The list of finalists for the Celebrating Success Awards 2017 has been released with judges praising staff for the high quality of entries in all fields.

Picking a shortlist for each category has been a tough call for the judges, who have been particularly impressed by countless stories of dedication and hard work by staff across NHS Lothian.

Deputy Chief Executive Jim Crombie said: “The standard of entries this year has been extremely high, so sadly not everyone entered has reached the shortlist stage. All the judges wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone for their fantastic efforts.”

Winners will be announced at an awards ceremony taking place at the Edinburgh Corn Exchange on 16 June.

The shortlisted entries are:

**HEALTH HERO**
- Linsey Duncan and Kim Venton, CRABIS Team, Carmondean Ability Centre
- Tracey Pearson, Wester Hailes Healthy Living Centre
- Mother and Baby Unit, St John’s Hospital.

**STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR**
- William (Billy) Johnston, Clinical Support Worker, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh
- Fiona Graham-McMillan, Assistant Practitioner, West Pilton Gardens Social Work
- Elizabeth Gallagher, Nursing and Operations Manager, Orchard Clinic.

**TEAM OF THE YEAR**
- Health Promoting Palliative Care Team, Sighthill Health Centre
- Employability & Work Placement, St John’s Hospital
- Catering Team at St John’s Hospital.

**VOLUNTARY SERVICE AWARD**
- Aileen Banks, Breastfeeding Peer Supporter, Midlothian
- Helen Harrower, Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion
- Bloodbikes, Astley Ainslie Hospital.

**BEST EXAMPLE OF QUALITY, INNOVATION AND PRODUCTIVITY**
- FLOW Centre, Astley Ainslie Hospital
- Mental Health Information Station, Cambridge Street
- D2A+ Team, Roodlands Hospital.

**EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR**
- James Boyle, Management of Aggression Advisor, CBC
- Moira Kinnear, Head of Education, Pharmacy Dept., Western General Hospital
- Scott Armitage, Senior Charge Nurse, Western General Hospital.
Charity donated iPad library for young cancer patients at the RHSC

CHILDREN’S cancer charity Ben’s Heroes Trust has donated 4 iPad minis to Ward 2, the children’s cancer ward, at Royal Hospital for Sick Children.

Using social media and communication tools such as Skype and Facebook, the children being treated on the ward will be able to keep in touch with their family and friends at home during long hospital stays, plus stay entertained by playing games together via popular apps.

Having the donated iPad minis on the ward means that families can keep their personal tablets and devices at home, to allow siblings and other family members to keep in touch, as some families couldn’t otherwise afford the means necessary to communicate.

Claire McCallum, Play Specialist at the RHSC, said: “We are delighted and so grateful that Ben’s Heroes Trust have donated this iPad library, and we are really looking forward to seeing the difference it will make to the children’s stays with us.

“It is so important for family and friends to be able to stay in touch with the children while they are here, especially when the patients have come from further afield than Edinburgh, so we know that these iPads will mean a lot to the children and their families.”

Send us your stories

Connections is your magazine. We want to hear about staff achievements, fundraising efforts and other news from across NHS Lothian for the next issue. If you have something you wish to be considered for the magazine, please send your stories (of no more than 200 words) along with a high quality photograph to us at communications.lothian@nhs.net or call 0131 465 5647.
Medical practices win funding to lead dementia project

Doctors in Edinburgh have been chosen to lead a pioneering project which could enhance the support available to people living with dementia.

Surgeries and medical centres within the East Edinburgh Cluster are one of three groups in Scotland leading the project, which will enable people newly diagnosed with dementia to receive some of their support within their own communities and at their local surgeries. Rob McCulloch-Graham, Chief Officer for the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, said winning funding to take part in the project puts Edinburgh at the forefront of influencing national developments in post diagnostic support and builds on work currently being delivered across the city.

“The project will be led by Dr Andrew Mackay, a GP at St Triduana’s Medical Practice – our congratulations must go to him, Karen Thom, Eddie Balfour and whole team involved in developing the bid and taking this work forward,” he added. Funding for the project is being provided by the Scottish Government Dementia Innovations Unit.

Rebrand of SKFF

Following a major rebrand in May 2017, Edinburgh-based charity the Sick Kids Friends Foundation (SKFF) will now be known as Edinburgh Children’s Hospital Charity (ECHC).

The pivotal move coincides with the decision to rename the current Royal Hospital for Sick Children - which the charity has supported for 25 years - as the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People, Edinburgh (RHCYP) when it relocates to a new purpose-built building in early 2018.

Roslyn Neely, CEO of the ECHC, said: “Through the amazing support and fundraising of many people – including NHS Lothian staff, we’ve supported the work of the children’s hospital for 25 years. Aside from our name, nothing will change in terms of the work that we do. We continue to be a grant giving organisation which exists to transform the experiences of children and young people in hospital so that they can be a child first and a patient second.”

