

THE Moorsider

KIRKBYMOORSIDE COMMUNITY AWARDS 2025

The annual Community Awards provide an opportunity to acknowledge the positive contributions of individuals and groups locally. Nominations are made by members of the community to acknowledge the contribution of fellow members of the community.

This year's Community Awards were very generously sponsored by Rack Systems Engineering Ltd and Marshall Slingsby Advanced Composites, to whom the Town Council extend enormous thanks. The awards presentation took place on Saturday 27th September in the Memorial Hall. The proceedings began with a wonderful programme of music performed by Kirkbymoorside Town Brass Band. The ceremony was hosted by Angus Ashworth of Ryedale Auctioneers and awards presented by the Town Mayor, Joe Coughlan. There were three categories of awards, 'Voluntary/charity/membership Organisation', Individual or 'Quiet Contributor' and Young Person. Two additional awards were also presented, the *Town Council's Award* for outstanding contributions to the Community of Kirkbymoorside, and a *Special Recognition Award*.

VOLUNTARY / CHARITY / MEMBERSHIP ORGANISATION OF THE YEAR

There were many deserving nominations for the 'Voluntary / Charity / Membership Organisation of the Year' and the judges had a difficult job selecting the three shortlisted nominees:

Kirkbymoorside Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club In the wake of the devastating floods brought by Storm Darragh in December 2024, the very newly formed Kirkbymoorside Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club rallied round to support those affected and assist with the emergency flood response efforts.

Kirkbymoorside In Bloom For the team's fabulous floral displays that promote the town, provide environmental benefits and improve the wellbeing of residents and visitors alike.

Kirkbymoorside Litter Picking Network The absence of litter provides a clear and immediate impression of pride in the area we live in. The result of these efforts also has positive impact on our environment, both for people and wildlife. This is an exercise that benefits everyone and is easily taken for granted, so thank you.



The 'Voluntary/Charity/Membership Organisation of the Year' was awarded to **Kirkbymoorside In Bloom**.

The hard work of volunteers and Gaynor De Barr's vision has made a great difference to the appearance of the town and has created a 'green highway' for pollinators through the town centre. The floral displays and the annual Open Gardens give a great deal of pleasure to residents and visitors, making the town an attractive place to visit and to shop and instilling a great sense of pride in the community.



THE BESPOKE 'KIRKBYMOORSIDE' AWARD

Each of the category winners received a bespoke suncatcher. The Town Council commissioned artist Jane Pinder of the Stained Glass Centre in Cayton, Scarborough to create fused glass suncatchers to replicate the image of the Kirkbymoorside rooftops, photographed by JRB Photographic.

INDIVIDUAL OR 'QUIET CONTRIBUTOR' OF THE YEAR

The Individual or 'Quiet Contributor' of the Year is about the unsung heroes, those individuals that go the extra mile to help others and make such a positive contribution to our community. This year's shortlisted nominees were:

Andy Carnall for his active participation in the flood response efforts following Storm Darragh in December 2024 and considerable involvement in arrangements for the Kirkbymoorside Music Festival 2025. Now a member of the Memorial Hall Committee, he is working hard fundraising.

Dee Dowkes has been cataloguing her rambles throughout and around Kirkbymoorside for many years. She has chronicled the landscape, its history and heritage in photographs and words. She shares her observations on social media for others to enjoy, reminisce or follow in her footsteps, keeping memories alive.

Linda Knight is committed to supporting the Kirkbymoorside community library and has adopted the role of leadership, applying for grants and raising funds, organising the volunteers, making the library a successful venue and a welcoming community space. She was also actively involved in setting up the recently constituted Kirkbymoorside Community Support Group.



The 2025 Individual or 'Quiet Contributor' of the Year was awarded to **Dee Dowkes**.

Dee's walks are available for a wider audience to enjoy at www.kirkbymoorsidetown.co.uk

Her stamina, knowledge, humour and generosity of spirit will no doubt be inspirational to many.

Event photographs courtesy of Colin Dilcock.

YOUNG PERSON OF THE YEAR



The 2025 Young Person of the Year was awarded to **Lizzie Myers**.

Young people are the future of Kirkbymoorside, and the Town Council is delighted to present this award to a young woman who has taken on the role of Girl Guiding District Commissioner since 2023. This involves visiting Girl Guide units in the Ryedale area, welcoming and inducting new volunteers and empowering girls and young women to be their best. She has been busy helping with four Girl Guide units, with the addition of the Kirkbymoorside Rainbows in January 2025. She helps plan and run meetings, trips and holidays to ensure each young individual achieves their potential and encourages girls with life skills and independence. Her help was invaluable at the last division Guide camp this summer where she organised the menu, shopped and catered for 55 people for 4 days!

Lizzie is a very committed young woman setting a great example to all members of Girl Guiding. She shows a quiet confidence and is currently working to achieve her Queens Guide Award which is very challenging without the extra commitment of weekly meetings and holidays.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

This year the Town Council offered 'Special Recognition' to **Nick and Dian** from The Moorside Store. It remains strong in our memory that Nick and Dian provided considerable support to the community during the pandemic with their home deliveries throughout lock down. Nick and Dian are always welcoming, offering their customers a smile and taking the time to chat, providing vital social interaction to so many. The Moorside Store also has a community and environmental ethos, selling local produce on behalf of local charities and reducing packaging waste and food miles.

