



Third Sector Awards 2024



Thursday November 28th

***The Parkville Bar Restaurant & Hotel
296 Glasgow Rd
Blantyre
G72 9DG***



Message from Lauren McKechnie, Chairperson of VASLAN

The Third Sector Awards is a time to come together as a community, to pause from our daily work, and reflect on the outstanding contributions being made across South Lanarkshire. Tonight, we celebrate the remarkable individuals, groups, and organisations who work tirelessly to support some of our most vulnerable people, to build social connections, and to foster vibrant, green spaces and innovative social enterprises.

These efforts collectively strengthen the social and economic fabric of South Lanarkshire, contributing to an ecosystem where everyone has the chance to thrive.

Congratulations to each of the nominees and winners—your dedication, resilience, and hard work have earned this recognition, especially in light of the immense challenges we continue to face. It's a testament to the strength and spirit within our sector that you've pushed forward, innovating and adapting to meet the ever-changing needs of our communities.

Being here tonight is not only an acknowledgment of the challenges overcome but also of the lasting impact each of you has on the lives of individuals and the overall wellbeing of South Lanarkshire.

On behalf of VASLAN, I want to thank each person and organisation here for the crucial role you play. Your individual and collective contributions are vital, forming a network of support that makes South Lanarkshire a place of resilience, opportunity, and hope. This evening is for you—to celebrate all that you do and all that we accomplish together.

Thank you for your commitment and for being such a pivotal part of this community.

Nominees Third Sector Awards 2024

Environmental and Outdoor Activity

1

Friends of Stonehouse Park

Friends of Stonehouse Park run free events within the park for families to attend such as: Easter Hunt, themed story telling with related arts and crafts on the recently restored bandstand, Duck Race during Gala week, Bandstand Beatz, Halloween and Elf Day.

2

PAMIS Lanarkshire

Pamis work with people with profound and multiple learning disabilities and complex health needs. Access and opportunities are poor for this group - across Scotland, this is something PAMIS have worked hard to change especially in Lanarkshire.

3

Calderwood Green Spaces Volunteers

The group were set up to raise the profile of the green spaces that make up part of the Calderwood Estate including the new Glen Esk Pocket Park, to campaign for and support the existing facilities as well as to link up the various green spaces, making it easier for people to access Calderglen Country Park by foot and bicycle.

Volunteer of the Year

1

Ray Ryan

Ray has dedicated over 20 years to volunteering for Hamilton District Youth Theatre. Ray has worn many hats in this time, starting as a parent helper to a committee member, to treasurer and now chair of the management committee.

2

Carole Forrest

Carole Forrest is an outstanding individual who gives tirelessly to SSAFA (Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen's Families Association) in the 3 roles that she undertakes for the Lanarkshire Branch: Branch Treasurer, Branch Support Coordinator and Caseworker.

3

Anne Alston

Anne has been volunteering with Larkhall and District Volunteer Group (LDVG) for over 11 years and throughout that time has taken responsibility for various roles.

Nominees Third Sector Awards 2024

Partnership & Collaboration

1

Hamilton Judo Club Inclusion Development Programme

In February 2024, the Club launched the Inclusion Development Programme in partnership with South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (SLLC) and South Lanarkshire Disability Sport (SLDS).

This innovative programme offers opportunities for schools and Social Care Centres to work with the coaches and volunteers on fundamental motor skills using judo as the focus.

2

Agape Wellbeing/ The Village Centre

Both of these organisations have offered tremendous projects in TATTA (free Arts course Held in both The Village Centre and Agape Wellbeing) and Roads to Recovery (free yoga), and Time to Tackle, breaking down barriers and the stigma of mental health and social isolation.

3

Blue Triangle & GIVIT

The GIVIT youth recovery steering group was set up in partnership with South Lanarkshire ADP and Blue Triangle. The GIVIT was set up to provide support for young people from 13 – 25 years in a recovery from substance use.

Nominees Third Sector Awards 2024

Enterprise and Sustainability

1

Swaddle

Swaddle is a trusted, well-established, first choice destination for preloved children's clothes, toys, and equipment.

2

LDVG Transport Department

In 2018, a consultation in the Strutherhill area of Larkhall identified transport as a major barrier for older people accessing food shops.

Funding was secured to pilot a shopping service, where volunteer drivers not only provided transport support but helped with carrying shopping.

3

St Mary's for All SCIO

St. Mary's for All in Hamilton exemplifies the effective use of enterprise and sustainability to sustain vital community services and achieve significant social impact.

Grassroots Organisation

1

LEAP

LEAP was set up by local older people to deliver health and education services aimed specifically at their own age group.

