



2024 - 2025

RECOGNISING EXCELLENCE IN VOLUNTEERING

in South West England



NOMINEES & WINNERS

celebrating time given to creating meaningful STEM opportunities, for the benefit of schools and young people

as recognised by Graphic Science, the STEM Ambassador programme delivery partner for South West England

WINNERS

Alexia Williams
Rolls-Royce

Alexia Williams is recognised for her exceptional leadership and compassion for others in her STEM outreach, contributing over 250 volunteering hours this year while chairing the national Skills England Apprentice Panel and mentoring future engineers. Her impact spans policy, education, and public engagement—making STEM more inclusive, visible, and inspiring for all.

Andrew Finch
Exeter City Council

Andrew Finch is recognised for organising a high-impact STEM careers event with Exeter College, giving students hands-on experience with a live engineering project and fostering meaningful collaboration between education, industry, and local government. Their work is shaping the next generation of engineers in Exeter.

Carol Sayles
Siemens Energy Plc

Carol Sayles is recognised for launching an engaging STEM club at Oakdale Junior School, inspiring Key Stage 2 pupils through hands-on activities like wind-powered buggies and pop rockets. Her work fosters early curiosity in science and builds a strong foundation for future innovators.

Dr. Chris Jones
Met Office

Dr. Chris Jones is recognised for his outstanding leadership of Exminster Primary's Climate Club, a thriving STEM initiative that deepens children's understanding of climate science and strengthens their communication skills. His engaging approach has made the club a popular, long-standing highlight of the school's STEM programme.

WINNERS

Chris Skilton
CGI

Chris Skilton is recognised for his exceptional commitment as a STEM Ambassador, delivering hundreds of inspiring events, from local school talks to major national showcases. His infectious enthusiasm continues to ignite curiosity and passion for STEM in young people.

CyberFirst

The CyberFirst programme in the South West is recognised for its transformative outreach and inclusive approach, which empowers learners with all kinds of skills, interests and passions to see their place in the future of tech. This year it has connected with more than 50 schools in the region, linking them with industry opportunities and volunteers, to help young people aspire to a cyber career.

David Paul Treble

David Paul Treble is recognised for his innovative and far-reaching STEM outreach, delivering engaging activities to thousands of pupils since 2011, and making over 70 free resources accessible to educators. Paul's creative approach to STEM enrichment activities during lockdown and beyond has helped to make STEM activities more accessible and inspiring for all.

**Dorchester Science
Festival**
Emma Scott &
Connie Hollings

Dorchester Science Festival is recognised for its outstanding 10-day programme that brings STEM to life for the local community through engaging, town-wide events. The dedication and hard work of all the team, led by Emma Scott and Connie Hollings, as well as volunteers, allows families and visitors to spark curiosity and inspires minds both young and old.

WINNERS

Elaine Cosser
Ditchheat Primary School

Elaine Cosser is recognised for her passion for bringing enrichment activities to the students at Ditchheat Primary, and providing support for STEM Ambassadors visiting her school. Elaine's enthusiasm for STEM teaching, organisation and communication within her classroom ensures that volunteering at this school is a joy and a privilege.

Garry Packer

Garry Packer is recognised for his tireless dedication as a STEM Ambassador, delivering hundreds of inspiring events with schools in North Somerset and Bristol. His Sierpinski triangles and brilliant bees workshops are enormously popular activities, delivered with passion and unwavering support for learners of all ages, making Garry a true champion of STEM outreach.

Genoveva Esteban
Bournemouth University

Genoveva Esteban is recognised for her exceptional STEM outreach and creative programming. Genoveva's approach to outreach has empowered academics and undergraduate students at Bournemouth University to participate in outreach activities, working to engage their local schools, communities, families, and fellow scientists alike.

Geoffrey Goring

Geoffrey Goring is recognised for his impactful mentoring through the Brightside and Social Mobility Foundation programmes, helping young people make informed decisions about their futures. Geoff's standout support was featured as a case study in the Brightside programme's impact report, highlighting his dedication and influence.

WINNERS

Helen Close

Women's Engineering Society (WES)

Helen Close is recognised for her exceptional leadership of the Watts in a Home project, celebrating 100 years of women in electrical history through creative, inclusive STEM outreach. Her coordination of regional events and original programming empowered women and engaged diverse public audiences nationwide.

Henrietta Hegedus

Leonardo Helicopters

Henrietta Hegedus is recognised for her exceptional volunteering since joining the STEM Ambassador programme last year; championing inclusion in engineering and inspiring young minds through STEM outreach. Her commitment and incredible enthusiasm reflect a true passion for making a difference.

