



THE BRITISH CITIZEN *youth* AWARD

in association with



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OFFICIAL PRESENTATION GUIDE

19 October 2017

The following organisations are proud supporters of the British Citizen Youth Award:



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DAME MARY PERKINS

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The society we live in tomorrow will be shaped by the children of today, which is why championing amazing young role models is so very important.

The young people receiving British Citizen Youth Award medals will, I am sure, inspire other youngsters to emulate their good work and embody the spirit of transparency, integrity, determination and achievement, that define these awards.

Whatever it is they have done to make a significant impact on society, their community, charity or other good cause, it will have

been with a selflessness and commitment that deserves to be publicly acknowledged.

These unsung heroes are the rising stars of the future – let us shine a light on them and celebrate!

I hope that many more youngsters will follow in their footsteps.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dame Mary Perkins." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dame Mary Perkins
Co-Founder of Specsavers

**BRITISH CITIZEN YOUTH
AWARD HOST PEER**



**THE RT HON. THE LORD
DHOLAKIA OBE DL**

Educated in India and Tanzania, Lord Dholakia came to Britain to study at Brighton Technical College. His first job was a Medical Laboratory Technician at Southlands Hospital in Shoreham-by-Sea.

He became active in the Liberal party and was elected to Brighton Borough Council between 1961-64. From 1976 Lord Dholakia served as a member for the Commission for Racial Equality and has been involved in the Sussex Police Authority, Police Complaints Authority and Howard League for Penal Reform. He

is the current chair of Nacro and also chairs its Race Issues Advisory Committee.

Lord Dholakia is involved with a range of charities including being a Patron of the British branch of Child in Need India. In 1994 he was made an officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE). In 2000 he was named 'Asian of the Year' and won the Pride of India Award in 2005.

The Rt Hon. the Lord Dholakia OBE DL is a Liberal Democrat Life peer sitting in the House of Lords since 24 October 1997.

BRITISH CITIZEN YOUTH AWARD PRESENTER



ASHLEY BANJO

Dancer, choreographer and creative director, Ashley Banjo is the founder and leader of dance group Diversity, who took the nation by storm when they won Britain's Got Talent 2009. Ashley has created and produced all of the groups performances and all seven of their sell out UK arena tours.

Aside from the groups achievements Ashley has pursued many solo projects, ranging from industry award winning documentaries to judging on and presenting primetime entertainment shows. Behind the scenes, Ashley also creates and develops television formats and series.

Ashley is an Ambassador and patron for a number of children's charities and continues to support their

invaluable work for the younger people in society. Inspired by their motto 'Dream, Believe, Achieve', Ashley and Diversity continue to inspire the next generation.

'I am honoured to be able to play a part in the British Citizen Youth Awards at the Palace of Westminster. What a fantastic way to recognise these young people that have made a difference to their communities up and down the UK. These inspirational young people are making a difference and encouraging other young people to do the same.'

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Ashley Banjo'. The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ashley Banjo

CHARLIE HEDGES

Kiss FM Presenter & DJ

"Each and every one of you should be so proud of your achievements and hard work. Think about the person/s who has been your inspiration, someone you've looked up to, the person who under the radar has been the reason for your self-belief and success.....Well now YOU are that person many will be looking up to!

Keep going and well done again."



*CHARLIE HEDGES
Kiss FM Presenter & DJ*



*GEORGIA BENJAMIN
Writer/Sub Editor, CBeebies Magazine*

GEORGIA BENJAMIN

Writer/Sub Editor, CBeebies Magazine

‘Today is an opportunity to celebrate some of the most incredible and inspirational people in our country: YOU! Each and every one of you has made this little island a better place to be through your determination, courage, hard work and kindness, and you should be extremely proud of yourselves – we all are! Congratulations, have a fantastic day and keep on being your brilliant selves!

PATRON



Nicky Cox is editor in chief of First News, the UK's number one publication for children, with more than two million readers a week. Nearly half of schools nationwide subscribe to First News. Nicky is also CEO of Fresh Start Media, a production company making broadcast films for, and about, children around

the world. Nicky was made an MBE for services to children in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2009, and in 2013, was given a Patron's award from the NSPCC and ChildLine for dedication to children. She is passionate about giving kids a voice and a fair deal.

