

Axbridge Community Civic Award

2011

Citation

This award is given to **Dennis Bratt** for his outstanding contribution to the community of Axbridge over the past five decades.

In particular, Dennis has been commended for his dedicated work with the British Legion; he is credited with transforming a failing branch of the legion into one which has 68 members today. Within the branch he has fulfilled the role of chairman, branch delegate, parade marshal, welfare officer and caseworker.

Dennis is well known for his work as compère and announcer at innumerable Axbridge events including the annual church fete and Blackberry carnival, and has become something of a legend behind the microphone. Each December, Dennis has been the reason that Father Christmas has turned up to distribute gifts to the children of the town, no matter how cold or wet the weather.

Although he has often been seen 'up front' at events, much of his work for the community has been carried out more quietly, whether it has been work for the youth club or liaising with other youth organisations, helping the elderly and disabled or providing lifts to hospital.

As one of the nominations put it, 'When anything needs doing, Dennis is at the head of the volunteers'. He has been one of those constant and reliable people who are there at the beginning of the day putting up the bunting, and still there at the end of the day, putting the chairs away: a sterling worker for the community.