



ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING IN WALES
NURSE OF THE YEAR
AWARDS

Awards
PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2024

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ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING IN WALES NURSE OF THE YEAR AWARDS



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ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING IN WALES
NURSE OF THE YEAR
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A SPECIAL THANKS FROM RCN WALES



Without our sponsors this evening's event would not have been possible. Royal College of Nursing Wales would like to say a huge thank you to each and every one of our sponsors for helping us to celebrate the very best of nursing in Wales.

Through the success of these Awards, RCN Wales officially launched the RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Alumni Network in 2017. The Alumni Network offers a clear pathway of personal and career development opportunities and exposure for award finalists. It creates a highly engaged group of innovative leaders who promote nursing within Wales and externally, both nationally and internationally.

For further information please email RCNWalesAlumni@rcn.org.uk



If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of the 2025 RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Awards, please contact us via email at nurseoftheyearawards@rcn.org.uk



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Foreword



Welcome to the eleventh Royal College of Nursing (RCN) Wales Nurse of the Year Awards. It is a true honour to gather together for this special event that celebrates and publicly recognises the tireless dedication and hard work of nurses, midwives, and health care support workers across Wales. This year, we are delighted to host the event at the stunning Mercure Holland House Hotel, a new venue befitting this prestigious celebration.

2024 has been a pivotal year for RCN Wales, marked by an intense focus on critical issues such as fair pay for nursing, corridor care, and safe staffing levels. These priorities reflect the challenges faced by our members, who work with unwavering dedication and resilience in the face of ongoing pressures within the health care system. RCN Wales continues to engage with the Welsh Government, campaigning for improvements and advocating on behalf of the profession, striving to secure a brighter future for nursing.

Tonight's event serves as a powerful testament to the remarkable scope and diversity of roles that nurses, midwives, and health care support workers fulfil in service of our patients. From consultant clinical care to compassionate support, the dedication shown by each of you demonstrates the very best of our profession. The stories of our finalists inspire us all and highlight the invaluable contributions you make daily to the health and wellbeing of people across Wales.

To every finalist here this evening, I offer my heartfelt congratulations. These awards are for you, honouring your passion, skill, and commitment to delivering outstanding patient care. Your dedication deserves this celebration, and we are proud to recognise your exceptional achievements.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to our generous sponsors. Your ongoing support makes this event possible, and your commitment to the nursing profession strengthens our collective impact. Thank you for standing alongside us in honouring these extraordinary health care professionals.

Here's to a memorable evening of celebration and recognition for all!



Jackie Davies

Chair of the RCN Wales Board

RCN Wales Headquarters:
Tŷ Maeth, King George V Drive East, Cardiff CF14 4XZ

RCN North Wales Office:
Plas Eirias Business Centre, Abergele Road, Colwyn Bay LL29 8BF

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MASTER OF CEREMONY



BBC TV and radio presenter Jason Mohammad is one of the most sought-after hosts in the events world and in advertising.

Best known for his role on BBC One's fast live football scores FINAL SCORE and flagship football show MATCH OF THE DAY and MOTD2, Jason's professionalism, warmth and humour makes him a massive hit with live audiences.

The Cardiff-born presenter has also fronted some of the BBC's biggest television entertainment output. This year, Jason launched the BBC's new Champions League football show – which showed the best teams in the world kick off the new league format, appeared on SuperSport's Euro 2024 coverage in front of millions of viewers around the world and was a contestant on Celebrity Mastermind and Bridge of Lies with Ross Kemp.

Given his unique ability to chair, present and interact – some of the world's biggest brands have booked Jason for awards and events including EE, HP, Jaguar Land Rover, UEFA, Mercedes and Maserati. He's also recently been appointed as a Pro Chancellor of Cardiff University. He also won Richard Osman's House of Games on BBC Two. He loves telling people that!

Jason is also a very proud member of the BBC Radio 2 family lining up alongside Zoe Ball, Vernon Kay and Dermot O'Leary as one of their famous voices. Jason presents GOOD MORNING SUNDAY on Radio 2 between 6am and 9am every weekend and regularly presents the EARLY BREAKFAST SHOW, also on Radio 2. He was also the commentator for the UK's biggest radio station at HM the King's Coronation Concert in Windsor in 2023. Jason also narrated a BBC Radio 2 Special following the death of HM the Queen and hosted the National Proclamation in Wales for BBC One.

Jason absolutely adores the medium of radio and often co-presents Saturday Live on BBC Radio 4, chooses his Pick of the Week and made The Ely Estate documentary for Radio 4 in 2023. He's also presented the 2012, 2016 and 2020 (2021) Tokyo Olympic Games, the 2014, 2018, 2022 Commonwealth Games, FA Cup finals, FIFA World Cup finals and the Six Nations. Jason's also presented for Channel 4 Sport and the Rugby World Cup for S4C. He's made films for The One Show and co-presented BBC One's Crimewatch with Sophie Raworth and Kirsty Young. Jason works between London, Salford and Cardiff and is a fluent Welsh speaker – appearing regularly on Welsh language television station S4C. He even has time for his own show on BBC Radio Wales - where he fronts a phone in show in the English language.

Jason has travelled the world with the BBC fronting TV coverage from Brazil to the United States to Australia and is equally at home interviewing Hollywood A-listers and music stars as he is chatting to the world's biggest football names.

Jason is the CEO of a media company that he founded and has recently created his own TV academy as part of that-nurturing the next generation of broadcasters. He's also a keen filmmaker having made many TV documentaries across the UK, Saudi Arabia, Ireland, Mexico, Egypt and presented two historic travel programmes from Jerusalem.

He's a huge football fan and supports Cardiff City FC.



Jason Mohammad



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2024

Sponsored by **Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board**



This award recognises an exceptional Registered Nurse who has made a career-long contribution to nursing practice, resulting in a legacy of sustainably improved outcomes for individuals, communities, and the wider population.

Nominees for this award will also have made a significant contribution to the development of nursing as a profession that is valued by society.

Criteria for Award: The successful nominee will have made a sustained lifetime contribution towards the significant advancement of nursing on a national and/or international level. The winning nurse is recognised as:

- Able to demonstrate a track record of progressive leadership, and will have inspired advanced nursing practice
- Being an expert in their field, having delivered measurable improvements in the quality of care.

The 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award will be announced at the award ceremony.

Shortlisted nominees for the 2024 Award are:



JANE HOPKINSON

Velindre Professor of Nursing and Interdisciplinary Cancer Care, Cardiff University and Trustee of Tenovus Cancer Care



CLAIRE HURLIN

Head Community and Chronic Conditions, Hywel Dda University Health Board



LYNNE JONES

Head of Nursing Education, Swansea Bay University Health Board



NEVA ANN PRICE

Lead Nurse for Professional Development, Primary Care and Community Division, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board



YVONNE WILLIAMS

Clinical Skills Trainer, Patient Experience and Involvement Team, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

PREVIOUS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

2013 Helen Bennett Clinical Board Nurse, Mental Health, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

2014 Daphne Meredith-Smith Head of Mental Health Nursing, Cwm Taf University Health Board

2015 Brenda Scourfield School Health Nurse, Hywel Dda University Health Board

2016 Karen Logan OBE Consultant Nurse-Continence, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

2017 Tanya Strange MBE Divisional Nurse, Primary Care and Networks, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

2018 Professor Ruth Northway OBE FRCN Professor of Learning Disability Nursing, University of South Wales

2019 Angela Haley Senior Nurse, Respiratory Services, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

2021 Caroline Whittaker RRC OSTJ Quality Lead, Public Health Wales

2023 Jill Paterson Director of Primary Community and Long-Term Care, Hywel Dda University Health Board

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LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Sponsored by **Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board**



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Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTM) provides primary, community, hospital and mental health services to the 450,000 people living in three County Boroughs: Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf. The Health Board is also responsible for the provision of specialist child and adolescent mental health services for South Wales.

