

List of Nominees and Supporting Statements

Nominee	Justifying the nomination	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?
Anderson Connell	Since1979 Anderson has delivered sustained voluntary service across London, Reading and the wider Berkshire area, with support also reaching Barbados, Haiti and Grenada. Through Barbados and Friends Association Reading, Apollo Youth Club, the Caribbean Volunteers Readers and Performers Project, National Council of Barbadian Associations, he helped secure charitable status, developed community links between Reading and Speightstown, supported Black health and education events, taught and mentored young people, provided IT and website support, coordinated cultural programmes, raised funds and secured sponsorship. He also contributed to Reading NHS Primary Care Trust, and the Reading Local Children’s Safeguarding boards, The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Reading awareness work and disaster appeals following crises in Grenada and Haiti. He voluntarily created and edited The Caribbean Daily Eye online newspaper, and supported vulnerable individuals, including a seriously injured Barbadian citizen and his mother.	Created lasting impact across community, youth support, children’s safeguarding, health awareness, cultural identity and diaspora engagement. He helped BAFA gain charitable status and a Twinning Link between Reading and Speightstown. This created a platform for exporting resources and skills enabling the creation of a resource library in a Barbadian school. At Apollo Youth Club, improved opportunities for young people and families in Reading were created through education, Saturday, after-school and holiday club provision, teaching, management and IT support. Raising awareness of inequalities in Sickle cell anaemia, healthcare access affecting Black and multiracial communities. His NHS and children’s safeguarding board roles improved community representation and scrutiny of public services. Mobilised networks, raising funds for those affected by crises in Grenada and Haiti. Developed male mentors through CVRPP for mainly black boys in schools. Supported cultural celebrations, fundraising £27,000+. He was formally recognised by a Barbados High Commission Citation in December 2024.	Anderson should receive the award because his contribution shows exceptional, sustained and selfless service over more than four decades. He has demonstrated leadership across community development, youth work, education, health awareness, safeguarding, cultural identity, fundraising, disaster relief and support for vulnerable individuals. His work has not been short-term or symbolic; he has built organisations, strengthened community networks, secured resources, mentored young people, represented Black, Barbadian and Caribbean communities, and responded practically when people needed help. Through BAFA, Apollo Youth Club, NCBA, NHS, safeguarding roles and The Caribbean Daily Eye, he has used his skills, time and influence to benefit others locally, nationally and internationally. His achievements show commitment, integrity, compassion and lasting impact. The breadth, consistency and longevity of his voluntary service make him a highly deserving nominee for recognition in the chosen category or categories.	Anderson’s contribution stands out because it has been sustained, practical and community centred. For more than four decades, he has given his time, skills and leadership freely, often working quietly behind the scenes to make projects, services, events and support networks happen. His work has connected communities in Reading with the wider Barbadian and Caribbean diaspora, strengthened cultural understanding and supported people locally, nationally and internationally. He has consistently used his experience in education, IT, safeguarding, health awareness, journalism, fundraising and community leadership to benefit others. His service reflects humility, reliability and a deep commitment to helping people and preserving community identity. The Barbados High Commission Citation in December 2024 demonstrates the significance of his long-standing contribution and the respect he has earned. This nomination recognises not just individual achievements, but a lifetime of service that has left a meaningful legacy.
Angela Bovell	Volunteered for many projects over the years working with youths. Angela has worked in the community since then1980 working with the central club, local Unity netball team . Since then she has worked in various events and hosted a sound system culture event which looked back at Reading sound systems over the years 2024. She was part of the Party Peoplez Team providing great nights of entertainment.She is currently involved in the Reading Carnival.	Changed in behaviour for many. She strives to keep the community together by promoting good family values.	Sharing of community plans throughout many years therefore encouraging others to attend. Contribution to Reading for the pass 46 years for no or little financial gain	Did a number of windrush events over the past including sound system culture. A True Reading hero.
Angela Fairweather	Years of hard work and support towards the owner Perry.	Introducing Carribean cuisines to the wider community of Reading and beyond.	Angela is the heart of Perry’s restaurant. Not only does she work tirelessly to prepare and cook the meals, but she also welcomes and serves the customers as the face of the business. Her dedication and passion for what she does make her a deserving recipient for this award.	She has been unsung heroine in this field for over 20+ years.
Ann Francois	Anne generously gives her time to organise the Golders Club, a valued weekly lunch club held at Wesley Methodist Church on Queens Road, primarily supporting elderly members of the Caribbean community. Through her commitment, Anne helps create a welcoming space where attendees can enjoy companionship, share a meal, and take part in enriching trips. The club is well attended and greatly appreciated by those who benefit from it. Ann is in charge of the organisation. 1. The activity takes place in Wesley’s Methodist Church Hall. 2. It takes place every Tuesday. 3. Meals and various activity every week. 4. The luncheon club is run by the committee who prepare all the meals etc Wesley Church Reading, every week, lunch and activity group with the elderly.	The club organises visits to historical and interesting places, helping participants deepen their understanding of their own heritage and England’s shared history with the Caribbean. Many members would not otherwise have had the opportunity to visit these places. The club also helps members’ build confidence by offering opportunities to develop and practise skills through activities such as singing and dance groups. It offers members the opportunity to socialise and many live alone and do not get out much. Feedback from members has been positive. Every week, many people attend and are welcomed by Ann and the committee. Various activities take place each week such as bingo, dancing, dominoes, singing etc and at the end of the activities a nice meal and dessert is served with love. Good feedback from group. Started with about 10 and can have 75 most weeks for lunch and activity.	For Community Organisation of the Year, the Golders Club is unique in supporting older people in this community and has made a meaningful difference to its members’ lives. For Unsung Hero, Anne’s devotion and commitment deserve recognition, and are deeply appreciated by the members she supports. For the Everyday Award, Anne is a reliable and dedicated volunteer whose regular support keeps these community activities running smoothly. Her consistent commitment makes her a trusted and valued contributor to the community. The award should be given to the nominee because it was started over 15 years ago and a great deal of work goes into making each week a success. For her outstanding work and non paid time with Lunch Club and other community work	Anne is deeply rooted in the community and has selflessly dedicated her time to ensuring the Luncheon Club continued after Constance’s passing. She has also honoured Constance’s legacy by holding remembrance sessions and celebrating her birthday, recognising the important work that came before while helping to carry it forward for the benefit of the community. Nothing seems too much! Always happy and smiling.
Annette Levy	Annette worked with Reading Borough Council’s Elderly Care Services as an administrator for over 19 years. She has been involved with the Jamaican Society & Friends Reading for over 20 years as a Committee Member, Secretary and currently Chairperson. Annette has an outstanding involvement in the Community. In 2015 she co-founded the Caribbean Association Group (CAG), which brought together people from the Caribbean Island who resides in Reading and surrounding areas. She unselfishly gave over 100% of her time and effort trying to help Aspire Reading CIC with their Bid to acquire and develop the former Central Club site. This would have provided the much needed facilities for the African Caribbean Community. Unfortunately, this did not come to fruition due to the lack of support from Reading Borough Council. In recent times Annette was at the forefront in leading the appeal to help the Jamaica Hurricane (Melissa) disaster.	Annette has led the planning of fund-raising events and was part of the joint 2015/2016 Fun Day which attracted over 2000 attendees held in Prospect Park Reading. She is part of the Reading Windrush Consortium and has helped to organise the, very successful, 75th Anniversary Thanks and Praise Service at Reading Town Hall.	Annette has contributed to the community for decades and is still going. She is an inspiration to others and a dedicated member of the community.	Annette is one of those people who would go above and beyond in her quest to help others without seeking any rewards.
Ayana white Nwankpa	European women’s junior and sub-juniors champ in powerlifting.	She is a great example to young kids	She has determination and should be recognised for her achievements	She deserves recognition
Barbados and Friends Association (Reading)	Fish fry, service, health and wellbeing, annual Independance, contributions to various charities, promoting individuals within the community, supporting other organisations.	Keeping Barbadian culture alive.	They deserve it.	

