AWARDS WINNERS RECOGNISED

Cleaners, doctors, nurses, fundraisers and volunteers were among those recognised at Poole Hospital’s annual awards evening.

Around 120 attendees, including the mayor and mayoress of Poole, heard moving tributes from patients and their families about the care they and their loved ones had received in the past 12 months.

Compere, local resident and television presenter, Chris Jarvis, said he was honoured to be asked to help take part in this year’s event, held in late March.

Trust chairman, Angela Schofield, told attendees that the awards celebrated the people behind the hospital.

“To me, everyone who works at Poole Hospital, our volunteers and our fundraisers, are stars,” Angela said.

“You make the hospital what it is and are the reason why people trust us to care for them.”

Angela added her thanks to the staff, supporters, patients, relatives and members of the public who had taken the time to make a nomination.

Among those celebrating was Val Horn, matron for older people’s services. Val was named employee of the year, in recognition of her commitment to the care older people receive in hospital. The hospital’s stroke unit and Lilliput ward, both of which Val is responsible for, also picked up awards on the night.

“This award is recognition that our elderly patients are firmly centre stage, and that as teams and individuals, we really are making a difference.”

Val’s nomination for employee of the year was made by a colleague, who wrote that Val is an ‘inspiration to everyone who works with her.’

It is the 17th year that Poole-based engineering firm Meggitt has generously supported the awards scheme.

“Going coast to coast for charity

Baby broom for new maternity suite

Intrepid Ada opens Forest Holme hospice

For more pictures, and the full list of award recipients, turn to page 06.
Welcome to the summer edition of Grapevine, our staff magazine.

As many of you will know, I joined Poole Hospital as chief executive on 1 April. Since arriving here, I have taken the opportunity to meet as many staff as possible, and have been struck repeatedly by the dedication and enthusiasm of the remarkable people who work in this organisation. The values embedded in the Poole Approach are evident throughout the hospital and I feel privileged to have the opportunity to work with you all as we carve out a sustainable future for our hospital.

It is of particular credit to staff that the dedication I have witnessed is against a backdrop of significant pressure. The hospital has been exceptionally busy over the last few months, with staff consistently managing high levels of admissions and discharges, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuing hard work and commitment during such busy times.

The values embedded in the Poole Approach were showcased at the Poole Hospital Awards earlier this year, which you can read about on pages six and seven. These annual awards give recognition to staff who go the extra mile for patients and colleagues, as well as our fantastic volunteers and fundraisers. Around 120 guests attended the awards in March and heard moving tributes from patients and their families about the care they and their loved ones had received. I very much look forward to attending next year, and would encourage you to nominate for next year’s awards when the time comes – so many staff from Poole Hospital go above and beyond on a daily basis, and that commitment deserves recognition at every opportunity.

Over the coming months, we will be developing a strategy for Poole Hospital to take us through the next five years, and I would greatly value your input into that. We will be holding two ‘staff conversations’ events on Wednesday 9 July (1pm) and Thursday 10 July (3.30pm) to give staff the opportunity to talk more about what makes Poole Hospital special, and the areas we should focus on in the future. If you are able, please join us to have your say - full details of how to register are available on the intranet.

Like many NHS hospitals, we face significant financial pressures in the coming years and there is no doubt that there are many challenges ahead – but there are also many opportunities. Our hospital must evolve in order to meet the needs of the local community within a changing healthcare landscape, but I am absolutely committed to ensuring that as we move forwards, we maintain the quality, passion and values that make Poole Hospital so special.

I look forward to working with you all.

Debbie Fleming, chief executive

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A self-management programme which seeks to help multiple sclerosis (MS) patients better understand and manage their fatigue is being rolled out across the country in partnership with the MS Society.

The FACETS (Fatigue: Applying Cognitive behavioural and Energy effectiveness Techniques to lifestyle) programme was developed at Poole Hospital with Bournemouth University Clinical Research Unit. It is delivered by healthcare professionals and gives people living with MS a better understanding of how they can manage their extreme tiredness.

Research has shown that patients on FACETS reported a significant reduction in their fatigue compared to those who did not take part in the programme. Fatigue affects the majority of people with MS and can be one of the most debilitating symptoms of this condition. The FACETS programme supports patients to see fatigue as normal, enables patients to use available energy more effectively as well as developing more helpful thinking styles about fatigue.

