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Nomination is 'a truly fantastic achievement'

Express reporters
geoffstonebanks@gmail.com
www.sussexexpress.co.uk

Local Seaford gardener, Geoff Stonebanks, has been overwhelmed to learn he has been nominated for the Macmillan Cancer Support's "Outstanding Supporter Award 2023".

Nominations were submitted last November and on February 21, Geoff received confirmation that he had been listed as one of the finalists, with an invite to a glittering awards ceremony in Birmingham on June 1.

Geoff's notification said: "A huge congratulations on behalf of the whole of Macmillan Cancer Support. This is a fantastic achievement, and we are so delighted for you."

Since retiring early, in

2004, Geoff has developed a brand-new career volunteering for a number of different organisations.

In addition to his involvement with Macmillan, Geoff also volunteers for the National Garden Scheme, both by opening his garden for the charity each year since 2011 (which has duly raised an additional £31,700) and as Publicity Manager for East and Mid Sussex. In 2020, the then Chairman of the NGS awarded him the "Chairman's Award" for his exceptional contribution as a volunteer.

Likewise, in 2018, the Mayor of Seaford awarded him the "Don Mabey Award", recognition given to one person in the town each year who has made a significant difference. The citation said 'It is for services to the community within Sea-



Geoff in his award winning garden Driftwood supporting Macmillan cancer Support

ford related to fundraising in the town'. Other charities to bene-

fit from his work include St Wilfrid's Hospice, The Sussex Beacon, Family Support

Work, RNLI, Martlets Hospice and PSPA, Association of Carers.

Details of Geoff's fundraising can be found at www.driftwoodbysea.co.uk