



Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex, Mrs Susan Pyper,

started the speeches explaining a little about the prestigious award itself and went on to thank the volunteers. Afterwards, the Deputy Lieutenant, Caroline Nicholls, read out the Citation.



Then, the President of Heene Community Association made a speech and proudly accepted the award on behalf of the Centre. Elizabeth Snook talked about the history of the Centre and thanked all the volunteers. This is the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK.

Sir Peter Bottomley attended the event with the Mayor of Worthing and many other dignitaries. Sir Peter wrote a piece in the Worthing Herald, dated 10th October 2019.



“The Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service was awarded to Heene Community Centre earlier in the summer. It is part of the fabric of the local area and

the charitable work it does to support those locally is greatly appreciated. The classes and events it hosts helps bring people together and helps many stay connected who would otherwise feel isolated and alone. Presenting the award to the centre was the Lord-Lieutenant, Mrs Susan Pyper, who said at the time of the announcement that the ‘thriving community centre is truly impressive and inspiring, and there is no doubt that you very much deserve this prestigious award’.

Volunteers of the Centre



After a photo opportunity, the Centre Manager went round to introduce the Lord-Lieutenant to a few of our volunteers and they each told her their interesting stories, including, Mike who has organised the dance sessions for the past 25 years, Joy who has been a volunteer for over 20 years, has run classes here, and is a trustee, Julia who helps out in the office and café several times a week, Kate who has volunteered for many years and is the Treasurer and Vice-Chair, Nigel who has volunteered with the accounts, supports the office and is the Chair of the Trustees and finally, Kevin who supports the Centre with his passionate commitment to running Café one22.

U3A Ukulele Players



Whilst guests arrived, the U3A Ukulele Players performed a medley of tunes. After the speeches, they played the tune ‘Congratulations’, which

was a lovely touch and quite emotional.

At the Heart of the community since 1986