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WUTH Nurse receives national Rising Star award

A Diabetes Specialist Nurse at Wirral University Teaching Hospital (WUTH) has received national recognition after being named Rising Star at the 2026 Diabetes Nursing Awards.

Sue Browne, Diabetes Specialist Nurse, received the award in recognition of her outstanding contribution to diabetes care early in her specialist nursing career.

The Rising Star Award celebrates a promising newcomer in the field of diabetes nursing who has demonstrated exceptional potential, innovation and dedication to improving diabetes care.



Sue was recognised for creating the Directory of Diabetes, a comprehensive, freely accessible digital resource that has standardised diabetes practice across the Trust and improved access to clinical guidance for healthcare professionals. The resource supports clinicians to deliver consistent, evidence-based care for people living with diabetes and was recently showcased by Susan at the Diabetes UK Professional Conference in Liverpool.

Sue began her nursing career at WUTH as a newly qualified nurse on the Gastroenterology Ward, where caring for patients with Type 3c diabetes sparked her interest in specialising in diabetes care.

Now working as a Diabetes Specialist Nurse, Sue supports patients across the Trust while also helping colleagues develop their knowledge and confidence in diabetes management. She also contributes to projects that improve diabetes care locally and nationally through audit and research.

Sue said: "I was honestly very surprised to receive the award. There are so many wonderful diabetes nurses across the UK doing incredible work to improve the lives of people living with diabetes, and I think they all deserve recognition.

"I feel honoured to have received an award recognising the work I've been doing here at WUTH, but this achievement also reflects the support of my colleagues. We have a fantastic Diabetes Team who support one another every day to provide the best possible care for our patients.

"I really enjoy supporting nursing colleagues in their own development, helping to deliver projects that improve diabetes care both within the Trust and nationally through audit and research, as well as spending time with patients to help them better understand and manage their condition."

Speaking about what inspired her to specialise in diabetes nursing, Sue said: "My journey started here at WUTH as a newly qualified nurse on the Gastroenterology Ward. Many of the patients I cared for had Type 3c diabetes, which presented unique challenges in managing their needs and sparked my interest in diabetes."

Sue also paid tribute to those who have supported her throughout her career.

She said: "The teams I've worked with over the years have been wonderful, but I'd especially like to thank Sister Garner, Malcolm Simpson and Kay Hannon for their support, guidance and encouragement. I wouldn't be where I am today without them."

The Diabetes Nursing Awards celebrate nurses and multidisciplinary teams from across the UK who are making an outstanding contribution to diabetes care. Sue's success highlights the innovation, expertise and commitment of the Diabetes Team at Wirral University Teaching Hospital in continually improving care for people living with diabetes.