The Health Board employs almost 12,000 staff, our workforce is the lifeblood not only of the Health Board, but also many of the communities that we serve. We take our role as one of the largest employers in the area very seriously which is evident in our wide-ranging partnership working, dedication to our corporate social responsibilities and the importance we place on building relationships with our staff and community.

At CTM we believe in innovation to make improvements to clinical care. We are especially proud of our Academic Centre in Merthyr Tydfil, which is helping to train future doctors in community medicine.

REGISTERED NURSE - CHILD AWARD

Sponsored by **Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board**



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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Betsi Cadwaladr
University Health Board

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) is the largest health organisation in Wales, with a budget of £1.87 billion and a workforce of over 19,000. The Health Board is responsible for the delivery of health care services to more than 700,000 people across the six counties of North Wales (Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham).

The Health Board coordinates the work of 96 GP practices, and NHS services provided by 78 dental and orthodontic practices, 70 optometry practices and opticians and 145 pharmacies in North Wales.

COMMUNITY AND PRIMARY CARE NURSING AWARD

Sponsored by **Hywel Dda University Health Board**



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WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Hywel Dda
University Health Board

Hywel Dda University Health Board provides health care to a population of around 384,000 in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire. It provides acute, primary, community, mental health and learning disabilities services in a variety of settings including general and community hospitals, health centres, community health care facilities and within patient's own homes.

Registered nursing and midwifery staff account for approximately 32% of the Health Board's workforce and are integral to positively influencing the health care experience of patients at all levels—from the impact they have on national policy and education, to the care they provide at the bedside and, increasingly, within patients' own homes.



Our Award Sponsors



IMPROVING INDIVIDUAL AND POPULATION HEALTH AWARD

Sponsored by **Public Health Wales**

Public Health Wales is the national public health agency for Wales.

Public Health Wales works to protect and improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities for the people of Wales.

We will achieve our vision of a healthier Wales through the delivery of six strategic priorities:

- Influencing the wider determinants of health
- Promoting mental and social wellbeing
- Promoting healthy behaviours
- Supporting the development of a sustainable health and care system focused on prevention and early intervention
- Delivering excellent public health services to maximise population health and health equity
- Tackling the public health effects of climate change.



REGISTERED NURSE – LEARNING DISABILITIES AWARD

Sponsored by **Swansea Bay University Health Board**

Swansea Bay University Health Board provides care for around 390,000 people in Swansea and Neath Port Talbot with a range of tertiary services, employing approximately 13,500 staff. It has three main hospitals—Morriston, Singleton and Neath Port Talbot—along with a community hospital. It provides mental health and learning disabilities services both in hospital and community settings and has responsibility for primary health care including GPs, dentists, pharmacies and ophthalmologists.

Swansea Bay University Health Board is home to the Welsh Centre for Burns and Plastic Surgery. It also works in partnership with Swansea University and its School of Medicine, the School of Human and Health Sciences and the Institute of Life Science 1 and 2.



REGISTERED NURSE - MENTAL HEALTH AWARD

Sponsored by **Aneurin Bevan University Health Board**

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) covers the areas of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen. It serves an estimated population of over 639,000, approximately 21% of the total Welsh population.

In recent years, the Health Board has developed and implemented new and effective models of care in partnership with local authorities and third sector organisations to respond to the changing needs of local people. Their ambitious plan is to deliver more care closer to home, create a network of local hospitals providing routine diagnostic and treatment services and centralising specialist and critical care services in one place at the Grange University Hospital, which opened in November 2020.

ABUHB has earned a reputation for being an innovative organisation with strong values of supporting and developing staff. Nurses and midwives at all levels are positively encouraged and supported to showcase good ideas, services, technologies and policies that support practice and improve patient care.

Our Award Sponsors



SUZANNE GOODALL INDEPENDENT SECTOR NURSING AWARD

Sponsored by **Tŷ Hafan Children's Hospice**



CHILDREN'S HOSPICE
HOSBIS I BLANT

After retiring as an occupational therapist Suzanne Goodall, founder of Tŷ Hafan, spent the next 11 years realising her vision to establish a children's hospice for Wales.

Suzanne, a Beddau resident, believed the care and support provided for children with life-shortening conditions should be holistic, family-focused and available, free of charge, when and where needed most.

Tŷ Hafan's ambition is that when a child's life will be short, no family should have to live it on their own. Suzanne's vision continues to inspire Tŷ Hafan's nurses and wider care team to deliver compassionate care and support for children with life-shortening conditions and their families, not only at its hospice in Sully, but also in hospitals, homes and communities.

It is a lasting tribute to Suzanne that her philosophy continues to underpin the bespoke care and support provided to each child and their family cared for by Tŷ Hafan so that every life, however short, is lived to the full and lasting memories are created.

SPECIALIST NURSING AWARD

Sponsored by **Cardiff and Vale University Health Board**



GIG CYMRU NHS WALES
Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Caerdydd a'r Fro
Cardiff and Vale
University Health Board

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board is one of the largest NHS organisations employing 17,000 staff, 43% of which are nursing and midwives.

Serving a local population of 500,000, the Health Board provides a range of health and wellbeing services from primary, and community care through to acute and highly specialised services. Cardiff and Vale University Health Board is also a provider of tertiary services for the wider population across Wales supporting complex services such as neurosciences, cardiac services, nephrology and transplant, Welsh Gender Service and the Major Trauma Centre. The Health Board also prides itself on innovation in healthcare most recently commissioning the Versius Robot to treat colorectal cancer patients to improve their outcome and recovery times.

HEALTH CARE SUPPORT WORKER AWARD

Sponsored by **NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee**



GIG CYMRU NHS WALES
Cyd-bwyllgor Comisiynu
Joint Commissioning
Committee

NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (NWJCC) is proud to sponsor the Health Care Support Worker Award.

Health Care Support Workers are a vital and valued part of the workforce, essential to delivering services and caring for patients.

The NWJCC is responsible for commissioning a wide range of services on behalf of the seven Health Boards in Wales. Established on April 1, 2024, the NWJCC replaced three predecessor teams: The Emergency Ambulance Services Committee (EASC), the National Collaborative Commissioning Unit, and the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee.

From widely used services like NHS Wales 111 and ambulance services, to more specialised services for rare diseases, the NWJCC commissions around 220 services.

Striving to be a centre of commissioning excellence, adding value for the population of Wales, the NWJCC's goal is to improve health and care outcomes across Wales by creating sustainable, system-wide improvements that truly make a difference in people's lives.

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University of
South Wales
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NURSE EDUCATION AWARD

Sponsored by **University of South Wales**

The University of South Wales (USW) is a proud sponsor of this award. With approximately 1500 nursing and midwifery students, we are proud and committed contributors to the education of our healthcare workforce. The valued support of clinicians in supporting our students within the practice environment is exemplary, and we celebrate the close working relationship we have with our partners. Indeed, the success of our pre and post registration programmes would not be possible without the dedication shown by academics and clinicians working together in supporting the education of the future nursing and midwifery workforce.



