

Shining Example

Mark Camoccio tells how young airgun shot, Imogen Leahy, won a coveted award



Imogen Leahy, Lincolnshire Young Sports Volunteer of the Year

Pick up a newspaper, or watch the news, and it's so often a sorry tale of woe as our media concentrate on highlighting the blacker side of life. Of course, up to a point, they have a job to do, but highlighting negatives continuously does get a little tiresome after a while. Good-news stories are therefore few and far between, so when something heart-warming does finally surface, it's like a breath of fresh air.

SHINING EXAMPLE

Step forward 17-year-old, Imogen Leahy, who has just won the title of Young Sports Volunteer of the Year, at the 2017 Lincolnshire Sports Awards. Sponsored by Active Lincolnshire, the awards serve to highlight individuals of note who have really made a difference in their community, and Imogen's hard work and commendable work ethic, have not gone unnoticed.

Imogen first became involved in shooting after attending one of the Countryside Sports Days, run by Lincolnshire Smallbore Rifle Association (LSRA) when she took up the offer to try the taster sessions in each of the seven events being staged; ferreting, hawking, clay shooting, archery, fly-fishing, gundogs, and air rifle shooting - all held at the one venue on the day. Events are 30-50 minutes long, and each youngster gets a BASC goodie bag at the end.

VITAL SPONSORSHIP

Dave Carter, of the LSRA, helped to organise the event, and he reckons that a big boost came when various sponsors got on board. Chris Comins, of Forest Lodge Guns, had this to say: 'We are passionate about shooting, and were only too pleased to support the various initiatives in the county, which has given Imogen the opportunity to win this award'.

Generous sponsorship from Edgar Brothers saw them donate a healthy line-up of Hatsan airguns, specifically to be used at the shows, and they've taken a real hammering from an army of eager little beavers ever since! Lisa Riley, Sales Director at Edgar Brothers, had this to say:

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