

COVID Awards 2020

Nominee:	Katie Davies	ID No:	018
Volunteers with [if applicable]:			
Length of service in role	Age	Individual/Group Award	Proposed Category
	19	Individual	
How do they give their time to the COVID-19 response?			
Volunteering during COVID 19 pandemic, delivering wellbeing food packages to vulnerable, assisting with reopening of town centre.			
Please describe your nominee's service and achievements during the COVID-19 response in more detail:			
<p>Katie is an outstanding young person. She has a huge heart and the desire to help out in any situation and this has been demonstrated during the challenging times brought about by COVID 19 and the affect it has had on the Dudley borough.</p> <p>Katie started the beginning of lockdown as volunteering to deliver food packages and wellbeing packages to the vulnerable and shielded member of the community. This involved putting herself on the frontline to ensure that people who were unable to get out due to being high risk were able to survive with basic essentials.</p> <p>Katie contacted me a few weeks into lockdown and asked what she should do to help support the emergency services during the pandemic. Unfortunately due to restrictions this was very limited. Katie went on to state that they needed to be thanked for going above and beyond and set about baking a rainbow cake that she delivered to Chief Supt. Sally Bourner and the local policing team at Brierley Hill Police Station.</p> <p>Katie has also applied to Russells Hall Hospital to volunteer her service due to the increase in calls to the switch board and the need for extra support at the hospital.</p> <p>As lockdown began to ease and the High Street and shops began to reopen the non-essential shops, Katie approached Halesowen BID and offered her support. As always very relaxed....if there is anything you want help with let me know?</p> <p>The BID team has got to know Katie through her position at Halesowen College and recognised her as being a valuable addition to the team. Re-opening the town wasn't going to be easy, with new social distancing measures and one way systems that visitors would have to get used to. Katie would help people around the town guiding them in the right direction acting as an ambassador for the town and soon became a regular and popular member of the team and town centre community. She would visit local businesses to check if they needed help with anything, putting herself out to help others.</p> <p>Halesowen town centre is well known for the beautiful floral displays throughout the summer months, due to volunteer groups shielding, Halesowen in Bloom did not go ahead this year. However Katie took it upon herself to plant out some of the troughs in Halesowen town and tends to them several times each week when she attends the town to volunteer.</p> <p>Whilst volunteering for the BID she has recognised vulnerable people that need assistance. When arriving into town via the bus station she saw a man collapsed on the floor, rather worse for wear, she quickly contacted Ambo and the centre security to help her get the gentleman medical attention.</p> <p>During lockdown Katie also recognised that it would be good to have a Street Watch team for the town centre, she therefore liaised with the local police team and soon arranged a training session along with several other local people and began patrolling</p>			

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Halesowen town and surrounding area reporting any issues of concern to the BID and LA.

Katie's confidence has grown from strength to strength. She engages with local members of the community, helps them to where they need to go. She is a valued member of the team and all of the traders recognise and thank her for the fantastic work she is doing in the community.

She is an absolute STAR ****