



Prioritising Wellbeing



NAPA

# Member Awards Ceremony

Friday 1st October 2021



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Support. Inspire. Progress.

# Thank you for attending this year's NAPA Member Awards Ceremony

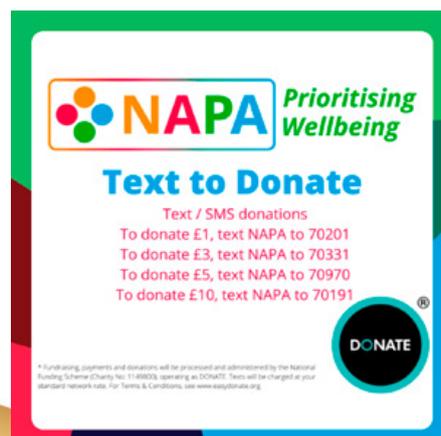
This event recognises the exceptional contributions of our award finalists and acknowledges the dedication and hard work of all our colleagues across the sector. We have an exciting programme planned; with special guests, singing and dancing!

Many thanks to our main sponsor: **Unilever Food Solutions** for supporting the event, to our auction sponsor, **Hallmark Care Homes**, and all our award sponsors – we couldn't do this without you!



*We hope you will have a wonderful afternoon.*

*Hilary* + **Hilary Woodhead**  
Executive Director





## Pam Rhodes - NAPA Patron

For more than thirty years, Pam's been the familiar face of BBC Television's 'Songs of Praise', presenting programmes from tiny country churches to huge outside broadcasts.

She's met everyone from The Pope to Dolly Parton, but her heart is in the sensitive interviews for which she's well-known as those she meets share their stories. Pam is also PATRON of MHA, the UK's largest charity providing specialist Christian care.



## Mike Phillips - NAPA Award Ceremony Host

Mike is a specialist facilitator, trainer,

consultant and coach, an Associate Trainer and LGBT+ Advisor for NAPA.

Mike found his passion for older people's care 54 years ago, as he spent much of his childhood in an care home where his grandmother was Matron. By the

age of three he had worked his way up to the role of unofficial entertainments officer and activities organiser! After breakfast all residents 'enjoyed' taking part in the singing and movement sessions he led in the lounge, full participation was expected of all!

Having originally trained as an actor, he turned his efforts to setting up a charity in his homeland Wales. Mike was Head of Training Services at Dementia UK and has been freelance for 12 years,

working as an associate with the reminiscence project Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today, Meaningful Care Matters and others. He lives in East London with his husband/partner of 30 years and their two cocker spaniels called Tilly and Oscar who manage to keep him on his toes.

Mike is honoured to be hosting the event and celebrating the inspirational work of activity providers across the UK.

## Sarah Branagan - Away from Home, Channel & Strategy Director for Unilever



Unilever is proud to partner with NAPA to continue our work together to bring enjoyment to those receiving care. Our joint mission is to support mental and physical wellbeing through nutritious food and meaningful activities.

Sarah Branagan is the Away From Home, Channel & Strategy Director for Unilever, proud owners of well-known food brands Knorr, Colman's, Marmite and Hellman's, leading Ice Cream and Dessert brands Carte D'or, Walls, Ben & Jerry's and Magnum.

Unilever Away from Home is now responding to our customer's increased need for sanitisation and hygiene through UPro Professional Cleaning and bringing new Lifebuoy sanitisation solutions to the UK.

Sarah has worked for Unilever in Foods for 26 years. In addition to her role as Marketing Director for the UK & Ireland, she also previously led Unilever's global strategy for Elderly Care. Sarah is very passionate about the care sector and the role food, drinks and activities can play in residents' wellbeing. The long-lasting partnership with NAPA helps Unilever to provide the most relevant and valuable support and inspiration to Care providers.



Hallmark Care Homes is delighted to be supporting the NAPA Member Awards Ceremony Auction 2021! NAPA is the only forum for Lifestyles and Activities teams across the country and is widely recognised in the sector. During the pandemic, Lifestyle's teams

have gone above and beyond to keep residents' happy, safe and engaged. The NAPA Member Awards is the perfect opportunity to recognise our dedicated teams after what has been an incredibly difficult 17 months.

# Running order

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Connect in the networking suite

.....

The London International Gospel Choir

.....

Introduction – **Mike Phillips** and **Hilary Woodhead**

.....

NAPA Patron – **Pam Rhodes**

.....

Unilever – **Sarah Branagan**

.....

Poetry reading by NAPA Ambassador, **Chris Maddocks**

.....

Award Categories

.....

Tribute to Emma Hales

.....

Award Finalists

.....

DanceSing Care

.....

NAPA Auction

.....

Awards Presentation

.....

Hugh Dent

.....

The London International Gospel Choir

.....

Carriages

# Award Categories

## ***NAPA Activity Provider of the Year Award***

This category is open to all providers to nominate an individual who consistently provides good quality activity provision, demonstrates compassion, creativity, dedication and has a willingness to learn new skills and go the extra mile.

## ***NAPA Activity Team of the Year Award***

This category is open to all members who would like to nominate a team of people for their commitment to activity provision. A team who have demonstrated excellent teamwork to deliver the best outcomes for the people they support. They are open and innovative in their approach.

## ***NAPA Unsung Hero Award***

This category is open to all members who would like to nominate their unsung hero, the person "behind the scenes" who demonstrates great dedication to activity provision. This could be domestic staff, kitchen assistants, chefs, maintenance, administration or office staff, volunteers, families or individuals you support.

