



Community spirit leads to national award for Tyne & Wear hero

A Securitas Branch Manager from Newbiggin on Sea, has received the coveted Chairman's Award for Contribution to the Community' at the national British Security Industry Association (BSIA) Security Personnel Awards 2014.

David Bone, an active member of Securitas' community team since its creation in 2008, has dedicated countless hours to supporting and developing the team and being a friendly face at his local community events.

The judges heard how, with the support of his branch team, David has supported St Teresa's Hospice in Darlington by providing security for their annual Midnight Walk around Darlington Park. The women-only event raises valuable funding for the hospice and offers participants a midnight stroll around a magical 1.5 mile circuit. In 2013, the event raised in excess of £23,000.

Jane Bradshaw, Chief Executive at the Hospice, said: "It give us peace of mind that the professional support of David and the Securitas team means our walkers are safe during the event, and this allows us to concentrate on raising valuable funds for the Hospice."

David has also been a member of the Royal British Legion for over 20 years, successfully serving as chairman for four. Five years ago, to help the fundraising of the Poppy Appeal, David set about organising a sponsored golf competition. The tournament has since raised over £8,000 for the appeal and, in 2013, boasted the appearance of former England cricketer, Steven Harrison.

As well as David's charitable roles, both with the Securitas Community team and his own personal commitments, David has been a member of the HM Coastguard Team based in Newbiggin by the Sea for five years.

Since joining, he has been involved in some very challenging, but extremely rewarding rescues, coordinating and working closely with the search and rescue helicopters from RAF Boulmer and the other emergency services. Whilst serving with HM Coastguard, David was awarded the Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.

The Award was presented during a glittering ceremony held at the BSIA's annual luncheon in London on 16 July 2014. On receiving the award, David said: "I am extremely proud to be recognised by my industry in this way, although this was not why I carry out this work in the community. I just see it as giving something back."

Brian Riis Nielsen, Securitas Country President, said: "We're very proud of David's achievements and are delighted he's been recognised in this way. Securitas' aim is to protect homes, workplaces and communities and David is a shining example of how our community teams are making a real difference in their local areas."

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