

Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(4 November 2022, 1.20pm)**

This week has certainly been a good one for award winners across NHSGGC! I am very pleased to tell you that last night, some of our staff were winners at the annual Scottish Health Awards. These prestigious awards are a fantastic way to showcase examples of excellent work carried out by NHS staff right across the country. The first of our winners was Brenda Kirk, who is a Clinical Nurse Specialist, Team Lead Disability at the Aranthrue Centre, and took the award in the Best Nurse category. This is a fantastic achievement, given the level of competition this year. Mhairi Burke one of our Physiotherapists, who was nominated for work at the RAH and is now based at IRH, was the deserving winner in the Allied Health Professional category, beating off stiff competition from NHS Western Isles and NHS Dumfries and Galloway. Also taking home an award was our Navigator Scotland team, which is led by the group Medics Against Violence, who won the Tackling Health Equalities award, which is a hugely important, issues based category. I would like to give my congratulations to all of our staff who were nominated and shortlisted as well as our very well deserving winners. Well done to you all and thank you for your excellent work!

Earlier this week, NHSGGC also triumphed at the UK-wide Building Better Healthcare Awards for the work undertaken at the new Greenock Health and Care Centre. The awards are designed to recognise and reward innovation within the healthcare built environment, medical device and technology sectors, and our team successfully won the Best Collaborative Arts Project (Static) award. We commissioned Lead Artist and Curator Stephen Hurrell to work together with NHSGGC and Inverclyde HSCP to create a welcoming space for our local Inverclyde community and the teams worked together successfully from the inception of the project in 2016 through to the delivery of the building last year. Well done to the entire team who produced such an amazing space for staff, patients and visitors.

Further success was also achieved at the NHS Scotland Assure Awards yesterday. I am really pleased that Martin Johnson in the Sustainability team was able to collect the award in the Sustainability category for the work that has been undertaken to regenerate the pond at the RAH, back to its former glory. This was a significant piece of work and one which will benefit staff and patients for many years to come. Alan Gallacher was also able to bring home the award in the Engineering Excellence category, for the design, installation and commissioning of 44 dental pods within Glasgow Dental Hospital. Congratulations and very well done to both teams.

I would also like to congratulate Alison Bunce, who recently won the highly prestigious RCN Nurse of the Year Award for her extensive work as Compassionate Inverclyde / Inverclyde Cares Programme Lead, where she supports patients from the local area at the IRH and Ardgowan Hospice. Alison has helped to mobilise local people, faith and voluntary groups as well as local businesses to support people in crisis and provide them each with 'Back Home Boxes' to support them to return home from a health care setting. This is such an important initiative, which has been so warmly welcomed by the local Inverclyde community. Well done, Alison. Thank you for your compassion and wonderful work.

This week, the Scottish Government launched the national Right Care, Right Place public awareness campaign, which is intended to support Health Boards and public preparedness for winter. As we all know, the winter months are the most challenging of the year, even without the added issue of COVID, which we have experienced over the past two years. The campaign, which focusses on supporting members of the public to use the correct services when they need care, carries direct messages about when to attend ED and what to do in all other circumstances. For the first time, the national message informs the public that they may be redirected to another service if appropriate. The campaign will run across TV, radio and social media until early January.

This week, we have heard from a patient who was treated at our podiatry clinic. The patient writes: "I ripped my toe-nail on the side of my kitchen door and it was bleeding and very sore over a few days. I made a self-referral to the podiatry clinic at NHS GGC Health Board in September and was allocated an appointment two days later with a telephone clinic podiatrist! I was very pleasantly surprised by how soon I was offered an appointment and it was much more convenient over the telephone. It turned out I needed no treatment and was given advice on how to care for my toenail at home. Although it will take several months to grow back, I am no longer limping, bleeding or in pain and am now back to normal. Thank you to NHSGGC Health Board for assessing my needs so quickly!" My thanks also to the podiatry team for the swift response and advice given to this patient. Please keep up the good work. Thank you.

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