## ***NAPA Arts in Care Homes Award***

This category recognises a setting that has shown a commitment and passion for embedding arts-based activities and has demonstrated the difference they can make to people's lives.

## ***NAPA Year of Moving and Grooving Award***

This category celebrates an individual or team that have embraced The NAPA Year of Moving and Grooving and enhanced the lives of the people they support through the promotion of physical activity.

## ***NAPA Grow Old Disgracefully Award***

For this award we look to celebrate a person who is living life to the full and fulfils the description of 'growing old disgracefully'.

A person who inspires others with their zest for life, is living life with an outrageous or fabulous twist and has always wanted to do something that defies expectations but hadn't had the chance to make it happen without support. For 2021, we decided to celebrate a NAPA member who had gone above and beyond to support an older person to fulfil a wish or dream that others may perceive as too 'high risk' or 'inappropriate' for an older person to fulfil.

## ***Activity Personality of the Year Award***

This award is a judges' choice award and recognises an individual who has significantly contributed to the way in which activity and engagement are perceived by the team or organisation they work in, or the wider sector over the last year.

## ***Lifetime Achievement Award***

This award recognises an individual who has demonstrated a commitment and passion for activity, engagement and wellbeing throughout their career. An individual who has worked relentlessly to ensure that activity is placed at the heart of care. An individual whose passion and commitment has inspired others to strive for the best outcomes for people with care and support needs.

## ***The NAPA Fundraiser of the Year Award***

This award recognises an individual, team or organisation who through hard work and dedication have successfully coordinated an event in aid of the NAPA Helpline Service.

## ***The NAPA Inclusion Award***

This award recognises an individual, team or organisation whose activities demonstrate their commitment to inclusive practice; individuals are valued, feel they belong, can be their authentic selves, and have a voice.

# The Finalists

**Allison Porter**

Rose Court Care Home – HC-One

...

**April Dobson**

Hallmark Care Homes

...

**Asa Johnson**

Anchor Trust

...

**Ben Cowley**

Ty Enfys Care Home – Hallmark Care Homes

...

**Blenheim House Activities Team**

Blenheim House Care Home – Majesticare

...

**Chaseley's Well-being Team**

Nursing Home – The Chaseley Trust

...

**Chris Harding**

The Daily Sparkle

...

**Christopher Guest**

Blenheim House Care Home – Majesticare

...

**David Allan**

Rashielee Care Home – Littlench Ltd

...

**Eleanor Shepherd**

Woodbury court Residential home – Runwood homes

...

**Gillie Gilroy**

Icknield Court – Fremantle Trust

...

**Helen Core**

Anchor

**Jane Emery**

Orchard Gardens Care Home – Anchor

...

**Jen Blackwell**

DanceSyndrome

...

**Joyce Baxtrem**

Hazelgrove court – Hillcare

...

**Keate House Residential Home**

Keate House Residential Home

...

**Kimberley Atkin**

Sherwood Grange – Care UK

...

**Laura Brown and Trudy Allen**

Froxfield – BrendonCare

...

**Lifestyles Team - RCH Care Homes**

RCH Care Homes

...

**Lynne Stewart**

Deeside Care Home – Care Concern Group

...

**Mrs Joan Cotton**

Rushall Care Home – Navigation Care LTD

...

**Mulberry Court Care Team**

Mulberry Court – Fremantle Trust

...

**Patrick Maher**

Sunrise of Chorleywood

...

**Paul Dixon**

Mill House – Caring Homes

**Paul Dixon and Louise Voss**

Mill House – Caring Homes

...

**Perry Manor Lifestyle Team**

Perry Manor Care Home – Care UK

...

**Robert Speker and Sydmar Lodge**

Sydmar Lodge

...

**Rushall Care Home**

Rushall Care Home – Navigation Care

...

**Sandra Watson**

Anisha Grange – Hallmark Care Homes

...

**The Lifestyle and Wellbeing team at Fremantle Court**

Fremantle Court – Fremantle Trust

**Thelma O'Learly**

Fernhill House Care Home – Majesticare

**Ty Enfys Lifestyle Team**

Ty Enfys Care Home – Hallmark Care Homes

**Valerie Morris**

Ty Enfys Care Home – Hallmark Care Homes

**Wayne Grayson resident at Windle Court**

Windle Court – Runwood Homes

# The NAPA Judges:

**Alison Teader**

Arts in Care Homes

...

**Alistair Moir**

Ad-Memoire

...

**Anna Park**

NAPA Advisor

...

**Isobel Jones**

Alive!

...

**Jean Cattanach**

NAPA Trustee and Lakeland Dairies

**Mike Phillips**

NAPA Advisor

...

**Natalie Jones**

ActivCare Coaching

...

**Simone Carter**

Avocet Court Care Home – Athena

...

**Sue Egersdorff**

Ready Generations

...

**Susanne Syme**

NAPA Advisor

# Award sponsors



# NAPA Auction

**We are delighted to host this auction.**

Please support our fundraising auction and win some exclusive and unique items all whilst raising money for our FREE activity support service, The NAPA Helpline.

There are some fantastic experiences on offer – Bidding will take place in the chat live at the ceremony!