Addysg a Gwella Iechyd
Cymru (AaGIC)
Health Education and
Improvement Wales (HEIW)

NURSING STUDENT AWARD

Sponsored by **Health Education and Improvement Wales**

Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) is the statutory education body and strategic workforce organisation for NHS Wales. As a Special Health Authority, we have a key role developing a sustainable healthcare workforce. We do this through planning and developing education and training and addressing strategic and specialist workforce opportunities and risks that affect workforce demand and supply.

Nurses are a fundamental part of the NHS Workforce, providing high quality, safe care to the people of Wales. Currently, we are seeing record numbers being educated and trained to become Registered Nurses in Wales. In collaboration with partners, HEIW is developing a **Strategic Nursing Workforce Plan for Wales**, which will be launched in early 2025 and contribute greatly to enhancing the nursing workforce, safe and quality patient care, and the future of NHS Wales. We have also launched a **Nurse Retention Plan**, supporting improvements in retaining our valuable nursing workforce.



Bwrdd Iechyd
Addysgu Powys
Powys Teaching
Health Board

REGISTERED NURSE - ADULT AWARD

Sponsored by **Powys Teaching Health Board**

Powys Teaching Health Board is delivering an ambitious shared strategy for a “Healthy, Caring Powys” to support local people to Start Well, Live Well and Age Well.

Covering a large rural county, community and primary care is at the forefront of everything they do, working closely with Powys County Council with whom they are coterminous, as well as ensuring vibrant relationships with the third sector and with secondary and tertiary care providers in Wales and England.

This means that working in Powys offers a unique opportunity for creativity, innovation, clinical and professional autonomy to deliver as much integrated care and support as close to home as possible, and to develop pathways of care with neighbouring providers that keep patients at the centre.

Wherever you live in Wales, Powys is within easy reach and we offer you a warm welcome to our friendly team.

Our Award Sponsors



CHIEF NURSING OFFICER FOR WALES AWARD

Sponsored by **the Chief Nursing Officer for Wales, Welsh Government**

The Welsh Government's Quality and Nursing Directorate, led by the Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) Sue Tranka, is dedicated to promoting high standards of healthcare quality, patient safety, and professional nursing practice across Wales. Supported by the Chief Midwifery Officer, nursing officers, the Deputy Chief Medical Officer, and a wider team of civil servants, the directorate provides strategic leadership on quality, nursing and midwifery policy. It offers expert professional advice to Ministers and senior officials, supports workforce development, and implements policies that enhance patient care, professional growth, and workforce sustainability. As the head of nursing and midwifery in Wales, the CNO sets the professional agenda and future direction for these professions.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND DIGITALISATION IN NURSING

Sponsored by **Cardiff University**

Cardiff School of Healthcare Sciences is a dynamic and innovative School encompassing a broad range of healthcare professions.

The School is committed to the development of impactful healthcare knowledge that directly improves health outcomes and healthcare for patients and families. Faculty and students pride themselves on pursuing research and scholarship of the highest quality and which stands at the forefront of healthcare and policy debates at international, national and local levels.

For the School's students, the multidisciplinary nature of their learning environment and access to teaching by internationally distinguished researchers ensures they become skilled, knowledgeable and compassionate healthcare professionals committed to an ethos of evidence-based care.



WALES NURSE OF THE YEAR AWARD 2024

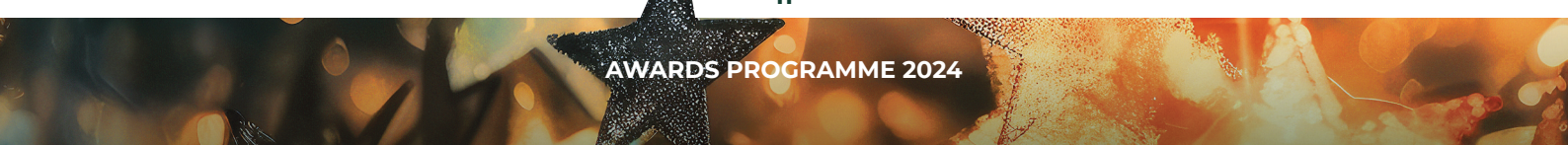
Sponsored by **Velindre University NHS Trust**

Velindre University NHS Trust provides a range of local, regional and national specialist services. We aim to deliver excellent care, inspirational learning and support healthier people. Delivering quality care and excellence to our patients and donors is at the heart of our organisation. The two core services provided by Velindre University NHS Trust are:

The Welsh Blood Service provides a national role in the delivery of blood and transplantation services in Wales. It works to ensure that the donor's gift of blood is transformed into safe and effective blood and blood components which allow NHS Wales to improve the quality of life and save the lives of many thousands of people in Wales every year.

The Velindre Cancer Service provides specialist non-surgical cancer treatments and services to people living in south east Wales and wider. The Cancer Centre is a specialist treatment, teaching, research and development centre for non-surgical oncology, delivering chemotherapy, radiotherapy and related treatments and caring for patients with specialist palliative care needs.

Velindre University NHS Trust also hosts Health Technology Wales and NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership.



Our Award Sponsors



RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Awards: **Dinner**

Sponsored by **School of Medical and Health Sciences, Bangor University**

The School of Health Sciences sits within the College of Health and Medicine. Our mission is to continue to develop excellence and sustainable growth in our education programmes and health and social care research to support evidence informed care and policy design to meet the changing needs for health and care provision in the 21st century. We achieve this through undertaking world leading health and care research, scholarship, and teaching that is of the highest standard and value to students, practitioners, service users, and stakeholders, including our practice learning partners. The school provides a range of allied health and care programmes in addition to nursing, and we have successfully implemented bilingual interprofessional learning across our pre-registration programmes. We are proud of the bilingual heritage in Wales and our provision of bilingual educational programmes, and how we maintain language and cultural competence in our work with regional, national, and international partners.



RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Awards: **Welcome Reception**

Sponsored by **Fieldbay**

Fieldbay, part of the Ivo Group, specialise in the care of adults with complex care needs; mental health conditions, learning disabilities, long-term neurological conditions and brain injury. We provide care across 5 counties, covering South and West Wales. Fieldbay has grown from one small nursing home to become a major provider of care in Wales, supporting more than 400 individuals across 30+ care settings, and employing over 1000 colleagues. We provide a range of care options, including nursing homes, domiciliary care and supported living services. Service users are referred from in-patient settings and the community, as well as forensic settings and other care providers. We are an award winning, values led organization; championing kindness, resilience and passion for care, with the people that we care for at the heart of everything we do. Our workforce is supported to grow and develop. We are a listening, learning and nurturing employer.



RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Awards: **Event Flowers**

Sponsored by **The Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust**

The Welsh Ambulance Service (WAST) is the national provider of pre-hospital urgent and emergency care to the population of Wales. WAST provides the national 999 and 111Wales services and has a significant registered nursing workforce working alongside paramedics, emergency medical technicians and other health care support workers. Registered nurses are critical part to our workforce, leading a number of specialist areas and fulfilling an integral role in supporting remote clinical care across 999 and 111Wales. WAST has been increasing the number of nurses and midwives in green, with specialists and generalists playing an important role in our evolving clinical model to meet the ever more complex needs of patients who often call us while in crisis.



RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Awards: **Dinner Drinks**

Sponsored by **The Mercure Cardiff Holland House Hotel & Spa**

The Mercure Cardiff Holland House and Spa is a modern 4-star hotel situated in the vibrant capital city of Wales. Holland House is perfectly suited to your business and leisure needs, with the biggest conference facility in Cardiff capable of seating up to 700 guests.

Registered Nurse – Child Award



SHARON DRISCOLL

*Advanced Paediatric Nurse
Practitioner and*

REBECCA POWELL

*Deputy Team
Manager for
Care Closer
to Home,
Aneurin
Bevan
University
Health
Board*



Sharon and Rebecca's project to develop a community pathway for babies with jaundice is innovative and forward thinking.

Although in its early stages, the project is showing promising results and is being watched with anticipation across Wales, as this could be a model for the future.

The Care Closer to Home service provides care such as intravenous and intramuscular antibiotic administration, wound care, disimpaction support, respiratory support and central line care. They receive referrals from local hospitals and hospitals further afield (including Birmingham Children's Hospital and Great Ormond Street Hospital) meaning that children can be treated closer to home rather than being an inpatient so far away.

Recently, Sharon and Rebecca devised a new pathway for babies with jaundice. If successful, this will mean phototherapy and relative blood tests can be carried out at home. This pathway is revolutionary, and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board will be the only one offering this service. Families will be able to take their babies home and start their family life safely and comfortably with support.

Sharon and Rebecca are passionate and committed to the service and are eager to expand with more new pathways, meeting regularly with local paediatric consultants for discussions and approval.

KATIE MOORE

*Early Years Child and
Adolescent Mental
Health Service
Health Visitor,
Betsi Cadwaladr
University
Health
Board*



Katie is a dedicated and inspirational registered children's nurse and health visitor, who took a pilot opportunity and made it her own, taking the outcomes and delivery above and beyond expectations.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service services in Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board East Integrated Health Community, developed a Specialist Health Visitor role in the Early Years Team as a 12-month pilot project. Katie is still in post two and a half years later, having embraced the challenge with passion and energy.

Katie works closely with members of the multidisciplinary team, families and third sector parties. She has shown the ability to communicate at a high level and break down barriers, enhancing the skills of the wider health visiting workforce.

Katie qualified as a Registered Children's Nurse in 2001, then completed her Specialist Community Public Health Nurse qualification in 2005. Since 2013 she worked as a health visitor within Flying Start service, where she has been a champion for mental health and has organised and orchestrated health days, with a focus on parent-infant mental health.

Katie has a passion for early intervention and prevention, and through her work she has kept the child at the heart of all she does and empowered others to make a difference.

Sponsored by **Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board**



Community and Primary Care Nursing Award



KIM BAKER

*Paediatric
Continence
Clinical Nurse
Specialist Team
Leader, Cardiff
and Vale
University Health
Board*

Kim has transformed the Community Paediatric Continence Service in Cardiff and Vale University Health Board from a medical model to one that is nurse-led.

This has significantly improved services for children and their families, with a more streamlined care pathway for all her patients.

The changes have broadened the service's remit and ensure that families are central to decision-making, and Kim has recruited and trained a multi-skilled team, improving waiting times and quality of service.

Referrals to the acute paediatric continence service have reduced as a full bladder assessment is undertaken where necessary, ensuring that only children with the highest need are referred, otherwise care is provided by the community team. Most recently Kim has been developing transition clinics for patients who need ongoing support from the adult continence service.

Waiting lists have reduced significantly by using a hybrid model for patient appointments-face to face, telephone, home visits and video consultation.

Knowledgeable and experienced across tertiary and community services, Kim is innovative, inspiring, approachable and trusted by her peers. She is the chair of the All-Wales Paediatric Continence Service, chair of the south west Paediatric Bladder and Bowel Group and a member of the Paediatric Continence Forum.



JOANNE DAVIES

*Falls and Bone Health
Service Lead, Betsi
Cadwaladr University
Health Board*

Joanne has delivered a transformational falls prevention service within primary care at Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, with a proactive approach to early identification of deterioration.

She has developed a value-based approach to promote best practice, reduce variation and focus on sustainable resources.

This has contributed to a 46% reduction in falls and 96% compliance with fall risk assessments.

In 2018 she extended the service to Wrexham locality care homes. Due to its success, Flintshire locality was aligned with the East team and a further 24 care homes were offered training and development. In 2021 Joanne rolled out the education to GPs, paramedics, specialist nurses, safeguarding, continuing health care teams and others.

Joanne has also developed a falls register dashboard, enabling multi professions to see what the patient has been offered. The register reduces duplication and can prevent people being on lengthy waiting lists only to find they needed a specific intervention. NHS Scotland is now keen to adopt this type of register.

Joanne's transformational work improves patient experience and reduces the risks associated with frailty. Her pioneering vision has been noted overseas, and her work will be contributing to a university research trial.

Sponsored by **Hywel Dda University Health Board**



Improving Individual and Population Health Award



JULIA SOMERFORD

Senior Nurse for Physical Health, Mental Health Services for Older People and Neuropsychiatry, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Julia has gone beyond her role of directly treating patients and upskilling mental health nurses in physical health interventions by establishing urgent pathways for safe and timely access to care.

A senior nurse for physical health in Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, she works in Mental Health Services for Older People and the All-Wales Neuropsychiatry Service.

Julia helped develop a one-day training programme for managing a deteriorating patient, which has made mental health nurses more competent and confident in urgent situations.

She has also identified a pathway for out-of-hours medical cover for inpatients. Historically, the inpatient wards were covered by the GP out-of-hours telephone service. But the advice provided was aligned to the community and not always suitable for complex medical situations arising in acute hospital systems.

Julia led a project which created a new procedure. Now, patients who fall or are medically unstable have a nominated hospital doctor on site who takes responsibility for clinical decisions – a situation which is better for patients and clearer for nurses.

Julia has driven improvements in falls prevention by delivering bespoke training which is due to be rolled out across the health board, she has led mass immunisation programmes and is passionate about infection prevention.



CATHERINE WATTS

Head of Immunisation Services, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Catherine drew on the learning from the COVID-19 pandemic to bring vaccinations and immunisations closer to people's communities and homes and to improve vaccination rates across the health board.

Before the pandemic, Cath provided expert advice and support for all vaccination programmes across Swansea Bay, being the health board's only immunisation co-ordinator at that time. She was pivotal in implementing the mass vaccination programme.

She helped lead a social media campaign, encouraging retired registrants to return to the workplace to support the delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations, a campaign which was adopted by other health boards across Wales.

Cath's creativity led to setting up a mobile vaccine centre for hard-to-reach communities. She worked with external stakeholders to convert a mobile library into a mobile vaccination unit named the 'Immbulance'.

She worked with the communications team to bring the Immbulance to life via a social media and community partnership campaign. This led to a media interview on the flagship BBC television programme The One Show.

Cath secured the role of head of immunisation, where she has developed a strong dedicated multidisciplinary team and immunisation professionals that are proud to deliver training and educate the next generation of immunisers.

Sponsored by **Public Health Wales**



Registered Nurse - Learning Disabilities Award



CATHERINE DAVIES

Learning Disability Liaison Nurse, Powys Teaching Health Board

Catherine consistently demonstrates a 'can do' attitude which has been particularly beneficial to her success in leading an innovative project, improving the health and wellbeing of individuals with a learning disability.

