



National Volunteer Awards – Birmingham Friday 24th February

Club Secretary and former Chairman Tony Benton, who won the England Athletics London Region Club Leader of the Year Award in November, went one better last weekend when he lifted the National Leader of the Year. The presentation of the award took place at an informal dinner at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Birmingham hosted by the Chair of the England Athletics Board, Gary Shaughnessy and Board member & Director Lorna Boothe.

Club Chairman Martin Chester, who submitted the nomination to England Athletics on behalf of the club, said “Tony fully deserves this award. Without Tony the Club would not function anywhere near as efficiently as it does. On taking over as Club Chairman in 2016 he steered the direction of the club, setting high expectations with the active support of the Club Committee. In his current role of Club Secretary, he supports me as the new Club Chair, sharing his knowledge & expertise from his 50+ years in athletics. He’s a very successful coach and among other things organises our home fixtures. He also attends many club fixtures as an official, maintaining his detailed knowledge of the club, supporting team managers & showing strong commitment to teams’ success. - his commitment is absolutely unquestionable.”

Tony Benton said “I was surprised and delighted when I found out that I’d won the national Leader Award after earlier winning the London Award. It was great to meet the other National award winners and to hear their stories. As part of the weekend we attended the World Athletics Indoor Tour Final and saw some great athletics as well. Thanks to the club Committee for nominating me and to everyone at the club for their support.”

England Athletics Release:

<https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/news/england-athletics-national-volunteer-award-winners-celebrate/>