In 2014 Nicky was one of the Women of Achievement in the Women of the Year Awards. She is often called upon to be a judge herself and has been on the panels for BAFTA, the Global Teacher Prize and the Mum of the Year Awards, as well as being a trustee of English Heritage's Blue Plaques. She is also a special adviser to UNICEF. The British Citizen Youth Award are proud

that Nicky agreed to be our Patron.

"Too often, young people get a bad press. It is fantastic to be part of the British Citizen Youth Award which celebrates the fact that young people are, in fact, extraordinary human beings with good hearts contributing to their communities in so many positive ways."

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nicky Cox'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicky Cox MBE
British Citizen Youth Award Patron
Editor-in-Chief - First News



Proud to sponsor
The British Citizen
Youth Awards 2017

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SET YOUR SIGHTS ON A CAREER AT SPECSAVERS



Specsavers was founded by Dame Mary Perkins and her husband Doug in 1984 with one vision – to provide affordable, fashionable eyecare for everyone, at a time when high prices for optical care and limited choice were the norm.

Their spirit of British entrepreneurship revolutionised the industry and today Specsavers is a well-known high street retailer with 1,800 stores in ten countries around the world, including more than 370 stores in Australia and New Zealand, while its humorous ‘Should’ve gone to Specsavers’ advertising line has become a much used phrase.

Each store is part-owned and managed by its own directors - a Joint Venture Partnership model that was pioneered by the Perkins - who are committed to delivering high quality, affordable eye health

care and audiology services in the communities they serve.

Specsavers is the largest employer of registered optometrists and dispensing opticians in the UK. But as well as employing optical and hearing professionals, the company also offers a full range of careers in its stores and support offices worldwide, including the largest apprenticeship scheme in the UK, which takes on school leavers and offers them the chance of gaining a qualification within a year.



BRITISH CITIZEN YOUTH AWARD



In 2016 the British Citizen Youth Award (BCyA) was launched with the purpose of recognising young people who positively impact society. The response was overwhelming. The sheer number of young people in society who are helping others through volunteering, fundraising or awareness is enormous.

The BCyA is a mechanism of recognition to say, 'thank you' to these wonderful young people by bestowing upon them a Medal of Honour inscribed with the words 'For the good of the country'. The

first 20 exceptional individuals recognised came from all over the country and supported several different causes. This year's selected medallists equally represent all corners of the UK and have some extraordinary achievements making them worthy recipients.

A BCyA is awarded only after the independent assessment panel has evaluated the achievements of the individual. It is not a competition so there are no winners, but to be presented with a BCyA is a huge honour recognising the good work of

the young person. Recipients need to be under the age of 16 years to be considered for a BCyA, for anyone over the age of 16 the British Citizen Award programme can be considered.

Those being awarded a British Citizen Youth Award Medal are invited to use the BCyA letters after their name to reflect the achievement of being awarded. The commitment of young people in the UK to wanting to make a difference to society or other people's lives is enormous. Today, we witness the achievements of 24 outstanding young people

and are proud to recognise them for their endeavours.

These deserving young people are recognised for their bravery, dedication, determination or achievements for their good causes. They are also recognised for their commitment, which will reap varying levels of results dependent upon age. Some of the youngest are undoubtedly assisted by their siblings, and necessarily, their parents. Their capability may preclude them from achieving as much as some older children, but their commitment to be involved,

to make an impact is often as determined as those older than them.

The British Citizen Youth Award is extremely proud of the support shown by our partners Specsavers, who share our belief that it is the young people of today who will shape all our tomorrows. If just one young person is inspired by each of our medallists we will be on the way to a better future for all.

The entire British Citizen Youth Award team salute each and every medallist.

British Citizen Youth Award - 2017 Roll of Honour

ROLL OF

HONOUR

**MIA GOLENIOWSKA BCyA &
NATALIA GOLENIOWSKA BCyA**

Age: 13 & 10 respectively
From: Cornwall



Mia & Natalia (Natty) are a powerful combination of sisters. Natty has Down's syndrome, and as a family

they have created a blog called 'Downs Side Up' to promote inclusion, understanding and equality. Mia & Natty work together as Ambassadors and Advocates, constantly educating others about Down's syndrome through working with the NHS and charities such as Mencap, Makaton and the Down's Syndrome Association. They support other families and young people and share their experiences via a book written by Mia and her Mum, vlogs and a blog.

