

News Release

BRENTWOOD STUDENT AWARDED SCHOLARSHIP FOR DEDICATION TO FUNDRAISING

02 December 2009: Young Brentwood woman Lucy Clements' dedication to helping those less fortunate than herself and others has been recognised through a scholarship towards her university studies from the University of East London.

22-year-old Lucy was awarded with a £1,000 volunteering and community work scholarship in recognition of her fundraising efforts in the wider community.

Lucy, who is in her first year of a three year psychology degree at the University of East London, is the Charity Champion for events for Foresters Friendly Society in the Warley area. In addition, Lucy has been heavily involved in fundraising for the mental health charity Rethink and also donating her time to the voluntary befriending initiative that the charity. The befriending services offer individuals listed with the organisation a confidant they can trust and build a one-to-one relationship with through regular contact and activities.

Lucy's most recent fundraising venture through Foresters Friendly Society was the co-ordination of a community band night this month, which featured a range of local bands and musicians including up and coming Warley rapper Graham Martin, known as G.F.B. The event followed the successful 'Young at Heart Festival' that Lucy organised earlier this year that raised £530 for the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MND).

Performers at the band night gave their time free of charge and the event raised £235 that will be donated to those suffering from multiple sclerosis through the UK Multiple Sclerosis Society, Forester's Friendly Society's Warley branch chosen 2009 charity.

A Foresters Friendly Society member since birth, Lucy said she would be putting the £1,000 toward course tuition fees.

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“I am truly honoured to receive the scholarship which is really for something that I really love doing. The community work that I have been involved in for some time now doesn't feel like work at all but something that I know benefits a lot of people and which also gives me plenty of satisfaction.

“The course that I have recently started will hopefully enable me to continue to help others and the scholarship will help me achieve what I want to do.”

Neil Armitage, Marketing Director, Foresters Friendly Society, said: “As a mutual organisation we're naturally committed to lending our support to the work of a range of charities. Lucy is fully deserving of the scholarship from the University of East London and we are immensely proud of the work she does in helping others.

“Branches of Foresters Friendly Society support a wide range of charitable causes and it is estimated that the Society donates over £450,000 to worthy causes each year,” Mr Armitage said.

Foresters Friendly Society recently announced that fundraising activities undertaken by its members to support MND Association raised a total of £58,000 between September 2008 and September 2009. The final total is expected to reach around £60,000 by the end of the year. The year-long fundraising programme, in the Foresters Friendly Society's 175th anniversary year, was supported by members of the 250 UK branches.

Note: A photograph of Lucy Clements can be arranged.

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Notes to Editors

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About Foresters Friendly Society

Foresters Friendly Society was founded in 1834 and offers a range of financial saving, investment, insurance and protection products, as well as educational grants and healthcare support for its members. All financial products come with the accompanying benefits of membership of the Society at no additional cost. There is no obligation to purchase a financial product in order to become a member. The Society currently includes over 70,000 members across 250 UK branches.



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