



**SAT 12TH
SEPT 2026**

DOOR 6:00PM | EVENT 6:30PM – 10:00PM

**COMMUNITY
AWARD
CEREMONY**

CARIBBEAN HERITAGE CENTRE

★ **ST LAURENCE CHURCH,** ★
THE FORBURY, READING RG1 3EJ

**SHOWING OUR APPRECIATION FOR
THOSE SUPPORTING THE CARIBBEAN
HERITAGE CENTRE PROJECT
WHILST RECOGNISING SOME OF THE UNSUNG
HEROES WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY**



INFO@CHC-READING.ORG |



CARIBBEANHERITAGECENTRE.COM

Caribbean Heritage Centre (CHC) Community Awards

Nominations Now Open – 2nd CHC Community Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2nd **Caribbean Heritage Centre Community Awards**, celebrating the outstanding contributions of individuals, groups, and organisations across our community.

Organised by the **Caribbean Heritage Centre**, these annual awards recognise those whose dedication, service, and achievements have made a meaningful difference, inspired others, and strengthened our community.



Each year, we will offer an opportunity to recognise talent highlighting the incredible work taking place across Reading from community volunteers and grassroots leaders to organisations, businesses, and young people making a positive impact.

The **2026 CHC Community Awards Ceremony** will take place on **Saturday 12th September 2026 at the St Laurence Church in Reading**. A panel of respected judges will select this year's finalists and winners.



With a wide range of award categories, you are invited to nominate someone who deserves recognition. Self-nominations are also welcome, provided they are supported by an independent referee who can verify the contribution. Nominees may be considered for more than one category where appropriate.

Deadline for nominations is Friday 31st July 2026.

You can complete the nomination form:

- online at: <https://caribbeanheritagecentre.com/>
- by using the nomination form below and email back to: info@caribbeanheritagecentre.com
- or using the QR code below



AWARD CATEGORIES

COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARDS

1. Community Legacy Award

Recognising an individual whose long-term commitment, typically over 10 years, has created a lasting and meaningful impact on Reading's communities. Their contribution will have influenced people, organisations, or systems over time and earned widespread respect and credibility within the community.

2. Cultural Contribution Award

Celebrating individuals who demonstrate excellence in Caribbean arts, music, heritage, or storytelling, while actively preserving and promoting culture. Nominees will show strong community engagement and have made a clear contribution to raising cultural awareness in Reading.

3. Volunteer(s) of the Year

Honouring individuals or teams who have made a significant and sustained commitment to voluntary service. Their efforts will have delivered clear, measurable impact, demonstrating consistency, reliability, and initiative beyond expectations in supporting the community.

4. Neighbourhood Champion Award

Recognising individuals who improve lives through grassroots action, advocacy, or local organising. Nominees will have a visible impact within their neighbourhood, building trust, engagement, and positive change at a community level.

5. Youth Leadership Award (Under 25)

Celebrating a young person who demonstrates leadership, initiative, and positive influence within their community. They are a strong role model for their peers, actively involved in community activity, and show clear potential for future leadership growth.

6. Child of Courage Award (Under 16)

Honouring a young person who has shown exceptional bravery or resilience in overcoming significant personal challenges. Their actions or attitude will inspire others, demonstrate strength and make a positive impact despite adversity.

7. Inspiration Award

Recognising someone whose actions, achievements, or attitude uplift and motivate others. They demonstrate positivity, determination, or leadership, with an influence that extends beyond their immediate circle and creates a ripple effect of encouragement or change.

8. Entrepreneur for Community Good

Celebrating a business owner or social entrepreneur who uses enterprise as a force for good. Nominees will demonstrate ethical practice, social responsibility, and a commitment to reinvesting in the community through creating opportunities such as jobs, support, or mentoring.

9. Green Community Award

Honouring individuals or groups championing sustainability or environmental awareness. Their work will include practical action, measurable impact, and a commitment to engaging and educating the wider community.

10. Faith & Community Service Award

Recognising those who contribute through faith-based or spiritually-led initiatives that support community cohesion and wellbeing. Nominees will demonstrate compassion, service, leadership, and an inclusive, community-focused approach.