Mia has carried her protective mentality into the wider world, standing up for anyone at school who feels misunderstood or different. Mia speaks out in a kind, but firm way, if she feels someone is being targeted for their differences. She has delivered moving and

amusing speeches to hundreds of medical professionals and students, on national TV and radio and has fundraised for Down's syndrome charities throughout her young life.

Natty in turn, is a role model for children with disabilities everywhere. She is a learning disability champion in every sense of the world and it is her personality that shines through all she does. A model, a spokesperson, a teacher – Natty had broken down many barriers and smashed stereotypes, all by the age of nine-years-old. She hosts a live broadcast nightly, 'Chatty Natty' and has taught those younger than herself to sign, dance and encourages them to read and write with her daily tips.

JUNIOR FROOD BCyA

Age: 14

From: West Yorkshire



Despite being bullied for his love of dancing, Junior has used his talent to raise money and help others through performing at various events and through

busking. Over the last three years, Junior has raised a staggering £250,000 for local hospices for children with life-limiting illnesses and disabilities.

The bullying of Junior resulted in the family moving home. Yet he still made a stand against those bullies by becoming an anti-bullying Ambassador for the Diana Award and is currently working within schools and on social media to ensure that no other child suffers like he did. He has choreographed an anti-bullying dance which he has performed at several events. Junior performed with Sam Bailey on her UK Tour and Justin Bieber on his World

Tour. By starting a social media campaign #boyscandance and #boysdancetoo he has created a platform for young men that wish to be involved in dancing, to feel rightly, that this is acceptable.

One of the many charities that Junior has raised money for is the Martin House Hospice, where Junior has taught both adults and children with disabilities and life-limiting illnesses to dance, making them smile and giving them a moment of escapism. He has joined singing groups and each Saturday teaches children and adults with disabilities, and those who have hearing and sight impairments.

BETHAN OWEN BCyA

Age:15

From: Denbighshire, Wales



Bethan has grown up caring for her Mum who suffers with severe epilepsy. Together with her Dad they are ever-present to care and call the emergency services

when necessary. Paramedics are a constant fixture for Bethan, but she continues to support her Mum in a calm way with strength and maturity beyond her years.

Bethan knows that having a focus, and a sport to channel into, can release internal pressures and help to share the day-to-day challenges. At the age of 12, Bethan became a qualified Karate Instructor and decided to help adults and children who could not afford the expense of the big academies. She considered that those less fortunate should not miss out on the opportunity to have fitness, health and discipline, so Bethan opened her own club in Rhyl. Being

a young carer herself, she made this accessible to other carers. Bethan has now opened a second club in Llandudno and only charges to cover the hall hire, receiving no monies herself. Any money raised or donated by local businesses, goes straight back into the clubs.

Bethan has been practising Karate since the age of seven and has never missed a single grading. She taught herself Japanese and is now a 3rd degree black belt. Bethan is kind hearted and big hearted to the point that when she receives her weekly pocket money, she takes this to her favourite local homeless man.

BENJAMIN WILSON- MAYOR BCyA

Age: 14

From: Lancashire



The ambition for public libraries is to provide a space where people in the community can grow well, live well and learn well. But the advent of the internet means that

libraries are finding it more difficult to attract users. Benjamin, through his volunteering, has developed ideas to bring to the library which, at a time of increased staffing pressures and funding cuts, helps to increase usage and help other young users experience the best that the library has to offer. He does this because he knows that by sharing his knowledge with young children he can improve their lives. Benjamin is willing to get involved and try anything with commitment, versatility, maturity and cheerfulness.

Benjamin first started volunteering at the community library during the summer, but then continued his involvement after the summer

programme ended. He went on to create digital literacy sessions and introduce beginners coding sessions for children. This has provided young people with an opportunity to learn valuable new skills. By enabling young people to engage with IT, Benjamin is expanding their career opportunities in an increasingly digital world.

The biggest impact Benjamin has made has been enabling the library to offer high quality activities that wouldn't have existed without him. Through enthusiastically sharing his own skills and abilities, the library has been able to deliver events and activities that are outside the abilities of the staff.