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Barbara Scott	1. Youth clubs/provisions After school clubs Community Center Nominees own home 2. Over past 30 years 3. Supporting, advising young persons, advocacy, providing a safe space, Teaching self worth Supporting people with addiction issues Initiating for a studio to be built in a youth community facility Providing food and beverages Baking cakes for the community Donating personal cash to restaurants to feed those in need 4. Young people primarily and general public Vulnerable people in need	Many of the actions raised awareness and improvements, initiated changes Nominee has received postive feedback and accolades, recently receiving praise on facebook for meeting peoples needs	Nominee has been active in the community quietly behind the scenes and even though I was aware of her benevolent nature and caring attitude to others I was unaware of all her other good deeds	Nominee has a caring and positive attitude, humble nature and feels her purpose is to help people
Beulah Mars & Janice Jacobs	For over 15 years Beulah and Janice have been making colourful and vibrant carnival costumes ensuring the true spirit of tradition colour and costumes are a part of this annual cultural event.	Traditional colours and costumes annually displayed.	Years of dedication.	They do so not for praise but for the good of the community.
Beverly Callander - Goddard	Great Britain International Athlete over a period of ten years: Olympic Games - 2 Bronze medals Commonwealth Games - 2 Gold medals Inaugural World Championships - 1 Silver medal European Championships - 2 Silver medals World Student Games - Gold x 1, Silver x 1, Bronze x 2 After retirement from international athletics, coached young athletes at Reading and Newbury Athletic Clubs Teaching Career: Taught in a range of educational establishments for 35 years. These ranged from primary age students, secondary age students, special educational needs and teacher training students at higher education college. SENCo in a Prep school Taught and mentored dyslexic students in one to one sessions Mentored newly qualified teachers Beverly Callander - Goddard was a teacher and an athletic Olympic medal winning in the relay. She replacement the UK in the 1978 games	Beverley's athletics achievements were positively received within the community and helped to raise the profile of Reading both nationally and internationally. Her teaching in the local and surrounding areas during her 35 year career, was some of her proudest work, as she dedicated herself to helping shape the lives of young people. She encouraged them to aim high and give of their best effort. Her achievements impacted young Black children to take up the game . She made the way for others to follow.	Beverley was and remains a role model within the community and leads by example, as reflected in both her athletics and teaching achievements over the years. Beverly Callande - Goddard achieved her gold through determination, hard work and much sacrifice. This is why she deserves this award.	An unassuming lady who is personable and approachable, always prepared to offer support and encouragement. I have known Beverly for many years. She has always stride for the best, and it is because of her unwillingness not to give up is the result of this achievement.
Beverly Holder	Mentoring people with difficult past.	Visiting prisoners and giving support.	Providing information to engage the community in relation to activities.	Work goes unnoticed.
Bishop Joel M Thomas	The Community benefits, as he holds a lot of funeral services, weddings, christenings and baptisms throughout the years.	Made improvements, and attitudes changed in the community. We receive feedback and recognition from the families in the communities.	Because he has been doing this over 40yrs, and he has made an impact on many generations, throughout his service.	
Charisma Gospel Group JP	Shared the Gospel through outreach programmes charitable initiatives across Reading Milton Keynes High Wycombe and Birmingham	CHARISMA HAS FAITHFULLY SERVED THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER TEN YEARS SPREADING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST ACROSS DIVERSE COMMUNITIES AND GENERATIONS THROUGH MUSIC; OUTREACH AND MINISTRY BRINING HOPE ENCOURAGEMENT UNITY AND FAITH TO COUNTLESS LIVES I	What set charisma apart is not only their musical excellence but also their unwavering dedication to service outreach drawing people closer to Lord Jesus.Through their ministry they have inspired worship strengthened faith through the word which has transformed lives. the positive impact on the communities for over 10 years make charisma gospel group truly a deserving nominee for this award.A shinning example of gospel music in action	

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Claudette Maharaj	Claudette Maharaj is the Founder and Director of TRIYBE C.I.C., a community organisation dedicated to empowering young people, families and underrepresented communities throughout Reading. For many years she has designed and delivered projects that promote education, culture, creativity, health and wellbeing, community cohesion and social inclusion. Her work has taken place across Reading through schools, community venues, cultural events and partnerships with local organisations, charities, universities and public services. She has developed programmes that celebrate Black and Caribbean heritage, improve confidence and identity among young people, support community learning and create opportunities for residents who may otherwise face barriers to participation. Claudette has successfully led projects that bring together education, research, arts, culture and community engagement. She has developed partnerships with the University of Reading, community leaders and local organisations to deliver innovative programmes exploring identity, culture, health and heritage. Through TRIYBE she has also created opportunities for artists, young people, families and volunteers to contribute to projects that strengthen Reading's diverse communities. Her leadership continues to inspire collaboration, create opportunities and ensure community voices remain central to everything TRIYBE delivers.	Claudette's work has transformed the lives of many people across Reading. Through TRIYBE C.I.C. she has increased access to education, creative opportunities and community support while helping individuals build confidence, skills and a stronger sense of identity. Her projects have strengthened partnerships between community organisations, educational institutions and local residents, creating lasting opportunities that continue beyond individual events. She has successfully promoted Black and Caribbean heritage, increased cultural awareness and encouraged greater community participation in arts, education and wellbeing initiatives. Many young people, families and community members have benefited from her mentoring, leadership and commitment to creating inclusive spaces where everyone feels valued, heard and empowered.	Claudette consistently demonstrates exceptional leadership, compassion and commitment to community development. She does not simply organise projects; she creates lasting change by empowering people, developing partnerships and ensuring opportunities are accessible to everyone. Her work combines education, culture, wellbeing and entrepreneurship to strengthen communities across Reading. She leads with integrity, inspires others to become community leaders themselves and has established TRIYBE as an organisation recognised for innovation, inclusion and meaningful social impact. Her dedication, vision and sustained contribution make her an outstanding candidate across multiple award categories.	Claudette rarely seeks recognition for her work. She quietly dedicates countless hours to supporting others, building partnerships and creating opportunities that benefit the wider community. She consistently puts the needs of others first and believes that everyone deserves the chance to thrive regardless of their background. Her leadership has inspired many people to become volunteers, community leaders and role models themselves. The positive impact of her work extends far beyond individual projects and continues to strengthen Reading's communities for future generations.
