

Warrington Young Carers Inspiration Awards



The WIRED Young Carers Team with three of the young carers they support at the prestigious Warrington Guardian Inspiration Awards October 2013.

Bradley and Kelsey Siddall were honoured at the inspiration awards, winning the Young Carer of the Year Award in recognition of their remarkable strength and bravery in caring for their mother and younger siblings.

The brother and sister duo have shown maturity beyond their years after taking on tasks usually associated with an adult.



From cleaning the house from top to bottom to making meals for their two younger siblings, no job is every too much trouble for the kind-hearted youngsters.

St Ann's Primary School pupil Kelsey, aged 10, said: "Looking after my mum has been quite hard but we work together. Sometimes we found it difficult but we just carried on the best we could.

"It's nice that our mum has been able to come tonight as she has been very poorly after having her drips for her illness."

The two siblings couldn't wipe the smiles off their faces when they walked on stage to collect their award. Bradley, aged 13, who attends Penketh High School, said: "I am surprised my sister and I have been chosen when I know so many other kids are dealing with the same things as me."

"I love my mum and all my family a lot and will always do anything I can to help my mum with anything she needs."

Another one of our fantastic young carers, Nicole Heimes was short listed and came runner up.



A KIND-HEARTED young carer was heralded as an 'inspiration' after learning to juggle her school and social life while caring for her mum.

Nicole Heimes, from Padgate, supports her mum on a daily basis and has learnt to deal with the struggles that go hand in hand with a parent who has a mental health condition.

But, despite this, the 12-year-old always has a smile on her face, no matter what life throws at her.

Nicole's mum, Kim said: "I couldn't be prouder of her. She always feels as if she isn't doing enough but she always goes above and beyond what is expected."

The Birchwood High School pupil takes on a level of responsibility usually associated with an adult and often puts her mum's needs before her own.

But, for Nicole, making sure her mum is happy is what's important to her and she never sees it as a chore.

Nicole said: "I have been caring for my mum for about four years and I spend a lot of the time cheering her up when she is upset.

"I try and make her laugh by telling her jokes, which sometimes aren't even funny. I don't mind doing it."

Nicole spends each day making sure her mum is supported and cared for and now shares her experiences with other youngsters through the Warrington young carers service, WIRED.

Nicole, who was shortlisted for a young carer award at the Warrington Guardian Inspiration Awards, said: "It was my old family support worker who suggested I go to WIRED and I'm glad I did. I like chatting to people who are going through the same thing as me.

"I don't mind helping my mum out - we've always been very close - but going to the club is like a support group for me."

All three had a lovely night and were joined by proud family members and the WIRED Young Carers Team to support!