Developed by Alison Nock and Vicky Slingsby, occupational therapists at Poole Hospital, and researchers at Bournemouth University including research fellow Dr Sarah Thomas, the programme is supported by the national charity, the MS Society, which funded the research.

Alison said: “The programme helps people with MS understand extreme tiredness better and manage it on a day-to-day level. “It’s also beneficial for patients as they can meet others with fatigue issues. Based on information giving and discussion, it is interactive so patients can learn from each other’s experiences.”

Research has demonstrated that 40 per cent of participants who received FACETS in addition to their routine care had meaningful improvement in fatigue levels, compared with 19 per cent who didn’t receive FACETS.

Janet King is one of the patients to benefit from FACETS. She said: “I feel better able not only to understand my situation but, perhaps more importantly, to deploy tools and strategies to help me cope and maintain an improved quality of life. “The programme was well run by Alison and Vicky, who were positive, empathetic, knowledgeable and always engaging. “Every session proved very informative.”
AFC Bournemouth chairman Jeff Mostyn and players visited Poole Hospital’s Dorset Cancer Centre in March to take a tour of the hospital’s state-of-the-art radiotherapy department and find out more about the cutting edge treatments available locally for men with prostate cancer.

Around 330 patients with prostate cancer receive radiotherapy at Poole Hospital every year and the centre provides treatment to patients from across Dorset.

Jeff, an ambassador for Prostate Cancer UK, took the time to meet staff in the radiotherapy department and described the visit as an ‘evening of inspiration’.

“I was completely overwhelmed to see the state-of-the-art facility here," he said. “To have this centre of excellence in our conurbation makes me realise just how fortunate the residents of Dorset are.”

The radiotherapy department at Poole houses a range of high-tech equipment. In 2013 new Varian RapidArc technology was introduced on two of the four linear accelerator machines, allowing cancer specialists to pinpoint the location of a tumour and deliver treatment with greater accuracy, whilst minimising the radiation dose to surrounding structures. The department also houses a brachytherapy suite, which can be used to treat prostate cancer by implanting radioactive ‘seeds’ into the prostate.

First team players including Tommy Elphick and Lewis Grabban were among those taking the opportunity to learn more about the radiotherapy department during the visit.

Ted Procter, head of radiotherapy physics at Poole Hospital, said: “We were delighted to welcome Jeff and the players to the department and give them the opportunity to look round.”

In the UK, about 1 in 8 men will get prostate cancer at some point in their lives. Older men, men with a family history of prostate cancer and black men are more at risk.

To find out more about prostate cancer, visit www.prostatecanceruk.org

The medical investigations unit (MIU) at Poole Hospital has been named as runner-up for a national award in recognition of its innovative and unique approach to care.

The unit was shortlisted in the innovation category at the British Journal of Nursing (BJN) awards, an annual ceremony that recognises excellence in nursing.

The unit is led entirely by specialist trained nurses offering patient-focused treatments for a range of conditions including a wide variety of intravenous therapies and procedures, haematological conditions and investigations as well as pacemaker and cardioversion pre-assessment and after care.

The MIU was one of the first places in England where nurses can authorise blood and blood products.

Geoffrey Walker, matron for medicine, cardiology and specialist nursing services, said: “I am immensely proud of the unit and the staff who strive to ensure that patients receive care in a warm and friendly environment.”

The shortlisted entries were assessed by a judging panel comprising Julie Smith, editor of the BJN, and Ian Peate, the BJN’s editor-in-chief, plus judges from relevant societies and professional associations.
A BABY BROOM FOR THE NEW MATERNITY SUITE AT ST MARY’S MATERNITY HOSPITAL

The newly refurbished birthing suite at Poole Hospital has welcomed its first baby.

The Haven Suite at St Mary’s Maternity Hospital, part of Poole Hospital, is designed to provide mums-to-be with a calming, non-clinical environment for labour and includes a total of five rooms, three of which have birthing pools. All rooms are equipped with en-suite facilities, as well as birthing couches, touch-control lighting and temperature controls.

The opening of the Haven Suite marks the completion of the first phase of the trust’s £4m investment into maternity services. The full programme of works includes the refurbishment of the neo-natal unit.

First to use the state-of-the-art facilities was new mum Hayley Broom who gave birth to baby Rory in March.

Rory, who weighed in at 8lb 10oz, was delivered by midwife Pawla Weekes at 3.53am and is Hayley and husband Dan’s second child.

Hayley said: “It was lovely to see the new suites which are spacious, modern and very comfortable.