*Hilary Woodhead said "It has been a tough year for charities and NAPA has been able to continue to support the sector because of the commitment and dedication of our members and supporters – this auction is a vital part of our income and we thank everybody for taking part."*

**Prizes are:**

1. Fortnum and Mason Champagne Afternoon Tea in The Diamond Jubilee Tea Salon
2. Live online painting class with starter pack and prosecco
3. Relaxing Spa Day with 3 treatments for 2 people at Bannatyne Health Clubs
4. Tandem Sky Dive
5. Three-night mega pod glamping break for two at Langstone Manor- Dartmoor
6. Weekday sunrise virgin hot air balloon flight for 2.

**Good luck!**

**SPONSORED BY**



## danceSing Care



Bringing you the magic of music and movement.

Let danceSing Care bring a new and fresh wellbeing approach with their unique innovative online on-demand music and movement programme.

Join danceSing Director Natalie Garry as she gets you dancing your way to wellbeing.

Natalie will guide you through a short session giving you the opportunity to participate in danceSing Care's meaningful music and movement activities that positively promote mental and physical health and happiness.

**Chair Dance Fitness** – Have fun whilst you move and groove to improve wellbeing physically, mentally and emotionally. Our sessions are social, engaging but most importantly fun. Focus on improving posture, strength, flexibility, boosting cardiovascular health, and mobilising the joints.

[www.dancesingcare.uk](http://www.dancesingcare.uk)

## The London International Gospel Choir

The London International Gospel Choir, one of the largest open community choirs in the city, enables people who enjoy singing to meet socially while developing their voice – with uplifting material including gospel, pop and soul.

LIGC cherish the joy, beauty and spiritual power in African-American Christian worship music and the genres that grew from it – soul, funk, R&B, jazz, blues and Motown (to name a few). LIGC is committed to honouring and respecting this music and the people who created it.



[internationalgospelchoir.uk](http://internationalgospelchoir.uk)

## Hugh Dent

Hugh Dent, Entertainer, originated in the West Country but has lived in Preston, Lancashire since 1974.

Hugh's love of music started early with the school choir and father's old 78's and increased when his brother formed a folk club in their home town of Liskeard at a time when there was a great revival of interest in folk music.

In the mid-1980s Hugh changed from working in pharmaceuticals to caring for older people. His guitar was a much requested, regular visitor at the day centre where he was working and useful additions to his repertoire came from the enthusiastic singing of the day visitors.

Naturally Hugh is in great demand at social events of all types and after three years he decided to fulfil a long term wish for a full-time musical career and set up his own business specialising in entertainment for older age groups.

Hugh's experience has been mainly as a solo artist but he has also performed as one half of a duo and with a folk group at a variety of venues.

Since starting in business he has made three appearances on BBC Radio York. Sessions to date include day centres, hospitals, disabled clubs and family occasions such as birthdays and wedding anniversaries.

After becoming established in 1987 he has averaged 400 performances per year to delighted audiences in care homes within the United Kingdom. He still specialises only in this field and provides entertainment and activity sessions which last for one and a half hours in duration.



[www.hughdent.co.uk](http://www.hughdent.co.uk)

## Join NAPA for Winterfest – 8th – 15th November 2021

An exciting week of live events with tutorials; have a go and take away new ideas for activity and engagement.

Activity Providers and NAPA Recognised suppliers, will share their experience and expertise of planning and providing creative, inclusive and interactive activities.

Each day is themed around five key wellbeing priorities:

- + Sensory engagement
- + Spiritual connection
- + Community links
- + Nutrition and mealtimes
- + Physical activity

For more information subscribe to **NAPA News**.



## Join NAPA for National Activity Providers Week - January 24th – 30th 2022

On the 24th January 2022 we will launch the NAPA Year of Everyday Creativity and the nation's first Activity Providers Week.



Together we will recognise the contribution of activity providers across the country, hear from NAPA members and supporters about their experiences and learn about best practice approaches. There will also be opportunities for Activity Providers to engage in Everyday Creativity themselves!