David Brewster	David has been entertaining Reading with his reggae music and draws a crowd whenever he goes. David Brewster has made a significant contribution to preserving and promoting Caribbean cultural heritage through music. Beginning his musical journey in West Reading as a drummer in a local steel band, he has gone on to build a long-standing career as a reggae and soca performer, composer, recording artist, director and author. He leads the band Faze 3, performing throughout the UK and internationally while showcasing Caribbean music and culture to diverse audiences. Through his performances, original compositions and community presence, David has helped keep the traditions of steel pan, reggae and soca music alive, sharing these important cultural art forms with new generations.	Bringing reggae to Reading pubs etc David's work has helped raise awareness and appreciation of Caribbean cultural heritage within Reading and beyond. As a performer and cultural ambassador, he has brought communities together through music, celebrating diversity and encouraging participation in Caribbean arts and traditions. His career demonstrates the lasting influence of local cultural talent and the important role music plays in preserving community identity and heritage.	He deserves it. Brings a boost to pubs around Berkshire David Brewster has dedicated his career to celebrating and promoting Caribbean heritage through reggae, soca and steel band music. From his beginnings in a West Reading steel band to leading the internationally performing band Faze 3, he has shared Caribbean culture with audiences across the UK and beyond. His commitment to preserving musical traditions, inspiring communities and showcasing cultural diversity makes him a deserving nominee for the Community Heritage Centre Awards 2026	
Deano Jones	For more than twenty years, Deano Jones has dedicated himself to creating opportunities for people of all ages through music, broadcasting and community engagement. As the founder and driving force behind Gold Dust Hub CIC, he has built an inclusive organisation that uses creativity to improve confidence, wellbeing, skills and social connection. Through Gold Dust Radio, Deano has provided a platform for many DJs, presenters and volunteers, many of whom would never otherwise have had the opportunity to broadcast, develop new skills or become part of a supportive community. The station has become far more than an online radio station; it is a place where people form friendships, gain confidence, improve their mental wellbeing and develop practical broadcasting and production experience. Deano also organises regular community events that bring people together through music, creating safe, welcoming spaces that promote inclusion, celebrate local talent and strengthen community spirit. His events have helped connect people from diverse backgrounds and have fostered a genuine sense of belonging. In February 2025, Deano expanded this work by launching the Gold Dust Academy, providing young people with free or accessible opportunities to learn Djing, radio presenting, podcasting, music production and broadcasting skills. The Academy equips young people with technical knowledge while also developing confidence, communication, teamwork and self-belief. Many students who initially lacked confidence have grown into capable broadcasters, performers and mentors. Throughout all of this work, Deano has given countless hours of his own time, driven by a genuine passion for helping others rather than personal recognition. His sustained commitment over more than two decades has had a lasting and positive impact on individuals and the wider community, creating opportunities that continue to change lives.	Deano's work has had a profound and lasting impact on both individuals and the wider community. Through Gold Dust Hub CIC, Gold Dust Events, Gold Dust Radio and the Gold Dust Academy, he has created an environment where people feel welcomed, valued and encouraged to reach their full potential, regardless of their age, background or previous experience. Many people have developed new skills, formed lasting friendships and found a genuine sense of belonging. Through opportunities to present radio shows, DJ at community events, produce podcasts and learn music production, participants have grown in confidence, improved their communication skills and discovered talents they never knew they had. The Gold Dust Academy has been particularly impactful for young people. Since its launch in February 2025, it has provided a positive, creative outlet where students can learn technical and transferable skills in a safe and supportive environment. The Academy has helped build confidence, resilience, teamwork and self-esteem, with some students progressing from complete beginners to confidently performing, presenting and even supporting others in their learning. The wider community has also benefited from Deano's commitment to bringing people together through inclusive events and broadcasting. His work has helped reduce social isolation, encouraged volunteering, celebrated local talent and strengthened community connections. By creating opportunities that are accessible and welcoming, he has enabled people from all walks of life to feel part of something meaningful. Perhaps Deano's greatest impact is the culture he has created. He has built a community where people support one another, celebrate each other's successes and are encouraged to believe in themselves. His dedication over more than twenty years has inspired countless individuals and his legacy continues to grow through the lives he has helped shape.	Deano Jones is a truly deserving recipient because his contribution to the community has been both exceptional and sustained. For more than twenty years, he has devoted his time, energy and passion to creating opportunities for others through music, broadcasting, education and community engagement, often giving far more than anyone could reasonably expect. What makes Deano's contribution so special, is that his work is driven by a genuine desire to help people rather than to seek recognition. He has built an inclusive community where everyone is welcomed, encouraged and supported, regardless of their age, background or experience. Countless people have gained confidence, developed valuable skills, discovered new opportunities and formed lasting friendships because of his dedication. The creation of Gold Dust Events, Gold Dust Radio and, more recently, Gold Dust Academy demonstrates his commitment to continually expanding opportunities for others. His vision has created pathways for people to learn, grow and realise their potential, while strengthening community spirit and promoting creativity, inclusion and wellbeing. Deano leads with kindness, integrity and generosity. He inspires others not only through what he has achieved, but through the way he treats people - with patience, encouragement and respect. His positive influence extends far beyond the organisations he has created, leaving a lasting impact on individuals, families and the wider community. This award would recognise not only over twenty years of outstanding voluntary service, but also the lives he has changed and the community he has helped build. Deano embodies the values of community leadership, inclusion and selfless service, making him an exceptional and highly deserving nominee.	Deano Jones has spent more than twenty years quietly dedicating his time to improving the lives of others through music, broadcasting and community engagement. He has never sought recognition for his work; his motivation has always been to create opportunities, bring people together and help others reach their potential. What sets Deano apart is his ability to see the best in people. He encourages and supports individuals with kindness, patience and genuine belief, helping them gain confidence, develop new skills and become active members of their community. His work has created lasting opportunities and a welcoming community where people feel valued and inspired. The positive impact he has made extends far beyond the organisations he has founded, and I believe he is an exceptionally deserving recipient of this award.
Don Chandler	One of UK's leading musians who lives in Reading.	Nationally known, performing with world renowned entertainers.	One of the best in the business	

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Doris Allimadi	1. South Street Arts Centre 2. Multiple dates over the years 3. Various plays that were written and directed by Doris were performed there, including a play about the Windrush generation, a play about Empress Taytu Betul, a play about a young black womans experience at oxbridge, a play about a teenager with depression and how her African mother dismisses it as a European disease etc. 4. All of the actors and tech people are volunteers, and the plays benefitted both people who often don't see themselves/their stories represented on stage & the wider community who may be unfamiliar with these stories The play, I belong, written, directed and acted in by the nominee took place at South Street Arts Centre. She worked with various actors within the Reading community who benefitted from her stage experience who would otherwise be excluded from the world of theatre and performing Doris Allimadi is a playwright, and has written many plays over the last nine years, only interrupted by lockdown. She has written circa 10 plays now. The current play that she has written was " Mother Country " took four months to write. It was about the Windrush Generation and the creation of the Barrel children. It was very well received, sold out a week before date of play. In it she played a Bajan male, and had to learn the accent. Writer of Mother Country in 2026	It gave people who often don't see themselves or their stories represented on stage, the opportunity to do so. Often black and brown people don't go to the theatre, museums or arts spaces because there's not much we can identify with, so it also was an introduction to theatre for people who might not have ever considered going. After the first showing of the Taytu Betul play, and Ethiopian man approached to thank Doris for writing this play because many people don't know the story of this woman and how she saved Ethiopia from being colonised The play touched on the very sensitive topic of a young Black school girl being bullied and othered by her White teachers and White students alike. She was constantly being told to go back 'home', she was never allowed to participate in class room debates and never invited to join other students to hangout. But during the play one of the bullies realised that this Black girl was born in this country, her parents, her parents were born in this country because her grandparents had been invited by the British government as part of tje Windrush generation. This bully, through conversion changed the attitudes of the other bullies and together they challenged their lecturer. The audience was very moved by the story and performance. Conversation and education made a difference. The impact it had highlighted Windrush Generation experience. Prompted discussions and conversations for people of the Windrush community including those whose families were separated when West Indians travelled to the UK for a better life for themselves and their families.	It will help to get her name out to more people and hopefully result in more people coming to see the plays abd learning about the different topics that she covers. She doesn't shy away from danger and I think that is a very powerful thing in the arts, when people threatened to protest at her show about an israeli/palestinian couple, she gave her cast a pep talk and they went ahead with it anyway to a sold out crowd Because all her plays touch on societal existential topics that affect Afro Caribbean culture. Her plays, raise awareness, educates and challenges people to look in the mirror and make changes where it is needed. It encourages people to stand up for justice and against discrimination. Doris Allimadi teaches that silence in the face of adversity is not an option The nominee should receive this award because she has demonstrated to her audience the success of her work. Mother Country handled a sensitive topic with humour, sensitivity and understanding. It was a well received play by the audience.	The nominee is a very community driven individual who often shows up to support other community projects. She has brought a breath of life to the actors she works with, boosting their confidence, enhancing their craftsmanship and alleviating loneliness Doris works for a local primary school in West Reading. All of the performances in the play were powerful and delivered the story well. Full disclosure, I was also in the play as two characters.
Erma Dyll	1. Has been involved with organising and sustaining Reading carnival for several years. Reading Carnival, Reading Carnival Nation 2. Over the past years 3. Organising and sustaining the Carnival 4. Reading Carnival, The Carnival Group, Reading Carnival Nation and various other Carnival and groups and has been volunteering with various Carnival Groups since 1994 Nominee also delivers food to residents all over Reading, mainly the elderly in sheltered housing, as well as to friends and family. All this is voluntary and have been doing so for nearly 2 years.	Raising and preserving this important cultural celebration	Has been volunteering and consistent in helping to preserve Reading Carnival and providing food to the local community.	Works quietly behind the scenes, consistent and very humble in her actions
Errol Masters	Errol has been a community organiser and facilitator for over 30years. His work at ACRE has culminated in weekly sewing classes that bring together both old and young people to learn how to sew and improve sewing. It is carried out every Wednesday at Community centres around Reading. Amongst many things Errol loves to provide workshops and events that bring different cultures and community together. He loves to inform and teach people knowledge on basic everyday things such as computing and sewing. He loves poetry and photography and has supported many of these workshops at acre.	It has received positive feedback from the people that attended the sewing classes and connected people to promote positive relationships. Errol is definitely someone who challenges behaviour and doesn't let injustice go unnoticed or unaddressed	Errol is an outstanding time example of a community connector. Always happy to help and support others often quietly but has had an immense influence of multiple generations in Reading and beyond.	He is a great all rounder who doesn't shy away from hard work. He is happy to do the fun stuff and the tidying up behind the scenes also. He cares greatly for the community and only wants to see everyone together
Glenn Dennis	Help and support community projects	Good attitude	His support to worthy cause.	
