, without complaint, steps into the breach.

Examples:

1. Organised attendance at all the WOW days for at least the last 6 years, even when she has not been able to attend herself. This included sourcing suitable and cost effective transport. One year there was a mix up amongst the firms and two showed up. She was on hand to sort it all out and smooth it over, and that was one of the years she couldn't be released to attend.

2. Tirelessly promoted HASSRA in our cluster, arranging for talks and freebies from Ray Allen. She single handedly created the most wonderful presentation with photographs from previous WOW days to encourage others to attend who had not yet taken up the opportunity.
3. Without her, there would not even be a committee. There is such a high turnover of members, yet they remain a constant and refuses to give in and close the committee down and it is on some of these occasions she fulfils the roles herself, sending out meeting invites, writing agendas, working closely with the People Engagement groups and dealing with all the politics of that!
4. Created several newsletters for sharing with everyone, including news, funds raised for charity, photographs.
5. Always kept the records up to date of all the fund raising activities and that has been a lot.
6. They are is our motivator. It has been tempting to give up many times for lack of volunteers but she never gives up!
7. Finally, she wrote our small club nomination. She went out to members for assistance but no-one volunteered so she completed it alone, yet still gave everyone credit.

Some quotes from fellow committee members:

“They has always supported me while I was her deputy treasurer, dealing with all process queries etc. – a knowledgeable resource for all things HASSRA! She certainly is the driving force behind our local HASSRA and her loss from our office was strongly felt I think. She is good with keeping up with the bigger picture and national HASSRA activities and promoting them to the committee”

“Well she takes the lead and gets everyone motivated. She organises and get colleagues on board and they do things that they would never have done without her

This year's Volunteer of the Year Award goes to Samantha Louch

EXCEPTIONAL MERIT AWARD 2017

As a participant, organiser and Board member this popular gentleman seems to have been around for ever.

In years gone by he has represented his region at a number of sports including Rugby Union and Football and participated in just about every activity going – at Sports Days, regional competitions and all sorts of local events. At office Club level he has been a major influence thanks to his enthusiasm, energy and determination to make things work; he sets a fine example to others.

A member of the Board of Management for many years, he is the Retired Members' representative and in recent years has taken on the role of Secretariat Manager, overseeing and providing support for the Board's business agenda. He has also taken on the role of Team Manager at the Festivals and his influence there has been well received by all concerned. As a Board member he has experience and business nous which make his contributions very welcome. He invariably has something to say which people listen to and he is a popular colleague amongst his peers.

Despite having retired some years ago, he finds the time to remain a very active member of HASSRA SE life and gives a lot of his own personal time to the HASSRA cause.

Some years ago he received a Regional Merit award for his considerable contributions and it is high time that his efforts are recognised again. The HASSRA SE Exceptional Merit was introduced for this very purpose and this year's worthy winner is

ANDY BASHFORD