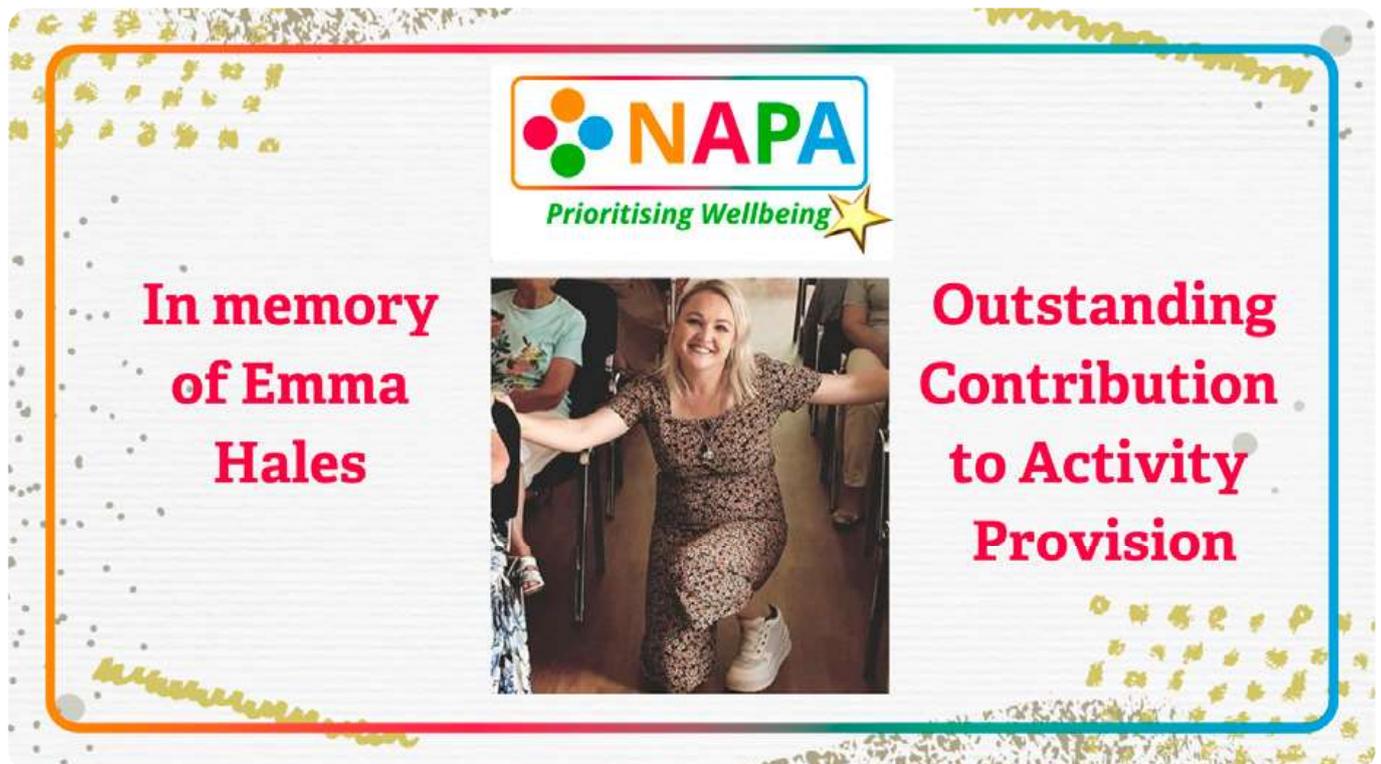
For more information subscribe to **NAPA News**.

# The NAPA Award Finalists



- + **Allison Porter**  
Rose Court Care Home, HC-One
- + **April Dobson**  
Hallmark Care Homes
- + **Asa Johnson**  
Anchor Trust
- + **Ben Cowley**  
Ty Enfys Care Home, Hallmark Care Homes
- + **Blenheim House Activities Team**  
Blenheim House Care Home, Majesticare
- + **Chaseley's Well-being Team**  
Nursing Home, The Chaseley Trust
- + **Chris Harding**  
The Daily Sparkle
- + **Christopher Guest**  
Blenheim House Care Home, Majesticare
- + **David Allan**  
Rashielee Care Home, Littlench Ltd
- + **Eleanor Shepherd**  
Woodbury court Residential home, Runwood homes
- + **Gillie Gilmour**  
Icknield Court, Fremantle Trust
- + **Helen Core**  
Anchor
- + **Jane Emery**  
Orchard Gardens Care Home, Anchor
- + **Jen Blackwell**  
DanceSyndrome
- + **Joyce Baxtrem**  
Hazelgrove court, Hillcare
- + **Keate House Residential Home**  
Keate House Residential Home
- + **Kimberley Atkin**  
Sherwood Grange, Care UK
- + **Laura Brown and Trudy Allen**  
Froxfield, BrendonCare
- + **Lifestyles Team - RCH Care Homes**  
RCH Care Homes
- + **Lynne Stewart**  
Deeside Care Home, Care Concern Group
- + **Mrs Joan Cotton**  
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- + **Mulberry Court Care Team**  
Mulberry Court, Fremantle Trust
- + **Patrick Maher**  
Sunrise of Chorleywood
- + **Paul Dixon**  
Mill House, Caring Homes
- + **Paul Dixon and Louise Voss**  
Mill House, Caring Homes
- + **Perry Manor Lifestyle Team**  
Perry Manor Care Home, Care UK
- + **Robert Speker and Sydmar Lodge**  
Sydmar Lodge
- + **Rushall Care Home**  
Rushall Care Home, Navigation Care
- + **Sandra Watson**  
Anisha Grange, Hallmark Care Homes
- + **The Lifestyle and Wellbeing team at Fremantle Court**  
Fremantle Court, Fremantle Trust
- + **Thelma O'Leary**  
Fernhill House Care Home, Majesticare
- + **Ty Enfys Lifestyle Team**  
Ty Enfys Care Home, Hallmark Care Homes
- + **Valerie Morris**  
Ty Enfys Care Home, Hallmark Care Homes
- + **Wayne Grayson resident at Windle Court**  
Windle Court, Runwood Homes





## Outstanding Contribution 2021 Tribute to Emma Hales



In May NAPA proudly launched our Professional Development Pathway. During the launch I had the privilege of interviewing a member of the NAPA Activity provider alumni, Emma Hales.

*I was informed that Emma was a leading light in the activity sector and keen to complete the pathway and be one of our first NAPA Recognised Activity Professionals. During the interview Emma spoke of her commitment to activity provision and her enthusiasm for learning, she had certainly completed almost all the NAPA courses on offer to her. Emma lit up the event and impressed everyone with her dedication and commitment to person centred activity and engagement.*

*When we received and began to shortlist this year's NAPA Member Activity Awards, we were not surprised to see that Emma had been nominated in almost every category. Shortly afterwards we were informed that Emma had sadly passed away, following a short illness.*

*During the NAPA Member Activity Awards ceremony, we remembered Emma and her incredible contribution to activity provision, our thoughts continue to be with those who knew and loved her. She was truly inspirational.*

**Hilary Woodhead**



## NAPA Activity Provider 2021

Ben Cowley. NAPA Activity Provider winner 2021  
Ty Enfys Care Homes – Hallmark Care Homes



This category was open to all providers to nominate an individual who consistently provides good quality activity provision, demonstrates compassion, creativity, dedication and has a willingness to learn new skills and go the extra mile.