“We made good use of the amenities on offer - the birthing pool, the new couch-style beds and wet room, not to mention a wonderful supply of gas and air!

““My husband and I are delighted that our beautiful boy is the first baby to christen the new facilities at the Haven Suite – thank you to all the wonderful team and the fantastic care after his delivery.”

Sandra Chitty, head of midwifery, said: “We are delighted that Hayley, Dan and little Rory had such a good experience in our new facilities.

“The unit provides relaxed and peaceful surroundings which support a more active birthing approach for those choosing a midwife-led birth.”

For more information on the Haven Suite contact the midwifery team on 01202 448319.

EDEN TEAM’S 100TH HOME BIRTH MARKS NINE MONTHS OF LABOUR

Maisie Louise Wilson becomes Eden team’s 100th home birth

January saw our innovative home birth midwifery team support their 100th home birth. The Eden team of midwives is dedicated to women who choose to give birth at home. The team’s working days are dictated by the needs of the women in their care, rather than a structured rota. Their first baby, Grace Isabella Eden Witt, was delivered in April last year and named after the team by proud parents Serena and James.

Now nine months later, new mum, Tiffany Louise Wilson, has given birth to baby Maisie, who weighed in at 7lb 1oz, becoming the team’s 100th baby.

Tiffany was supported at home by midwife Jo Heath.

“I knew I wanted to have the baby in my home with Jo there to reassure me,” said Tiffany.

“It was fantastic to have my mum there too, everyone was as excited as I was.

“I had great support from all the midwives I met, who were lovely. It all happens from home from the beginning so it’s more natural and relaxing, and you can even have a few cups of tea in your own surroundings.”

CONSULTANT HANPICKED FOR PRESTIGIOUS LEADERSHIP SCHEME

A Poole Hospital consultant has been chosen from more than 1,600 applicants to take part in a prestigious national leadership development programme.

The NHS fast track executive leadership programme is the highest level leadership programme offered by the NHS. The scheme, jointly provided with Harvard University, in the US, and IBM, also welcomed applications from those with non-NHS backgrounds.

Professor Minesh Khashu, pictured left, is the trust’s lead for neonatology and will be joining just 50 other clinicians and managers on the programme, run by the NHS Leadership Academy, as they develop new skills and knowledge in strategic leadership.

Minesh hopes that his involvement – which will see him spend time at Harvard, as well as a secondment to another healthcare organisation during the 10 month scheme – will lead to improvements in care here.

“I’m especially interested in the field of clinical leadership and healthcare improvement, and am keen to share this learning both inside and outside the trust,” he said.
MONITOR CLOSES INVESTIGATION INTO HOSPITAL’S FINANCES

Health sector regulator Monitor announced in April that it has closed its investigation into the hospital, as the trust is taking appropriate action to improve its finances on behalf of patients.

The investigation was launched in June 2013 to look more closely at the financial challenges facing Poole Hospital. In common with many hospitals, the trust needs to make substantial savings over the coming years. At Poole Hospital the situation is made more difficult because of the hospital’s case mix and the way in which hospital care is now funded.

Since the launch of the investigation, the trust has worked closely with Monitor to ensure plans are in place to provide financial sustainability, and the regulator has now announced it believes the trust’s leadership is taking the necessary steps to address the issues it faces.

Debbie Fleming, chief executive, said: “We are very pleased to receive this vote of confidence from Monitor.”

“Like many other hospitals, we need to make significant efficiency savings in the future, but it is extremely reassuring that Monitor believes we are taking the right action to protect services and continue to provide high-quality care to the local community.”

“I am looking forward to working with staff, clinicians and all local stakeholders to ensure a sustainable future for local healthcare services.”

Although it has closed the investigation, Monitor will continue to scrutinise the trust to make sure it becomes more efficient and sustainable.

Afternoon tea special delivery

Staff celebrated nutrition and hydration awareness in March with a special delivery of afternoon tea for patients.

The initiative kicked off the hospital’s activities to mark the week and raise awareness of the importance of staying hydrated and maintaining good nutrition.

Trust chairman Angela Schofield joined staff visiting patients who were treated to a small picnic box containing a bottle of water, a packet of biscuits and a cake, as well as information on nutrition and hydration and a cup of tea.

Other events included an information stand in the restaurant providing key facts on nutrition and hydration, as well as a quiz. Several wards also created eye-catching displays.