Grace Gomez	For the past five years, The Way Ministry has provided vital support to people experiencing hardship, particularly at a time when financial pressures are affecting many in the community. Its work has made a meaningful difference to people who are homeless, as well as to others facing difficult and often complex circumstances. Grace's leadership has helped shape the Ministry into a welcoming and inclusive place where people can receive free food, clothing, advice, and compassionate support. Her warmth, friendliness, and non-judgemental approach help ensure that everyone who attends feels valued, respected, and able to seek help with dignity. Grace founded The Way Ministry starting as a community group in 2012 and becoming registered in 2023 Built and led a community organisation focused on preventing and relieving poverty hardship and homelessness in Reading and Berkshire Developed services providing clothing food temporary accommodation advocacy signposting and benefits and housing support Grown the charity weekly support from 45 to 85 individuals and families Historically helped provide night shelter accommodation for up to 25 people Delivered Sunday community support and free weekend food provision without requiring referrals Supported people experiencing homelessness and hardship, helping them access benefits, housing and other essential services Built partnerships with organisations including Reading Borough Council, St Mungo's, Launchpad, RAHAB and local faith groups	The service has a significant impact on those who use it, giving individuals and families reliable access to food, support, and a welcoming place to connect with others. Even a short visit can offer comfort and companionship, and many lasting friendships have developed since the Ministry began. Each week, around 60 to 80 people are supported throughout the year. The Ministry also organises a free seaside trip, including a meal, giving people an opportunity to enjoy a positive shared experience at no cost. Tackling Homelessness Responded to the homelessness crisis in Reading for more than a decade Developed an accessible, community based approach to supporting people who may be reluctant to engage with traditional homelessness services Developed plans for a homelessness hub/drop in service offering showers, lockers, phone charging internet access, laptops, printers and practical housing support	Grace's commitment, compassion, and consistent service make her a highly deserving nominee. Through The Way Ministry, she has created a place where people in difficult circumstances can find practical help, human connection, and dignity. Worked towards securing and developing premises in central Reading to expand the charity's services Advocating publicly for greater support for people experiencing homelessness including calling for empty buildings to be made available for emergency accommodation Organised a public meeting about homelessness and and the need for a night shelter Supported people during severe weather, emergency accommodation responses Used her experience and knowledge of local need to influence conversations about homelessness and community support Funding and Strategic Development - Led applications for significant funding to expand The Way Ministry Readings work Pursued funding from organisations including the National Lottery and government homelessness funding programmes Volunteer and Trustee Leadership Advocacy and Media Grace Gomez is a community leader charity founder and advocate who has spent more than a decade working to tackle homelessness and inequality in Reading. Through founding and developing The Way Ministry she has created practical support for hundreds of people, built a network of volunteers and partners and worked towards developing a permanent community hub. Her achievements demonstrate strong leadership, compassion, leadership, engagement, fundraising partnership working and a commitment to creating lasting change in the Reading community.	I nominate Grace Gomez because of her deep commitment to The Way Ministry and her dedication to making a difference in people's lives. She is supported by a wonderful team of volunteers who give their time every week to make the sessions possible, and their contribution is also deserving of recognition. Grace has set up 5 night shelters and ran these in Reading giving shelter for up to 30 people per night. She has stated that she is not giving up until she has established a permanent night shelter in Reading. It is Gods Will.

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Guy Grannum	Guy Grannum has dedicated nearly four decades to preserving and promoting Caribbean history and genealogy from his base in Reading. Since joining The National Archives in 1988, and continuing to the present day, he has become one of the UK's foremost experts on Caribbean family history, helping thousands of people reconnect with their heritage and understand the lives of their ancestors. Working at The National Archives in Kew and through teaching, writing and public engagement across the UK and internationally, Guy has transformed access to historical records relating to the Caribbean. He has authored the highly respected Tracing Your Caribbean Ancestors: A National Archives Guide, delivered specialist genealogy courses, advised researchers and community organisations, and played a key role in improving access to archival collections that document the lives of enslaved people, free people of colour, migrants, soldiers and families throughout the British Caribbean. His work has benefited family historians, academics, students, museums, heritage organisations and countless individuals seeking to discover their Caribbean roots. By sharing his expertise so generously, Guy has enabled people from across the Caribbean diaspora to reclaim family histories that were once thought lost, strengthening cultural identity and preserving an important part of our shared heritage. As a Reading resident, Guy's internationally recognised expertise has brought distinction to the town. His lifelong commitment to Caribbean heritage has inspired researchers across the world and ensured that Reading is associated with one of the leading authorities in this important field.	Guy Grannum's work has had a profound and lasting impact on Caribbean heritage research both nationally and internationally. Through his leadership at The National Archives, his teaching, and his publications, he has made previously inaccessible or little-understood historical records available to a much wider audience. This has enabled thousands of people of Caribbean heritage to trace their family histories, reconnect with their cultural identity, and gain a deeper understanding of the experiences of their ancestors. His book, Tracing Your Caribbean Ancestors, has become a leading reference for researchers, while his training courses have equipped genealogists, archivists and community historians with the skills to undertake high-quality research. By improving access to records relating to slavery, migration and colonial history, Guy has also helped increase public understanding of these subjects and encouraged more accurate and inclusive interpretations of British and Caribbean history.	Guy Grannum is an outstanding candidate because his work embodies the purpose of the Putting Reading on the Map Award, Cultural Contribution Award, and Community Legacy Award.	
Hazel Lowe	Hazel has been assisting with cooking at Reading Golders Luncheon Club for around 18 months and has been an irreplaceable and valuable addition to the team of volunteers in the kitchen. Reading Golders Luncheon Club guests have benifited from her significant contribution in the kitchen. Activities at the RGLC Volunteer Cook at RGLC; helping and organising the club's activities	Hazel has brought stability to the kitchen; has enabled the Manger to have some time to interact with Reading Golders Luncheon Club guests, and reduce the Manager's stress level by providing reliable and effective support in the kitchen. Hazel has made a difference to the meals provided.	Hazel has been involved with other Chartiable Organisations ; and displays a willingness to share her skills with others. That is a commendable quality. Hazel carries out her work without fuss and serves as an excellent role model. Because she is very good at what she does.	Hazel is happy working in the background, but I think her contribution to Reading Golders Luncheon Club meals is worthy of recognition. Hazel deserves to be in the limelight on the evening of these Community Awards as it would be well deserved. She is reliable, helps with the shopping for the club.
Heather Husbands	Heather has been responsible for arranging and delivering regular health seminars aimed at raising greater health awareness within the black community over several years. She is also responsible for arranging the BAFA (Reading) monthly walks.	The health seminars have raised awareness and encouraged members of our community to take action. The monthly walks have encouraged members of our community to get fitter and at the same time to enjoy the wonderful countryside and scenery we have in the local area.	Giving this award to Heather would be a fitting acknowledgement of the hard work and dedication she has made.	
Jackie Daniel	The nominee, Jackie, has, for more than fifty years, been a stable leading and supporting rock for Apollo Youth Club (Apollo), which has been in existence since 1971. Jackie has contributed in many ways in the setting up and running of the Apollo. She had a leading role in most if not all of the projects set up by Apollo, e.g. the Advice Centre, Saturday School and the Homework Club, After School Club and Holiday Clubs. Jackie has led Apollo for over 15 years, always been on call whenever needed, whether it's been morning, noon, or night. Today, Jackie still leads Apollo giving her time freely, whenever required as well as providing financial sport in emergencies.	Jackie has mentored and supported many children and young people from the Reading and surrounding suburb communities, at Apollo, and who has gone on to lead successful lives. Because of Jackie's leadership and support, Apollo still exist today as the only Black led registered charity organisation in Reading, that focuses specifically on supporting young people and families through the provision of Afterschool childcare and education. The services provided for parents and carers by Apollo are recognised by the local Authority as well as parents and careers as been of high quality and affordability.	Jackie has for over fifty years, given her time freely to supporting and running Apollo, and its many projects, and has been its leader for over fifteen years. Jackie gives her time whenever called upon and without questioning. Jackie's evolvment with Apollo, has ensured that it still exists today, providing a much-needed Afterschool Childcare club and a School Holiday Childcare Club. Jackie's time and contribution to Apollo and the children attending it is invaluable , and hence most worthy of recognition of the award./s in the chosen category/categories	Jackie is a very simple and humble person who is always willing to be of assistance to anyone, even without been called upon. Jackie has for over fifty years, answered to the call of many on behalf of Apollo, despite her own challenges. She has demonstrated a long-lasting desire to offer care and support to others, especially our people and families.