Her current project aims to increase the uptake and quality of the annual learning disability health check. This will help reduce health inequalities and avoidable and preventable deaths.

Through data analysis, Catherine identifies the areas of need and can target her support effectively, providing the right service at the right time to those who need it.

Sharing the evidence base and the need for change alongside delivering training packages to GP practice staff, Catherine has quickly built-up links with primary care colleagues. Current data shows that over 90% of people known to secondary care services have received an annual health check.

Catherine always goes over and above the requirements within her role. For instance, she has extended learning disability champion training to all departments within the health board.

She has also branched out to provide training to social care colleagues and the Welsh Ambulance Service alongside delivering sessions to practice nurses and newly qualified staff on the preceptorship programme. To date Catherine has trained over 500 learning disability champions and has many future sessions planned.



KATRINA WIEGOLD

Ward Manager, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Katrina has transformed the service at Tŷ Lafant, the health board's specialist acute inpatient assessment and treatment unit for people with learning disabilities.

She became ward manager in April 2023 at an incredibly challenging time, following an unannounced Health Inspectorate Wales (HIW) visit which identified multiple concerns and need for improvements in several areas.

Alongside this were numerous safeguarding incidents, high levels of agency staff, high sickness and absence, a poor culture, low staff wellbeing and several key vacancies.

Katrina started as deputy manager and within months stepped up to acting ward manager and has completely transformed the service. Katrina has met the challenge with strength, humility, courage, openness, transparency, and compassionate leadership.

She has led and inspired a depleted, compassion-fatigued team with low morale through a challenging time amid much scrutiny; and they've developed into a cohesive team with the highest standards and pride in their work.

This was evidenced at a recent HIW inspection (April 2024), when there was no immediate assurance required and feedback was incredibly positive.

The inspectors specifically noted an improvement in the quality of leadership and management since the last inspection and made reference to staff, patients, families and wider members of the division accrediting all improvements to Katrina herself.

Sponsored by Swansea Bay University Health Board



Registered Nurse - Mental Health Award



CORRINNA CULLEN

*Memory Service
Team Lead,
Cwm Taf
Morgannwg
University
Health
Board*

Corrinna is a pioneer for mental health nursing, who has led on organisational change and the review of memory services across the health board, reducing waiting times in dementia care by introducing a specialist nurse into her service.

Leading in the creation of cognitive stimulation groups for patients living with cognitive impairment, striving for parity of service delivery across all settings, enabling patients to be cared for at home for as long as possible.

Corrinna displays true leadership in recognising the strengths in her colleagues, encouraging them to reach their full potential through learning and mentorship, along with setting up wellbeing groups for staff, after recognising opportunities to improve retention within the team.

Corrinna has an excellent line management structure; she is seen as approachable and always willing to go the extra mile for staff and patients. Working with all levels throughout the health board Corrinna's inner sparkle is greatly valued.

Always being so proud to be a nurse, keen to make a difference and is self-inspired to be a devoted and compassionate role model to others. Through development opportunities and recognition work, Corrinna proudly accepted the team leader post and continues to shine in her role.



MADELAINE WATKINS

*Clinical Nurse
Specialist for
Psychosis in Older
Adults, Cardiff
and Vale University
Health Board*

Madelaine has improved outcomes for an overlooked group of patients in a role which did not exist until four years ago.

In 2018 Madelaine worked on an audit which showed 18% of Mental Health Services for Older People service-users had primary problem of psychosis, and only 10% of those were accessing therapy.

Further research showed 50% of community mental health staff wanted more training on psychosis.

Madelaine was tasked with piloting the clinical nurse specialist role. Her interventions improved people's access and engagement which significantly reduced their distress and enhanced their recovery. Funding was then secured to make the role permanent.

With no early intervention psychosis service provision for over 65s in Wales, Madelaine provides innovative evidence-based strategies, focusing on holistic and trauma-healing approaches.

Madelaine also developed a psychosis learning and development pathway for staff and provided training including the Hearing Voices Network approach, a peer-led worldwide approach to living alongside voices. She provides cognitive behavioural therapy, mindfulness, eye movement desensitisation and reprocessing and family interventions.

She has provided training and workshops to staff of all grades and is now developing reciprocal relationships with worldwide third-sector organisations.

Sponsored by **Aneurin Bevan University Health Board**



**GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES**

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Suzanne Goodall Independent Sector Nursing Award



KIERA JONES

*Lead Nurse,
Skanda Vale
Hospice*

Kiera is a dedicated and passionate advocate for person-centred palliative care. She works extra hours voluntarily and has raised more than £13,000 for the independent, six-bedded hospice unit.

Parachute jumps, mountain treks, coordinating and giving complementary therapies, baking and birthday fundraisers are all ways in which Kiera has helped raise money.

She leads by example, cleaning toilets or making breakfasts or shopping for patients' favourite foods, bringing in her clippers to shave someone's head - whatever is needed to deliver an excellent standard of care for patients, their families and friends.

She supports team members to develop their knowledge and skills, and she is continually developing her own knowledge and skills to ensure up-to-date evidence-based practice.

Kiera is a strong advocate for person-centred care within the team, promoting and enabling adaptability for team members to achieve a positive work-life balance, and extending compassion and holistic care to the team when needed.

Kiera is also committed to opening up conversations with the wider public about death and dying. She has addressed community groups through talks and workshops, and she is a Soul Midwife, offering non-clinical support for people and their families, as they face a terminal diagnosis.



ANGELA OWEN

*Nurse
Development
Lead,
Elysium
Healthcare*

Angela is making a significant contribution to developing sustainability in health care.

By embedding sustainability into leadership and training programmes, she is helping to change the way healthcare functions in the future to become greener and uphold the basic principle of what it is to be a nurse by doing no harm.

Angela has developed her own knowledge in this emerging subject by completing the Florence Nightingale Fund Green Healthcare Leadership Programme and the NHS leadership academy sustainability leadership for greener health and care.

She coordinated a webinar, bringing together Elysium Healthcare and the Welsh NHS health boards to discuss the climate crisis in the context of healthcare and its role in contributing to carbon emissions.

It also considered the link between climate change and biodiversity loss and the health of the population. Angela is instrumental in leading Elysium in Wales to think about the role of nurses and healthcare workers in mitigating against climate change.

She has researched the training provision by Elysium Healthcare and saved greenhouse gases (and money) by moving some closer to home and online.

Angela also developed and continues to deliver a programme for health care workers to advance their skills, working towards being leaders in their field, including sustainability in healthcare.

Sponsored by **Tŷ Hafan Children's Hospice**



Specialist Nursing Award



DIANA MEHREZ

Lymphoedema Clinical and On the Ground Education Programme Lead, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Diana works tirelessly to shine the light on under-recognised lymphoedema services to improve patient care.

Her focus is on training community nurses to manage lymphoedema effectively, preventing patient deterioration and reducing the need for secondary care intervention.

In her dual role, she collaborates with primary care providers, including general practitioners, district nurses and tissue viability nurses to implement the On the Ground Education Programme.

Her collaborative approach extends more widely to include the vascular and podiatry, creating new patient management and referral pathways. She has also provided training to breast-care nurses to help them spot the signs and symptoms.

She has developed standard operating procedures and clear governance for the service, including patient-initiated follow-up pathways. Her work has improved efficiency and fairness for patients and has improved the management of waiting lists.