2

The Whitehill Activity Group

Whitehill Activity Group are a grassroots entity deeply rooted in the lives of the people of Whitehill, understanding their challenges and aspirations on a profound level.

3

Fibro Friends Lanarkshire

Fibro Friends Lanarkshire is a local group, recently set up, to highlight the plight of people suffering from Fibromyalgia and other hidden disabilities.

Nominees Third Sector Awards 2024

Community Champion

1

Gilbert "Gilly" Feron

Gilly joined LEAP in 1993 and immediately became a shining light within the organisation. A well-known figure and champion of the local community, Gilly was appointed Chairperson in 1994 and continues to hold this position.

2

Adam Patrick

Adam has been volunteering his time as a minibus driver for over 15 years. His generosity has allowed many of Lanark's elderly residents to attend day trips.

3

Miriam Aitken

Miriam Aitken is the Activities Co-ordinator for Stonehouse Jubilee Club. She works hard organising the programme of activities for members.

Young Person Achievement Award

1

Matt Mitchell

Matt, who is 23 years old, joined MorphFit Gentle Movement Project just 2 years ago on a voluntary basis, since then he has made a significant impact on the organisation, team and service users alike.

2

Brooke Carracher

Brooke was born with Spina Bifida and is a wheelchair user. She has never allowed this be a barrier to getting involved and helping others. Brooke has been a volunteer at SOC for almost 3 years and enjoys getting involved in the variety of the programs and classes on offer, both as a volunteer and participant.

3

Charlotte Lily Meek

Charlotte Lily is the chief fundraiser for SMILE Children's Charity. She is 12 years old, has an undiagnosed genetic condition, is fully wheelchair dependent, has various medical needs and is autistic but nothing holds her back from supporting SMILE!

All Nominations 2024

We would like to thank everyone who took the time to nominate an individual or an organisation

Grassroots Organisation

North Halfway Hall
Terminal One Youth Center
Blantyre Soccer Academy
Kick Mental Health
Fibro Friends Lanarkshire
Trust Jack Foundation
The Machan Trust
The Whitehill Activity Group
East Kilbride Credit Union
LEAP
Carluke Men's Shed

Enterprise and Sustainability

Waist not Want not
St Mary's for All
LDVG
Coalburn Miners Welfare Charitable Society
Swaddle

Environmental and Outdoor Activity

Move Forward Movement
Friends of Stonehouse Park
Get Walking Lanarkshire
PAMIS Lanarkshire
Calderwood Green Spaces Volunteers

Young Person Achievement Award

U Turn Peer Education Group
Charlotte Lily Meek
Jack McLellan
Stuart Wylie
Matt Mitchell
HJCI - Young Volunteer Group
Brooke Carracher

Community Champion

Trust Jack Foundation
Deaf Services Lanarkshire
Move Forward Movement
Miriam Aitken
Waist not Want not
Louise Keegan
Gilbert (Gilly) Feron
Laura Fleming
Tom Kennedy
Adam Patrick

Volunteer of the Year

Ray Ryan
Jimmy Whelan
Jack McLellan
Andrew Clayton/ Brian Murphy
Ellis Palazzon
Gemma Ramsay
Beatrice Josephine Stott
Gary McVicar
James McLaughlin
Anne Alston
David Kelly
Maureen Peutherer
Carole Forrest
John Anderson
Carluke Men's Shed
Christine Brown
Sammi Mitchell
Linda Craig

Partnership & Collaboration

Rail 74 Community Rail Partnership
Connected East Kilbride
Agape Wellbeing & The Village
Centre
Blue Triangle & The Givit
Hamilton Judo Club Inclusion Development Programme
EKin & East Kilbride Community Trust



THE PARKVILLE HOTEL

Menu

Starters

Lentil Soup with a fresh baked bread roll.

**Tower of haggis, neeps & tatties,
nip of whisky cream**

Mains

**Pan seared chicken breast with a
cracked black pepper sauce**

**Traditional steak pie, slow braised beef in a
rich gravy topped with puff pastry**

Served with seasonal potatoes and vegetables

Tea or freshly ground coffee

Thank You

To all our judges on the panel for taking time to evaluate and select our award recipients

**Yvonne McBride
Jane Masters
Carol Loch
Peter Igbinosa
Tejesh Mistry
Lauren McKechnie**



**Thank you to
Peter Igbinosa of Move Forward Movement
for compèring the awards**



**A special thank you to Lanark Men's Shed
for creating the trophies for this year's
awards ceremony**



**Thank you to Tunnock's for supporting
the 2024 third sector awards and supplying
delicious Tunnock's treats**



**Thank you to The Parkville Hotel for
hosting the awards**