





The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Kilve Court, Kilve, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 1EA Telephone: 01278 741270 Email: <u>DofE@somerset.gov.uk</u>

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Dear Ben

We have a second bursary applicant, who I would like to share their story with you also.

Elias, lives in Yeovil but was born in Eritrea, living with relatives after losing his parents in early childhood. He came to the UK in 2018 as an asylum seeker. Elias applied for the bursary to help him through the award and I am pleased to say that he has fully completed his Gold, he came to us at SSE Outdoors for his expedition last year, joining another group that were unknown to him, finishing the last section of his award. Elias has completed both his Silver and Gold award through Yeovil College using our bursary scheme for support.

Elias has been a winner at the Pride of Somerset Youth Awards this week – in the Overcoming Social Adversity Category, a truly amazing result and recognition for all that he has gone through and the commitment he made to achieving his award. Please find the article from the County Gazette below

NINE OF THE BEST: Pride of Somerset Youth Award winners revealed | Somerset County Gazette



Elias and his certificate for the Pride of Somerset Youth Award Once again, this shows what a difference your bursary support is making to young people in Somerset, and I wish to say thank you once again on behalf of all the young people you are helping to support.

Please feel free to share amongst your members as appropriate and thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

- TAtto

Carol Authers - DofE Operations Manager.