



ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING WALES
NURSE OF THE YEAR
AWARDS

Commemorative
BOOKLET

CARDIFF HOLLAND HOUSE HOTEL & SPA BY SUNDAY
THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2025



Coleg Nyrsio Brenhinol
Cymru
Royal College of Nursing
Wales



Thank you from Helen Whyley, Executive Director, RCN Wales



 Coleg Nyrsio Brenhinol
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Thank you for joining us at the 12th Annual Royal College of Nursing Wales Nurse of the Year Awards, this booklet captures the moments, memories, and spirit of what was truly an inspiring evening.

A heartfelt thank you and warm congratulations to all our finalists. It has been a privilege to witness your journeys from nomination through showcase panels to the awards ceremony itself. These accolades mark only the beginning, and we look forward to seeing all that you will go on to achieve. Our sincere thanks also go to the nominators who recognised the remarkable contributions our finalists have made to nursing in Wales. Every nomination reflects a supportive team behind it, ensuring great work never goes unnoticed.

We were honoured to welcome distinguished guests, including His Majesty's Deputy Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Dr Isabel Graham; High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Mrs Janet Davies; The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor Adrian Robson; Lieutenant Colonel Robert A Liddington, Commanding Officer 203 (Welsh) Multi Role Medical Regiment, and Chief Nursing Officer for Wales, Sue Tranka. From the RCN community, we were delighted to be joined by Professor Nicola Ranger, RCN General Secretary and Chief Executive; Bejoy Sebastian, RCN President; Jackie Davies, Chair of the RCN Wales Board; Carmel O'Boyle, RCN Chair of Council, as well as members of the RCN Executive Team. The Royal British Legion Llanelli Band of Wales set the tone with a wonderfully grand opening, and West End star Sophie Evans brought the house to life with a stunning, high-energy performance.

Our special thanks go to Jason Mohammad, who has graciously served as Master of Ceremony for all 12 award ceremonies.

We are deeply grateful to our judging panels and the entire RCN Wales team for their dedication in bringing this event to life.

Finally, our sincere appreciation to each of our sponsors. Your support makes these celebrations of nursing excellence in Wales possible.

The RCN Wales Nurse of the Year 2025

Professor Nicola Ranger: RCN General Secretary and Chief Executive, Jackie Davies: RCN Wales Board Chair, Nicola Williams: Executive Director of Nursing, Allied Health Professionals and Health Science, Velindre University NHS Trust, Bejoy Sebastian: RCN President, Annie Clothier: Vascular Clinical Nurse Specialist at Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Helen Whyley: Executive Director, RCN Wales, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



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Congratulations



Our 2025 RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Award Winners and Runners-Up pictured with Bejoy Sebastian: RCN President, Sue Tranka: Chief Nursing Officer for Wales, Professor Nicola Ranger: RCN General Secretary and Chief Executive, Jackie Davies: RCN Wales Board Chair and Helen Whyley: Executive Director, RCN Wales and Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

The Start of a Wonderful Evening



Hosting the 12th annual RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Awards at the Cardiff Holland House Hotel and Spa

Entertainment



Royal British Legion Llanelli Band of Wales announce the start of the ceremony in style



Sophie Evans: Star of the West End joins the ceremony for some up-beat numbers



RCN Guests



Professor Nicola Ranger: RCN General Secretary and Chief Executive and Madelaine Watkins: RCN Wales Nurse of the Year 2024



Sue Tranka: Chief Nursing Officer for Wales, Gillian Knight: Deputy Chief Nursing Officer, Nicola Williams: Executive Director of Nursing, Allied Health Professionals and Health Science, Velindre University NHS Trust



Rosalind Mabey: Lead Nurse-Kings Nursing Cadets, Lorna Mayles: Head of Students and RCN King's Nursing Cadets and Ellie Evans: RCN Wales King's Nursing Cadet



Colonel Robert Liddington: Commanding Officer, 203 (Welsh) Multi-role Medical Regiment



Bejoy Sebastian: RCN President and Arniel Bautista Hernando: RCN Wales Board Member

RCN Guests



Patricia Mbasani: RCN Chief People Officer, Helen Whyley: Executive Director of RCN Wales, Phil Ball: RCN Chief of Staff - Communications, Professor Nicola Ranger: RCN General Secretary and Chief Executive, Lynn Woolsey: RCN Chief Nursing Officer



Nelson Selvaraj: Lecturer (Adult Nursing) and Numeracy Lead (Nursing) at Cardiff University, Helen Whyley: Executive Director, RCN Wales, Lynn Woolsey: RCN Chief Nursing Officer



Lady Mayoress: Councillor Jane Cowan, The Rt. Hon Lord Mayor of Cardiff: Councillor Adrian Robson, Derek Browne: RCN Wales Senior Officer