Debbie Reeves, nutrition nurse specialist, took the lead on organising events.

She said: “The consequences of poor nutrition and hydration are well documented and include increased risk of infection, poor skin integrity and delayed wound healing.

“The aim of nutrition and hydration awareness week was to involve all staff and demonstrate a united effort and commitment to improving nutrition and hydration for all our patients as an essential element of quality care.

“Not only will good nutrition aid their recovery, assisting a patient at mealtimes also provides vital social and emotional support and interaction, which is necessary for overall wellbeing.”
This year’s Poole Hospital Awards proved to be another glittering and uplifting occasion. Once again held at The Haven Hotel, in Sandbanks, more than 120 attendees heard moving tributes from patients and colleagues, before the final placings were announced. Here’s just a flavour of the evening.
SAFER HOSPITALS
Winner: Paul Horn
Runner-up: Helen Taylor
Highly commended: Sarah Chowdhiry

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
Winner: Michael Jones
Runner-up: Anne Jacob
Highly commended: Bill Lindsay

FRIENDS AND FAMILY TEST
Stroke care unit

SERVICE IMPROVEMENT TEAM
Winner: Iron deficiency anaemia service
Runner-up: Intensity modulated radiotherapy team
Highly commended: Critical care

SERVICE IMPROVEMENT INDIVIDUAL
Winner: Helen Parker
Runner-up: Tracie Tiller
Highly commended: Bruce Hopkins

FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR
Winner: Jude Martin
Runner-up: Simone Burne
Highly commended: Hamworthy Heating

MEGGITT BURSARY PRIZE
Dr Andrew Nickinson

PATIENT CARE TEAM AWARD
Winner: Lilliput
Runner-up: Forest Holme
Highly commended: Ansty

PATIENT CARE INDIVIDUAL AWARD
Winner: Ita May
Runner-up: Kirsty Horsley
Highly commended: Maria Mooney

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
Winner: Val Horn
Runner-up: Jeanne Wadey
Highly commended: Barry Duell

CHAIRMAN’S AWARD
Jock Dunbar
Learning4Health (L4H) is a new and free education and training programme for Poole Hospital staff. It offers all staff 24-hour access to a wide range of online learning that is relevant to all clinical and non-clinical roles and grades. The programme also allows online learning to be blended with classroom training sessions, which can be scheduled on request.

Courses are mapped to the National Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) and range from level 1 (entry level) to level 8 (Master’s degree). The programme is open to staff in Agenda for Change bands 1 to 9, as well as to some personnel in the social care, voluntary and independent sectors.

Most courses are around three hours and consist of separate sessions ranging from 15 to 45 minutes. Examples of courses include service improvement, dementia awareness and managing change, and fit into eight categories:

- Learning for all (for example service improvement, managing change)
- Urgent care
- Elective care
- Long term conditions
- Mental health
- Children and young people
- Maternity and new-born
- Staying healthy

The platform allows learners to develop their own bespoke training plans. Upon completion courses can be marked for sign off by an allocated supervisor, building evidence of training and development.

- Click the front page Learning4Health link on our intranet to find out more.

ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT IS COMING

The electronic document management (eDM) project is bringing Poole Hospital a step closer to electronic patient records.

The project will enable staff to scan in patients’ case notes making them available through a new electronic document management system. Paper records will still be used in clinical areas to record information, which will then be scanned and added to the electronic record at the end of a patient’s appointment or stay in hospital. Whilst the aim is to become paperless, for now the eDM project is focused on scanning new and existing patient case notes.

There’s a wealth of information on the eDM project on our intranet, including an FAQ and details of awareness sessions all staff who work with patient records should attend.

For more information click the eDM link on our intranet homepage.

LEARNING4HEALTH

Forest Holme Hospice re-opened in April after a £1m refurbishment, with one of its keenest and most intrepid supporters performing the honours.

The work has allowed the inpatient ward to move downstairs, and the creation of a new extension to provide two additional side rooms and a new day room for patients and their families. The work has been jointly funded by Forest Holme Hospice Charity and Help the Hospices through their charitable donations.

The hospice was officially re-opened by 92-year-old Mrs Ada Newman. Daredevil Ada took part in a sponsored parachute jump for Forest Holme Hospice Charity just weeks before her 90th birthday.

