

## List of all those nominated for each award for 2026:

### Young Persons Civic Award 2026

NAME	REASON
Andrew Poulton	Andrew, aged 21, is being recognised for his exceptional dedication and consistently high standards of work. He regularly goes the extra mile, approaching his role with enthusiasm, professionalism and a genuinely positive attitude. His efforts play a vital role in keeping public spaces safe, clean and welcoming, making a meaningful difference to the local community.
<b>Oscar Tibbels (WINNER)</b>	Oscar, aged 16, is recognised as a committed and inspiring young leader. Through his volunteering with Juniors Holiday Club and the Mix Group for young people with special educational needs, he has shown maturity, confidence and dedication beyond his years. Whether leading activities, supporting staff or working directly with children, Oscar makes a meaningful and lasting impact on both the team and the wider community.

### Business Civic Award 2026

NAME	REASON
<b>UHY Ross Brooke (WINNER)</b>	UHY Ross Brooke have served the Newbury community for over 40 years, becoming a trusted and valued local presence. Their team of around 50 staff regularly give not just their time, but their professional skills and expertise to support a wide variety of local causes. From charity events and community clean-ups to mentoring students through work experience placements, their contribution is both generous and far-reaching, amounting to hundreds of hours of volunteering every year.
Tiny Town Cafe	Tiny Town Café makes a real difference in the community by donating monthly family tickets to the local foodbank and running a 'pay it forward' scheme to support families in need. They also offer a welcoming play and learning space for children and collaborate with local organisations to support the wider Newbury community.
Milk and Bean	Milk and Bean began life serving coffee from a horsebox at local markets and has since grown into a vibrant community hub in Newbury. It is now a popular meeting point for local running groups, who use it as the start and finish location for their sessions, helping to promote healthy lifestyles and strengthen social connections.
Blind Maggot	Blind Maggot are celebrated for their 'Good Soup' range, generously donating £5 from every item to the Newbury Soup Kitchen. They work closely with local artists, champion creative talent, and prioritise locally printed, ethically sourced products, making a real contribution to Newbury's economy and creative community.

Apple Print and Creative	Apple Print & Creative are recognised for their outstanding commitment to the local community. They continually go the extra mile in their support of Berkshire Youth and the Waterside Centre, from maintaining websites and creating a brand-new, easy-to-use Waterside Centre site, to running social media campaigns and generously providing promotional materials for Berkshire Youth's 85th Anniversary Awards at no cost.
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### **Environmental Contribution Civic Award 2026**

NAME	DESCRIPTION
<b>Charmaine Buckley (WINNER)</b>	Charmaine is recognised for running a truly sustainable salon, where all waste is recycled to prevent landfill and profits are reinvested into a range of charitable and environmental causes. From supporting Haircuts 4 Homeless and the Little Princess Trust to promoting reuse through her book swap shelf and eco-friendly initiatives, she champions sustainability and community impact in everything she does.
Richard Harrison	Richard is recognised for his outstanding commitment to the development and care of Speen Moors, where he and the Newbury Environment and Wildlife Team volunteer countless hours in all weathers. His leadership ensures the site is managed with exceptional care for wildlife and habitat, while maintaining clear and positive engagement with the local community and stakeholders.
Growing Newbury Green	Growing Newbury Green is recognised for transforming local spaces through the planting and care of over 60 community fruit trees across Newbury. Their work creates living orchards that support biodiversity, provide free fruit for residents, and bring people together through workshops, seasonal events and hands-on environmental education.
Newbury Friends of the Earth	Newbury Friends of the Earth is recognised for its wide-reaching environmental work, including the creation of five 'Lockdown Woods' and the development of a Nature Corridor linking green spaces across the town. Through community planting, clean air campaigns and educational projects with schools and local groups, they are helping to build a more connected and sustainable Newbury.
Newbury Environment & Wildlife Team (NEWT)	NEWT is recognised for its vital work managing a 37-acre nature reserve and transforming it into a thriving habitat for both wildlife and people. Through volunteer work parties, education programmes and habitat restoration, they are creating accessible green space while deepening community understanding of conservation and biodiversity.
Environmental Solutions Waste Management	Recognised for combining environmental responsibility with exceptional community support. From refurbishing and donating laptops to those in need, to providing free services for charities and committing staff volunteering days, they go far beyond their core business to make a meaningful impact locally and internationally.