James Healey

Renishaw

James Healey is recognised for his outstanding commitment to STEM outreach and his inspiring openness about neurodiversity. James's enthusiasm and willingness to share his personal journey helps young people to understand that it's not only possible to succeed in STEM with the right support, but by embracing their unique strengths, diverse ways of thinking can be a real strength.

John Bradford

DigiLocal

John Bradford is recognised for his exceptional dedication to STEM through DigiLocal. DigiLocal has created inclusive, inspiring spaces that empower young people—especially those from underrepresented backgrounds—to develop their problem-solving skills through coding. His selfless leadership continues to transform lives and communities.

WINNERS

2024-2025 RECOGNISING EXCELLENCE IN VOLUNTEERING IN SOUTH WEST ENGLAND

Joss Benyon **Raytheon UK**

Joss Benyon is recognised for his extraordinary commitment to engaging young people in technology activities; mentoring FIRST Tech Challenge teams, helping to deliver the Raytheon Quadcopter Challenge, taking lead roles at various local and national FIRST Tech Challenge events, and delivering impactful workshops across Gloucestershire and the wider UK. His passion, leadership, and tireless commitment continue to inspire the next generation of STEM professionals.

MBDA Flying Start Challenge Committee

Elisha Haskayne
Jack Biggs
Lydia Jennings
Maximus Watkins
Tanika Dodhia

The MBDA Flying Start Challenge Committee 2024-2025 is recognised for their outstanding organisation in coordinating the Flying Start Challenge Grand Finals, inspiring 11-14 year olds through hands-on aerospace engineering and high-impact STEM events. The work put in to organising this programme of activity and supporting participating schools is helping to shape future engineers through collaboration, creativity, and real-world experience.

Morven Maclean **Plymouth City Council**

Morven Maclean is recognised for her outstanding leadership in Mission Mammoth, a dynamic week-long event engaging 500 primary school pupils with the built environment through creative , engaging STEM activities. Her infectious enthusiasm and expert coordination have made it a standout fixture in Plymouth's STEM calendar.

WINNERS

Nicholas Parker
The3Engineers

Nick Parker, founder of The3Engineers Project, is recognised for his self-funded STEM outreach which has reached over 250,000 children since 2022. Passionate about STEM, he and the3Engineers became self-published authors with the aim to use their books to inspire the next generation of problem solvers to help better the planet. This project demonstrates how grassroots efforts can make a big impact on young learners..

Nigel Thornber
Babcock International

Nigel Thornber is recognised for being a passionate STEM Ambassador whose leadership has enabled countless school visits and field trips, enriching education for under-resourced communities. His dedication and initiative make him a standout contributor to STEM outreach in the South West.

Paul Mullen
Krempel

Paul Mullen is recognised for his role as Outreach Lead at Krempel and his dedication to co-ordinating STEM outreach activities on behalf of his team and schools across Devon. In particular we recognise the spaghetti challenge for primary schools and his work with special and alternative provision schools, and the incredible effort put in to adapting the activities to meet diverse needs while sparking enthusiastic engagement among all learners.

Sanjeeva Karunaratne
Denmark Road High School

Sanjeeva Karunaratne is recognised for his creative and impactful STEM outreach. Sanjeeva's use of Raspberry Pi's to hack Bluetooth enabled toys teaches students about computing and cyber security in a fun, relatable way. Sanjeeva's hands-on sessions and support for CyberFirst activities have inspired interest in tech across multiple schools.

WINNERS

Stacey Turner
Babcock International

Stacey Turner is recognised for exceptional organisation and coordination as the Devonport STEM Lead at Devonport Royal Dockyard for Babcock International. Stacey's dedication has brought structure, focus, and renewed energy to the volunteer STEM team and has dramatically increased STEM Ambassador engagement across the site.

Trevor Cook

Trevor Cook is recognised for his outstanding organisational leadership as a South West STEM Ambassador for the Greenpower Educational Trust, supporting over 130 teams with expert guidance, regular updates, and strategic outreach. His dedication empowers schools to make the most out of their participation in Greenpower, where students learn essential STEM skills while making memories that will last a lifetime.

Yvonne Gordon
Leidos

Yvonne Gordon is recognised for her outstanding commitment to mentoring and empowering young women in STEM, offering hands-on support through school outreach activities and the Stemettes programme. Her dedication has fostered confidence, ambition, and real-world impact across students, graduates, and colleagues alike.