For more information on Edinburgh Children’s Hospital Charity, please visit: www.echcharity.org

NHS Lothian – our year ahead

NHS Lothian’s focus continues to be on improving the health of the population and the quality of the care we provide, while achieving value and financial sustainability.

The six corporate objectives and local delivery plan which have now been agreed by the Board set out how the organisation will work towards this aim over the next 12 months.

Tim Davison, Chief Executive, explained: “Across NHS Lothian our teams are continually doing a fantastic job of delivering high quality care for patients while looking for areas where we can improve.

“This year will not be without its challenges, particularly in terms of being able to react to increasing demand and balancing our finances. We will continue to respond to these challenges through our quality approach. It has been great to see how staff across the organisation are already engaging in our Quality Management System supported by our Quality Academy. We will be doing more to share learning and support teams to be able to improve patient care and make the best use of our resources.

“We will also be working hard to support the Health and Social Care Partnerships as we really start to see the benefits of integrated working, while at the same time taking a regional view on services across the South and East of Scotland in partnership with the other health boards in the region.”

The corporate objectives and local delivery plan are available on the intranet.
News

Recognition for our staff

“The doctor was attentive and listened to me”

– Western General Hospital

Having to travel outwith my NHS authority for this appt, from the moment we arrived, starting with the volunteer guide right through to the nursing staff and consultant, I was made to feel welcome, relaxed, my needs were the focus of the staff.

The waiting room was calm, airy & bright. Staff very professional, calm & informative. Not once did I feel rushed or nervous. Staff including the lovely Yr 4 med student treated me with the utmost respect & care explaining everything.

When examined I was put at ease felt comfortable & my dignity protected. The doctor was very attentive & listened to me not rushing me or talking over me reassuring me all the time. Both nurses were polite & took time to explain things to me. It was well worth the travel. Wish other departments were like this – a real professional blueprint.

Posted on Care Opinion website in March 2017

International Day of the Midwife 2017

On Friday 5 May we celebrated International Day of the Midwife 2017.

Charity SANDS Lothians organised cake and treats, plus a therapist to be at the Royal Infirmary and St John’s Hospital on the day, to provide complimentary therapy sessions, including head massage and reflexology, to midwives on their shift. SANDS wanted to thank them for the care and compassion shown to those families whose precious babies have died, and hoped it would give them a boost and help with morale knowing they are appreciated.

Charge Midwife Emma Campbell posted a blog on the NHS Lothian website reflecting on the day and on her career. The social media posts sharing Emma’s blog reached over 10,500 people.

Emma said: “I know from personal experience that there have been days when the support of my colleagues has helped me through difficult and emotional times. I respect my fellow midwifery colleagues in every way and I feel honoured to be a member of this profession.”

Midwives also organised for a basket of clothes and baby supplies to be donated to the parents of the first baby born on the day.
What Matters to You Day – June 6

You are all encouraged to join in the conversation by asking colleagues, patients, families and carers: “what matters to you?”

The Patient Experience Team has been working closely with Clinical Nurse Managers and staff at various hospital sites to plan activities in the lead-up to WMTY Day. There will be a display at St John’s Hospital reception and other hospital sites with space for feedback and comments. The Patient Experience Team and Communications Team will be visiting the hospitals in the lead-up and on the day to take photos and comments for use on social media. Look out for information on the intranet or visit www.whatmattersyoutscot.

Tracey Gillies, Medical Director, said: “These meaningful conversations can go a long way in helping provide unique, person-centred and fulfilling care, an approach we hope will continue beyond What Matters to You Day.”

Please email lothian.communications@nhs.net with any stories you’d like to share with us, and join in the chat on social media using the #WMTY17 hashtag.

Clean hands save lives

Hand Hygiene Day was 5th May and this year NHS Lothian supported the World Health Organisation’s (WHO) ‘SAVE Lives: Clean Your Hands’ campaign – a global call to raise hand hygiene awareness and slow antibiotic resistance.

Good hand hygiene is a tool every single person can wield and help to slow antimicrobial resistance. On 5 May, staff were invited to wear ‘Ask me if I’ve washed my hands’ badges to empower patients to ask questions about hand hygiene.

A series of information stalls were set up at hospital sites. “All the stalls were well attended by staff, patients and visitors, with a lot of interest,” said Fiona Cameron, Head of the Infection Prevention and Control Service.

NHS Lothian executive directors supported the campaign, as evidenced by this photograph that shows (from left) Jim Crombie, Deputy Chief Executive; Tracey Gillies, Medical Director and Alex McMahon, Director of Nursing, Midwifery and AHPs.

Scottish first for Lothian AHPs

In a first for NHSScotland, 11 NHS Lothian Allied Health Professional (AHP) Assistant Practitioners have successfully completed a national formal Professional Development Award at SCQF (Scottish Credit Qualifications Framework) Level 8.

The year-long qualification covers team working, leadership and quality improvement.

“All our successful Assistant Practitioners are now taking forward work to deliver service improvement within their areas,” said Andrea Macdonald, Lead Practitioner, Corporate Education. “I’m delighted that all 11 of our staff – the first cohort in Scotland – sat the award and passed.”

