



PADDOCK WOOD CITIZEN OF THE YEAR 2016

Deadline for nominations - Friday 10 June 2016

It is time to think about who are the unsung heroes in our community again - the people who go out of their way to make life a little better for all of us - and to decide who deserves to be the town's next "Citizen of the Year".

Who has won before?

When the award was first introduced in 2010, Chris Gregory was recognised for his work with the former Citizens Advice Bureau office in Paddock Wood. He was followed by Margaret Swaite, who had headed up the local support group for the Hospice in the Weald. Then it was Mike Duffin, who had spent many years encouraging local athletes and also runs the annual Star Track Academy at Mascalls during the summer holidays. He was followed by Kay Groves, the energetic leader and grant-getter of Play Paddock Wood. In 2014, the award went to Sue Gray who runs the community café at the Brenchley Memorial Hall that provides work and recreation opportunities for people with special needs over a wide local area. And last year, it was won by Fiona Pengelley who is the lead worker in the town's Community Advice Centre that helps many local people with a wide range of problems.

New nominations

Nominations for the 2016 award need to be submitted by Friday 10 June. The winner will be announced at the Paddock Wood Fete on Saturday 9 July, where they will be presented with a special certificate by the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells plus a cheque for £250 from the Lions to donate to their favourite charity.

You can nominate anyone you think has made a special contribution to the community in Paddock Wood or over a wider area that includes the town. It can be for what they have done over a long period and not just in the last year or so. And it can be for things they have done as part of their job and not just for voluntary work. It can also be for things they have done as part of a group effort – and not just what they have done on their own.

The only people who are ineligible are members of the Lions and Lioness Clubs and elected members of local councils.

As a first step, you may want to check whether any of your friends are thinking of nominating the same person, in case you can help each other prepare a joint nomination.

What do you need to tell us?

You are free to decide how much detail to include in your nomination and how to present it, but we will need some basic information:

- The nominee's name, address and phone number. (You do not have to tell them that they are being nominated if you do not want to. We will only contact the winner after they have been chosen, so that they know to come and collect their award at the fete – or to arrange another time if they are going to be away.)
- The main thing they have done for Paddock Wood that makes them worthy of consideration for the award.

- How long they have been doing it.
- The sort of people that have benefited and roughly how many.
- If they have worked as part of a group, what it is that made their contribution stand out from that of the other members.
- Any other things they have done for the community that strengthens the case for giving them the award.

Please provide the name, address and telephone number of the lead person submitting the nomination and, if you wish, also include a list of the names and addresses of other people who support it.

All nominations must be sent to Bill Hills at 3 Goldfinch Close, Paddock Wood, TN12 6XW or can be e-mailed to him at **bill.hills@yahoo.com**.

Please phone Bill on 01892 833157 if you have any questions.

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