The judges chose this winner because they felt that the person-centred activities they offered were creative and meaningful, it can often be difficult to come up with fresh new ideas and offer them with enthusiasm. The judges felt the winner displayed resilience and dedication, particularly during the pandemic. Special mention was made of their determination to support a calm end of life experience.

*After 5 years of working in the care sector I was absolutely thrilled to be recognised for my activities work by NAPA. I qualified as a music therapist whilst in my activities role so I really feel this award has elevated me in my field now and recognised my expertise. Music therapists are commonly misunderstood professionals and it can be tough to communicate the speciality of what you do. I suppose when you hear the word "music" you can't help but be drawn to your own positive associations and how vividly it is there in the background through good and bad times. In reality, our work can sometimes be the only thing enabling connection, expression and communication, especially for those living with dementia. The work might even have the tiniest music element to it. To be seen and understood is both rewarding and a relief that my work is valued and appreciated, so thank you NAPA! It has been a rather humbling experience for me to step up and get innovative during Covid-19. I'm sure many of you will be able to relate to losing your most popular activity*

*provisions. I found myself in a somewhat rare position of being a musician inside a care home wondering how I could utilise this even more to benefit the residents who had lost so much. Whenever I look at this award, I might pause and reflect on this difficult year but it will remind me that much light can still be found in the darkness. I want to finish with some direct words to all who work in care just to say never to underestimate the impact and meaning that one engagement might have. My favourite aspect of this kind of work has always been watching connections flourish through activity and that can come from any role in a care home. Stay innovative, creative and most importantly, be kind to yourselves too.*





## **Best Activity Team 2021**

*Paul Dixon and Louise Voss – Mill House Caring Homes*



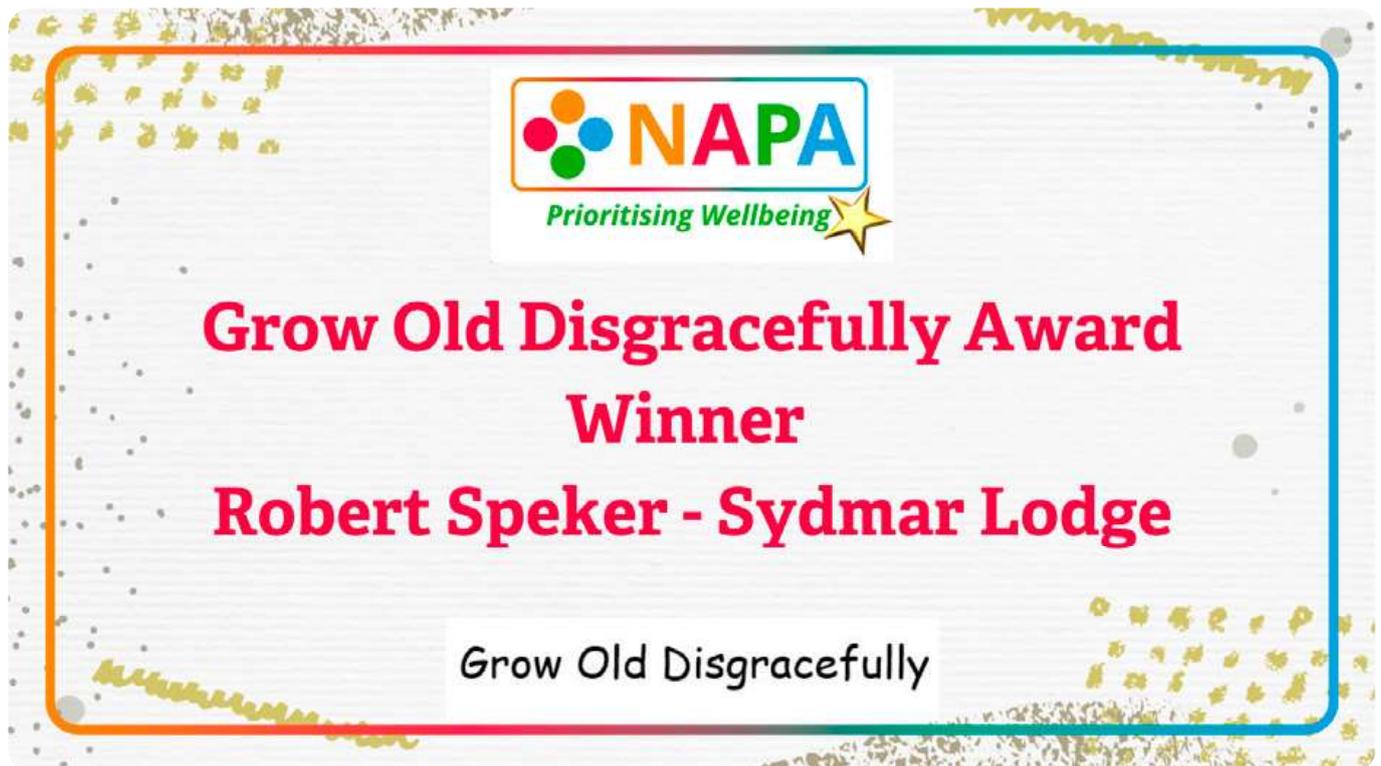
This category was open to all members who would like to nominate a team of people for their commitment to activity provision. A team who have demonstrated excellent teamwork and delivered the best possible outcomes for the people they support. They are open and innovative in their approach.

