

Braintree District Museum Success at Share Museums East Volunteer Awards!



Braintree District Museum celebrated the fantastic dedication and support it receives from all of its volunteers as the Museum secured two awards at the first annual Share Museums East Volunteer Awards in Bury St Edmunds last night.

With 87 nominations from 46 different museums around the Eastern region competition was fierce. Braintree District Museum had put forward nominees in four of the seven award categories: Behind the Scenes, Front of House, Going the Extra Mile and Bringing Innovation. The hard work of all the Museum staff and volunteers was recognized with the achievement of two awards at the ceremony. The Museum was the only institution fortunate enough to receive more than one award.

Vanessa Green, nominated in the category of Bringing Innovation, was recognized for the outstanding work she has done in transforming awareness and perception of the Museum across the county using her marketing skills. Without the contribution of her time and effort the many exhibitions and events held at the Museum throughout the year would not have been as great a success. In particular her work on improving the Museum newsletter has ensured that all of the Museum's supporters can engage with Museum news and upcoming events.

Karen Wade and Lynne Mahoney were highly commended in the category of Front of House for the superb work they do in greeting visitors to the Museum. They have worked tirelessly to ensure that all of the Museums' customers, whether old or young, feel valued and welcomed. Their efforts in improving the display and merchandising in the Museum Gift Shop have been invaluable, with a representative from the museum describing the pair as the Museum's 'retail "supremos"'.

The Awards highlighted the vital role volunteers play in our local communities and how easy it is to contribute your skills to improve life in your region. Share Museums East estimates that the cost of unpaid volunteer work in Eastern museums would amount to £6 million. Braintree District Museum would not be able to continue the wonderful work it does in preserving and promoting the District's heritage without the support of its many volunteers. The Museum Directors and Staff would like to say a huge thank you to all of our volunteers and congratulations to this year's winners.



The Museum team at the Awards Ceremony, right to left: Graham Herriott, Vanessa Green, Karen Wade, Lynne Mahoney and Claudine Bone

Braintree District Museum
Open Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 4pm. Adults £3; Conc £1.50; Under 16's Free.
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