



Camberley Armed Forces Day

- Saturday 17th June 2023 -

Meet Our Camberley Heroes...

All Heroes were nominated by a member of the public. Have a read of how our Heroes have made an impact on others and the community...

SMJ Media Group CIC

The SMJ Media Team are all Camberley Heroes. They are a group of talented volunteers who have given up and continue to give up hours of their time, efforts and expertise in helping local businesses, community groups and charities. They offer free promotional podcasts, videos and support to raise awareness of products, events and other useful information. They also use their social media channels to further support these causes and are proactive in generating a buzz and interest in all things local. SMJ Media are focused on supporting good causes and are very proactive and passionate in everything that they do. SMJ Media love working with others to make our communities stronger and more connected.

Nathan Hartley

Nathan works for Avidity Care, a provider of Health and Social home care services, as well as business and community support in terms of recruitment and training. Nathan is a real advocate for the term 'care' and has helped support Camberley Town Centre in delivering a number of 'Dementia

Friends' training to front line businesses, adding to Camberley's goal to be more inclusive. Nathan also continues to engage with the town centre in supporting events and national campaigns such as 'Dementia Awareness Week.'

Chloe Ching

Chloe is the Assistant Manager of Boots Camberley. Chloe has recently been very vocal and proactive in supporting the town centre and Policing Teams on trying to combat anti social behaviour within her store, but also across the rest of the town. Chloe has taken the time to increase her own knowledge and awareness in how she can better support partner agencies and has made some really great progress, whilst suggesting and implementing new solutions and ideas. Chloe is very passionate about what she does, putting her customers and colleagues at the forefront of how she works and is someone who could really lead important conversations on how the town can work together to benefit the whole community.

The Atrium Security Team

The Atrium Security Team deserved to be nominated as Camberley Heroes as they demonstrate many positive behaviours, are extremely hardworking and show excellent communication skills with all other key Camberley stakeholders, in driving a safe environment for our many Camberley tenants, visitors and community.

The whole team care passionately about the town and this is demonstrated each and every day... the team receive many positive messages from their tenants and the local police force on their co-operation, commitment and diligence.

The Atrium's Centre Manager has commented that it is a pleasure to work with them at The Atrium.

Gail Lacey

Gail is the owner and Manager of Carers with Care, a domiciliary Care company that started in 2011. They are a friendly and passionate company that strives to go above and beyond for all of their service users and their families. Gail ensures, with her passion and commitment that Carers with Care is not just a name – it's a family. Gail works tirelessly to make sure that Carers With Care service users are treated with respect, kindness and extra thought and all of her team follow this high level of standard. Gail has given back to the community through charitable events and recently also supported the Homes for Ukraine scheme. Most recently and impressively, Gail went above and beyond to actually help save a life.

Richard Mundy

Richard is the Owner and Manager of Lovely Cards, Camberley. Richard is seen as a Camberley Treasure and is fully deserving of recognition in being so. Richard and his shop are much loved by so many local people and the community are never shy in expressing their care, positivity and thanks towards him. Richard receives praise for being a kind, caring, friendly, loyal and helpful business man, with a shop full of goodies for everyone and every need. You only have to look at social media

comments on anything shared about his business to see the love. Comments include reference to how people enjoy simply chatting to Richard, how much of a pleasure it is to visit him, how his shop is lovely and how Richard always has a smile for his customers. Richard has been described by customers as 'a top bloke' and 'a gem.' Richard always makes an effort to get involved with things happening in the town and is always looking at ways to support the local economy, being a real beacon for the 'Shop Local' tag line. Thank you to Richard for being a positive and hardworking member of Camberley.

Kate Praine

Kate is a volunteer Division Commissioner at Camberley Division Girl Guides and has been for three years. Kate has worked tirelessly to support District Commissioners and Leaders through the challenging time of Covid. Covid left many of us struggling to restart Girl Guiding units in the face of strict venue constraints and her kind, gentle and straight forward management style was perfect for the occasion. She lit the way forward when other colleagues were emotionally and physically drained. Kate did it with her thoroughness and professionalism. These sentiments about Kate felt by many volunteers and Kate is highly thought of by many. Thank you Kate, for your service to Girlguiding and for what you also do in our wider community.