Diana collects patient-reported outcome measures and patient-reported experience measures during every patient interaction. This patient-centred approach also ensures joint decision-making in relation to care plans and outcomes that truly matter to patients.

She faces difficult conversations with compassion and does this while managing a highly complex clinical caseload, always putting patients' needs first, and her dedication recently transformed the life of a housebound patient with severe mental health issues.



TIM NICHOLLS

Clinical Nurse Specialist in Dementia, Mental Health Services for Older People, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Since being appointed to his role as a Clinical Nurse Specialist two years ago, Tim has developed the role using evidenced-based practice.

He has introduced cognitive stimulation groups, which is the only evidence-based psychological intervention for dementia.

Tim is also trained in the Newcastle Model which provides a formulation of a person, their situation, their challenges, who they are as people and what's important to them within the context of their illness.

Tim has introduced music and dance sessions to the ward by engaging local charities, and these have improved patients' mood and engagement.

He has also collaborated with university art students to provide art sessions, which has reduced stigma and raised awareness. The resulting work is currently on public display in the hospital foyer art gallery.

Tim is also leading on a new project on pain management. He was inspired by a Radio 4 programme about using facial recognition to detect pain, which is especially significant because pain can lead to high levels of distress, aggression or withdrawal in dementia.

The project outcomes will be measured via audit into pain assessment, antipsychotic usage, benzodiazepine use, pain relief and possible reduction in falls.

Sponsored by **Cardiff and Vale University Health Board**



GIG
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WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Caerdydd a'r Fro
Cardiff and Vale
University Health Board



Health Care Support Worker Award



SARAH BISP

*Primary Care
Support Worker,
Memory Service,
Cwm Taf
Morgannwg
University
Health Board*

Sarah took the lead - under supervision of the qualified nurse - in developing the Cognitive Stimulation Group in Merthyr.

This group programme, designed to improve motivation, confidence and mood for people with mild to moderate dementia, was planned as a seven-week programme, but it has now been adapted for longer term international use.

Sarah supports these individuals to stay socially involved, and there are many examples of Sarah helping people to regain their confidence and ability to socialise in their community.

Sarah is described as a very caring, compassionate and empathetic support worker. She is friendly and an upbeat person and always sees the best in every situation, taking on challenges always to improve patient outcomes.

She is a team player who uses her initiative and is a very motivated member of staff. Sarah is proud of her profession and is seen as a role model to others.

In feedback, patients described her as 'a lifeline'. In working with patients with dementia, she has helped to bring person-centred care and an evidence-based approach to the forefront. She has shown a real understanding of the impact of dementia on patients and their families.



LOUISE GRAY

*Health Care Support
Worker, Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board*

Having previously been a wellbeing adviser, Louise quickly adapted to a new role to become an accomplished immuniser in the Mass Vaccination Centre during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing education, advice, and health promotion.

At Trevechin Health Centre, Louise supports the nurse-led service when required, offering services including post-operative dressings, venepuncture, wound care and supporting chronic disease management clinics.

Louise has also helped and continues to work closely in the co-ordination of respiratory nursing, performing spirometry, pre-assessments, home oxygen post installation checks and supported the innovative spirometry hubs. Throughout the pandemic, she supported the oxygen team to undertake risk assessment and self-management advice in patients' homes.

She has accumulated a lifetime of experience and a wealth of recognition in Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, facing challenges head on, adapting her working style to meet the ever-changing needs of the health service, making a lasting contribution in her field of work.

She has a positive personality, excellent communication skills and enjoys the teaching and development of other healthcare support worker staff and students, in self-management and disease management.

Sponsored by NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee



Nurse Education Award



JILL BARNES

*Head of Professional Regulation,
University of South Wales*

Jill has been a dedicated and influential nurse leader for over 40 years, with her impact reaching students, registrants and ultimately patients and their families throughout Wales and the UK.

Following time as a staff nurse and ward sister in London, Jill moved into education. She has worked tirelessly with stakeholders to implement evidence-based curricula that equip registrants for the demands of contemporary practice. She has taught at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

During her tenure as a nurse educator, Jill has overseen the implementation of several nursing curricula, as well as two notable milestones within the profession. During the early 1990s Jill was involved with the inception of Project 2000 which saw nurse education transition from hospital-based schools into higher education institutions.

Latterly, Jill was at the vanguard of graduate nursing provision in Wales, collaborating with Professor Donna Mead OBE to develop and implement a BSc (Hons) Nursing course that saw its first graduates in 2000.

Her extensive knowledge of quality assurance, governance, and professional regulation processes have proven invaluable in ensuring Nursing and Midwifery Council standards are rigorously maintained. Nowhere is this more evident than in her instrumental work on the creation of the All-Wales Practice Assessment Documentation.



LISA FRANKLIN

*Head of Education, Culture, and Organisational Development,
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board*

Lisa has transformed the educational infrastructure in her role and has a list of achievements throughout her career.

She was influential in developing the National Restorative Education Programme and led on many education initiatives as a senior education practitioner, including introducing the assistant practitioner role in Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (CAVUHB).

Recently, Lisa has led the creation of a coaching network to support newly promoted nursing leaders.

She showed outstanding leadership as the chair of the All-Wales Nurse Education Leads Group, resulting in significant improvements in patient care and nurse education.

Under her direction, the national Practice Learning Framework was implemented in January 2022, and she played a crucial part in the design of the Assistant Practitioner Governance Framework.

In 2023, she worked with others to enhance the student experience by introducing a senior education manager role to address student issues.

Lisa led the creation of a coaching network to support recently promoted nursing leaders, acknowledging the training deficiencies that had emerged due to the pandemic.

She devised a proposal to create the CAVUHB Centre of Excellence for Education and Organisational Development, which is planned to begin soon.

Sponsored by **University of South Wales**

**University of
South Wales**
Prifysgol
De Cymru

Nursing Student Award



**EMILY
HOSKINS**

*Student Nurse
(Child),
University of
South Wales*

Emily is an exceptional student nurse who made a significant difference to a young patient's life when she initiated care in a stressful, emergency situation.

She was praised by paramedics who attended the scene of a hit-and-run where a 13-year-old boy had been seriously injured.

"Emily displayed such professionalism and quick thinking," they wrote. "Not only did she help take control of a very traumatic scene but the care she provided prior and post emergency service arrival was exemplary. She followed our instructions and continued to be an active part of the resuscitation and treatment of the patient until we left scene. In addition to this she remained at the scene and checked on others who witnessed the incident after the patient was transported to the University Hospital of Wales."

While Emily was dealing with the seriously injured accident victim, the offender also returned to the scene, tried to prevent the cardiopulmonary resuscitation and verbally assaulted her and others around. Despite this, Emily administered exceptional care going above and beyond what would be expected.

As part of the January 2022 intake of child student nurses, Emily has always been a conscientious student who has received glowing reviews from all clinical areas she has attended.



**AIMEE
ROBINSON
and CLAIRE
WELCH**

*Student Nurses
(Learning
Disabilities),
University
of South
Wales*

Aimee and Claire help support the Teaching and Research Advisory Committee (TRAC) – an advisory group of men and women with learning disabilities, whose activities include interviewing, and teaching students in classroom and simulated settings.

This requires significant coordination, creativity, and support. One TRAC member describes Aimee and Claire as being dedicated and 'just brilliant to have around'. Feedback from students is that input from TRAC members significantly enhances their learning.