AIDAN JACKSON BCyA

Age: 15

From: Cheshire



Since losing his 15-year-old friend Olivia in 2015, Aidan has raised over £15,000 for her charity – The Olivia Alice Foundation - dedicated to making a difference to children with complex health needs.

Olivia's health started deteriorating at just 2 months old, suffering with epilepsy, scoliosis, poor vision and global development. When Olivia and Aidan met, Olivia was seven-years-old and they became friends immediately. Aidan suffers from Asperger's Syndrome, but had no problems communicating with Olivia. When Olivia passed away due to complications with her disabilities, the family set up the foundation in her name to help other children with complex health problems. Aidan did not hesitate to start fundraising with the money going towards helping provide medical equipment, so children can be cared for at home surrounded by their families, rather than spending months in hospital.

In 2016, Aidan set himself a challenge to fill the Select Stadium in Widnes full of teddy bears. He managed to get 10,500 teddy bears, raising £8,000 for the charity and the unerring admiration of the stadium staff.

In a short time, Aidan has raised a huge amount of money, and is always thinking of ideas to fundraise and uses social media to promote both the charity and any fundraising he is undertaking.

He is a selfless and inspirational young man, so well respected by all that know him and passionate about keeping the memory of Olivia alive.

EMILY LINDLEY BCyA

Age: 14

From: Angus, Scotland



Emily is 14 years old and committed to volunteering. She has spent four years raising money for children in a Kenyan orphanage raising several thousand pounds. This has been achieved through a variety of activities including

coffee mornings, bring and buy sales, sponsored walks and selling bracelets made by the Nyahera community she is helping in Kenya. Her inspiration came when a teacher at her school gave a talk about the orphans in Kenya needing money for a daily meal and for footwear to prevent foot rot.

During the past 18-months Emily has also started visiting a local residential care home for the elderly and taking in a family pet, 'Spencer', to provide dog therapy. Emily's nature empathises well with the dementia patients, and whilst it can be daunting, even for adults, Emily has so much confidence and has acquired

insight into the condition which makes patients very comfortable in her company. Emily listens attentively to the patients' tales, which she finds interesting, and appreciates that they are unaware when they are repeating the same story later. She shows respect and laughs with them, not at them, building a very good rapport.

Emily continues to put in the hard work required to make each event she undertakes to raise money or awareness successful. The community has benefitted greatly from Emily's coffee mornings. Her small rural village and farming community welcome the opportunities to socialise helping make her events a success.

JAKE MENDELSON BCyA

Age: 14

From: County Durham



Since family friend Anna Swabey was diagnosed with a terminal brain tumour aged 23, Jake wanted to do something to help. Anna had vowed to fundraise and raise awareness of brain tumours in

the time she had left, with her aim to raise £100,000 which she achieved prior to passing away in August 2016. Jake was determined to continue to raise money and awareness and decided he wanted to do something to help raise funds.

Jake is a keen water polo player, so decided to do something swimming related. He chose the challenging Great North Swim, a 1-mile course in the open water of Lake Windermere. He set about preparing himself for the cold-water swim by training in local lakes regularly before the event. He started fundraising by getting sponsorship at school, home and through local businesses. He set up

a Just Giving page and advertised his fundraising on social media. He was thrilled that he managed to raise over £500 and complete the swim.

Undertaking this challenge shows his selflessness, compassion and determination to contribute to Brain Tumour Research. He is an inspiration to other young people, encouraging them to think of others and to make a difference. Jake will be swimming The Great North Swim 2017, with local newspapers, businesses and his school behind him to continue to raise not just monetary value, but the awareness of an under-funded area of research.

CHANEL MURRISH BCyA

Age: 3

From: County Durham



Chanel was born with a rare heart condition – first identified at the 20-week scan but worsening at the 30-week scan when hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS) was diagnosed. HLHS affects roughly 1 in 5000 new-borns and mostly requires invasive surgery. With

some extremely difficult decisions to make, Chanel's parents agreed that at birth she would have immediate open-heart surgery. This was the quickest open-heart surgery ever done, and Chanel was the youngest patient in the world.

Chanel, with the help of her Mum, has charted her journey through Facebook raising much-needed awareness for the UK's biggest killer in children, Congenital Heart Defects. Chanel's experiences give so much hope and support to thousands of parents. Struggling also with a stroke and cerebral palsy, she took part in a charity cat walk for The Children's Heart Fund, showing nothing can stop her.

