

SEMBCORP RECOGNISES VOLUNTEER EFFORT IN THE COMMUNITY



Stephanie Walker of Sembcorp hands Keith Stockdale an award recognising his “outstanding” voluntary efforts to ensure safety on Redcar seafront

The “unsung heroes” who generously donate their time, effort and skills for the benefit of the wider community have been recognised at a major awards ceremony.

For the first time, Sembcorp has sponsored one of the categories at the prestigious Redcar and Cleveland Voluntary Development Agency Awards (RCVDA).

Stephanie Walker, Head of Risk, presented the Outstanding Trustee Award to Keith Stockdale in front of 150 community volunteers at Gisborough Hall.

Keith, deputy station manager at Redcar Lifeboat Station, is also senior watch and training officer at the charity Coastwatch Redcar – part of the national Sea Safety Group.

He is in charge of 26 volunteers whose constant surveillance of the Redcar coastline and monitoring of ship distress channels 365 days a year has helped to save dozens of lives.

Keith's personal vigilance came to the fore in August 2016 when he saved the life of a 12-year-old boy cut off by the tide and trapped on Redcar rocks. Spotting the problem from the balcony of the Redcar Lifeboat Station, Keith alerted colleagues on the beach who waded into the waves to bring the boy to safety.

Stephanie said: "We talk a lot about the need for constant vigilance in everything we do in industry in order to prevent accidents, but Keith and his colleagues are masters of the craft.

"They are hard-working, committed and passionate people who do extraordinary work on behalf of the residents of the borough for no return."

Carole Marshall, Volunteer Support Officer at RCVDA, said: I would like to thank Sembcorp for sponsoring the Outstanding Trustee Award and for joining us at the celebration. The support of our sponsors helps us to make this annual celebration a very special occasion for all concerned.

"There has never been a time when volunteering had a greater role to play in the wellbeing of society and it is important that we acknowledge and celebrate the valuable contribution our volunteers make to our community and our environment."



The view of Redcar seafront from the top of Redcar Lifeboat Station