Aimee and Claire develop positive relationships with clinical settings, and feedback from their placements has always been exemplary.

Recently, Aimee and Claire have taken on the role of outreach workers to promote learning disability nursing, and the course at the University of South Wales (USW). They have liaised with key services such as Social Care Wales and Careers Wales to arrange workshops and presentations to various groups including social care, school and college students and care leavers.

They have promoted the field to over 1,000 individuals, which has had a significant impact on student numbers this year across Wales with USW reaching its commissioned number for September 2024.

Aimee and Claire are truly inspirational, passionate and dedicated learning disability students, determined to make a real difference and improve the care for people with learning disabilities.

Sponsored by **Health Education and Improvement Wales**



Registered Nurse – Adult Award



JADE COLE

*Lead Clinical Nurse
Specialist for Critical
Care / Major Trauma
/ Emergency
Department
Research, Critical
Care Research and
Development Lead,
Cardiff and Vale
University
Health Board*

Jade has been a key figure in pioneering critical care research, both in Wales and globally.

She has held many roles in her 20 years in critical care, but her work in developing research practice across her health board has been nothing short of stellar.

She exemplifies the vision statement for her team-“Research matters; patients matter.”

During the pandemic, Jade was the only member of her team allowed to enter the intensive care unit to deliver clinical trials which informed how COVID-19 patients were treated. Her work helped show that there was a survival advantage for patients prescribed a particular drug.

Jade has also facilitated groundbreaking research which has saved many lives and has been featured in a BBC report. She has had work published in some of the world’s most prestigious journals including the New England Journal of Medicine. Yet she remains humble, kind, caring and professional.

Recently, Jade has been guest lecturing at Cardiff University where one student commented: “She is incredible, I want to be like her!”. She is proud to inspire the next generation of nurses, medics and others, within the field of research.



DONNA MAJOR

*Senior Ward Sister,
Hywel Dda
University
Health
Board*

Donna has taken new approaches to improve the care of frailty and dementia patients.

Using evidence-focused standards to continuously develop her team, she has shown how imaginative, low-cost interventions implemented into the heart of patient flow can truly make a difference.

Donna is always exploring innovative ways of driving practice forward and improving safety and outcomes for patients on the frailty ward, where she is senior sister. These include milkshake rounds, hydration, snack self-service, gardening, book and luncheon club.

She was pivotal in establishing ‘Art in Health’ weekly activities for inpatients living with dementia in Glangwili General Hospital (GGH). These include painting, pottery, pom pom making and prints, creating a better patient experience, with less boredom and isolation, and better cognitive stimulation and wellbeing.

Donna has also been pivotal in establishing the Frailty Assessment Unit in GGH in May 2024. Targets and performance have improved with Donna coordinating over 40 patients’ assessments / admissions and 50% of them being discharged from the unit.

Donna is a thoughtful and committed nurse who always puts her patients first. She is willing to share her extensive knowledge and skills with others; she leads by example and is an excellent role model.

Sponsored by Powys Teaching Health Board



Chief Nursing Officer for Wales Award



SHANE MILLS

Director of Commissioning for Mental Health, Learning Disability and Vulnerable Groups, NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee

Shane has been instrumental in the creation of Wales' 111 Press 2 service for mental health support – which has greatly improved timely access to services.

Since its launch last year, the service has recruited over 100 staff and taken over 100,000 calls and has now been replicated across borders.

Shane, whose work on the 111 service was acknowledged in the Senedd, trained as a mental health nurse almost 30 years ago, after a period in HM Forces, and he has worked in clinical, managerial, and strategic roles in Wales and England.

In recent years he led on national reviews for the NHS and Welsh Government and has co-written papers on such areas as obesity and trauma in mental health hospitals.

During the pandemic, Shane was the co-lead of the national coordinating centre for mental health, alongside his core work in mental health commissioning.

He puts a strong emphasis on diversity, equality and inclusion-earning a team 'Silver Plus' award in Diverse Cymru's Cultural Competence Scheme.

Shane is a trusted and respected professional, who demonstrates a passion for mental health, a meticulous approach, a willingness to support others, tireless work ethic and, above all, modesty.



BIANCA OAKLEY

Consultant Lead Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Same Day Urgent Care, Hywel Dda University Health Board

Bianca has developed a Community Same Day Urgent Care Service, recognised nationally for its success, representing excellent nursing practice and leadership.

Her efforts have given patients access to care closer to home, and reduced pressures at general hospital sites. Attendance currently averages 80 patients per day, with flexibility to visit patients in their own home as an outreach service. The service is highly valued by the community and Health Board.

Bianca is actively involved in research such as point-of-care testing in remote areas, to improve and enable timely safe care to be delivered to patients closer to home, and with working parties and focus groups on digitalisation of practitioners' portfolios and competency evidence.

She is active on forums in primary, community and urgent care across the UK and has recently started training as a learning and development and steward representative for the RCN.

She is a warm, authentic, energetic and visionary leader and an innovative and transformational senior nurse. Her work has reformed and refined the way the care of the patients in Hywel Dda University Health Board is provided.

Bianca is a creative and abstract thinker who drives results, while recognising the need for improving patient care, and investment in staff development.

Sponsored by Chief Nursing Officer for Wales, Welsh Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Research, Innovation and Digitalisation in Nursing Award



DR CLARE BENNETT

Reader in Health Improvement and Co-Director Wales Centre for Evidence Based Care, Cardiff University

Clare leads a programme of research, innovation and knowledge exchange which is making a difference to the lives of children and young people and to the organisation of health services.

Her early interest in human immunodeficiency virus took her to Romania where she worked with children and babies, and later with adults living with HIV in the West Midlands. Following periods working in sexual health, immunology and as a research nurse, Clare moved into her first academic role and later arrived in Cardiff in 2018, two years after completing her doctorate.

She now co-directs the Wales Centre for Evidence-Based Care, a JBI Centre of Excellence, which is an international research organisation which develops and delivers evidence-based information, software, education and training designed to improve healthcare practice and health outcomes, synthesising the evidence across a range of health care fields.

Success as a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellow cemented collaborations with colleagues in the Netherlands and led to two books addressing sexuality and relationships for children and young people.

Clare led a team examining digital interventions for adolescent sexual health and is co-leading a high-value research project on digital and in-person mental health crisis care for children and young people across England and Wales.

She has continued to contribute to the leadership field and co-edited the third edition of the influential book, *Clinical Leadership in Nursing and Healthcare*.

Sponsored by **Cardiff University**



CATRIN CODD

Senior Professional Nurse Advocate, District Nursing, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Catrin has led a transformational and award-winning digital programme to enhance assessment, diagnosis and implementation of wound healing in the community across Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB).

Catrin's background is working in plastics, transferring her knowledge and skills to community over a decade ago. Currently in a new role and a first for SBUHB, she is a professional nurse advocate and chair of the All-Wales District Nurse Forum.

When Catrin saw a social media tweet asking for a volunteer to trial a digital application for the management of wounds, the journey began. She was pivotal to the progression and implementation of the Minute4ful for Wounds app to identify deteriorating, improving, and stagnating wounds earlier.

Since the introduction of the system, healing rates have improved and are above the national average of 15% for less than 12-week healing. With healing rates of 22% and 53% for district nurse and wound clinics respectively.

Collaborating with microbiology has improved antimicrobial stewardship, winning a Journal of Wound Care award and leading to reductions in antibiotic prescribing.