Janice Small			I would like to nominate Janice for this award because she is not only an exceptional hairdresser, but a genuinely caring presence in our community. Her skill and professionalism are matched by her kindness, especially toward her elderly clients. She regularly checks in on them, offers flexible appointments, and takes the time to make sure they feel comfortable, valued, and never rushed. For many of her older customers, she is more than a stylist — she is a source of companionship, confidence, and support. Her dedication goes far beyond her chair, and her compassion has made a meaningful difference in the lives of her clients. Janice embodies what it means to serve with heart, and she truly deserves this recognition.	Janice would call her elderly clients if she had not seen them for a while, just to make sure all was well or she would visit them whether it be at their home, hospital or in a nursing home always with one of her delicious and beautifully wrapped bakes (sweetbread or a sponge cake).
Jeffrey (and Norma) Hinds	Community and cultural benefit. Keeping calypso alive. Activity takes place yearly to support and highlight the sweet music that accompanies Caribbean Carnival. Jeff pulls musicians and artists together (tent) to present a jovial experience with storytelling, historical facts and humour. I have attended many such celebrations at South Street and the like over the years. Such successes are supported by his quiet faithful wife, a real facilitator whose contribution may go unnoticed so this nomination is for them both. We hear that behind every successful man theres a good woman but forget behind, we also know that by the side of him is the best wife. So cheers to Norma and Jeff.	Raise awareness In terms of art and culture it has been a big improvement to have access to such performances in Reading featuring home grown and local talent. It brings history to life, encourages gifted people to create and express and gives community something musical to look forward to.	Work carried out for many years In my humble opinion they tick all the boxes and I'm not sure if they have had any recognition before. Also they are consistent because of their passion for Caribbean music and food and Jeff is very knowledgeable in the field of Caribbean music history.	Very dedicated to the art. Jeff is dynamic, charismatic and used to the limelight. Norma is shy and hardworking. Her eyebrows will lift at the mention of an award as she is unlikely to receive one but it is well deserved for her contribution over the years. I recommend it for them, thanks for allowing me.

List of Nominees and Supporting Statements

Nominee	Justifying the nomination	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?
Jocelyn Chandler Hawkins	I am honoured to nominate Jocelyn, founder of Through A Different Lens, for this Community Award in recognition of her outstanding commitment to inclusion, creativity, and community engagement. Jocelyn has dedicated herself to creating opportunities for people from all backgrounds to connect, learn, and share their stories through film. Through A Different Lens brings filmmakers and audiences together through inclusive film events, creative productions, and community-led initiatives that celebrate diverse voices and perspectives. The organisation has successfully hosted dozens of film events, supported inclusive projects, and showcased independent films, helping to build a stronger, more connected creative community. What makes Jocelyn exceptional is her belief that everyone deserves to be seen, heard, and represented. She understands the power of storytelling to challenge perceptions, inspire understanding, and bring people together. Through her leadership, she has created welcoming spaces where people feel valued, regardless of their background, experience, or circumstances. Her work has opened doors for emerging talent and given a platform to stories that may otherwise have gone unheard. Jocelyn's impact extends far beyond the screen. She has fostered a supportive community that encourages collaboration, creativity, and meaningful dialogue. Through her events and projects, she has helped individuals build confidence, develop new skills, form lasting connections, and engage with perspectives different from their own. Her dedication has enriched the cultural life of the community and demonstrated how the arts can be a powerful force for inclusion and positive change. For her exceptional contribution to community engagement, her advocacy for diverse voices, and her tireless efforts to create opportunities for others, I wholeheartedly recommend Jocelyn of Through A Different Lens for this award. She embodies the values of compassion, inclusion, and leadership, and is thoroughly deserving of this recognition.	Those who work with Jocelyn consistently speak of her passion, generosity, and unwavering commitment to helping others succeed. She leads with empathy and integrity, always putting people at the heart of everything she does. Her ability to inspire others while championing diversity and inclusion makes her a truly remarkable community leader.	For her sacrifices, dedication and commitment to connecting black communities to share our untied stories and perspectives.	
Joe Bell - ken Hinds - Clive Noble	Left a legacy in the community through sports over decades whilst helping and supporting others along the way.	Many of those helped became professionals some representing England.	Great work through decades.	
Julia Titus	Many activities, singing at our last award and some of our other events, churches, Ma Bessie brand. Always willing to support at little or no charge when asked. Julie has been entertaining the community at a very high standard for decades. I've seen her entertain many audiences	Julia have used her talents on many occasions to support and help others. Celebrated	She has been entertaining at many different events at a very high standard for decades. This includes churches, commercial, cultural, weddings and many more. We have many talented entertainers	She is always willing to help and support good causes with a genuine spirit to do so.
Leroy Roach	Activities take place in Reading town Centre on a daily basis. You will experience Leroy commitment to street care. They work for Reading Borough council. The community benefits for the hard work he contributes to keep Reading streets clean.	His continuous effort makes a tremendous difference to the town centre environment,	He should be given this award in this chosen category because of his commitment and dedication	Leroy and other street care persons demonstrate their commitment to the street care team and our environment
Linda Wallcott	Built Mary Secole nursery up throughout the years	Lots of families benefitted over the years.	Generations after genetations benefitted.	
Lionel Nurse	1)The activity takes place in Reading Town Centre . 2) It takes place daily. 3) You will experience Lionel commitment to Street Care. 4) They work for Reading Borough Council, and the community benefits.	His continuous effort makes a tremendous difference to the Town Centre environment.	He should be giving the award in this choosen category because of his commitment and dedication.	Lionel and other Street Care persons demonstrate their commitment to the Street Care team and our involvement.
Louise Chandler	Louise was the first Black female presenter on Radio Berkshire and did much to raise the profile of issues taking place within the Reading Caribbean community. Louise produced the Our Journey So Far DVD. This initiative to celebrate 50 years of Barbados' independence involved interviewing and recording members of the local Bajan community. Louise delivered interview training to members of the Caribbean community to upskill them so that they could interview elders within the Caribbean community. The recordings mentioned serve as a lasting legacy. Louise is a Business Advisor at Enterprise Nation. This involves her working with entrepreneurs. She is also a Digital Mentor.	The recordings are invaluable to 2nd and later Caribbean generations and also the wider community as they capture the lived experiences of the subjects. Watching/Listening to these recordings serves to facilitate greater community cohesiveness. The Business Advisor and Digital Mentor roles helps accelerate the learnings and confidence of participants and mentees.	Louise's track record speaks for itself.	
Malcolm Hinds	Malcolm, for a number of years has given his time to supporting the community through the the starting up and running of his online radio station, Global Sounds. He has also been readily available to provide to provide support to Apollo Youth Club, whenever they call on him and without seeking any just reward.	Providing a valuable voice to many through his Global Sounds radio. Helping Apollo to provide it's ongoing services to children in our community.	Malcolm is one committed individual, who offers his support and always willing to assist others, regardless of day or time and without question or reward.	
