

The Times / Sternberg Award 2011

The winner of The Times/Sternberg Active Life Award was announced today as the psychiatrist Colin Murray Parkes for his services to bereaved people. He acted as consultant in the establishment of a Trauma Recovery programme in Rwanda in 1995. In 2001 he led a team of Cruse volunteers in New York after the September 11 attacks. In 2005 he was sent by Help the Hospices to India after the tsunami to assess the psychological needs of the bereaved.

There are five runners-up: Dr Judith Darmady, a retired paediatrician, for her work in the development in care for children in hospital and special schools around the world; Peter Harper, Honorary Chairman of Workaid, for more than two decades of work with the charity that supplies refurbished tools and equipment to countries including Africa, so that they may help themselves out of poverty; Ben Helfgott, a British weightlifting champion and only known survivor of the Nazi concentration camps to compete in two Olympic Games, for his emotional support of other survivors and his work to educate the public on the Holocaust; Dr Joan Martin, for her social and volunteering activities, including establishing the Kensington Emperor's Swimming Club for disabled adults and children; Mala Tribich, for her work in Holocaust education with the Holocaust Centre at Beth Shalom in Nottinghamshire, the Holocaust Educational Trust and the Holocaust Education Department of the London Jewish Cultural Centre.

The annual award, which is in its fourth year, was established by Sir Sigmund Sternberg, the philanthropist and founder of the Three Faiths Forum, and *The Times* to recognise

outstanding contributions to society and good causes by the over-70s.

The £10,000 prize money is split between the winner, who will receive £5,000, and £1,000 for each of the five runners-up. They will collect their awards at a ceremony which will be held in the new year.

Last year's award was won by Major John Majendie, a veteran of the Second World War, who has organised pilgrimages to France for Normandy veterans for the past 25 years. In 2009 Phoebe Caldwell won the award for her work in improving the lives of people with severe autism. In 2008 the inaugural award was given to Helen Bamber in recognition of a lifetime dedicated to helping the victims of torture.

Also nominated this year were Eric Albone, Mauroof Athique, Charles Barron, Peter Ball, Ross Bennett, Dulcie Billing, Jimmy Baynham, Audrey Chaytor, David Dahms, Tom Daveney, Bruce Davidson, Kathleen Derrig, Gill Devine, Victor Dubowitz, Hugh Duffy, Kate Elliott, Vera Faint, Charles Fountain, Joan Fox, Douglas Goddard, Lewis Golden, Margaret Gow, Judith Hargreaves, Clive Holland, Nick Hood, Pamela Hudson-Bendersky, Deirdre Jalie, Mark James, Vi Jamieson, Eric Jay, Simon Jenkins, Idwal Jones, Sir Ralph Kohn, Ralph Land, Jeffrey Long, John Lyon, Leonore Mendoza, Sabina Miller, Yvonne Nelson, Basil Owen, Ken Pounds, Beryl Reeves, Moss Rich, Alan Roberts, Simon Rodway, Eric Saffin, Sid Snell, Minnie Solomons, Patricia Solomons, Rosemary Squires, Keith Taylor, Ken Tynan, Lord Weidenfeld, Dorothy Westell, Mary Williams, Audrey Winkler, Sheila Wright and Laurence Young.