Karen Jackson

Karen is a dedicated Camberley Hero, who is committed to enhancing inclusion and support for deaf children so they can thrive socially and academically. She founded the charity Chloe and Sophie's Special Ears Fund (CSSEF) and the charity shop "Just for Kids," located in Camberley, which is a wonderful resource offering high-quality baby equipment, toys, and clothing at affordable prices. As a parent of a deaf child, I deeply appreciate Karen's efforts to support and raise awareness for the local deaf community. CSSEF, inspired by Karen's daughters Chloe and Sophie, started with a humble goal of improving Chloe's classroom environment to give her better reasonable adjustments to make the school environment more inclusive and comfortable for a deaf child to thrive. Now, CSSEF as a small local charity has grown and provides free sign language classes to parents of deaf children. Equipment and facilitates access to learning resources. Karen is a true community hero, raising funds which fill gaps in government support for the benefit of deaf children in Surrey Heath. Through CSSEF small local charity, Karen has created a thriving network of families with deaf children, offering social activities and inclusive experiences of days out together with other deaf children and BSL interpreter Theatre and entertainment events in a communal fun network of families where everyone feels included and valued. Camberley is fortunate to have Karen Johnson of the local CSSEF charity and their Camberley based excellent Just for Kids charity shop, and I am grateful for their invaluable contributions. Thank you, Karen, and everyone at CSSEF, for being our community heroes you have really made a wonderful inclusive network that have enhanced deaf children's lives. Well done!

Jill Todd and Emma Sheridan

Jill has been working on The Square's Cleaning Team for a few years working her way up from entry level to be Senior Supervisor. She has a 'can do' attitude and is a natural problem solver who can immediately see the response actions needed to resolve a growing situation or incident. She is a loyal and a great team player who puts herself out for her colleagues and the shopping centre.

These positive traits manifested themselves when the centre suffered an unexpected breakdown of the smoke vent compressed air system which holds the centre's life safety system in the closed position on the first night of a three day Bank Holiday weekend.

The problem was that if the compressor fails, the fail-safe is the smoke vents in the glass roof open. This means if there is compressor failure, person's lives are not at risk through smoke not being able to escape at high level during a smoke or fire incident.

This incident occurred over a Bank Holiday weekend when heavy rain storms were forecast. The incident lasted three days before the necessary parts were sourced and fitted. When the situation occurred in the early hours of the morning Jill became aware of the problem and she came in before the centre opened to help getting buckets, matting and other items in place and to clear the water on the floor. During the daytime the rain fell in through the open vents, Jill threw herself headlong into operating water collection equipment – the scrubber drier - in the malls working closely with the on-site team. She was drenched with the incoming rain but she did not stop until the storm had passed and the mall floors were dry.

The Duty Manager that weekend was Emma Sheridan, newly arrived at The Square, as Site Services Manager. Emma spent the entire Bank Holiday weekend organizing and dynamically risk assessing the ongoing situation and making changes and adjustments so the shopping centre could operate safely as possible.

When it was necessary to close certain sections of the shopping centre – where there were open vents immediately over store shop doorways and on malls with slopes – she took forward the correct procedures with support managers advice.

Despite Emma's working hours being extended on every day by this ongoing incident, she worked almost around the clock on site, supporting the on site team, liaising with tenants and customers with enquiries and comments.

This is the same incident but the dedication to duty and sense of comradeship that the activities and attitude of both Jill and Emma showed during this three day period were totally exceptional and highly commended. They both showed strong team commitment and led by example which had a positive impact on the rest of the shopping centre duty team.

The Square's Centre Manager is extremely grateful for their involvement and enthusiasm to resolve the problem and to minimise the impact by clear leadership and problem solving over this three day period. They undoubtedly made the outcome the best it could be. They were both exhausted at the end of their three day shift pattern and deserve this recognition.

Kimberley Court

Kimberley is the super star Store Manager at Vodafone in Camberley. Kimberley already won Employee of The Year at the Town Centre Business Awards last September but still continues to shine in her work and for her customers. Kimberley puts her customers and the local people of Camberley who come in to see her first. She is always receiving positive feedback and reviews that say how helpful, supportive, knowledgeable and committed she is. Kimberley deals with customers in a way that makes such a big difference to them and makes them feel confident. Kimberley is a friendly and kind face in Camberley and someone who the town and businesses should be proud of. The saying goes that not all heroes wear capes and this is so true of Kimberley.

Dipak Shah

Dipak is the well known owner and face of H&R News on Camberley High Street. H & R News has been around for many years and is a family run, independent business with Community at the heart of everything. It is predominantly a convenience store but also provides additional services such as newspaper deliveries, pay point and much more. They pride themselves in providing a wide range of products and introducing new flavours regularly. The store is at the heart of the High Street and has a large number of frequent customers who we have built a great relationship with. Dipak is a family orientated man who is very adventurous and confident. This is highlighted by the number of national awards he and his business have already won. Dipak is the friendly face of Camberley, always willing to go above and beyond for his customers, the community and his fellow business owners. Without Dipak serving the community like he does, many people would miss it. Dipak fills an important gap in support, loyalty and passion within the town.

Congratulations and thank you again to all of our Camberley Heroes and everyone else who has made and continues to make an impact to our community!