

# THE BRITISH CITIZEN *youth* AWARD

In association with

 Specsavers

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **BREAST CANCER FUNDRAISER HONOURED WITH THE BRITISH CITIZEN YOUTH AWARD AT THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER**

Despite the pandemic, The British Citizen Youth Award continued to receive nominations from around the UK for young, inspirational members of the community who were making a difference. In a daunting and unprecedented year, these selfless young people continued to show kindness and a commitment to their community. Today, 23 extraordinary young people have been honoured with The British Citizen Youth Award for the 2021 Roll of Honour.

Hosting the event today was television presenter Anthea Turner who said “This group of British Citizen Youth Award medalists represented community leadership, tech for good, climate campaigns and social conscience. Having met them all, it made me more confident of the future than I have felt for some time. These are amazing young people who deserve this recognition and I hope others aspire to be like them

Jago Wickett, Age 11 from Cornwall, has been presented with the Medal of Honour at the Palace of Westminster, from BCyA Patron, Dr Alex George. The British Citizen Youth Award in association with Specsavers is now in its fifth year and recognises exceptional under 18’s who have positively impacted their communities through the county.

Jago started fundraising at the tender age of nine, raising over £1,000 towards the new Cancer and Well-being Centre in Barnstaple. Most recently, he completed a fundraising challenge by cycling 500km. Each day, irrespective of the weather, Jago would cycle from home to school and back, covering 20km of hilly and gruelling terrain to raise funds for the Mermaid Centre (Cornwall Breast Cancer Unit), at The Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro.

The route was very challenging, and the total elevation covered is the equivalent of cycling up Mount Everest. The challenge required lots of preparation and being mentally and physically focussed. Jago’s original aim was to raise £200, but the mission captured the community’s interest and support, raising £5679.79. This took from April to June 2021.

All monies raised have gone directly to the Mermaid Centre, under the Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust Charity and will go towards supporting people in Cornwall that have received a diagnosis of breast cancer and also helps support the monitoring of people with a family history of breast cancer. Jago is always looking for ways to help others in the local community and also regularly keeps the village war memorial clean and tidy.

Dame Mary Perkins, Patron of the BCA said: "The British Citizen Youth Award recipients are very special individuals. These young people all go above and beyond for others with selfless acts of kindness and community spirit with no thought or expectation of praise or reward. These awards are a great opportunity to shine a light on what they do and give them the recognition they so thoroughly deserve. They are the nation's true unsung heroes and the rising stars of the future."

Each Medal of Honour bears the words 'For the Good of the Country' and are presented to only a small number of exceptional young individuals annually. The British Citizen Youth Award is widely viewed as the nation's way of recognising extraordinary, everyday young people for exceptional endeavor and are truly representative of today's multicultural Britain.

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2022 medal presentations, register online at [www.britishcitizenyouthawards.co.uk](http://www.britishcitizenyouthawards.co.uk).

**- Ends -**

For more information please contact [press@britishcitizenawards.co.uk](mailto:press@britishcitizenawards.co.uk) or call 0203 002 7764

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

The British Citizen Youth Award (BCyA) In association with Specsavers recognises individuals aged 18 and under, that positively impact others and highlights the positive aspects of multi-cultural communities, schools and places of education, community groups and charities throughout the UK.

The British Citizen Youth Award (BCyA) is in association with world's largest optical retailer, Specsavers and is supported by creative communications group, Tigerbond, sightseeing specialist Big Bus London, and young people's newspaper, First News.

The British Citizen Youth Award (BCyA) also works in partnership with the Association for Citizenship Teaching - The first British Citizen Youth Award (BCyA) for Outstanding Citizenship School was awarded in 2019.