

COMMENT

No praise is high enough

There are some remarkable people in Bradford, in all age groups. We are well enough aware of that here at the T&A, where judging is under way for our Bradford's Best Millennium Awards for members of the community and voluntary organisations who have made an impact on the life of the city. We have been amazed at the outstanding contribution people have made, and continue to make.

One of the nominees, whose story we tell today, is 86-year-old Lotti Lori Michaelis, who devotes most of her life to visiting the sick and fund-raising for the elderly. But there are good things happening at the other end of the age scale in Bradford as well. Too often we have to report stories which reflect badly on young people. Yet there are many young individuals or groups who are doing good, helpful, positive things.

The team who have transformed Haselbury House in Park Road from a near-slum frequented by drug users to a real home for 40 people are a fine example of the things that young people can achieve when they are given responsibility and a helping hand. One of the members of that group has told how, at the age of 16, he found himself living alone in a bed-sitter when his family split up, not knowing how to look after himself. Now he has a home he can be proud of in the new block and a tremendous shared sense of achievement.

The group and the organisations which helped them find a new sense of purpose fully deserve the recognition which came their way in the national awards of the Chartered Institute of Housing.