Mary Genis	A number of cultural and cohesive events over the years. Mary Genis FRSA is the founder and Artistic Director of CultureMix Arts, an organisation dedicated to celebrating diverse cultures through music, performance, education and community arts. She founded the Reading All Steel Percussion Orchestra (RASPO) in 1997, creating opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to engage with steel pan music and Caribbean culture. Throughout her career, she has championed cultural diversity, arts education and employment opportunities within the creative industries. Mary has also held leadership roles promoting equality and diversity in the arts, including serving as the first African Caribbean Arts Development Officer for Cultural Diversity at Arts Council England. Through CultureMix Arts, she has developed projects that showcase Black culture, support emerging artists, and strengthen community connections through creative participation	Spreading awareness Mary's work has had a significant and lasting impact on community heritage, cultural representation and arts development. Through RASPO and CultureMix Arts, she has enabled thousands of people to experience and celebrate Caribbean and Black cultural heritage while developing skills, confidence and career opportunities in the arts. Her leadership has helped raise the profile of Black arts and culture locally and nationally, creating platforms for diverse voices and fostering greater understanding between communities. The recognition she received through the British Association of Steelbands Lifetime Achievement Award reflects her decades-long contribution to preserving and promoting cultural heritage through music and the arts.	Consistency over a period of time. Mary Genis FRSA has dedicated her career to preserving, celebrating and promoting diverse cultural heritage through the arts. As the founder of CultureMix Arts and Reading All Steel Percussion Orchestra (RASPO), she has created opportunities for people of all backgrounds to engage with Caribbean culture, develop creative skills and participate in community life. Her leadership, advocacy and commitment to cultural diversity have had a lasting impact on heritage, inclusion and artistic development, making her a highly deserving nominee for the Community Heritage Centre Awards 2026	
Michael Boahene	Football coach with children and work with special needs children.	Michael dedicates his spare time to train the young children with football skills	Because Michael spent many years supporting young children and teaching then the skill to play football.	

List of Nominees and Supporting Statements

Nominee	Justifying the nomination	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?
Nicole Farley	Nicole has been coaching over 21 years, been at West Ham FC since 2021, Nicole passionate, enthusiastic and has worked hard to achieve success. Working in a predominantly male environment she has faced many challenges. she was placed with younger age groups for several seasons, having safeguarding responsibilities when travelling with team and overnight hotel stays, keeping parents informed. However, Nicole wins include Premier League U10 National Futsal Finals Winners 2023/24. Nicole remains focus and is forever up skilling herself, Nicole worked across the men teams. Nicole volunteer 20 additional hours a week, over 18 months with the ladies team. To gained knowledge and more experience, Nicole invested in herself, I am going to be the best candidate when the Head Coach role become available. March 2026 Nicole became U21 women Head Coach. Nicole was named on the Football Black List 2023 & 2025 for Coaching & Management.	Nicole uses her platform attends Public events, speaks on Premier League; National League Cup providing 'invaluable experiences for Academy Players. Women in Football: UCFB Wembley Stadium Inspire Panel. Sky Sports, Premier League, No Room For Racism. Winchester University sports development, science. Ambassador for the Prince's Trust 2019. Nicole's contribution has impacted within the community from 2005. Whilst working for Wokingham Council half-term Sports Camp and Friday evening Football club capacity 30 boys. Some young men are now dad coaches. Nicole encouragement and skills, Founder/Head Coach 2019 Nicole's Futsal Finesse Training, to Think creative and play creative, (NNFT). Nicole 1-2-1 session with female goal keeper, first trial was accepted at Reading Football Club. Encourage training and development, giving them the opportunity, now coaching and living in Canada.	I am recommending Nicole for her years of commitment, having the strength not to give up, breaking 'barriers' as a female football coach, she's ambitious her goal to reach the highest and keep inspiring. Her statement; when you see someone like you, you do believe in it, believe in yourself, eventually someone will believe in you. Be prepared for ongoing training to developed. Nicole has earned her this reward (examples below) Elite football Clubs, such as MLS LA Galaxy, MLS New York Red Bulls. Position held at Irvine Valley College Assistant Coach & Asst. Director 2013-2015, where she recruited players and dealt with contracts wrote recommendations and manage budgets for players scholarship. Irvine Valley College Assistant Coach & Asst. Director 2013-2015 Built U15 & U17 Tier 2 teams from scratch, 2014/2015 GU19 Southern California League Playoff Championship finalists.	To be a coach you must be prepared to work unsocial hours and weekends. People don't see the criticism, abuse that takes place, sometimes from parents. Nicole has built good rapport within the organization, honesty and transparency with decisions made, giving feedback and providing evidence. Nicole works closely with the psychologist, physiotherapist, which is key for the players development. I recognized the importance of supporting my daughter, to prevent burning out, her wellbeing and mental health. I planned and arranged trips for relaxation. August 2004 – June 2009: Reading Women's FC Squad Tier 2 Premier National Division Squad player. - Achievements: Awards: Manager's Player and league trophy (2004/05), Player's Player and league trophy (2005/06), Players Award (2007/09), South West England Champions. History of first Reading FC Women's now features in Women's Super League. Regio Haarlem Cup winners – Holland Tour (2005/06), International Arsenal Soccer Champions (2007)
Nicole Sanderson	Community benefit, cohesive, spiritual.	All the above	Large group large impact.	
Nida Ali	She is community helath champion she helps the commntity she is veeu good change people lives around Fantastic health champion person always there for mental health support always give possitive informtion she is a mental health first aider she is willing to help the community she goes out of her way best person saves life	She is very postive and change lives around heples with free mental helath advise as she is a mental helath first aider she is fantastic very aspairing Change people lives support them	She helps everyone She is neighbour champion mental health first aider always happy to help and listen	She desrves a award she needs that showing she has worked hard She should get an award for neighbour hood team health champion
Patricia Bute	1)Pat (Patricia) in Reading, Berkshire. 2) Every Week 3)Patricia feeds the homeless 4)Patricia works with the Globe Church, Portman Rd, Reading, Berkshire 1) In Reading! 2) Every Saturday 3)She collected food stuff from Supermarkets. 4) To feed those who are in need and the homeless.	This work Patricia does meets the need of persons in need . This service/action provides a meal for persons who would otherwise go hungry.	The nominee should be given the award because of personal sacrifice and concern for others. Because of her selflessness and her ... of oneself for others persons	Patricia Bute outgoing concern for persons who are disadvantaged in our community, seek to ensure all persons are fed regardless of their circumstances is a fitting nominee For this award. Yes, Patricia Bute is a true community outreach person . She neglects herself for others which is good.
Peter Small	Peter Small has spent more than 50 years as a committed member of the Oxford Road community, sharing his experiences and helping preserve the area's social and cultural history. He has actively advocated for greater recognition of the Windrush generation and the contribution of Black and Afro-Caribbean communities to Reading's development. Peter has also championed community heritage through promoting local history, supporting cultural celebrations such as Reading Carnival, and encouraging education about Reading's diverse past. Peter has been a passionate champion of the Windrush story, raising awareness of its significance through the successful exhibition of the Windrush Journey during Black History Month at venues across Reading. His dedication has helped educate and engage local communities, ensuring the experiences and contributions of the Windrush generation are recognised and celebrated. In addition, Peter was instrumental in the establishment of the "Windrush Roundabout" signs at the major junction connecting Chatham Street, Caversham Road, Friar Street and the A329. This lasting tribute serves as a visible reminder of the Windrush generation's impact on the local community and stands as a legacy of Peter's commitment to preserving and promoting this important history.	Peter's efforts have helped keep important community stories alive and ensure that the contributions of underrepresented groups are recognised and valued. By sharing his personal experiences and advocating for greater awareness of local heritage, he has strengthened community identity, promoted cultural understanding, and inspired others to take pride in Reading's diverse history. His work has contributed to preserving the legacy of Oxford Road for future generations.	Peter Small is a passionate champion of Reading's Oxford Road community and its diverse heritage. Having lived in the area for over 50 years after arriving in Reading in 1964, Peter has dedicated himself to sharing the history, culture and experiences of local residents. Through his advocacy for the recognition of the Windrush generation and Black communities, Peter has helped preserve important local stories and encourage greater understanding of Reading's multicultural heritage. He has also been a strong supporter of cultural events such as Reading Carnival and believes in educating younger generations about the town's diverse history. Peter's lifelong commitment to celebrating community identity, preserving local memories and inspiring positive change makes him a highly deserving nominee for the Community Heritage Centre Awards 2026. Community Legacy Award Long-standing advocate for celebrating Windrush heritage in Reading. Helped secure the Windrush Roundabout, creating a lasting community legacy. Increased awareness and recognition of the Windrush generation's contribution to Reading. Cultural Contribution Award.	
