

## Celebrating our amazing volunteers

Congratulations to Swanley Police Cadets who won the Community Safety Award at the Sevenoaks District Council's 2019 Making it Happen Community & Voluntary Awards held on Wednesday 13 February. They were presented the award by Cllr Roddy Hogarth, portfolio holder for Economic & Community Development which incorporates Community Safety.

The cadets meet every Thursday and there are currently 23 young people involved in the scheme. They are learning new skills and have also been out and about in the community volunteering on all sorts of projects. This scheme will give them life skills, confidence and self esteem and an insight into a career in policing.



Chief Insp Nick Finnis, Commander for our District also presented an award to 8yr old Chloe Young who received a special recognition award for her work as a young carer to her severely epileptic brother, looking after him and making sure that he is safe.



The evening was a great success with 12 awards being presented on the evening on various categories, all of which will be in the Council's InShape magazine. Len Goodman was the star presenter alongside former newsreader Peter Sissons.

The Lifetime Award presented by Len Goodman went to Graham Coldman who has helped thousands of vulnerable residents including Domestic Abuse survivors through DAVSS



# New Mental Health Crisis Drop In Service

We are up and running. Following our soft launch on Friday 25 January, our services will be open from Saturday 23 February for Adults and Thursday 28 February for Young People aged 14-18. This service is in partnership with Sevenoaks District Council, North Kent Mind and Citizens Advice.



# Digital Sunset Challenge

On Monday 4 February, the day before National Internet Safety Day we launched our Digital Sunset Challenge at St Pauls School in Swanley in attendance with the Chairman Cllr Pat Bosley, Cllr Roddy Hogarth and PCC Matthew Scott. We delivered the challenge to a further 5 schools that week including parent sessions to challenge young people to turn off all their devices from 7pm.

The CSU are also working with Secondary Schools delivering 3 works shops over 3 weeks by PCSO Lianne Fry, Youth Engagement Officer and Kelly Webb, Community Safety Manager for SDC. These sessions which have been written by Childnet International is a practical educational sexting resource that addresses and questions the sensitive issue of sending sexually explicit messages or photos electronically with 11-16 year olds.

The workshops will be asking young people to step into the shoes of the characters within 'Picture This', they explore the law, impact and consequence of sexting. Which encourages them to contemplate their online behaviour.



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