



**MWH**

**BUILDING A BETTER WORLD**

&



United Kingdom

**Youth Parliament**  
MAKING OUR MARK

# AWARDS 2008

Jack Gebhard (Northumberland), Jacob Rix (Norfolk), James Greenhalgh (Staffordshire), and Joe Sullivan (Staffordshire) have been announced as the first ever winners of the MWH and UK Youth Parliament Awards.

The awards, which were presented at the House of Commons on 28 January 2009, recognise the outstanding achievements of Members of the UK Youth Parliament in various fields. They are sponsored by the environmental engineering consultancy MWH.

Andy Hamflett, Chief Executive

of the UK Youth Parliament, commented, "At a time when young people are subject to unprecedented levels of negative coverage, it is an honour to be able to celebrate the talents and achievements of those who work so incredibly hard for their communities through their work at the UK Youth Parliament."

Sarah Grimwood who manages MWH's ongoing sponsorship of the UK Youth Parliament commented, "We sponsor UKYP because we strongly believe in the positive effects and influence of the work of UKYP and its MYPs. You don't have

to work with them for long to see that these dynamic young people are destined to be our future politicians, scientists and engineers.

"We created these awards with the UKYP to actively promote some of their many achievements and successes and to redress the bad press that young people all too often receive. It was not easy to select the award finalists, as in a sense all the MYPs are winners, but today we would like to congratulate those chosen, thank them for their commitment and ask them to keep up their inspirational work."

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD



Photo: Jeannie Edwards (MWH), Jack Gebhard, Sam Ellis (Chair of UKYP Board of Trustees)

**Winner: Jack Gebhard, 15, MYP for Northumberland**

Jack is an ambassador for young people and has directly impacted on the lives of many young people both on a local and global scale. He set up and led on a project to raise funds for a much needed classroom in Africa and has been instrumental in fostering a new culture between middle schools and his local high school with student leadership activities.

Also nominated: Andrew Elliott (North Tyneside), Daniel McCrisken (Northern Ireland)

# CAMPAIGN AWARD



Photo: Jeannie Edwards (MWH), James Greenhalgh, Linda Butcher (Sheila McKechnie Foundation)

**Winner: James Greenhalgh, 18, MYP for Staffordshire**

James has campaigned tirelessly locally, regionally and nationally on the issue of abolishing university tuition fees. Amongst James's achievements have been a consultation with 6000 young people, meetings with high profile Government Ministers and MPs, appearances in The Guardian and on the BBC, and involvement in a Channel 4 project called Battlefront, which promotes the activities of young campaigners. The sheer time and effort James has devoted consistently to the cause is nothing short of incredible.

Also nominated: Catherine Rawsthorne (Bury), Ben Wesson (Warwickshire)

# PRESS AND MEDIA AWARD



Photo: Jeannie Edwards (MWH), Jacob Rix, David Seymour (former Political Editor of the Mirror Group)

**Winner: Jacob Rix, 16, MYP for Norfolk**

Jacob has promoted young people's issues both locally, giving radio interviews and supplying quotes for newspapers, and nationally, appearing on BBC Radio 5 Live and in The Guardian, as well as "selling in" to the Daily Mirror and The Times. Jacob has also been getting media opportunities for other MYPs in his region, to allow them to develop their skills and get public recognition for the hard work and determination that they put into their campaigns.

Also nominated: Katrina Mather (East Sussex), Dan Willetts (Dudley)

# ANDREW ROWE AWARD



Photo: Jeannie Edwards (MWH), Joe Sullivan, Sheila Rowe (widow of Andrew Rowe, founding father of UKYP)

**Winner: Joe Sullivan, 16, MYP for Staffordshire**

Joe has excelled in his role as MYP; he is persistent in his drive and he is a true unsung hero working for the benefit of others. Throughout his time as MYP, Joe has campaigned to combat drug abuse, abolish tuition fees, and led on an anti bullying project in Staffordshire. He stands as a true inspiration, selfless and committed to improving the lives of young people whilst seeking no recognition for his efforts.

Also nominated: John O'Neill (Salford), Catherine Rawsthorne (Bury)