THE TOWN COUNCIL'S AWARD

The Kirkbymoorside Town Council's Award is a discretionary award, determined outside the bounds of the nomination categories, as commendation of outstanding contributions to the Community of Kirkbymoorside.



This year **Jean Illingworth** was the recipient of the Town Council's Award.

Jean has shown boundless enthusiasm, energy and dynamism in raising the profile of the town and showcasing Kirkbymoorside. In the last twelve months alone Jean has been involved in multiple community events and activities including the 2024 Community Celebration event, the flood response efforts following Storm Darragh, organising the Community Christmas Dinner, supporting the 10k event and co-ordinating this year's Kirkbymoorside Music Festival. In her role as lead of the recently constituted Kirkbymoorside Community Support Group she has successfully applied for a substantial amount for grant funding for the multi-faceted project to promote Kirkbymoorside.

"I'm honoured and delighted to have been awarded the Kirkbymoorside Town Council's Overall Community Achievement Award for 2025. We have an amazing community in Kirkbymoorside, and I want to thank all the wonderful people who work along with me to help keep our community thriving, vibrant, and a great place to live."

Jean Illingworth

WINDOW DRESSING COMPETITION

As usual the local businesses did not disappoint with their creative Autumn window displays in an effort to win the Lex Cup, kindly provided by Kitching Walker. As the winner of the 2024 Best Christmas Window Display, Kirsty Taylor from *Love My Hair* was invited to judge the best window display, together with the Town Mayor. The three shortlisted entries were *Jems Hair Design*, *Penny Bank Cafe* and *Something Special*.



Congratulations to **Something Special** for their creative and quirky interpretation of quite literally 'falling into autumn'.

KIRKBYMOORSIDE AWARD ROLLCALL

Full report available on the Town Council website

- 2024 Nigel Richardson, *Town Council's Award*
Kirkbymoorside Community Library,
Voluntary/charity Organisation of the Year
Kirkbymoorside Town Brass Band,
Membership Group of the Year
Michael Stephens, *Quiet Contributor*
Annabel Kent, *Young Person of the Year*
2023 Tatyana Heard *"Freedom of the Town"*



Community Awards

- 2023 Pam Towler & Sean Kay
2022 Helen Gundry & John Warriner
2021 Charlotte Frost & Katy Gallagher
2020 John & Chris Simmonds
2019 Sarah Louise Ashworth
2018 Kirkbymoorside Fire Fighters:
Chris Clark, Tom Eddery, Ben Gamble,
John Harland, Philip Kay, Sean Kay,
Ryan Ravis, Adrian Sleightholme &
John Watson
2017 John Woodward
2016 Graham Jemison and Stuart Webster
2015 June Cook MBE
2014 Sarah Woodward and Ted Clarke
2013 No nominations made
2012 Paul Magson

TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS

The Town Council aims to support as many local groups and initiatives as possible and has a modest budget each year to do so. So far this year the Town Council has contributed to the following: £800 to *Next Steps'* for their walk & talk therapy sessions in Kirkbymoorside; £800 to *Friends of Kirkbymoorside Community Primary School* towards the 2025 Wow! Day expenses; £1764 to upgrade the flood lights at the *Bowling Club*; £419 for traffic management costs associated with the *Town Band's* 'Bandamonium' event.

Every year the Town Council also commits to expenses associated with local initiatives and events that benefit the community. These include support of *In Bloom* with a £90 contribution towards the cost of maintaining the planting around the war memorial in All Saint's churchyard, as well as all costs associated with the hanging baskets. These include the cost of planting, installation, watering and then removal and storage, @ £2400 per year.

Provision is also made to cover the cost of traffic management for the annual 10k event @ £1,458 and Remembrance Day Parade @ £568.



Are you going to be alone
on Christmas Day?
Please come and join us at the
**Kirkbymoorside
Community
Christmas Dinner**
for a *free*, cooked Christmas dinner,
good company, live music and a quiz*
Kirkbymoorside Memorial Hall
December 25th 11.30am - 4.00pm
Booking Essential
Book via the Kirkbymoorside Town Website
www.kirkbymoorsidetown.co.uk/community-christmas-dinner
or pick up a booking form at the Library,
the Moorside Stores or Something Special
[*open to anyone living within 6 miles of the town]
Organised by the Kirkbymoorside Community Support Group
Funded by the good people of Kirkbymoorside



MOORSIDE COHOUSING (MooCH)

Cohousing - What is it, and who is it for?

The short answer is it's for anyonesingles, couples, families and friends who would like to be part of a neighbourhood community where they can give and receive support. This might simply be sharing meal or having a coffee, gardening together, and much more. If you are that kind of person and interested in how it works come along to one of our monthly coffee meet ups at Ginger Hall Café & Courtyard on the first Saturday of the month, at 10am, to chat about how the group sees this working for Kirkbymoorside. You are welcome to come without any obligation at this stage.

Contact Ange Whiles on 07810492153 or email angelawhiles@gmail.com if you want to find out more.

Cohousing began in Denmark and has spread to various parts of the world. It first appeared in the UK in the late 1990s (see Wikipedia for a fuller explanation). Cohousing is often new build but it is equally possible in a neighbourhood with a base available (Ginger Hall). Where better for it to flourish than in a friendly town like ours?