Chanel has spent every Christmas Eve since being born handing out gifts at the Newcastle Freeman Heart Unit, to families and children spending Christmas in hospital, along with Santa Clause and other characters, trying to bring a smile at a difficult time for others. As well as this, Chanel raises money for other charities, including CHUF, The British Heart Foundation and When You Wish Upon a Star.

Chanel is currently awaiting her fourth open heart surgery and will be the first in the UK with her full condition to have the surgery. She is a complete inspiration and always smiling.

OWEN PERKS BCyA

Age: 12

From: West Midlands



Owen has been fundraising for more than a year, benefitting multiple local causes. He has a natural passion for helping others and is a caring, compassionate young man with a 'can do' attitude to making

a positive difference to other people's lives.

Since starting fundraising, Owen, who previously always had shoulder length hair, watched a YouTube video of Stephen Sutton MBE. The video inspired and affected Owen so much, that he decided to shave his hair off to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust. This was live-streamed on the internet and Owen raised £560. Attending a Teenage Cancer Trust event, Owen was presented with a Trophy and Certificate on stage by Jane Sutton, Stephen Sutton's Mother.

Owen is currently fundraising for a local 5-year-old boy, who at

just five months old contracted meningitis. The young boy lost both his legs, and in a bid to provide him with the option to choose his own prosthetic legs, Owen has sold cakes and cookies to family and friends and organised a 'guess the number of sweets' in a jar competition, raising £440. To continue to raise money for this young boy, Owen walked from Wolverhampton to Walsall, approximately 7.1 miles. He is on target to raise £1,000 to help.

Owen sees no challenge as too big, and is constantly looking for new causes to raise awareness or funds for within his local community.

MOLLY FRASER BCyA

Age: 15

From: Essex



In June 2017 Molly, a Sea Cadet in Colchester, who also plays Rugby for Essex, was at her local Rugby Club when she was alerted that one of her friends had collapsed and was lying unconscious. Club members singled out Molly as they knew

she is a Sea Cadet and may have trained for such an incident. Molly immediately rushed to attend to her friend who she found to be having difficulty breathing. Molly assessed her condition and called for an ambulance, giving them precise directions and information on the situation.

Her friend had vomited, so Molly cleared her airway and began CPR. When her friend appeared to be breathing normally, Molly placed her in the recovery position and looked after her until the emergency services arrived, by which time she had begun to regain consciousness. The ambulance crew praised Molly for her quick

and correct actions and were impressed that one so young had reacted calmly, and had the knowledge to know what needed to be done.

Sea Cadets train many young people and adults in first aid, but even those with the benefit of training can freeze when presented with a real-life situation. Molly did not – she remained calm and controlled, taking charge not just of the casualty but also onlookers and all involved.

Molly is now strongly campaigning to have First Aid training added to the school curriculum.

CAINE WILDMAN BCyA

Age: 15

From: West Midlands



In February 2017, Caine returned home to find his Dad unresponsive and not breathing, with his younger siblings at home with his father. Caine was calm and placed his Father in the

recovery position and took charge calling the ambulance. Caine continued to administer CPR right until the emergency services arrived.

Caine's Dad was taken to hospital and diagnosed with double pneumonia in both lungs which led him to have a full respiratory failure and cardiac arrest. His Dad had not been ill prior to this and had finished his shift as a Prison Officer, returning to care for Caine's younger siblings.

The hospital confirmed that Caine undoubtedly saved his Dad's life by taking the actions he did, and without his quick thinking,

confirmed he would not have survived. Not only did Caine deal with this traumatic situation, he then took care of his two younger siblings and cared for them at an obviously distraught time.

Caine has been a member of the Combined Cadet Force through the school he attends, and this is where just two weeks before he completed a CPR course. His two years with the Combined Cadet Force has given Caine the confidence and skills to do amazing things, including saving his Dad's life. Caine has also volunteered through his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, received earlier this year.