The judges chose this winner because they felt they inspired self-worth and confidence, enabling, and encouraging a whole home approach to community connections. Special mention was made of their focus on intergenerational activities, judges were delighted to hear about residents marking the homework of local school children!



*We have already had a huge party with our residents who were delighted that we had won, to have our work recognised in such a way has made us even more proud of what we do- we are extremely fortunate that we are able to bring a whole home ethos to wellbeing, that everyone from the person washing the dishes, the maintenance man, the care team and the home manager all join in with.*

*We believe our teamwork and one home one vision ethos is the reason for our success.*



## Grow Old Disgracefully 2021 Robert Speker and Sydmar Lodge



For this award we look to celebrate a person who is living life to the full and fulfils the description of 'growing old disgracefully'.

A person who inspires others with their zest for life, is living life with an outrageous or fabulous twist and has always wanted to do something that defies expectations but hadn't had the chance to make it happen without support. For 2021, we decided to celebrate a NAPA member who had gone above and beyond to support an older person to fulfil a wish or dream that others may perceive as too 'high risk' or 'inappropriate' for an older person to fulfil.

The judges chose this winner because they felt truly uplifted by the examples of growing old disgracefully! The winner has really contradicted stereotypes and provided opportunities for many people to be disgraceful!



*As an Activities Coordinator I am passionate about making a difference in my residents' lives – seeing them happy and engaged or hearing spontaneous comments of appreciation from those who have participated in an activity. But having my work acknowledged by NAPA, the experts in providing activities for people in care settings, fills me with immense pride. When I made my Care Home Album Covers I never thought of the impact that they would have. They have now been seen over 12 million times on Twitter, liked by over 135 thousand people, covered by media all over the world, made into a charity calendar for the Alzheimer's Society, been produced as limited edition prints and acquired by several collectors including the Science Museum.*

*The NAPA award of Growing Old Disgracefully is so appropriate for the album covers project as well as my philosophy of how I deliver care home activities. Age should not define a person, and this is especially significant in the care environment. I have facilitated a 90 year old resident going swimming for the first time in 20 years, a 97 year old going to see 42nd Street in London's West End and a 93 year old attending a music festival to see her favourite performer Rag'n'Bone Man live (arranging a surprise for her to go backstage beforehand to meet him). Just because someone moves into a care home doesn't mean that they shouldn't have opportunities to do whatever they want.*

*After working in a care home through the pandemic for over 19 months without getting Covid, it was ironic that I got it from my kids. But since I was isolating, I was able to celebrate receiving the NAPA award with my wife Aya, and children Dayna, Vered and Olivia. They see on a daily basis what my job and the residents mean to me, and how much I appreciate this award.*

## Arts in Care homes 2021

### Fremantle Court – Fremantle Trust



This category recognised a setting that has shown a commitment and passion for embedding arts-based activities and has demonstrated the difference they can make to people's lives.

The judges chose this winner because they were especially impressed by the way that the arts and creativity are really embedded into care provision in the home. The arts, creativity and culture seem to run through everything that happens on a daily basis. The range of different art forms is very impressive. The judges suggested that other care settings could be inspired by their approach and learn a lot about how to plan a range of inclusive arts activities on a daily basis.

The other two finalists included the team at Mulberry Court, in Chalfont St. Peter who were shortlisted for the Best Activity Team Award and Domestic Assistant Gillie Gilroy from Icknield Court in Princes Risborough for the Unsung Hero Award. Entering the NAPA Awards is seen as a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the hard work of all of the Trust's activity teams and brings colleagues together in celebration.

After winning the national award for Best Arts in Care Homes, the team at Fremantle Court were delighted to receive the certificate, flowers and award from CEO of The Fremantle Trust, Narinder Singh. Narinder commented on their wonderful achievement and on his own positive experiences of the work done through NAPA to improve the lives of residents every day.

Speaking to the team, their pride in winning was evident. Stephanie Oliver commented: "We honestly thought that being nominated was such an achievement in itself and if it weren't for the residents we wouldn't have got to where we are now. We couldn't thank them enough; they are the reason why we love what we do."



Another member of the activities team at Fremantle Court Joanna Drozdowska added: "We offer a range of activities from baking and crafting, to simple walks around the gardens. One of our favourite things about the job is getting to know what residents like; what they enjoy doing, what their needs are and then making the home a place they can call home. It's always an amazing feeling when you see the change in them. Something as simple as them coming out of their room to join us in the activities is so rewarding."

In such a varied role, Theresa Vipan who also works within the activities team told us what makes her job so satisfying:

"Sometimes I'm dressed up and no one can actually recognise me! But everything we do is designed to bring smiles and laughter for our residents and this in turn makes the job we do such fun."

In response to the team winning the NAPA award, 99 year old resident Gwen Buttery welled up as she sang her praises about the team: "They work jolly hard and they do it with such fondness. They know us all individually. They're always coming up with the silliest ideas and we have such good fun."

### Creative Activities Team Scoop Annual Care Award

This year, Fremantle Court based in Stoke Mandeville was one of three homes at The Fremantle Trust to be shortlisted in the NAPA Member Activity Awards.