Randolph Bamcroft	He has been an amazing person to the caribbean community. Being a space where all caribbean community can come together and keep their culture alive. When jamaica needed assistance hos place was used to hold the fundraiser. He also is used whenever the british high commission and british embassy has events . For anything community he is always ready to say yes. He never days no and always empowers and encourages. He is friendly loving and a caring individual and is not afraid to remain tru to where he came from as his barbados flag hamgs high infront of his restaurant. He has recently been ridiculed for nothing else but being selfless and nothing but a comfort place for all caribbean herritage where we all come together and feel at home keeping pur herritage alive in england as even for this said event. He deserves the community award because he is the community . He allows small business to showcase their items in his business. He identifies when help is needed and he is always willing to step in. The also assisted with the reading buses charity and help raisedbthousands of dollaes by being the chef and donating stacks of burgers and cooking them to help raise funds. He NEVER says no.	People are so inspored and they come out to just support his business as they know how much he does for the community. People who dont live in reading travel from afar to attend his cultural events. His awareness of our culture keeps the caribbean alive in reading	There is no one who deserves it more. He has been scrutinised more than most as he sticks out and stands out but however his heart is pure and in the right place as all he wants is for our community to survive in reading . He is not afraid to stand ho for his rights his beliefs and most importantly our caribbean culture	It is very rare someone has a dream as a child to be a chef and makes it and actually doing it in a way where it changes lives and leaves amd impact . He has been an inspiration to all caribbean people who come to england and who think they cant beat the odds. He has done tremendously well. And we should highlight his achievements and being the one who is willing to fight for us caribbean people to leave a stamp and remain on the map of reading
Reading Golders Luncheon Club	It is with great pride that I nominate the team RGLC in recognition of the dedicated service cooking every Tuesday. Wesley's Methodist Church Reading RG1 4BW. Very good for gathering, helping with those with mental and physical ability, anxiety - especially those who suffer. Providing lunch for those people eating healthy.	The impact it have help seniors with friendship activities which include, exercise, dancing, games, puzzles, dominio, wordsearch, mental health, celebrating birthday, friendship, Reading UNI, days out during summer, Age Uk, mobile engineer and other organisation come to give talks. Friendship, offer games, help those with dementia, exercising help those with mobility, give people knowledge, help those who are lonely.	RGLC Chair Ann. This team of volunteers has dedicated their time to cooking and serving meals for members every Tuesday. They provide nutritious home cooked meals while also creating a wirm space for seniors to connect. Ann who runs the club as help, support provide, as been good for my well, my health improved tremendously. Physical and mental since attending anxiety overcome.	Provide a weekly meal for members. Encourage healthy and social connection. Reduce isolation by hosting a regular gathering. Set an example of acting aging and volunteering. Their consistency, care and compassion show the true meaning of service in retirement. Gentle nice, friendly to approach. Welcoming and have a very, very excellent team behind her. All nice because before housebound; my family has seen a difference. I wouldn't thought I be who I am today if it wasn't for RGLC. I feel loved and she is so caring and her team Norma, Hazel, Maria, Ali, Angela, Beaula, Melvina, Marvinina, Anderson.
Rodney Harewood	Rodney has taken the time to meticulously research elements of the Windrush generation's culture and contributions to the UK. Which then has culminated into exhibitions at Reading Museum for all to see.	His contributions has raised awareness and has educated.	Well deserved!	

List of Nominees and Supporting Statements

Nominee	Justifying the nomination	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?
Roger Whight	I am delighted to nominate Roger for this Community Award in recognition of his outstanding commitment and service to the local Caribbean community through sport. For many years, Roger has dedicated his time to coaching both football and cricket at every level, from recreational participation to academy and county youth pathways. Through his passion, knowledge and dedication, he has inspired and developed countless young people, helping many achieve their full potential both on and off the field. As a Black Caribbean coach, Roger has become an exceptional role model for young Black Caribbean males. His work in cricket is particularly significant, as it has traditionally been viewed as a predominantly white, upper-class sport, while the historic Caribbean influence within the game has sadly declined. Roger has worked tirelessly to challenge this by encouraging greater participation and creating opportunities for young people from Caribbean backgrounds. His coaching with county youth teams has seen numerous players progress into major county cricket, a testament to his ability to nurture talent and build confidence. Roger has also been a passionate supporter of Windrush celebrations and Caribbean heritage. He has played a key role in organising and supporting several Windrush events, including raising and managing a team to compete in the exhibition cricket match, Rest of the World vs Barbados. At another Windrush celebration, he organised and delivered cricket skills sessions aimed at increasing participation within the Caribbean community, ensuring that the sport remains an important part of the community's cultural heritage. Beyond his achievements in coaching, Roger is admired for his character. He is approachable, humble, and genuinely cares about the people he works with. His personable nature has earned him the respect of players, parents, fellow coaches, and members of the wider community alike. He leads by example, creating an environment where everyone feels welcome, valued and encouraged to succeed.	For many years, Roger has dedicated his time to coaching both football and cricket at every level, from recreational participation to academy and county youth pathways. Through his passion, knowledge and dedication, he has inspired and developed countless young people, helping many achieve their full potential both on and off the field. As a Black Caribbean coach, Roger has become an exceptional role model for young Black Caribbean males. His work in cricket is particularly significant, as it has traditionally been viewed as a predominantly white, upper-class sport, while the historic Caribbean influence within the game has sadly declined. Roger has worked tirelessly to challenge this by encouraging greater participation and creating opportunities for young people from Caribbean backgrounds. 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He leads by example, creating an environment where everyone feels welcome, valued and encouraged to succeed. Roger's unwavering commitment to developing young people, preserving Caribbean sporting heritage, and giving back to his community makes him a truly deserving recipient of this award. His impact extends far beyond the sports field, leaving a lasting legacy through the lives he has influenced and the	I am delighted to nominate Roger for this Community Award in recognition of his outstanding commitment and service to the local Caribbean community through sport. For many years, Roger has dedicated his time to coaching both football and cricket at every level, from recreational participation to academy and county youth pathways. Through his passion, knowledge and dedication, he has inspired and developed countless young people, helping many achieve their full potential both on and off the field. 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At another Windrush celebration, he organised and delivered cricket skills sessions aimed at increasing participation within the Caribbean community, ensuring that the sport remains an important part of the community's cultural heritage. Beyond his achievements in coaching, Roger is admired for his character. He is approachable, humble, and genuinely cares about the people he works with. His personable nature has earned him the respect of players, parents, fellow coaches, and members of the wider community alike. He leads by example, creating an environment where everyone feels welcome, valued and encouraged to succeed.	
Roosevelt (Sunkey) Lowe	He has been contributing/helping others and well known in the community He has a good heart and genuine friend	Always there for others	He deserves it at 82 years young	
Simieon Howell	Academy set up for young person of Reading. Dedicated to the young people in his charge Simieon is a former Reading footballer, who encourages children to take part in sports and activities. When he stopped playing football, he started. s6 to train children in football, whatever their abilities. He works full time as an engineer, but he spends all his evenings either training young boys and girls or his sons. He arranges little tournaments and when he is not arranging them, he is taking a team of boys to various football events or games. He works tirelessly for the love of sharing his football knowledge with young children. He is very popular and highly respected in the football community. Weekly football sessions for the kids in the community. Based at prospect park every Thursday, minimal fee to encourage kids between 4-11 to get into football. From a young age Simieon has played football, he played for Reading and Jamaica representing his heritage. The nominee organises and delivers weekly football sessions every Thursday at Prospect Park for children aged 4–11. The sessions are run at a minimal cost to ensure football is accessible to as many local families as possible. Through structured coaching, skill development and fun activities, they help children build confidence, improve their football ability, stay active and develop teamwork and social skills. Their commitment has created a welcoming environment where young people from the local community can enjoy regular physical activity, make new friends and develop a lifelong love of football.	For many young boys and girls gave them a discipline, some have been scouted Simieon is highly respected and popular for his football knowledge and the great way that he interacts with the children and their parents. He has coached numerous children, who have gone on to play for clubs like Reading, Southampton and other clubs. On one occasion he saw a little boy kicking a ball in the park and he noticed that this boy had a natural skill. He spoke to the boys mother and encouraged them to join football team. The little boy has now moved onto a football club and is doing exceptionally well and that is just one of many stories. The sessions they offer not only include football training to develop boys and girls and encourage them to be active, they help them to learn football skills and also incorporate discipline; building confidence and team building. There is no pressure to be an elite player which means kids from all walks of life can attend. They are now many kids who have been scouted from these sessions to go onto Reading Football development training. The sessions have had a significant positive impact on children and families within the local community. They not only encourage boys and girls to be physically active but also help develop football skills, confidence, discipline, teamwork and respect in a fun, supportive environment. By removing the pressure to be an elite player, the sessions are inclusive and accessible to children of all abilities and backgrounds, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to participate and enjoy the game. The programme has also helped talented young players progress, with a number of children being identified through the sessions and invited to attend Reading FC's Development Centre, demonstrating the positive impact the coaching is having on their development both on and off the pitch. Education and awareness	The work done falls in this category he also played for Reading and Jamaica Simieon should be given this award to show the appreciation from the community for the time that he spends with the football community encouraging the young children to get out there and get moving - to exercise and enjoy sports, whatever their abilities There are quite a few grassroots teams in Reading and the focus is being the best at football to make the Saturday or Sunday teams. S6 Academy is more about kids enjoying football, learning, meeting new friends, developing in a sport but also developing confidence, self awareness and discipline. The nominee deserves this award because they have created an inclusive environment where every child is valued, regardless of their ability. While many grassroots clubs naturally focus on competitive football and team selection, S6 Academy prioritises enjoyment, participation and personal development. Children are encouraged to learn new skills, build confidence, make friends and develop important life values such as discipline, respect and self-belief, all while enjoying the game. By making football accessible and ensuring every child feels welcome, the nominee has had a lasting and meaningful impact on young people and their families within the local community.	Simieon has always loved football from a very young age and he just loves sharing his love for the game with young children.
