



Photograph by Lorraine Fitch, L & L Photography and Video

Sarah Telford, Chief Executive Officer of Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswold Districts welcomed Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal to the Charity's Long Service Awards on Tuesday 9th April 2019 at The Subscription Rooms in Stroud. The Awards recognised ten staff members and fourteen volunteers who had worked within Citizens Advice for over 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years. Two of our volunteers had volunteered with Citizens Advice for 32 years each.

Ann Horner, a volunteer with 32 years long service stated *"The Princess Royal's contribution both in her speech to us and by talking to us individually, showed what a broad knowledge she has of all we try to do. Her visit was a wonderful way to celebrate the many years of work advising and also the history of the service and, of course, the need to continue raising funds to maintain this vital charity"*.

Her Royal Highness has been Patron of Citizens Advice since 1990 and continues to be a fantastic ambassador for the service.



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We also celebrated our 60th year anniversary of supporting local residents in Stroud and 78th year anniversary in the Cotswolds, both major milestones in our Charities history.

The event was attended by Mr Robert Bernays OBE, Vice Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire, Mr Charles Berkeley, High Sheriff of Gloucestershire, Cllr Margaret Poulton, Deputy Mayor of Stroud, Cllrs Powell and Miles, Stroud District Council, Cllr Gravells, Gloucestershire County Council and David Drew MP.

Mr Charles Berkeley, High Sheriff of Gloucestershire stated *“I was delighted to attend the Awards ceremony for CAB. The dedication the staff and volunteers put in to help many citizens in Stroud and the Cotswolds is commendable. It was lovely to meet some of the staff and volunteers and to hear the obvious enjoyment they get from giving this vital citizen advice.”*

David Drew MP stated *“I was so pleased to be at the Awards Ceremony to see so many old friends given long service certificates. Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswolds remains one of the best CABs in the country and it was great to see the worthy recognition given to so many people for so many years commitment to the Bureau. I’ve been proud to be a Trustee in the past and be able to work alongside such superb individuals.”*

Funder representatives in attendance at the event included Gloucestershire County Council, Stroud District Council, Cotswold District Council, St James’s Place and the National Lottery Community Fund.

A posy was presented to Her Royal Highness by Miss Lilly Eleanor Ransley-Hayes on behalf of Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswolds.

Marios Leptos, Head of Services at Citizens Advice said *“It was a pleasure to represent the Witness Service and celebrate the 60th anniversary of Citizens Advice Stroud and the 78th anniversary of Citizens Advice Cotswold. “It was wonderful to see many long-serving volunteers recognised for their dedicated work. I’m incredibly grateful to have been given the opportunity to attend the event and meet the people who have had such a positive and important impact on the people of Stroud and Cotswold.”*

Juliet Kilty, Chair of Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswolds stated *“It was a fantastic day for all the staff and volunteers and really well supported by our founders whose support we rely on to keep this vital service available to the residents of Stroud and the Cotswolds.”*

Sarah Telford, Chief Executive Officer added *“We wanted to celebrate what we achieve together as a team across Stroud and the Cotswolds and also the individual long service of our staff and volunteers. Our team are incredibly committed and dedicated to supporting the local community to resolve a range of issues. In 2018/19 our staff and volunteer team supported 5,257 clients to overcome 18,389 issues. The*

Trustees and I are incredibly proud of our fantastic staff and volunteer team, and the difference they make to residents on a daily basis.”

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For more information contact:

Diane Elsdon, Executive Assistant
Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswold Districts
Tel: 01453 758252