CEO Narinder Singh presents award to the Fremantle Court Activities team



The Fremantle Court team on the day of the NAPA ceremony

## **Unsung Hero 2021**

**Wayne Grayson Windle Court, Runwood Homes**



This category was open to all members who would like to nominate the person “behind the scenes” who demonstrates great dedication to activity provision.

This could be domestic staff, kitchen assistants, chefs, maintenance, administration staff, volunteers, families, or individuals you support.

The judges chose this winner because they felt they emphasised that we are all “carers” who look after each other. It was lovely to hear how this unsung hero goes above and beyond to support their fellow residents as well as staff members. We can all take inspiration from this individual!



## **Year of Moving and Grooving 2021**

**The Activities Team at Blenheim House  
Care Home, Majesticare**



This category celebrates an individual or team that have embraced The NAPA Year of Moving and Grooving and enhanced the lives of the people they support through the promotion of physical activity.

The judges chose this winner because they felt their attention to detail and ability to think outside of the box and create inclusive physical activities was outstanding. Their ‘whole-home’ approach to moving and grooving is something they would love to see implemented across all care homes!



## **Fundraiser of the year 2021**

### **Athena Care Homes**



This award recognised an individual or team that have supported NAPA's fundraising activity, enabling us to develop free services and resources for the sector.

The judges chose this winner because they felt they had gone above and beyond to support the NAPA Wellbeing walk, encouraging residents, family members and staff to move and groove in May.



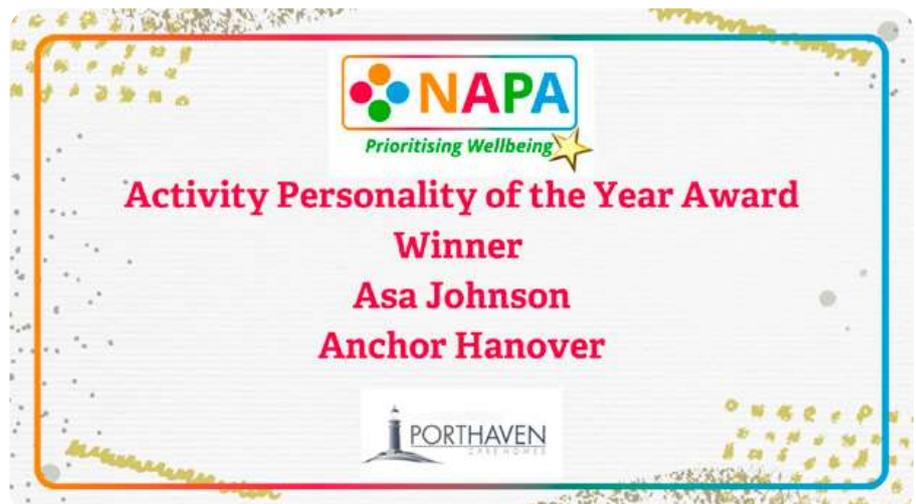
## **Activity personality of the Year 2021**

### **Asa Johnson, Service Improvement Manager, Anchor Hanover**



This award recognises an individual who has significantly contributed to the way in which activity and engagement are perceived by the team or organisation they work in, or the wider sector over the last year.

The judges chose this winner because they felt they have consistently demonstrated their dedication to person centred engagement over a significant period of time, the winner is known for their considered, friendly, can-do approach – a personality who really makes a difference wherever they go!





## Leadership 2021

### April Dobson Head of Dementia Care & Wellbeing Hallmark Care Homes



This category recognises an individual who has provided great leadership in activity provision, encouraging all staff to make a positive contribution to activity.

The judges chose this winner because they felt they had made a long-lasting difference to the way in which activity is perceived, clearly setting out their vision and taking everyone with them. The judges were especially impressed by the way in which the winner had role modelled best practice throughout their career and supported the progression of others. A truly person-centred practitioner who leads from the heart.

*When I think of all the incredible people who work so hard to help older people enjoy life to the full, it feels such a privilege to have been given this award from NAPA.*

*I am honoured that the award recognises the small part I've played to drive change*



*in the way 'activities' teams are perceived as I truly believe that Hallmark lifestyles teams, and everyone involved in activities provision, are skilled, creative, and professional practitioners.*

*Imagine what life would be like for people who live in care homes if they had nothing to do, and nothing to look forward to. It's a dismal thought, and not something any of us would look forward to. But the skill lies in understanding individual strengths, choices, ambitions, loves, and relationships, and then translating that understanding into opportunities that result in happy and enriched lives. That takes a serious amount of knowledge and skill, and a belief that 'anything is possible!'*

*My goal has always been for this to be recognised more widely which is why I wholeheartedly support NAPA and value our membership. This award represents another step towards achieving that ambition and highlighting the incredible work I see happening every day. Over the years, thanks to NAPA, our lifestyles teams have achieved recognised qualifications and developed their careers. They're proud of what they do, and we're proud of them. Thank you, NAPA, for giving me this opportunity to celebrate the difference that lifestyles, wellbeing, and activity teams make to so many people's lives.*



# Service Recognition 2021

## Hugh Dent

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This award recognises someone whose individual committed to being a NAPA member deserves special recognition.

The judges chose this winner because he is NAPA's longest standing individual member, with 22 years of NAPA membership he is an entertainer who has delighted thousands of care home residents for nearly 35 years.

