NHS
Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

All Star Awards honour NHS heroes who helped residents after care home fire

On Friday 14 July, Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust held its All Star Awards. The evening celebrated the hard work and dedication of staff and volunteers who go the extra mile.

The much coveted 'Clinical Team of the Year' award was presented to staff who work on the Henry Tudor ward at St Mark's Hospital, Maidenhead, for the extraordinary compassion and leadership shown when caring for residents from a nearby care home when a fire broke out.

On the evening of Friday 10 February 2023, multiple fire crews from Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Services were sent to a two-storey blaze at a private care home on St Mark's Road, Maidenhead.

At St Mark's Hospital next door, the staff at the Henry Tudor Ward were made aware of the fire, and immediately took action to support the care home staff and helped them to safely evacuate 20 residents and bring them into the hospital.

Despite not being an A&E department, the ward staff dealt with the emerging situation calmly and efficiently, taking the incident in their stride. The team supported the evacuated care home residents and staff, providing shelter, food and drink, as well as caring for their existing 20 patients on the ward.

Julian Emms, Chief Executive at Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, said: "I'm incredibly proud of our colleagues at Henry Tudor Ward who did a fantastic job under challenging circumstances. They did not hesitate to help those in need, and a number of colleagues who were not on shift also returned to support the team, in a fantastic example of teamwork and going the extra mile. They are a credit to their professions and our Trust."

Another award winner was Rebecca Girnary, Children, Young People and Families Lead, who received the 'Non-Clinical Colleague of the Year' award in recognition of her work in project managing the development of a new Health Bus for the Trust. The Health Bus, which launched in October 2022, serves as a mobile health clinic, bringing health services direct to local communities.

Rebecca turned an idea into a reality, working with her team to bid for a community grant and successfully securing £50,000 towards the development of the bus.

This was a complex project which involved sourcing a bus provider and lease, recruiting drivers, ensuring the bus met health and safety regulations, and had a practical design with an adaptable and accessible layout suitable for a mobile clinic, including private consultation areas and a sensory space.

A children's clinician by profession, Rebecca had to turn her skills to a completely new area of work and brought together an amazing resource for the Trust to use to address health inequalities in the community.

Other winners included the East Urgent Community Response and Virtual Community Ward Service who received the 'Excellence in Practice' award. This service was set up early April 2022 to provide a two-hour crisis response service to patients in their own homes or care homes, helping reduce 20% of hospital admissions.

There was also a special NHS 75 Award, marking the 75th birthday of the NHS, which recognises unsung heroes at the Trust. The award went to Steph Moakes, Health, Wellbeing and Engagement Manager, who arranges wellbeing initiatives and training to ensure that staff are fully supported.

Chief Executive, Julian Emms, concluded: "We have 5,000 colleagues across 100 different sites and each and every one of them goes above and beyond to provide the very best care to our patients. Together they help us to be a CQC Outstanding Trust and make Berkshire Healthcare a truly great place to get care, and a great place to give care."

The full list of award winners are:

- Clinical Team of the Year went to the staff on the Henry Tudor Ward
- Non-clinical Team of the Year went to the ePMA Community Health Project Team
- Clinical Colleague of the Year went to Reuben Pearce
- Non-clinical Colleague of the Year went to Rebecca Girnary
- Excellence in Practice went to the East Urgent Community Response & Virtual Community Ward Service
- The People's Choice Award went to Tamara Radburn-Mills
- Respect for Everyone award went to the Talking Therapies Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Team
- NHS 75 Award went to Steph Moakes
- Volunteer of the Year went to Rose Johnston

Notes to editors

1. **About Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust** Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust provides specialist mental health and community health services to a population of around 900,000 within Berkshire. We operate from more than 100 sites across the county but the vast majority of the people we care for are supported in their own homes. We have 216 mental health inpatient beds and 180 community hospital beds in five locations. Visit www.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk

2. The Trust is rated by the **CQC as Outstanding.**

3. **Follow Berkshire Healthcare** on Twitter @BHFT, Facebook www.facebook.com/berkshirehealthcare and on Instagram @berkshealthnhs

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Photos:

Rebecca Girnary, Children, Young People and Families Lead, winner of the Non-Clinical Colleague of the Year award with Chief Executive, Julian Emms and Chief Financial Officer, Paul Gray

Clinical Team of the Year' award winners – staff from Henry Tudor ward at St Mark's Hospital. Pictured with Chief Executive, Julian Emms and Debbie Fulton, Director of Nursing and Therapies.

NHS 75 Award winner Steph Moakes, Health, Wellbeing and Engagement Manager, with Chief Executive, Julian Emms and Chairman, Martin Earwicker.