11. Education & Mentorship Award

Celebrating individuals who support learning, development, and life opportunities for others, particularly young people. Their work will include mentoring, guidance, and evidence of positive outcomes, with a strong commitment to inclusion and opportunity.

12. Putting Reading on the Map Award

Honouring individuals or organisations whose achievements raise Reading's profile locally, nationally, or internationally. They demonstrate excellence in their field, represent the community positively, and create recognition or opportunities for the town.

13. Community Organisation of the Year

Recognising a group with a strong track record of delivering meaningful community impact. They promote cohesion, inclusion, and collective pride, supported by effective leadership, sustainability, and clear evidence of community engagement.

14. Community Spirit Award (Overall)

A flagship award celebrating exceptional commitment across multiple areas of service. The recipient embodies unity, culture, and community values, demonstrates strong leadership and influence, and is widely respected for their impact.

15. Sports Award

Recognising individuals or teams who demonstrate excellence and dedication in sport while making a positive impact on the community. This includes inspiring others, representing the community positively, and contributing to participation, coaching, or development.

16. Entertainment Award

Celebrating individuals or groups who excel in entertainment, such as music, media, or performance, while engaging and uplifting audiences. Their work promotes culture and creativity and has a positive influence within the community.

AWARD CATEGORIES

UNSUNG HEROES AWARDS

1. Unsung Community Hero

Recognising an individual whose contribution often goes unnoticed but is deeply felt by others. They demonstrate consistent dedication without seeking recognition, creating a quiet but meaningful impact and earning the trust and appreciation of those they support through humility and commitment.

2. Carer Award

Honouring unpaid carers or individuals who provide ongoing care, kindness, and emotional support. They demonstrate patience, compassion, and reliability, improving the quality of life for others through sustained dedication over time.

3. Compassion Award

Recognising individuals who show exceptional empathy and kindness within the community. They support others through difficult or sensitive situations, going above and beyond both emotionally and practically to improve wellbeing.

4. Everyday Volunteer Award

Celebrating individuals whose regular, dependable volunteering keeps community activities running smoothly. Their consistent commitment makes them a trusted and valued contributor within the community.

5. Community Connector Award

Honouring those who bring people together across backgrounds, build relationships, and foster a strong sense of belonging. Their work encourages inclusion and creates meaningful opportunities for collaboration.

6. Resilience & Strength Award

Recognising individuals who demonstrate strength and perseverance through personal challenges. Despite adversity, they continue to contribute positively and inspire others through their determination and resilience.

7. Youth Unsung Hero Award

Celebrating a young person quietly making a meaningful difference through service, kindness, or leadership. Their contribution, though often unrecognised, positively influences their peers and community.

8. Elder's Contribution Award

Honouring a community elder who has provided long-standing service, leadership, and guidance. They are respected for their wisdom, mentorship, and lasting legacy within the community.

9. Acts of Kindness Award

Recognising simple yet powerful acts that make a meaningful difference in people's lives. These actions demonstrate generosity, thoughtfulness, and selflessness, often carried out quietly but with lasting impact.

10. Hidden Cultural Guardian Award

Celebrating an individual who preserve culture, language, traditions, or heritage outside the spotlight. Their work protects cultural identity for future generations and reflects authenticity, commitment, and passion.

11. Community Health & Wellbeing Champion

Recognising those who support mental health, wellbeing, or social care within the community. They provide practical and emotional support, improve health outcomes, and promote awareness and access to vital services.

12. Employer of the Year

Honouring an organisation that demonstrates strong commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. They foster positive workplace culture, support employee wellbeing, and actively engage with and contribute to the community.

13. Teacher Award

Recognising an educator who goes above and beyond to support students' progress and development. They demonstrate commitment to inclusive education and have a positive influence that extends beyond the classroom.

14. Mentor Award

Celebrating an individual dedicated to mentoring and developing others. Through one-to-one or group support, they help build confidence, skills, and opportunities, demonstrating a strong and lasting commitment to guidance and growth.