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*It is now 35 years since I started to offer entertainment to establishments for older age groups.*

*My journey to get to this point started when I was a young child and my grandmother lived with us. At this young age, I was told that I had an affinity with the elderly.*

*Once I left education, work took me in various directions, retail, the printing trade, and finally as a buyer for a wholesale chemist. Then in the 1980s recession, after being made redundant, it was hard to find work. I undertook voluntary work with Age Concern.*

*In between this work, I'd been developing my singing and guitar skills, picking up bookings in folk clubs. My travels took me to a club where I met a Manager of a Training Centre who asked me if I could perform a short session for his Service Users.*

*Their appreciation was very positive. It immediately became apparent to me that my talent should be put to better use.*

*I returned home, developed a good sound business plan, and contacted Social Services with my proposal of entertaining within their Homes for the Elderly. At this stage, the Private Homes sector was expanding rapidly so I was advised to contact these too. Over the last 35 years, I have moved outwards into areas all over England, Scotland, and Wales, from Lancashire where I am based.*

*After many months of the doldrums of Covid and being unable to perform in homes, it came as a surprise and a relief to me to be invited by Hilary Woodhead to perform Congratulations at The NAPA Member Awards Ceremony to the winners. I was unaware that I would be one too!*

*My heartfelt thanks go out to NAPA for what they have achieved in supporting the Care Sector during these very challenging times. They have adapted the way in which they continually keep their members up to date by email and the internet.*





## Inclusion 2021

### The Winner is Jen Blackwell Founder Director of DanceSyndrome



This award recognises an individual or team whose approach to activity and engagement is truly Inclusive, inspires others to think creatively and ensures people know they matter.

The judges chose this winner because they felt motivated to reassess their own approaches to person centred activity as a result of experiencing their practice. They felt the winner was a role model who dedicates her working life to ensure people are valued, respected and included.

*I love inclusion. And I love winning awards. So thank you NAPA for the inclusion award. It means the world to me. I love showing the world who I am through my passion for dance, and getting everybody dancing. I am my own person. Even though I happen to have Down's syndrome, my disability doesn't define me for who I am.*



*In DanceSyndrome everyone belongs, every person is embraced, wanted and valued for who they are. No-one is left out in the cold.*

*Before DanceSyndrome I wasn't respected. I was sad and isolated and lonely. Apart from Mum and Dad no one listened or cared. I couldn't find opportunities that worked for me to train to be the dancer and dance leader I wanted to be. So we did it our way and set up DanceSyndrome. Mum, Dad and I set up our very own dance company! I am the co-founder and director, and Queen of DanceSyndrome!*

*DanceSyndrome represents inclusion to the world. It is one big family where people have opportunities, I love developing and using my leadership skills.*

*But the best thing of all, we are a community where friendship flourishes, like me and Becky.*

*Becky and I have been best friends for a long time by sharing the dance. Becky is a brilliant ambassador and uses her skills outside dance to good effect. Even though we both have Down's syndrome we both use dance as our weapon of choice. We work together, we come together, we're best friends.*

*With inclusion at the heart of every thought and action, equality, diversity and leadership will flourish naturally.*

*Thank you NAPA for recognising me with the Inclusion Award!*

Click [here](#) to view my video



## Lifetime Achievement 2021

Chris Harding / Managing Director The Daily Sparkle



This award recognises an individual who has demonstrated a commitment and passion for activity, engagement, and wellbeing throughout their career.

An individual who has worked relentlessly to ensure that activity is placed at the heart of care. An individual whose passion and commitment has inspired others to strive for the best outcomes for people with care and support needs.

The judges chose this winner because they felt they have contributed a lifetime's worth of energy and enthusiasm to the world of activity provision. Developing accessible resources that enable care and activity teams to be inspired every single day.

*It is amazing how wonderful it is to be recognised and appreciated. As a business owner I don't expect to be recognised and appreciated for what I do. I'm doing a job and I get paid for it.*



*End of story. However, that's not the real story. You can't work in a job where the intention is to improve the quality of life for older people and people living with dementia without getting thoroughly involved and dedicated to that goal. That drive to make their lives happier becomes a 24/7 phenomenon – and how grateful I am to have been overwhelmed by such a drive.*

*My work gives my life meaning. It's not the only thing that does. I have a lovely family with four beautiful kids. However, the meaning and satisfaction that I get from my work is different. It's not just*

*about me and my family, but about reaching out to my community and making a contribution to lovely people who I don't even know.*

*It really shocked me when I heard I had won the award. I felt so proud of The Daily Sparkle and what I have been doing to help people in care homes. I was surprised to see that being recognised and appreciated actually meant so much to me.*

*I had long been aware that being recognised and appreciated was in short supply for so many people in the care sector who go to extraordinary lengths to care and share their love. At The Daily Sparkle we do everything we can to find ways or giving care workers recognition. It's an impossible task – to recognise and appreciate every single individual who shares their heart in their job – but it's a vital one. Maybe we could all do it for each other? When you next see a colleague doing something heartfelt and caring, take a minute to tell them how that made you feel. How wonderful if we all shared our appreciation of one another. It makes such a difference.*

# NAPA Award Finalists

## Chaseley's Well-being Team

I thought I would share with you a few photos from our attendance at the awards ceremony. What was lovely was that our residents made thank you gifts for our Well-Being Team that they presented to them on the afternoon and one resident Mark told them team “they are always winners in their eyes” and all those who were present all agreed. **Thanks again for shortlisting our team.**