Steve Lewis	Gathering historical data relating to Caribbean culture.	Education and awareness	Work maked a education impact throughout the community far and wide.	
Tyler Hinkson	Tyler Hinkson has made an outstanding contribution to Reading through his leadership of RG Records and TRIYBE CIC, using music, media, culture and community engagement to create opportunities for people of all ages, particularly young people from underrepresented communities. His work has taken place across Reading over several years through community events, live performances, artist development, educational projects and partnerships with schools, charities, local organisations and the University of Reading. Tyler has created platforms that allow local musicians, creatives and entrepreneurs to showcase their talents through live events, interviews, music videos and promotional campaigns. He has organised community open mic events, supported emerging artists, celebrated Caribbean and Black heritage, and developed projects exploring identity, culture and history. Through TRIYBE CIC he has also led projects that encourage learning, creativity, wellbeing and community cohesion while creating safe spaces where people feel represented, valued and inspired. His work benefits local residents, young people, artists, families, community organisations and businesses by providing opportunities that otherwise would not exist and by ensuring diverse voices are celebrated within Reading.	Tyler's work has had a lasting impact on Reading's creative and cultural community. He has helped raise the profile of local artists, increased opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds and encouraged greater participation in music, arts and community activities. Through his events and media platforms he has connected organisations, businesses and residents while promoting positive stories about Reading. His projects have strengthened community pride, improved representation of Caribbean and Black heritage, inspired young people to pursue creative careers and built partnerships with educational institutions and community organisations. Many local artists have received increased exposure and confidence through his support, while community members have benefited from accessible cultural events, educational programmes and creative opportunities.	Tyler consistently demonstrates that community impact and cultural leadership can go hand in hand. Rather than simply creating events, he builds long-term opportunities that empower people, strengthen communities and celebrate Reading's diversity. His work combines entrepreneurship with genuine social purpose, ensuring that success is shared with others. He has become a respected ambassador for Reading, using creativity to bring people together while promoting inclusion, education, culture and local talent. His dedication, vision and commitment make him an exceptional candidate across the Cultural Contribution, Inspiration, Entrepreneur for Community Good, Putting Reading on the Map and Entertainment Award categories.	Tyler is not motivated by personal recognition but by creating opportunities for others. He consistently volunteers his time, builds partnerships and invests in people because he believes creativity can change lives and strengthen communities. His passion for Reading, commitment to preserving Caribbean heritage and determination to ensure everyone has a platform make him an outstanding role model. The ripple effect of his work continues to grow through the artists, young people and organisations he has supported. His impact extends far beyond music he is helping shape a stronger, more connected and more inclusive Reading.

List of Nominees and Supporting Statements

Nominee	Justifying the nomination	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?
Una Chandler	As one of 10 siblings and a mother of 6 Una Chandler knows a lot about family and what it takes to support each other through the good and bad times. She has extended that care and support to the wider community and brought it into her role as Chaplain at Reading Borough Council. Una has recently celebrated her 25 years working with and for the many staff at the Council. In a time of huge change, it is comforting to have continuity and a face and personality that you know and trust. Seeing Una pick her way through the office connecting with staff is always a highlight for many people. Una has openly shared her stories for example of her new grandchildren or recent travels and other have shared personal stories that have helped staff have a sense of connectedness. That personal connection is not easy when your pastoral responsibility is so large, but she has always made it feel easy. Una is a community leader, a champion for many who don't have voice, but also one of the characters of Reading that make us smile. Una cares and is interested in lives in and outside of work, has provided a listening ear to many, but what stands out to me personally is her genuine commitment and interest in improving staff welfare, either through prayer or having a word with the right person so that they have a pulse check of the organisation.	She has given her tkme freely for 25 years for the greater good of others. She hates and is humble in her pursuits to supprt towers	She would never praise or celebrate her work herself as she is selfless	
Victor Browne (In Memoriam)	<i>From the Wokingham Borough FaceBook page, 26 Jan 2021</i> Victor Browne worked at The Bulmershe School in Woodley for eight years. He was the co-head of Year 10. He sadly lost his courageous battle against Covid-19 on Thursday 21 January 2021. Below is a tribute from headteacher Amanda Woodfin and the school community♥ "Vic Browne was a larger than life character, a very bright and colourful light in our school community. If I were to ask any of our students or staff to describe Vic in one word they would all say in unison, legend. His charisma was infectious, you would always be greeted with a big smile, a bright shirt and sometimes a terrible joke but it was this wonderful warm demeanour everybody will remember him for. "In his work Vic always put the students first, his selfless generosity had an uncompromising belief in all that is good. He had an unwavering commitment to the students and the rest of the school community. He knew everyone and everyone knew him. He was a trusted face that provided reassurance to families when they needed it most. "In school we have a quote from Nelson Mandela: "What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead." "Vic Browne exemplified this quote. The outpouring of affection for Vic from across the community has just demonstrated the significant impact Vic has had on so many lives, not just within our school but also in the wider community. His kind and generous soul will be remembered by so many, everyone has a memory of Vic Browne. "My tribute does not truly capture the sense of loss that we are all feeling. Today we celebrate that we were privileged enough to work with him for the past eight years. He was a very proud member of our school and we were very proud to have him as part of our community. He will be remembered for the amazing person he was and who has played a unique and special role in all of our lives."			
Wendy Harris	Works helping the homeless by handing out food and drink for people in need at St Mary's Church 5 days a week	Feeding those in need regularly throughout the year.	She is one of the Quiet workers.	She is dedicated to her cause.
Yvonne Harewood	Over many years, Yvonne has has tirelessly provided care and support to elders in our community. More recently, she has been providing ongoing support to an elder when no other support was forthcoming. She regularly sets phone calls up with the elder's friends so that the elder can continue to communicate with her network.	Without Yvonne's ongoing support, the quality of life of the elder in question would be severely negatively impacted.	Yvonne would be a worthy person to receive an award in any of the categories selected.	I can't think of a more worthy winner. One word describes Yvonne; that word is selfless
Yvonne Watt	1. Reading 2. Past 10 years 3. Reporting news, Live reporting, Updating RCE Newspaper ready for publication Producing Creating and Editing for publication Marketing to the correct audience Creating news adverts and news videos for marketing purposes Social media Administration	Raised awareness Received recognition invited to Houses of Parliament twice 1. Smart Works 2. Black History Awarded The Most Prestigious Newspaper in the south of England	Determination in establishing a local based Caribbean newspaper for the community	The nominee is the author of a poetry book - You're not Alone She is the grand daughter of Mr and Mrs Walker well known for establishing Reading first black church