### Local Community Group Award 2026

NOMINEE	REASON
Eight Bells for Mental Health	Eight Bells for Mental Health provides vital support to the local community, particularly for individuals experiencing mental health challenges. Through compassion, understanding and dedicated support, they help reduce isolation, improve wellbeing, and ensure that people who may otherwise feel overlooked are cared for and supported.
Assisting Berkshire Children to read	Assisting Berkshire Children to Read is recognised for its outstanding commitment to improving children’s literacy in Newbury. Through a dedicated team of trained volunteers, they provide tailored one-to-one reading support to over 60 local pupils, helping children build confidence, develop essential reading skills, and foster a lifelong love of learning.
Newbury Pride	Newbury Pride is recognised for its ongoing work supporting the LGBTQ+ community across Newbury, Thatcham and West Berkshire. Run entirely by volunteers, they deliver an annual Pride festival alongside year-round social events, youth drop-ins, workshops and community partnerships, helping to create an inclusive, visible and supportive environment for all.
<b>Bingo Buddies (WINNER)</b>	Bingo Buddies have made a significant impact since 2022, raising over £14,000 for local causes including food banks, care homes and support for people experiencing homelessness. Through their community bingo events, they also provide Christmas gifts, essential items and funding for local facilities, bringing people together while supporting those most in need.
Greenham Control Tower	Greenham Control Tower is a volunteer-led charity that has transformed the site into a thriving visitor centre, supported by 88 volunteers. They welcome over 100,000 visitors each year and deliver a wide range of activities including a café, guided tours, exhibitions, school and community education, commemorative events and outdoor programmes, enriching the Greenham Common experience for all.
The Boxford Masques Community Theatre Charity	Recognised for staging The Healing Tree in 2025, engaging 100 cast and crew, countless volunteers, and over 900 audience members, while fostering inclusive participation, skill-building, community pride, cultural enrichment, and promoting sustainability and shared local values across Newbury and West Berkshire.
Berkshire Lowland Search and Rescue	A 100% volunteer charity providing 24/7 emergency search and rescue support across Berkshire. Working alongside emergency services, they assist with high-risk missing person searches, flood and water rescues, drone operations and major incident response. Entirely funded through donations and grants, their work is a vital public service delivered with professionalism and dedication.

Hindu SWAYAMSEVAK Sangh (HSS Newbury)	A volunteer-led group promoting selfless service since 2018. They run community projects including charity coffee mornings, school assemblies on diversity and Hinduism, Parliamentary Week events, Yoga Day celebrations, environmental initiatives, weekly food collections for local charities, and events recognising teachers, all with around 100 volunteers.
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### Newbury Town Civic Award 2026

NOMINEE	REASON
Jane Doyle	Jane is a real asset to the Wash Common community. She runs the Wash Common Community Centre and founded Jane's House Montessori Preschool, which has supported hundreds of local children. Jane continues to play an active role in community life, supporting a wide range of local groups and activities.
Newbury Soup Kitchen	Newbury Soup Kitchen is recognised for its outstanding and compassionate work supporting some of the most vulnerable people in our community. Their dedication has changed lives, offering practical help, dignity, and hope, and making a lasting difference across Newbury.
Garry Poulson	Garry Poulson is recognised for his long-standing and wide-ranging service to Newbury. A former Town Mayor, he continues to support the Mayor's office and has made significant contributions through his leadership of the Volunteer Centre. He has also supported suicide prevention partnerships, community training initiatives, local events, and the Newbury Historical Society, demonstrating a deep and ongoing commitment to civic life.
<b>Catherine Hamblin (WINNER)</b>	Cath is recognised for her extraordinary nine years of continuous volunteering at Newbury Soup Kitchen. Known for her warmth, kindness and consistency, she is a welcoming presence every week, supporting clients with dignity and helping the service run smoothly while also contributing to fundraising and community events.
Steph Langley	Steph is recognised for seven years of dedicated service to Newbury Soup Kitchen. Beginning as a frontline volunteer and now serving as a Trustee, she combines professional expertise with compassion, supporting both clients and staff, and strengthening the charity through leadership, supervision, and care for volunteer wellbeing.
Assisting Berkshire Children to read	Assisting Berkshire Children to Read is recognised for its outstanding volunteer-led support of children's literacy across Newbury. Their trained volunteers provide one-to-one reading support in schools, helping children build confidence, improve literacy skills, and develop a lifelong love of reading.
Andrea Barrett (Eight Bells for Mental Health)	Andrea is recognised for her exceptional commitment to Eight Bells for Mental Health. Alongside her professional role, she consistently goes above and beyond, supporting daily operations, organising events, and giving significant additional time and care to ensure the charity delivers vital support to the community.
Leon Mitchell	For his impact and voluntary work in Newbury, Leon donates free books, runs workshops, supports children's literacy and mental

	health, founded TEDxNewbury, is developing “Books on the Bank,” works with local families and the West Berkshire Education Department, and promotes literacy through the Newbury News.
Gillian Brown	Gill volunteers weekly on the Volunteer Centre West Berkshire Car Scheme, often covering extra shifts. She supports Dementia Voice with awareness and companion calls, participates in Apple Day, walks dogs for people with limited mobility, provides transport, and promotes recycling and environmental efforts.
Erica Gassor	Co-founder and Operational Lead of West Berkshire Homeless Charity. She personally manages the helpline, engages with 700 clients regularly, coordinates volunteers who provide befriending, court support, and practical assistance, and works closely with the Council and other charities to help those facing severe poverty, homelessness, and food or fuel insecurity.
Kris Manning (Berkshire Lowland Search and Rescue)	Kris Manning is recognised for an extraordinary 40 years of voluntary service with Berkshire Lowland Search and Rescue. His leadership, expertise, and commitment have shaped search and rescue operations locally and nationally, contributing thousands of hours to lifesaving work and strengthening the professionalism of the service.