Catherine Norris: Finalist and Iwan Dowie: Deputy Dean Health and Social Care at University of South Wales



Natalie Brooks: Vice Chair RCN Council, Carmel O'Boyle: Chair RCN Council and Helen Whyley: Executive Director of RCN Wales



Tracey Partridge-Wilson and Kelly Downes, Deputy Directors of Nursing, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

RCN Guests



Supporting Team from Powys Teaching Health Board



*Patricia Mbasani:
RCN Chief People Officer*



*Sue Tranka:
Chief Nursing Officer for Wales*



*Lynn Woolsey:
RCN Chief Nursing Officer*



*Helen Whyley: Executive Director
of RCN Wales, Professor Ruth Northway
OBE; RCN Fellow*



*Jean Saunders MBE: RCN Wales Nurse of the
Year 2019, Tara Rees: RCN Wales Nurse of the
Year 2023*



*Claire Roche: retired Executive Director of Nursing, Powys
Teaching Health Board, Claire Birchall: Executive Director of
Nursing, Quality and Integrated Governance, Public Health Wales,
Jennifer Winslade: Executive Director of Nursing, Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board*

RCN Guests



Darren Hughes: Director, Welsh NHS Confederation



Arnel Bautista Hernando: RCN Wales Board Member, Sandy Harding: RCN Wales Associate Director of Nursing, Tracy Lenzy: RCN Wales Communications and Media Manager, Louise Wallace: RCN Wales Librarian and Information Services Manager



Lynn Woolsey: RCN Chief Nursing Officer, Natalie Brooks: Vice Chair RCN Council, Mark Crothers: RCN Wales Board Vice Chair



Jackie Davies: RCN Wales Board Chair



Alison Magor: RCN Wales Board Member, Gaynor Jones MBE, former RCN Wales Board Chair



Liam Williams, Executive Director of Quality and Nursing, Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust (WAST) pictured with guests from WAST

RCN Wales Board Members



RCN Wales Board (left to right): Mark Crothers: Vice Chair, Rhian Smith, Dr Carolyn Middleton MBE, Suma John, Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Jackie Davies: Board Chair, Anne Stevenson, Lynne Puckett, Susan Williams, Alison Magor, Arniel Bautista Hernando.

Master of Ceremony



Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony for the 12th year running!



Guest Speakers



Dr Isabel Graham: His Majesty's Deputy Lieutenant of South Glamorgan



Professor Nicola Ranger: RCN General Secretary and Chief Executive



Jackie Davies: Board Chair, RCN Wales



The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor of Cardiff: Councillor Adrian Robson

Lifetime Achievement Award



Jonathan Morgan: Chair of Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board, Dr Carolyn Middleton MBE: Winner, Dr Isabel Graham: His Majesty's Deputy Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

WINNER

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University Health Board

Dr Carolyn Middleton MBE: Winner

Registered Nurse – Child Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Dr Sheila Shepley: Nurse Consultant in Epilepsy, working across Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Angela Wood: Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Rachel Evans: National Lead for Breastfeeding (Midwife), Public Health Wales, Angela Wood: Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Betsi Cadwaladr
University Health Board

Community and Primary Care Nursing Award



WINNER

Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Ann Murphy: Independent Board Member, Hywel Dda University Health Board, Paula Heycock: Head of Nursing, Primary, Community and Therapies, Swansea Bay University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



RUNNER-UP

Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Ann Murphy: Independent Board Member, Hywel Dda University Health Board, Hayley Taylor: Lead Nurse for Community Cardiology, Swansea Bay University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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University Health Board

Improving Individual and Population Health Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Cindy Courtney: Head of Nursing, Regional and Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Claire Birchall: Executive Director of Nursing, Quality and Integrated Governance, Public Health Wales, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Claire Birchall: Executive Director of Nursing, Quality and Integrated Governance, Public Health Wales, Rhianydd Davey: Immunisation Co-ordinator, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Public Health
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Research, Innovation and Digitalisation in Nursing Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Frances Beadle: Chief Nursing Information Officer, Quality and Integrated Governance, Digital Health and Care Wales, Victoria Hayman-Tear: Senior Nurse, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Frances Beadle: Chief Nursing Information Officer, Quality and Integrated Governance, Digital Health and Care Wales, Ffion Pursglove: Specialist Nurse Medicine Management, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Registered Nurse – Learning Disabilities Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Elizabeth Rix: Executive Director of Nursing, Swansea Bay University Health Board, Zoe Dolman: Senior Specialist Behavioural Nurse, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Elizabeth Rix: Executive Director of Nursing, Swansea Bay University Health Board, Richard Morgan: Community Learning Disability Nurse, Hywel Dda University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Swansea Bay University
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Registered Nurse – Mental Health Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Jennifer Winslade: Executive Director of Nursing, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Tanya Thomas: Team Leader for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Sanctuary Hwb, Powys Teaching Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Jennifer Winslade: Executive Director of Nursing, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Lisa Payne: Ward Manager for Newport Older Adult Mental Health, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Independent Sector Nursing Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Dan Svensson: Managing Director, involve Care and Support, Kevin Jones: Registered Manager, Bryn Marl Nursing Home and Head of Governance and Compliance for Vshan Care Ltd, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Dan Svensson: Managing Director, involve Care and Support, Vicki Travers: Registered Manager, Tan-Yr-Allt House Nursing Home, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Specialist Nursing Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Jason Roberts: Executive Nurse Director, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Annie Clothier: Vascular Clinical Nurse Specialist, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Jason Roberts: Executive Nurse Director, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Tracy Bale: Consultant Nurse for Dermatology, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Cardiff and Vale
University Health Board

