



“I want to tell you about three little words that changed my life: Fine Cell Work... Fine Cell Work breaks the barrier when you leave custody, it has been a real stepping stone back into life after prison. I feel part of a community when I’m here. It’s given me purpose again.” Fine Cell Work Stitcher post-release

Fine Cell Work received a grant of £10,000 from The Brothers Trust for our 2023 Awards Scheme

The process of selecting the recipients for the various Fine Cell Work stitcher awards will be in October 2023.

We will soon begin to request volunteers who train and support our stitchers in prison to nominate people for the awards in the categories listed below. The reason for the timing of this process is to enable us to ascertain who the best stitchers are over the year and also to ensure that the financial reward will be received by them before the Christmas period. While the awards make our stitchers feel appreciated, we know that having funds in hand in time for Christmas is important to people in prison. We will ensure that they receive their awards accordingly.

This year, in addition to the volunteer nominated awards, we are introducing the **Production Commendation award**. This will be awarded by the Fine Cell Work panel of judges to stitchers who have made a significant contribution to Fine Cell Work’s production capabilities by stitching multiple, high-quality pieces throughout the year. This is an effort to recognise stitchers who have stitched 8 or more kits and have not been nominated by their volunteers for an award.

The other awards are:

1. **Gold Standard Award** to our most outstanding stitchers who have shown they can do complex commissions to deadlines, working fast, reliably and to a very good standard, with the ability to adapt to new techniques.
2. **Volunteering and Leadership Awards** are for prisoners who have shown leadership and commitment in acting as a Class Co-ordinators and Peer Mentors.
3. **Progress Awards** are for those who have shown real progress in developing new skills and confidence. They may have experienced, or still be experiencing, considerable difficulties, but still show determination to surmount difficulties.
4. **Excellence in Lone Stitching** is given to stitchers who have worked independently of cell groups with dedication and commitment.
5. **Fine Cell Work Quilting Award** is for stitchers who have produced quilts to a consistently very high standard, showing initiative and creativity.
6. **George Gater Award** is for overcoming personal challenges & perseverance
7. **Outstanding Contribution to Fine Cell Work** is for stitchers who are champions of FCW in their prison and/ or who are willing to work very competently and fast to deadlines when something is needed particularly urgently or to finish pieces for the commissions team.