This work has been highly commended in Medisense Awards and won the CNO Sustainability Awards for the saving on carbon footprint reducing the need for travel and eliminating use of paper records.



RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Award 2024

The RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Award is the ultimate accolade at this evening's ceremony. The award acknowledges excellence in professional practice and outstanding leadership. The winner will have made a considerable and sustained contribution to improving the care of patients in Wales and been instrumental in developing nursing innovations. Through their achievements, the winner will have played a significant role in enhancing the reputation of the nursing profession.

Criteria for Award:

- The RCN Wales Nurse of the Year must have demonstrated excellence in their field.
- Their contribution to the nursing community and the nation's health care will have been judged as significant.
- The winner must be an inspirational role model for the nursing and health care community.

Sponsored by **Velindre University NHS Trust**



The 2024 RCN Wales Nurse of the Year will be announced at the awards ceremony

RCN IN WALES NURSE OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS

2012 WINNER: LOUISE POLEY Consultant Nurse for Substance Misuse, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

2013 WINNER: RUTH OWENS Ward Sister, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

2014 WINNER: VERONICA JARMAN Day Hospital Sister, Powys Teaching Health Board

2015 WINNER: CLAIRE HARRIS Ward Sister, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

2016 WINNER: SIAN THOMAS Consultant Nurse (Child Health), Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

2017 WINNER: LOUISE WALBY Respiratory Nurse Facilitator, Cwm Taf University Health Board

2018 WINNER: EVE LIGHTFOOT Community Infection Prevention Nurse, Hywel Dda University Health Board

2019 WINNER: JEAN SAUNDERS MBE Asylum Seeker Lead Nurse, Swansea Bay University Health Board

2021 WINNER: KIRSTY JOHN Charge Nurse, HMP Cardiff, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

2023 WINNER:

TARA REES Lead Nurse Practitioner, Hepatology Service, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

"Becoming RCN Wales Nurse of the Year 2023 has been one of the major highlights of my career. It has given me the opportunity to shine a light, not only on liver disease, but on the role of a clinical nurse specialist. This accolade has opened many doors for me, including speaking at RCN Congress. It has also provided many learning and networking opportunities, which I know will continue throughout my career."



Supporting Welsh Nursing Scholarships



HETTIE C HOPKINS CARE OF THE ELDERLY NURSING SCHOLARSHIP, WALES

The Hettie C Hopkins Care of the Elderly Nursing Scholarship provides scholarships to nurses in Wales to pursue a project/course in elderly care.

The Scholarship is named after a founding member of Royal College of Nursing Wales, Hettie Hopkins (1919-2012). Hettie was a nurse who helped set up the national RCN Board for Wales.

The Scholarship is open to registered nurses who work with the elderly in Wales and wish to pursue a project or course associated with their care.

Nursing is a career that requires lifelong learning and development. A scholarship can help support this and any donations are gratefully received.

ALL DONATIONS WELCOME

If you would like to donate, please scan the QR code or visit <https://checkout.justgiving.com/c/3157991> to take you to the Just Giving Donation page for the Hettie C Hopkins Care of the Elderly Nursing Scholarship, Wales.

Registered charity number 509911



PLEASE SCAN HERE TO DONATE. THANK YOU!



ALUN ISLWYN GILES NURSING SCHOLARSHIP, WALES

The Alun Islwyn Giles Nursing Scholarship provides scholarships to nurses in Wales to advance the science and art of nursing.

It was launched in 1989 to honour Alun and the outstanding contribution he made to the nursing profession. Alun served as Chair of the RCN Wales Board for two four-year terms between 1981-1989.

He was also a member of RCN Council later becoming Chair of RCN Council.

The Scholarship is open to registered nurses working in Wales.

Nursing is a career that requires lifelong learning and development. A scholarship can help support this and any donations are gratefully received.

ALL DONATIONS WELCOME

If you would like to donate, please scan the QR code or visit <https://checkout.justgiving.com/c/3295813> to take you to the Just Giving Donation page for the Alun Islwyn Giles Nursing Scholarship, Wales.

Registered charity number 702403



PLEASE SCAN HERE TO DONATE. THANK YOU!



CONGRATULATIONS

ROLL CALL FOR ALL THE SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES FOR THE RCN WALES NURSE OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2024

ROBERT JOHN ADAMS and **AYESHA JONES** Aberystwyth University
ELISE ALDERMAN and **JEMMA KING** Tŷ Hafan Children's Hospice
KIM BAKER Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
JILL BARNES University of South Wales
NINA BASSETT and **ROB FENWICK** Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
STUART BEDDIS Powys Teaching Health Board
DR. CLARE BENNETT Cardiff University
MOIRA BEVAN Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
SARAH BISP Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
MARTYN BOWDEN Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
VELMA CHEPTOO Regency House Luxury Care Home
KATHRYN CLARKE Velindre University NHS Trust
CATRIN CODD Swansea Bay University Health Board
JADE COLE Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
LUCY COLLINS Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
CORRINNA CULLEN Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
AMANDA DAVIES Hywel Dda University Health Board
CATHERINE DAVIES Powys Teaching Health Board
JENNA DAVIES Hywel Dda University Health Board
JOANNE DAVIES Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
SHARON DRISCOLL and **REBECCA POWELL** Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
GEORGINA EDWARDS and **HARRIET PENNA** Cardiff University
SIAN EDWARDS Hywel Dda University Health Board
LISA FRANKLIN Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
NICOLA GABOUREL Borth Surgery
LOUSIE GRAY Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
STEPHEN HENDRICKSON Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
JANE HOPKINSON Cardiff University and Velindre Cancer Centre
EMILY HOSKINS University of South Wales
ANYA HUGHES Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
JAYNES HUGHES and **DANIELLE LEBOUTE** Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
CLAIRE HURLIN Hywel Dda University Health Board
AMANDA JONES Aberystwyth University
JESSICA JONES Elysium Healthcare

ENWAU'R HOLL YMGEISWYR AR RESTRAU BYR AR GYFER GWOBRAU NYRS Y FLWYDDYN RCN CYMRU 2024

- KIERA JONES** Skanda Vale Hospice
LYNNE JONES Swansea Bay University Health Board
SHARON JONES and **STACEY MAY** Hywel Dda University Health Board
CHERI LEWIS Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
DONNA MAJOR Hywel Dda University Health Board
ANNE MAY Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
JADE MCDONALD Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
DIANA MEHREZ Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
SHANE MILLS NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee
KATIE MOORE Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
JESSICA NICHOLLS Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
TIM NICHOLLS Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
BIANCA OAKLEY Hywel Dda University Health Board
ANGELA OWEN Elysium Healthcare
CATH OWEN Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
GEMMA OWEN Hywel Dda University Health Board
GIUSEPPE PECORA Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
NEVA ANN PRICE Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
SIONED PRICE Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
AIMEE ROBINSON and **CLAIRE WELCH** University of South Wales
JULIA SOMERFORD Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
DIANE SWEENEY Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
MICHELLE SWEET Powys Teaching Health Board
SARAH TERRETT Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
PAULA THOMAS Swansea Bay University Health Board
CAROLINE TREZISE Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
BRYANY TWEEDALE Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
MADELAINE WATKINS Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
CATHERINE WATTS Swansea Bay University Health Board
KATRINA WIEGOLD Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
BETHAN WILLIAMS Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
YVONNE WILLIAMS Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
TRACEY WILLIAMSON Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board