Ada, of Seldown Road, is a staunch supporter of Forest Holme Hospice, raising thousands of pounds from her charity jump. As Ada’s late husband Len was a beneficiary of the wonderful care provided by the staff at Forest Holme, it seems fitting that the honour of re-opening the hospice should be bestowed upon her.

Charity manager Anne Currie said: “Ada has been a wonderful supporter of the work of Forest Holme Hospice over the years and it seemed fitting that this very special person should re-open the hospice on behalf of all the patients, families and friends who have been cared for by the team here in the past, present and future.”

Forest Holme Hospice, part of Poole Hospital, now provides a single base for integrated palliative care services including specialist inpatient beds, outpatient clinic, specialist and generalist community outreach services, the hospital palliative care team, counselling services for the Dorset Cancer Centre and a lymphoedema clinic for the Poole sector.
Improving picture in staff survey

This year’s results for Poole Hospital in the annual NHS Staff Survey show many positive changes in the way staff view working at the trust.

The hospital ranked in the top 20 per cent of acute trusts nationally in many key areas, including staff engagement, motivation at work, being able to contribute towards improvements at work, good communication between senior management and staff and the belief that the trust provides equal opportunities for career progression or promotion. Staff also scored the trust above average in other important areas, including being able to contribute to improvements at work, recommending the trust as a place to work and fairness in reporting procedures.

With more than 500 staff completing the questionnaire, our response rate was also in the top 20 per cent.

The survey also highlighted areas in which improvements can be made, including the number of staff experiencing physical violence from patients, relatives or the public, and staff experiencing harassment, bullying or abuse from the same group as well as from other staff. The trust will be responding by working on these areas in the coming months, with dedicated work and actions in directorates to support improvements in these lower scoring areas.

For more information and full survey results contact Marie Cleary, human resources business partner, or visit www.nhsstaffsurveys.com

COAST TO COAST CYCLE IN COSTA RICA

A team of three from Poole have completed a breath-taking 500km ride in just seven days from the Pacific to the Caribbean coast in Costa Rica to raise funds for Dignity in Dementia, which supports dementia services at Poole Hospital.

Penny Jarvis, 63, lead for Poole Hospital’s patient advice and liaison service (PALS), is the trio’s most experienced team member. Penny has raised more than £11,000 for the hospital by climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in 2011 and completing a Vietnam cycle challenge in 2012.

Encouraged by her colleague, Amanda Colman, head of patient experience at the hospital, also signed up.

Mark Skelton, 50, is the third member of the team. Dubbed the ‘pedalling priest’, Mark decided to celebrate 25 years of priesthood with a cycling challenge and is raising funds in memory of his mother.

The ride began on relatively flat roads, continuing through cattle ranching communities, moving on to old paved trading roads, then gravel tracks before taking on the first ascent of many volcanoes, all in very hot and humid conditions.

Penny said: “I wanted to do a challenge that was out of the ordinary and to raise funds for this excellent cause.

“I have worked in the hospital for many, many years and have seen the distress that an admission to hospital can cause people with dementia.

“I am so pleased that things can be done to help settle dementia patients in hospital. It’s a very worthy cause.”
Poole Hospital Charity supports all the wards and departments across the hospital and has funded equipment ranging from tiny cots to major refurbishment projects since it was launched in 2004.

Through fundraising activities and events, charitable donations, legacies and voluntary support, the charity has raised more than £2 million since it was established, which has helped to make a huge difference to the experience of thousands of patients.

IT’S A Wipeout!
Teams of fun loving folk took part in our first ever It’s A Wipeout event in Poole Park in June. The fun-filled afternoon saw teams of six to eight people getting wet and wacky on the inflatable assault course in glorious sunshine. Incorporating cumbersome costumes and lots of foam, the eventual winners were Let’s Get Physical, a team from our physiotherapy service.

Participants crossed inflatables to retrieve giant jigsaw pieces, and entered a giant human washing machine to retrieve coloured balls from within the slippery foam. Each team member took part in each game, co-ordination and co-operation were essential.

The games are designed so that people of all abilities can enjoy them, including supporting non-physical roles.

Fundraising coordinator, Jayne Hughes, said: “The weather turned out to support us too on such a brilliant day – it was a real chance for friends, family and work colleagues to get together for a laugh in the park and raise valuable funds for Poole Hospital.

“Fundraising helps to provide added comfort and facilities to patients and their families who are often going through difficult and worrying times.”