NOMINEES

Benjamin Franklin
Protection Group International

Ben Franklin is recognised for his outstanding cyber-focused STEM outreach, mentoring young learners and early-career professionals while designing inclusive, hands-on initiatives that demystify digital skills. His passion for technology and ability to make complex cyber concepts accessible inspires the next generation of digital leader.

Eko-Energy Programme
STEMAZING

The Eko-Energy programme is recognised for its practical and engaging nuclear energy themed activities, delivered this year to over 700 young people in South West England. Funded by Eko and co-ordinated by STEMAZING, workshops were delivered in partnership with STEM Ambassadors, inspiring students through creative activities and real-world STEM connections.

George Modica-Cliff
Babcock International

George Modica-Cliff is recognised for his inspiring hands-on STEM outreach, leading and developing the practical component of a four-session project focusing on conservation and Remotely Operated Underwater Vehicles (ROUV) that empowered students to design real-world conservation tools. George's creative approach to sharing engineering principles with young people fosters confidence, collaboration, and critical thinking in future innovators.

Jake Sherman
Ibstock

Jake Sherman is recognised for his inspiring STEM outreach, balancing university, work, and volunteering while growing into a confident public speaker and role model. Jake's return to his former secondary school, to deliver an activity, highlights the lasting impact of his dedication and passion.

NOMINEES

Joshua Doran
McLaren Automotive Ltd

Joshua Doran is recognised for his inspiring STEM outreach in the South West, sharing his journey into motorsport and career at McLaren to show how creativity and engineering go hand in hand. His talks have reached over 500 primary school students, making maths and science exciting and accessible.

Leidos

The Leidos LMS Division LCST Programme Team and Leidos UK STEM Employee Resource Group are recognised for their outstanding STEM outreach in the South West, engaging over 300 students through mentoring, networking, and hands-on activities. Their collaboration with schools and dynamic initiatives like the colour-coding robot showcase their commitment to inspiring future talent.

Matthew Primmer
Babcock International

Matthew Primmer is recognised for his outstanding STEM outreach, supporting the delivery of Babcock STEM events at Devonport Dockyard and supporting schools with limited access to STEM. It is clear that Matthew volunteers as a STEM Ambassador not as an obligation, but as an opportunity to give back and help shape the next generation of engineers, technicians, and innovators.

Michelle Graffagnino
University of Bristol

Michelle Graffagnino is recognised for her transformative leadership in climate-focused STEM outreach, recruiting and training 40 new Climate Ambassadors and launching a successful schools conference at the University of Bristol. Michelle's work bridges education and civic engagement, empowering schools to take meaningful climate action.

NOMINEES

Shared Apprenticeships

Katie Turner

Rebecca Southcott

Shared Apprenticeships is recognised for their impactful STEM outreach across the South West, engaging over 1,600 participants through careers events, mentoring, and employability support. Katie Turner and Rebecca Southcott, from the Shared Apprenticeship team, demonstrate a commitment to promoting diverse pathways into construction that empowers young people to explore rewarding STEM futures.

Souroni Hazra

Cavendish Nuclear Ltd

Souroni Hazra is recognised for her engaging STEM outreach, sharing real-world career insights and hands-on paper engineering activities that spark enthusiasm in students. Souroni's commitment to regular participation in volunteering activities, like speed networking at Denmark High School, makes her a passionate and impactful STEM Ambassador.

Tamzin Barford-Jessup

Redmaids' High Junior School

Tamzin Barford-Jessup is recognised for her innovative integration of science into school wellbeing workshops, using nature-based learning activities to foster both curiosity and emotional wellbeing. Her approach highlights the vital connection between environmental engagement, wellbeing and education.

Tom Pearce

BCP Council

Tom Pearce is recognised for his creative and committed approach to STEM volunteering. Tom's design of a custom 3D-printed trophy, in support of an IET Faraday Challenge Day, brought engineering and technology concepts to life. Tom's hands-on approach and dedication to inspiring students make him a standout STEM Ambassador.

CONTACT

Graphic Science

STEM Ambassador Programme Delivery Partner South West England

Graphic Science is a leading STEM engagement consultancy based near Bristol, UK. Our portfolio of support for engagement with science and technology includes strategic guidance to research funders, industry and HEIs on the development of public engagement programmes, evaluation and training, working with schools, and resource development. As the STEM Ambassador Delivery Partners for South West England, we help to generate and coordinate STEM events across the region, working closely with STEM Ambassadors, schools, colleges and employers to create meaningful STEM opportunities for the benefit of young people.

Contact us: ambassadors@graphicscience.co.uk



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