ALED GRIFFITHS BCyA

Age:14

From: Devon



Aled was born with a medical condition called Vacterl association, which has caused him to have numerous abnormalities in his body and has led to lots of time spent in hospital having various

operations. This has not stopped Aled from helping others. He spends his time giving talks and presentations, including to medical professionals, about himself and his condition, in the hope that this will inspire others to achieve their goals and dreams.

Aled, whose motto is 'Be You and Believe in Yourself', was born with a number of physical challenges, which would make many people - including adults - shy away from public view. Aled however, sees this as an opportunity to talk to others about how he copes, and how he

wants to be seen as 'abled' rather than 'disabled'.

He volunteers for two national charities, both being stoma related. Openly promoting these charities in a selfless way, aware of how much he can help others, especially younger children and their families who are learning to cope with a stoma. At the age of 10, he was giving a presentation to 600 specialist nurses at the Association of Stoma Care Nurses Conference. Aled is also the children's ambassador for The Colostomy Association. A truly inspiring young man, with no fear and pure compassion for others.

GRACE WARNOCK BCyA

Age: 12

From: East Lothian, Scotland



Shortly after being diagnosed with Crohn's Disease, Grace met some volunteers from Crohn's & Colitis UK (CCUK) who discussed living with Crohn's day-to-day. That night Grace decided she wanted to change how people reacted to those with an invisible disability,

who needed to use a disabled toilet, but who did not look disabled.

Grace decided to design a new sign, depicting that not all disabilities are visible. She wrote a letter to her local MSP to see what he could do to help. Iain Gray met Grace in Scottish Parliament and had invited along some others to see what help/interest there was out there. After discussions, 'Grace's Sign' campaign began with the support of not only her local MSP, but also her newly elected MP.

Since the start of her campaign in 2015 the amount of Grace's

signs being displayed has increased, making it easier for those with invisible disabilities to use disabled facilities.

Grace continues to work hard raising awareness and was the inspiration behind the CCUK campaign for better signage in supermarkets.

The hearts on the sign represent that something is invisible and also that people should have a heart and not judge what cannot be seen. It has been over two years and Grace, understandably still gets excited seeing her sign displayed in new venues, in the knowledge that it is helping others.

TED MCCAFFERY BCyA

Age: 10

From: Cheshire



Despite being born with a congenital heart condition, Teddy began fundraising for Cancer Research at the age of just three years old by taking part in the Manchester Fun Run. He did this in memory of his aunt and grandmother.

Following emergency open-heart surgery when he was six years old, Teddy started raising funds for Alder Hey Children's Hospital – the hospital attributed with saving his life. As he was waiting for his surgery in hospital, his television was broken which inspired him to raise money to replace the TV, so no other children would be bored waiting for their operation. Teddy then undertook his first mini-triathlon eight weeks after his open-heart surgery.

This encouraged him to continue to raise money for Alder Hey, and also the British Heart Foundation. He wanted to help other sick children and find a cure for his condition of

Aortic Stenosis. Teddy, now an Ambassador of Alder Hey Hospital, has completed many fundraising events, including a campaign of taking a picture of your favourite bear #showusyourbear, cake sales, charity fun run, golf day and getting lots of others involved calling them 'Team Ted'. He has, to date, raised a staggering £85,000.

Teddy's contribution has made a huge difference to Alder Hey Hospital where there are new televisions in all the bedrooms of the hospital. Teddy is a guest speaker at charity events, and his inspiring talks encourage other people to donate, fundraise or raise awareness for the hospital.

PHOEBE MADDISON BCyA

Age:13

From: Wiltshire



Phoebe is an inspiration to all young children living with Type 1 Diabetes. Since her own diagnosis, her determination and mission has been to help charities with fundraising and to educate people,

especially children, about the myths of the condition. Being such an ever-growing condition in the UK, Phoebe's determined to not only help to find a cure, but to demonstrate to young people a willingness to succeed and not see their health condition as a barrier in life.

At the age of seven, Phoebe made a short educational film commissioned by the BBC called 'Same But Different'. This programme had the objective of educating school children about peers that have health-related problems. Phoebe was inspired by this, and created a short film on her iPad, interviewing teachers

and children about what Type 1 Diabetes really is and 'what do they know' about diabetes. Her film was shown widely in the UK and she won an award for best individual film, which was presented at BAFTA House.

