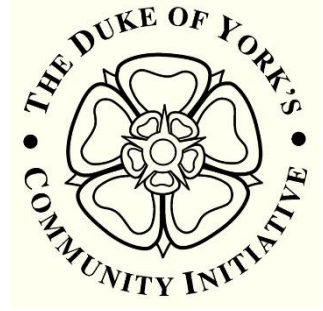




WALKERS ARE WELCOME



PRESS RELEASE

Stocksbridge Walkers: by Royal Appointment

Walkers are Welcome wins a Duke of York's Community Initiative Award

Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome have won one of the coveted 2019 Duke of York's Community Initiative (DOYCI) Awards.

The Royal Award is presented to a small number of local community projects based in Yorkshire and the Humber, organisations that have been subjected to rigorous and robust scrutiny and are deemed to be: *'of real value to the community, well run and an inspiration to others.'*

Walkers are Welcome (WaW) is a U.K. wide, community led network of accredited towns whose purpose is to develop and promote walking in areas with something different to offer: <https://walkersarewelcome.org.uk/> . Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome (SWaW) gained national accreditation in 2011.

After coming second in the 2018 Ramblers, *'Best Walking Neighbourhood Awards,'* Stocksbridge has become the new 'go-to' place for recreational walking. The countryside is open, walks are varied, clear instructions are available, and the area is relatively unspoilt. The SWaW website has detailed downloadable instructions for almost fifty walks in, and around, North Sheffield. <http://www.stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk/>

Founded by the Duke in 1998, the Initiative focusses on encouraging and rewarding innovative and inspirational community projects. His Royal Highness the Duke of York will make presentations and meet the successful applicants at an Award Ceremony to be held at Catterick Camp, on Wednesday April 3rd.

HRH The Duke of York: *'The Community Initiative which bears my name is a great success story throughout the whole of Yorkshire with over 400 first class community schemes having received my Award. They have been encouraged informally to act as mentors and examples of best practice to other communities, spreading far and wide the message that often the remedy for short comings can be generated at community level.'*

Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome

END

Release time: 12 noon, Monday 4th.March 2019