



# WHITEHILL TOWN COUNCIL



## PRESS RELEASE

### Young heroes recognised at Explorers Awards Evening

On Monday, June 24 two explorers from Stormhounds Explorers Scout Unit (1st Blackmoor & Whitehill) received Top Heroes awards following a nomination from their scout leader. Tom Sharkey and Luke Ray received their awards at a special awards evening held in Blackmoor for going out of their way to help fellow explorer and friend Edward King, who is autistic, complete his bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) awards.

Despite having already completed their own Bronze DofE award, the pair wanted to give Edward the chance to also complete the award, so joined him for his two day and one night expedition.

However this wasn't enough for the young explorers. More recently Tom and Luke laced up their boots yet again to help Edward complete a second trek, enabling him to gain his Silver DofE award. This was despite having both already completed their Silver award.

The pair were given their awards by Chloe Foster, ambassador for TopAwards.

Scout leader Trevor Cooper, who also received a Top Hero Award following a nomination from Edward, said: "I'm proud to have such outstanding young people taking an active role in supporting others. This helps the adult leadership team make scouting the inclusive environment it was always meant to be."

Cllr Catherine Clark, Town Mayor of Whitehill and Bordon, was also present at the awards evening to hand out a Silver DofE certificate to explorer Emily Shepherd.



Picture: (Left to right) Town Mayor Cllr Clark, Luke Ray, Tom Sharkey and Emily Shepherd

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