Phoebe has shown a strength and emotional confidence to other young people recently diagnosed. On her 11th birthday, she held a party and invited her entire class, and rather than receiving gifts, asked friends and students to donate to Diabetes UK, she raised hundreds of pounds. Phoebe is very entrepreneurial for charity fundraising ideas, helping educate and raise money.

GRACIE HOWARTH BCyA AND MADELEINE BARNESLEY BCyA

Age: 11 & 10 respectively
From: Lincolnshire



Gracie and Maddie are two young girls who have made a massive difference to children less fortunate than themselves by raising £10,000 for Children in Need. Their commitment has also brought

a community together, putting competitiveness and social differences aside so all taking part would work together and unite to achieve more. Gracie & Maddie organised 16 dance schools with a history of differences to work as a team, to produce a show that raised thousands of pounds. Gracie & Maddie are making this an annual event, which binds together the dance community regardless of age, race or disability.

They work energetically to bring everything together and continue to come up with ideas to raise money for the cause, such as raffles, coffee

mornings, cake sales and are even arranging a record breaking attempt for the world's largest disco dance.

Both girls came up with the vision of helping children less fortunate after watching BBC Children in Need and have since worked hard to make this come true. A local group, with disabilities, will benefit from the Children in Need funds. This group are also taking part in Gracie and Maddie's 2017 show, giving the group members the opportunity to gain confidence and prove that disability is not a barrier to making a difference, whilst at the same time having fun too.

CODY MCMANUS BCyA

Age: 9

From: Edinburgh, Scotland



In October 2016, Cody learned, while looking through a toy brochure, that his friend does not look forward to Christmas as he doesn't get any presents. Sadly,

his friend had lost his father, and his friend's mother struggles to cope through addiction. Cody decided that he wanted to help his friend and other children in similar circumstances to have the happy Christmas that he does.

Determined and focused, Cody began his 6-week Christmas Toy Box Campaign, his aim, to fill an entire boxing ring with donated toys and gifts. Cody's love of boxing inspired him to set the challenge to box eight children back-to-back over eight rounds of full contact boxing.

On 25th November 2016, Cody successfully completed his boxing challenge. In only 6-weeks he had

filled a full-size boxing ring with over 2,000 donated toys worth over £12,000. Cody and his family then delivered the toys to families suffering from drug and alcohol addiction and those in financial hardship. Over 500 children benefitted from Cody's determination and were given the chance to smile on Christmas morning.

Cody's desire to help and make a difference became infectious. He wrote hundreds of letters asking people and companies to help him help others. Each child received 3 to 4 gifts each and the Christmas Toy Box campaign is set to be even bigger year-on-year.

BAILEY MATTHEWS BCyA

Age: 10

From: South Yorkshire



In July 2016 Bailey completed his first ever triathlon unaided. This involved a challenging 100 metre lake swim, 4,000 metre bike ride and 1,300 metre run as part of the Castle Howard Triathlon in

North Yorkshire. What makes this remarkable is that Bailey at 18-months-old was diagnosed with a form of cerebral palsy; a neurological condition that affects movement and co-ordination. Everyday tasks are made more difficult by the condition, even getting himself dressed. Yet, inspired by his Dad and Uncle, who are keen triathletes, Bailey made up his mind he wanted to take part.

Bailey has now completed the gruelling Castle Howard Triathlon, for a second year running, tackling it seven minutes faster than the previous year. At the end, Bailey threw away his walking aid to

cross the finish line unaided. Bailey is an inspiration and a role model to others. He volunteers at the local Parkrun, when he is not running and even stands in for the Race Director from time-to-time, standing up and addressing several hundred people. He motivates them to do their best, reminding them it's a "Run not a Race".

Bailey is living proof that your condition does not define you. He has addressed audiences up to 6,500 and continues to inspire others to do their best and to try something they thought they could not do – if Bailey can do it, so can they.

AMELIA BUTTERFIELD BCyA

Age: 11

From: Cumbria



Two years ago, inspired by her Dad's long-term health condition, Amelia decided she wanted to raise money for a cancer charity. She set up a small business in school with three friends, first

selling items at break time such as home-made bracelets and jewellery. When they wanted to expand, they asked the Headteacher for a 'business loan' of £10, and a match fund promise. They expanded into 'Icy Friday', a stall selling ice-pops, stationary and bracelets. Amelia returned the business loan after two weeks.

