

JANUARY , 2026

◆ SPECIAL EDITION

# BLACKWOOD TOWN COUNCIL



# NEWSLETTER

*Bringing Our Community  
Together This Season*

CIVIC  
AWARDS  
2025



We are proud to start the new year by celebrating the incredible individuals who have made a lasting impact on our community. The Civic Awards are our way of acknowledging the dedication, hard work, and positive contributions these people have shown. Their efforts strengthen our town and inspire us all to work together for a better future. Congratulations to all our award recipients – your commitment truly makes a difference.



# VOLUNTEERING

The Volunteer Award honours those who give their time and energy to make a real difference in our community. These individuals embody generosity and commitment, helping to strengthen the bonds that bring us together. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all volunteers for their invaluable contributions – your efforts truly make our town a better place.

## NOMINEES



**BLACKWOOD AND DISTRICT  
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**



**PAULINE RODEN SHARPE  
MYNYDDISLWYN VHOIR**



**ESME JONES  
GIRLGUIDING**



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# VOLUNTEERING

OVERALL  
WINNER



ESME JONES



FOR HER OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO GIRL GUIDING INSPIRING THE  
NEXT GENERATION BY FOSTERING CONFIDENCE, RESILIENCE, AND A SENSE  
OF BELONGING.



# SPORTING EXCELLENCE

The Sporting Excellence Award celebrates individuals and teams who have shown outstanding achievement, dedication, and passion in sport. Their commitment and success inspire others and bring pride to our community. We extend our sincere thanks to all athletes, coaches, and sporting groups for making sport a vibrant and inclusive part of our town – your efforts encourage health, teamwork, and ambition for all.

## NOMINEES



ISLWYN RUNNING CLUB



COREY GRNDIN  
BLACKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



TRACY DAVIES  
BLACKWOOD COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL



BLACKWOOD BOWLS CLUB



# SPORTING EXCELLENCE

## OVERALL WINNERS

TRACY DAVIES

BLACKWOOD COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

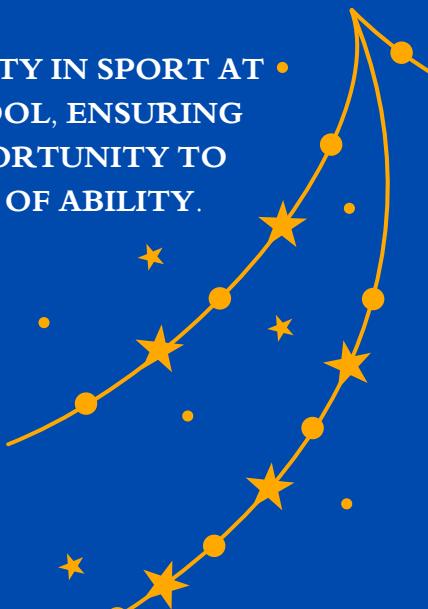
FOR CHAMPIONING ALL SPORTS AT BLACKWOOD COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL AND MAKING A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF LEARNERS.



COREY GRNDIN  
BLACKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



FOR CHAMPIONING INCLUSIVITY IN SPORT AT BLACKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL, ENSURING EVERY CHILD HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE REGARDLESS OF ABILITY.



# BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2025

BLACKWOOD TOWN COUNCIL IS PROUD TO RECOGNISE THE OUTSTANDING BUSINESSES NOMINATED FOR THE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD. EACH NOMINEE SHOWS STRONG COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITY—CREATING LOCAL JOBS, SUPPORTING CHARITIES, AND HELPING OUR TOWN GROW. THESE BUSINESSES INVEST IN PEOPLE AND MAKE BLACKWOOD A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK. WE THANK THEM FOR THEIR CONTINUED DEDICATION.

## NOMINEES



MAXIME CINEMA



HELPING CARING TEAM



UNIQUE HEALTH AND FITNESS



BIG DOG COFFEE



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# BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

## OVERALL WINNERS

FOR REVITALISING HERITAGE AND ENRICHING THE CULTURAL AND SOCIAL LIFE OF BLACKWOOD.

MAXIME CINEMA



UNIQUE HEALTH AND FITNESS

FOR OVER 30 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, PROVIDING A FRIENDLY, FAMILY-SAFE ENVIRONMENT THAT PROMOTES PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELL-BEING.



# SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Presented with gratitude and appreciation for outstanding dedication and exceptional contribution to the community. Thank you for going above and beyond to make a lasting difference.



FOR 100 YEARS, BLACKWOOD MINERS' INSTITUTE HAS STOOD AS A SYMBOL OF RESILIENCE AND CULTURE. BUILT BY MINERS FOR THEIR COMMUNITY, IT HAS EVOLVED FROM A WELFARE HALL INTO ONE OF SOUTH WALES' LEADING ARTS VENUES—HOSTING EVERYTHING FROM LOCAL PRODUCTIONS TO WORLD-CLASS PERFORMANCES.

FOR PRESERVING HERITAGE AND ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH THE ARTS, WE PROUDLY PRESENT THIS SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD TO THE BLACKWOOD MINERS' INSTITUTE.



# SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Presented with gratitude and appreciation for outstanding dedication and exceptional contribution to the community. Thank you for going above and beyond to make a lasting difference.



**LIBANUS PRIMARY SCHOOL IS A BEACON OF EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT. GUIDED BY THEIR MOTTO "ROOTS TO GROW AND WINGS TO FLY," THEY CREATE A NURTURING ENVIRONMENT WHERE EVERY CHILD THRIVES.**

THIS YEAR, THEY ACHIEVED AN INCREDIBLE TRIPLE WIN AT THE SOUTH WALES COMMUNITY AWARDS, INCLUDING SCHOOL OF THE YEAR AND STEM PROJECT OF THE YEAR. THEIR COMMITMENT TO INNOVATION, INCLUSION, AND SUSTAINABILITY MAKES THEM A TRUE INSPIRATION. FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS AND DEDICATION TO OUR COMMUNITY, WE PROUDLY PRESENT THIS SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD TO LIBANUS PRIMARY SCHOOL.



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# BLACKWOOD IN BLOOM



MR & MRS HUGHES