Health Care Support Worker Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Huw George: Chief Commissioner, NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee, Lynda Jones and Shona Lewis: Health Care Support Workers, Hywel Dda University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Huw George: Chief Commissioner, NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee, Amanda Strange: Assistant Practitioner for Mapping, Education and Carers Service (MECS), Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Nurse Education Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Iwan Dowie: Deputy Dean Health and Social Care, University of South Wales, Claire Loveridge: Practice Educator, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Iwan Dowie: Deputy Dean Health and Social Care, University of South Wales, Catherine Norris: Head of Nursing, Swansea University, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Nursing Student Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Lisa Llewelyn: Executive Director of Nursing, Health Professions and Quality, Health Education and Improvement Wales, Alwen Sayer: Student Nurse (Adult), Wrexham University, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Lisa Llewelyn: Executive Director of Nursing, Health Professions and Quality, Health Education and Improvement Wales, Abbie Sanders: Student Nurse (Child), Wrexham University, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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

Registered Nurse – Adult Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Paul Hooton: Executive Director of Nursing, Quality, Women and Family Health, Powys Teaching Health Board, Emma Phillips: Quality Improvement and Service Transformation Practitioner, Hywel Dda University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Paul Hooton: Executive Director of Nursing, Quality, Women and Family Health, Powys Teaching Health Board, Angharad Hanbury: Lead Nurse for Radiology, Hywel Dda University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Powys Teaching
Health Board

Chief Nursing Officer for Wales Award



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Sue Tranka: Chief Nursing Officer for Wales, Welsh Government, Donna Blinston: Hepatology Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Hywel Dda University Health Board, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony



Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales, Sue Tranka: Chief Nursing Officer for Wales, Welsh Government, Annette Blackstock: Assistant Director of Safeguarding, Public Health Wales, Louise Mann: Director of Safeguarding, Public Health Wales, Jason Mohammad: Master of Ceremony

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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

RCN Wales Nurse of the Year Award 2025



Professor Nicola Ranger: RCN General Secretary and Chief Executive, Annie Clothier: Vascular Clinical Nurse Specialist, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Jackie Davies: Board Chair RCN Wales, Nicola Williams: Executive Director of Nursing, Allied Health Professionals and Health Science, Velindre University NHS Trust



Annie Clothier congratulated by Alison Magor, RCN Wales Board Member



Jackie Davies: Board Chair RCN Wales, Nicola Williams: Executive Director of Nursing, Allied Health Professionals and Health Science, Velindre University NHS Trust, Bejoy Sebastian: RCN President, Annie Clothier: Vascular Clinical Nurse Specialist, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Helen Whyley: Executive Director RCN Wales



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Ann Murphy: Independent Board Member, Hywel Dda University Health Board



Jennifer Winslade: Executive Director of Nursing, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board



Iwan Dowie: Deputy Dean Health and Social Care, University of South Wales



Elizabeth Rix: Executive Director of Nursing, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Celebrations



Alwen Sayer: winning the Nursing Student Award



Emma Phillips: winning the Registered Nurse -Adult Award



Lynda Jones and Shona Lewis: winning the Health Care Support Worker Award



Tanya Thomas: winning the Registered Nurse -Mental Health Award



Kevin Jones: winning the Independent Sector Nursing Award

Celebrations



Annette Blackstock and Louise Mann: runners-up in the Chief Nursing Officer for Wales Award



Donna Blinston: winning the Chief Nursing Officer for Wales Award



Cindy Courtney: Winner of Improving Individual and Population Health Award



Celebrations



Helen Whyley: Executive Director, RCN Wales with RCN Wales staff



Our Sponsors





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RCN Wales Headquarters:

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