She kept the business a secret from her Dad, who was at this point extremely ill. By July 2016 she was able to present him with a cheque for £250 which they decided to split between Macmillan Cancer Support and St Mary's Hospice. Following the sad loss of her Dad a month later,

Amelia and her friends continue to raise money and to date have raised a total of £485 which will be doubled by the school.

In March, Amelia helped staff to organise the whole school Comic Relief activities, the event raised £1,000. One of the school's past pupils suffered with several brain tumours – Amelia again stepped to the fore to help staff organise a fundraising day of activities, raising over £2,000 so that the child's family could create happy memories with her.

Despite suffering a huge loss in her own life Amelia is always very quick to help others.

ELLIE PAYNE BCyA

Age: 5

From: Somerset



Ellie has suffered from a serious heart condition since birth, having undergone two open heart surgeries and requiring further treatment throughout her life. Ellie's condition has served to inspire her to help others,

resulting in this exceptional little girl, who at just 5-years-old, raising over £33,000 for charity.

To raise funds, she has sold homemade cakes and busked at a market. But most significant is her annual sponsored walk. Attracting the support of local businesses and uniting communities, Ellie's walk sees around 160 children, all of whom are sponsored, walk with her. Ellie has motivated and inspired the entire community, as all the participants' families enjoy a fun day together whilst supporting good causes.

Ellie's achievements have seen her featured in the media, where

she generates awareness of heart conditions and promotes participation in her fundraising. She has featured widely in newspaper and magazine articles, and has been interviewed on live radio twice.

Ellie's positive attitude ensures that her health does not define her. She attacks challenges with enthusiasm and her positive attitude. Her outgoing nature coupled with her confidence sees her embracing every opportunity she gets. She is determined to help others through her fundraising but is also keen to ensure more people are aware of heart conditions.

JENNY COOK BCyA

Age: 14

From: Glasgow, Scotland



Jenny, a Young Ambassador for the two charities she raises money for – Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity and The Catherine McEwan Foundation, was diagnosed with Ulcerative Colitis, a type of

Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) when she was just four-years-old. Following numerous hospital visits, at the age of six, Jenny had her first of three major operations to remove her large bowel.

With a commitment to helping other children manage this disease, Jenny became a ‘hospital buddy’, willing to meet and support other children that were going through a tough time coping with IBD. Jenny held her first fundraising event at five, a cheese and wine night at her local primary school, which raised £5,000. To date, Jenny’s fundraising efforts stand at just under £300,000

Jenny has for over nine years set herself fundraising targets and dedicated her time to planning different fundraising events to make these targets happen. Jenny has bag packed, had bake sales, waitressed in restaurants, and started her annual ‘Tea Jenny’, an annual lady’s charity lunch. As Jenny matured she realised the importance of raising awareness and was brave enough to speak about her life and how she copes with her illness at many large charity events, offices or schools often in front of hundreds of people. Discussing a difficult condition, Jenny has encouraged many children not to be ashamed of their illness.

ERIN SPRAY BCyA

Age: 11

From: Cheshire



Inspired by her 19-year-old cousin, who has been suffering from Anorexia for five years, 11-year-old Erin decided to cycle the length of Britain to raise funds for the mental illness charity, Young Minds. Several months ago, Erin said she wanted to 'do something

big on my bike' and suggested cycling from Lands' End to John O'Groats.

Following several practice trips of around 50 miles, it would take Erin three weeks to cycle the 1200 miles all the way to the top of Scotland. Erin was determined to do this to help her cousin who has for a year been hospitalised 400 miles away from her family home in Buckinghamshire. Young Minds is committed to improving the emotional and mental health of children and young people and support parents.

Erin's journey began on 4th August from Lands' End to

Chester, after a short break in Wales she was off again. Erin returned completing her journey on 3rd September, starting her new senior school the very next day. She is one of the youngest people to complete the trip and has raised £5,400 for the charity.

Erin undertook this huge physical challenge, which also required a mental preparation and determination. Erin wants to continue to raise money and awareness for mental health issues in young people. A selfless, inspirational girl who will undertake any challenge she faces with a bright smile and determination.

The amazing children honoured with a British Citizen Youth Award have helped these amazing causes. Congratulations to all involved.



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