The award was developed in partnership between NHS Lothian, Glasgow Clyde College and NHS Education Scotland (NES) as part of a NES fellowship undertaken by Andrea.

Certificates were presented by Lynne Douglas, AHP Director, NHS Lothian, at a ceremony on 2 May.

A second cohort of the award, delivered by Glasgow College, is due to start in September. For more details, please contact andrea.macdonald@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk
Friday 12th May marked the first ‘Daring to be Great’ event of 2017, bringing together senior nurses across NHS Lothian. It was also International Nurses Day, making it the perfect day to share learning, network and to reflect on things that are going well, and things that could be improved.

Professor Alex McMahon, Executive Director, Nursing, Midwifery and AHP’s, opened the day by describing his leadership journey. The group then heard leadership stories and best practice from colleagues across the organisation.

Different routes into nursing and other roles in the NHS were explained by Maggie Byers-Smith and Andrea McDonald.

Delegates also heard about the recent 90 day learning cycle on how we learn from patient feedback and about the ‘Being Open’ project, which provides training for staff on how to have good conversations and involve patients and relatives after a serious adverse event.

Key areas of focus for nursing teams across NHS Lothian over the year ahead will be falls, pressure ulcers and noise at night within hospitals.

While the group recognised that the 53% reduction in falls with harm since April 2010 is a success it was acknowledged that there is more to be done. Collecting accurate data is key to understanding why falls happen, as is the need to tailor interventions to a particular ward or service.

The ‘Edinburgh Sleep to Assist Recovery’ project is working to reduce noise at night on wards. When measured, some wards were hitting 80 decibels at night, and to put that into perspective, 90 decibels is like a boeing 737 coming to land. This project includes ‘sleep kits’ with eye masks and earplugs being handed out in wards.

On pressure ulcers, Ruth Ropper described how work that began with the Scottish Patient Safety Programme target, is impacting on the number of pressure ulcers and highlighted the importance of awareness of different levels of pressure sores.

Overall the event was described as impactful, thought provoking and informative. Further Daring to be Great events are planned for later in the year. More information is available on the intranet.

Reflections

“Having someone who is trying to galvanise the enthusiasm is really fantastic. It has also been great to hear from other colleagues’ experiences within the organisation.”
Gillian Knowles, Nurse Consultant

“I am really enjoying today, hearing from my colleagues and their own journeys. I feel there is a real buzz in the air.”
Linda Rumbles, RCN Steward

“It just shows you how much good work is going on in NHS Lothian. It makes you realise that the profession we are in is fantastic and that we are doing a lot of good work.”
Darren Haddow, SCN

“It has been a great day listening to the leadership stories and stories of taking care of patients in NHS Lothian.”
Simon Dunn, Interim Associate Nurse Director
Win £100 worth of Love2Shop gift vouchers.

Have you had a look at NHS Staff Benefits recently? If it’s been a while since you last checked, they now have over 200 offers and discounts exclusively available to NHS Staff! You could save on everything from holidays and home improvements - to a new car, phone contract, gym membership and online shopping. The discounts cover 12 different categories and the latest offers are regularly updated. Every month there is a selection of Mega Deals to get some extra savings, regular competitions and limited time offers.

Some of the companies providing discounts include Hoseasons, EE, Hotpoint, Barrhead Travel, Forest Holidays, David Lloyd Leisure, Jet2Holidays, Rox and Virgin Media. Register today at www.nhsstaffbenefits.co.uk to access the deals and receive a fortnightly newsletter keeping you updated with the latest deals available.

We’ve teamed up with NHS Staff Benefits to offer one lucky reader £100 worth of Love2Shop gift vouchers, valid at over 20,000 shops, restaurants and attractions. The NHS Staff Benefits team want to know about the types of offers/discounts you would like to benefit from.

To be entered into the prize draw email your views with your name and phone number to lothian.communications@nhs.net or send to: Communications Department, NHS Lothian, Waverley Gate, 2–4 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EG.

A double celebration for David

Congratulations to Senior Charge Nurse Dr David Whiteley, who has a double cause for celebration: passing his PhD in April and this month (May) starting a new job as a full-time Lecturer at Edinburgh Napier University’s School of Health and Social Care.

David successfully defended his thesis - ‘Recontextualising the lived experience of hepatitis C and its treatment’ – at his PhD viva (oral exam) on 4 April.

David was seconded from NHS Lothian to do his PhD full-time as part of the Substance Misuse Directorate Clinical Academic (Research) Careers (CARC) Scheme.

David joins Edinburgh Napier University after a 10-year career with NHS Lothian. His most recent post was Senior Charge Nurse with the Outpatient Parenteral Antimicrobial Therapy (OPAT) service, based within the Regional Infectious Diseases Unit (RIDU) at the Western General Hospital.

Competition Winner!
Winner of the Yoopod Competition is: Claire Donoghue, Specialist Radiographer, RHSC