

Communications Department

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Email: communication@ruh.nhs.uk**Issued: 13 January 2009****Under Embargo until Wednesday 14 January at
11.00pm****Media Release****Hospital stars - awards ceremony to honour RUH staff**

On Wednesday 14 January 2009, the Royal United Hospital (RUH) is hosting an evening awards ceremony at The Forum to honour staff working at the hospital.

A number of special awards are to be presented. These include a personal achievement award in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the RUH and its patients, a team of the year award and the most innovative team award. There will also be a loyalty award presented to staff in recognition of their long service of 25 or 35 years.

Also attending will be staff who are former Team of the Month winners and staff who have been nominated by colleagues, patients and visitors for being a Diamond Colleague - as part of the NHS 60 celebrations.

Members of the trust board, including chairman James Carine and chief executive James Scott, will join staff for this special celebratory evening.

RUH chairman James Carine says: "This is a wonderful opportunity to show our staff how much we appreciate them and their work at the RUH. They're a great bunch of people."

Chief executive James Scott says: "These awards are the RUH's equivalent of the Golden Globe Awards. The awards are important for two reasons, firstly they give us a great opportunity to showcase the amazingly talented people we have at the RUH and secondly, it gives me as Chief Executive, a chance to thank the 4,500 staff who, day in day out, work incredibly hard caring for our patients. They are all stars."

The RUH choir will also be performing at the event.

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Notes to Editors

Most Innovative team - Simulation Suite Team

The Simulation Suite team managed the implementation of a new £50,000 training facility, a Simulation Suite. The RUH is the only hospital, apart from university hospitals, that has access to this new technology. This Sim Suite offers staff improved training facilities, where they can develop and maintain their clinical skills by simulating real life situations. Central to the new facility is a life sized manikin - the SimMan - which is incredibly life-like and is used to create a series of scenarios ranging from the simple to the complex. It can be remotely controlled to exhibit symptoms of a medical emergency, like a major haemorrhage or cardiac arrest. The Sim Suite is a collaborative venture between the Bristol University Faculty of Medicine, Bath Life Support Group (a charity) and the RUH. Funding for it came primarily from Bristol University.

Team of the year - Stroke Thrombolysis Team

The Stroke Thrombolysis team worked together effectively to introduce stroke Thrombolysis - a life saving treatment - across the hospital. Thrombolysis involves giving a clot busting drug within three hours of symptoms of a stroke developing and it can dramatically improve the chances of a patient recovering from stroke. The earlier a patient receives this treatment, the greater the chance of preventing the stroke from causing long term and irreversible damage.

The service has now been introduced Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm. Eligible patients receive a fast CT scan, and if appropriate are Thrombolysed and taken to CCU for 6 hours before transfer to Neurology ward. Following the introduction of this service, the team successfully thrombolysed their first stroke patient and he was able to be discharged within 48 hours of admission, making a full recovery. Without this treatment, the patient would have expected to spend many weeks in hospital and was likely to have been left with long term disability.

Personal achievement awards:

Cleaning Manager Annie Paines

Annie has managed the trust's cleaning services for over two years and during this time there has been a significant improvement in cleaning standards. As well as ensuring the smooth running of the deep clean programme, Annie has introduced new ways of working. She has introduced a new role specifically for tackling deep cleaning in ward areas that are difficult to access. She has also developed her management skills by attending the West of England University to study for the Certificate in Management Studies. Her colleagues say: "Annie leads by example and works tirelessly to ensure that cleaning tasks are completed. She regularly goes beyond the call of duty, working evenings and weekends and she is always flexible and cheerful."

Receptionist Jane Cockram

Jane is receptionist for the education centre and comes into contact with many staff from all areas of the hospital. Jane is partially sighted and - accompanied by her guide dog Nena - has overcome many obstacles in her working life. Some of the

things we take for granted can be quite a challenge for her. Her colleagues say: "Jane has a get up and go attitude and doesn't let things get in her way. She always provides a quality reception service to staff and visitors, dealing with a diverse range of enquiries. She is professional, friendly and courteous."

Diabetes Liaison Nurse Helen Griffiths

Helen manages the care of patients with diabetes at the RUH and provides an extensive programme of education in the management of diabetes for medical and nursing staff. She initiated insulin treatment in patients newly presenting with Type 1 diabetes, usually young and often very distressed about their diagnosis. Her colleagues say: "Helen has a calm and thorough manner with patients and helps them come to terms with their condition. She has a wide remit and is a great asset to the team, we rely on her immensely."

Matron Beverly Boyd, Paediatrics, Children's unit

Bev is a significant leader for children's services in the RUH. As well as matron for paediatrics, Bev is the lead nurse for child protection within the hospital; developing policy and educating and training staff within this role. One of the many initiatives that Bev has championed is to encourage the children's nurses to become chemotherapy givers for young cancer patients in the children's ward. Their care is shared with the Bristol children's hospital so providing chemotherapy in Bath allows the children to spend more time with their families and prevents unnecessary travelling. Bev is also chair of the children's nurse management forum at the Royal College of Nursing. Her colleagues say: "Bev is a formidable champion for children's services. She is always ready to support staff at all levels and from all areas of the trust."

Sister Claire Monahan, Cardiac centre

Leading a team of ten catheter laboratory nurses to provide an impressive angioplasty service at the RUH, is just one aspect of Sister Claire Monahan's role. Coronary Angioplasty is a safe, non-surgical intervention for patients with blocked or narrowed coronary arteries. Her team say: "She guides and teaches us, empowers and energises us. Claire's support is both instant and constant and she is inspirational. We think she is pretty amazing."

Junior Sister Dee Scruton

Dee has led the team on Victoria ward throughout the many changes that have taken place over the last 12 months or so, in order to respond to the needs of both patients and the hospital. Victoria ward is a short stay ward for the care of the elderly. In the last six months Dee has also overseen the team in the running of an additional 10-bed annex. Her colleagues say: "Dee is totally committed to the patients, the staff and the RUH and this is evident when you come onto the ward."

Senior GP co-ordinator Paula Cain, postgraduate medical centre

Paula is responsible for organising the educational programmes for trainee general practitioners (GPs) both in the Trust and Bath community. She works closely with GP educationalists, GP trainers and the trainees and has helped make the Bath programme the best in Severn Deanery; all this in a period of rapid change in both education delivery and GP personnel. Her colleagues say: "Paula is a great source of strength and support. Her work is of the highest quality, she is efficient,

approachable, well organised and has great sense of humour. Her award is richly deserved."

Loyalty award (25 years service):

Roger Cooper, Cleaner

Terri Matthews, Sister, surgical ward

Julia Wallace, Strategic Manager, chest pain unit

Peter Fox, Practice Development Manager

Helena Hodges, Teacher Practitioner, Pharmacy

Daniel Peel, Senior Operating Department Practitioner

June Pook, Staff Nurse, ITU

Lesley White, Healthcare Assistant, eye unit

Colin Mounsey, Facilities Systems Manager

John Osborne, Consultant, Paediatrics

Michael Lutterloch, Consultant, Oral Surgery

Jacqueline Strange, Sister, Dermatology Clinic

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