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Media Release

Nurses and midwives celebrated for their fantastic work

Nurses and midwives at the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust have been recognised for their fantastic work and outstanding contribution to the people we care for.

The RUH's Nursing and Midwifery Awards 2024 gave staff the perfect opportunity to celebrate those colleagues who go the extra mile every day.

The ceremony coincided with the anniversary of the birth of Mary Seacole, who was a British Jamaican nurse in the 1800s and paved the way for diversity in nursing in the UK.

There were 13 awards in total, recognising all of the hospital's nursing and midwifery groups.

This year's awards went to:

- **Healthcare Support Worker of the Year** - Michelle Bigden, Helena ward
- **Maternity Support Worker of the Year** - Kate Francis, Specialist Infant Feeding
- **Staff Nurse of the Year** - Caroline Reading, Children's Emergency Department
- **Midwife of the Year** - Sarah Allouat, Antenatal Clinic
- **Sister/Charge Nurse/Senior Sister of the Year** - Mel Burcombe, William Budd ward
- **Senior Nurse Leader of the Year** - Ana Simoes, Older Persons Unit Short Stay
- **Specialist Nurse of the Year** - Bryony Skipworth, Staff Nurse, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)
- **Specialist Midwife of the Year** - Karen Doran, Midwife
- **Advanced Clinical Practitioner of the Year** - Mel De Jaeger, Urogynaecology
- **Research Nurse of the Year** - Ros Knight, Paediatric Research
- **Outstanding Achievement of the Year** - Rachel Burridge, Junior Sister, Older Persons Unit Short Stay
- **Chief Nursing Officer Outstanding Team Award** - Maternity Senior Team.

The afternoon's top award was the **Chief Nursing Officer Award**, which went to Zita Martinez, Director of Midwifery.

Zita received her award in recognition of her 'exceptional and inspirational leadership across Maternity Services'.

Chief Nursing Officer Toni Lynch said: "Our wonderful nursing and midwifery staff work so hard for the people we care for each and every day.

"These awards are the perfect way to highlight just some of those staff for their incredible achievements and outstanding contributions to the RUH.

"Congratulations to all those award winners and nominees and a huge thank you to all of our nursing and midwifery staff for your consistent hard work and commitment – we couldn't do it without you."

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Notes to Editor:

At the RUH we're proud to put people at the heart of what we do, striving to create an environment where everyone matters. Everyone means the people we care for, the people we work with and the people in our community.

We provide a wide range of services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

We also provide specialist services for rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME via the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases which we acquired in 2015.

In 2021, we acquired Sulis Hospital Bath, an independent hospital that provides care for both private and NHS patients. This has enabled us to provide more care for NHS patients, as well as continuing to provide private care to those who choose it. Any additional income earned through private care is reinvested in services for the benefit of the people we care for at both Sulis and the RUH.

Our new Dyson Cancer Centre brings together many of the RUH's cancer services under one roof to provide a cancer services hub for over 500,000 people in the South West. The centre includes the RUH's oncology, chemotherapy and radiotherapy services, a 22-bed inpatient ward, a dedicated pharmacy, research team and nuclear medicine and physics teams.

A key feature of the new centre is the Macmillan Wellbeing Hub. The three-storey hub provides a welcoming, non-clinical space designed around the needs of patients and their families. It also includes comfortable accommodation where relatives and loved ones can stay overnight.

We work closely with other health and care organisations as members of the Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board. We strive to improve the health and wellbeing of the people in our community by working together build one of the healthiest places to live and work.

We are rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).



Royal United Hospitals Bath
NHS Foundation Trust

For more information about the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk