



2nd June 2014

QUEEN HONOURS MAYOR OF BATH'S GUIDES

Members of the Mayor of Bath's Corps of Honorary Guides were delighted to hear they had received a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service for showing local residents and visitors around Bath on their free daily walking tours.

The Award is the highest given to local volunteer groups across the UK and recognises outstanding work done in their own communities. It was created in 2002 to celebrate the anniversary of the Queen's coronation. It is the MBE for volunteer groups.

The Mayor of Bath, Councillor Malcolm Lees said "The ethos of volunteering is very strong in Bath and I'm delighted that the work of my Honorary Guides has been recognised by this Award. They do an excellent job all year round to make the city such a marvellous place for local people and visitors."

Chairman of the Guides, Mike Macklin, said "This is a very special honour for us. This year is our eightieth anniversary and the award is a great tribute to all our Mayor's Guides, past and present."

The Corps will receive a certificate signed by the Queen and a commemorative crystal at a local ceremony.

The Mayor's Guides were established in 1934 by a former Mayor of Bath and local historian, Thomas Sturge Cotterell. There are now over 80 guides and in 2013 they took more than 34,000 people round the city, explaining and describing its historic attractions.

Details of their daily walks around the city and their new twice weekly walks to Sydney Gardens are available at the Visitor Information Centre in Bath and on their website at www.bathguides.org.uk.

The Mayor's Guides will be celebrating the receipt of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service and their 80th anniversary by giving special tours at the end of July describing some of the famous former residents of the city. Details will be shown at www.bathguides.org.uk.

The Charter Trustees are also celebrating the 80th Anniversary of the Guides with a tea party for them in St John's Hospital Courtyard on 17 June, hosted by the new Mayor, Councillor Cherry Beath.