Fundraisers could specify which area of the hospital they’d like to support. Sponsorship raised will be allocated wherever the team chooses, from elderly care or Dignity in Dementia to the Dorset Cancer Centre or children’s unit. Registration and sponsorship fees go directly to provide patients with additional support and care over and above that provided by the NHS. More than £6,500 was raised on the day, with more money still to come.

For more information future fundraising events Poole Hospital Charity on 01202 448449 or email fundraising@poole.nhs.uk

Sainsbury’s says Thank you to Staff
Staff at Sainsbury’s in Poole have donated hampers full of delicious goodies as a thank you to the staff on Sandbanks ward for the excellent care they provide to patients with cancer.

Kerry Fisher, public relations ambassador for the supermarket, said staff were moved to help as many have been affected, or know someone affected by cancer.

“We just wanted to say thank you to all the staff on the ward so put together some hampers,” she said.

Sandbanks ward is part of the Dorset Cancer Centre and is one of two in-patient wards in the Dorset Cancer Centre.

Daredevil Margaret Takes on Charity Abseil
Twenty years of volunteering at Poole Hospital just isn’t enough for 83-year-old Margaret Fouracre.

The intrepid octogenarian is due to take on the challenge of abseiling 85ft down a rock face to raise money for the Dorset Cancer Centre at Poole Hospital in late April.

This isn’t the first high rise challenge for Margaret – she’s already descended from the top of Parkstone House, at Poole Hospital – some 130ft high.

Margaret says she decided to take part in the abseil challenge because she “wanted something different to spice up her life.”

Margaret will be raising money for the Dorset Cancer Centre, where she has been volunteering for two decades.
Findings from the national inpatient survey, carried out between September 2013 and January 2014 and published in April 2014, also showed that Poole Hospital continues to perform well for patients.

More than 400 patients who had been admitted to the trust completed the detailed questionnaire as part of the Care Quality Commission survey, and rated the hospital as ‘better performing’ in several important areas, including quality of food and choice of food, help with eating, information given about care and treatment, and consideration of pain control.

In all other areas the hospital ranked within the national average, with the exception of the use of mixed bathroom facilities. Work is already underway to make improvements in this area, including improved signage on the doors of bathroom/shower rooms to enable them to be designated to either sex depending on the patient mix.

For further information about the adult inpatients survey, including the national summary and the results for each NHS trust that took part, please visit: www.cqc.org.uk/inpatientsurvey2013
THANK YOU

THE TRUST RECEIVES HUNDREDS OF LETTERS EACH YEAR FROM GRATEFUL PATIENTS AND RELATIVES REGARDING THE CARE THEY HAVE RECEIVED AT POOLE HOSPITAL. HERE ARE JUST A FEW.

“My husband and I were compelled to write to you to say a heartfelt thank you for the care shown to us and our child. From the moment we arrived with our five-year-old, we were treated with the utmost care and attention. Despite being busy, all staff were professional and friendly at all times – we were bowled over.”

“Everyone treated me with patience, kindness and respect – the same kindness was evident when I phoned about a problem. I was very impressed with the caring attitude shown.”

MATERNITY STAFF WIN PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL AWARDS

Three maternity staff from Poole Hospital have won national awards in recognition of their outstanding work in the field of midwifery.

The annual Royal College of Midwives’ (RCM) awards are a national initiative that rewards and celebrates outstanding achievement in midwifery across the UK.

Emma Cook, community midwife at St Mary’s Maternity Hospital, part of Poole Hospital, won ‘mentor of the year’, an award that goes to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding support, supervision and clinical practice skills towards a student or learner.

Jillian Ireland, midwife and Sara Fripp, maternity support worker, jointly won the ‘members’ champion’ award, which is given to RCM workplace representatives for their work on behalf of other members.

The award ceremony, in January, was hosted by TV personality Natasha Kaplinsky and was held in London.

LONG SERVICE RECOGNISED

More than 60 staff representing an incredible 1,600 years of NHS service were honoured at a long service awards event at Poole Hospital.

Trust chairman, Angela Schofield, presented recipients who had reached 25 or 40 years’ with a pin badge denoting their milestone as well as a framed certificate.

Staff represented services including, midwifery and nursing, PA’s and secretaries, catering, radiography, radiotherapy, theatres and pathology.

Angela said: “Our staff are amazing, caring, professional, knowledgeable and proud and do an absolutely fantastic job - the hospital is nothing without the people who work here”.

The long service awards are part of Poole Hospital’s staff recognition scheme and are held annually.