CARIBBEAN HERITAGE CENTRE

AWARDS 2026 NOMINATION FORM

Please fill in the details below (USING CAPITALS) and provide contact details so that we can contact the person/organisation nominated should they be shortlisted.

Details of person being nominated:

Full Name of Nominee:	
Nominee's Organisation (if applicable):	
Nominee's Address & Postcode:	
Nominee's Contact Number:	
Nominee's Email Address:	

Details of person making the nomination or independent verifier (if nominating yourself):

Your Full Name:	
Your Organisation's Name (if applicable):	
Your Job Title:	
Your Address & Postcode:	
Your Contact Number:	
Your Email Address:	

Who are you nominating?

☐ Myself ☐ My organisation ☐ Someone else ☐ Another organisation

In what capacity do you know the nominee?

--

Please tick the box or boxes below for the nomination award category

Please see the previous page for award details

You may nominate for more than one award

COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARDS

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Community Legacy Award | ☐ |
| 2. Cultural Contribution Award | ☐ |
| 3. Volunteer(s) of the Year | ☐ |
| 4. Neighbourhood Champion Award | ☐ |
| 5. Youth Leadership Award | ☐ |
| 6. Child of Courage Award | ☐ |
| 7. Inspiration Award | ☐ |
| 8. Entrepreneur for Community Good | ☐ |
| 9. Green Community Award | ☐ |
| 10. Faith & Community Service Award | ☐ |
| 11. Education & Mentorship Award | ☐ |
| 12. Putting Reading on the Map Award | ☐ |
| 13. Community Organisation of the Year | ☐ |
| 14. Community Spirit Award (Overall) | ☐ |
| 15. Sports Award | ☐ |
| 16. Entertainment Award | ☐ |

UNSUNG HEROS AWARDS

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Unsung Community Hero | ☐ |
| 2. Carer Award | ☐ |
| 3. Compassion Award | ☐ |
| 4. Everyday Volunteer Award | ☐ |
| 5. Community Connector Award | ☐ |
| 6. Resilience & Strength Award | ☐ |
| 7. Youth Unsung Hero Award | ☐ |
| 8. Elders' Contribution Award | ☐ |
| 9. Acts of Kindness Award | ☐ |
| 10. Hidden Cultural Guardian Award | ☐ |
| 11. Community Health & Wellbeing Champion | ☐ |
| 12. Employer of the Year | ☐ |
| 13. Teacher Award | ☐ |
| 14. Specific Mentor Award | ☐ |

Please provide a detailed description of what the nominee has achieved by answering each question below (please ensure your response is 150 words max for each question)

What did the nominee do? *You should mention 1. Where did the activity/action take place, 2. When was it carried out, 3. What specific actions were taken, 4. Who did they work with/who benefitted.*

What was the impact? *For example, did it raise awareness or make improvements, change behaviours and attitudes, receive feedback or recognition.*

Why should the nominee be given the award in the chosen category/categories?

Is there anything else you would like to tell the judges about the nominee?

AGREEMENT BY PERSON NOMINATING OR INDEPENDENT VERIFIER (if self-nomination is being made)

☐ I confirm that the information I have given is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I support the nomination of the named person in this application for the award. (Please tick to agree).

Thank you for taking part in the nominations for the Community Awards 2026 and for supporting this event. Your nomination will be assessed by our judges to consider if it can be shortlisted for the award category you nominated. We may also move the nomination to another award category, if the judges deem it appropriate. Judges' decisions are final.

Please return the completed application before the deadline (Friday 31st July 2026) and return to info@caribbeanheritagecentre.com.

Privacy Notice

The Caribbean Heritage Centre will use the information that you provide only in relation to your request. We rely on the lawful basis of 'legitimate interests' to process your personal data only for the purposes of receiving, considering, and awarding nominations for the Community Awards 2026.

☐ I am happy to be contacted about future CHC activities and events by email. (Please tick to agree).

☐ I am happy to be contacted about future CHC activities and events by mobile messaging. (Please tick to agree).