

# Press Release



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For immediate use

## Nominate your local health hero for top award

Nominations are being sought for this year's Scottish Health Awards.

The search is on for Scotland's top health workers as Borderers are being urged to nominate their local healthcare hero.

Every year, the Scottish Health Awards recognise and reward dedicated NHS staff, support workers, volunteers and specialist teams who go the extra mile to provide outstanding patient care.

Nominations are being sought from those who want to acknowledge the quality of treatment they have received, either for themselves or a loved one.

Whether in hospital, in the community, in a GP surgery, or at the dentist, this is an opportunity to reward the people who give so much, helping the NHS provide world-class care to the people of Scotland.

Last year was an exceptional year for NHS Borders with five finalists and three winners:

**Jacques Kerr**, Consultant in Emergency Medicine and Lead Clinician in the Emergency Department within Borders General Hospital won the renowned Doctor Award.

**Lilian Irvine**, Smoking Cessation Advisor, was announced as the Unsung Hero for her personal, professional and voluntary work to Renal Services in the Scottish Borders spanning twenty seven years.

**NHS Borders Critical Care Outreach Team** beat off stiff competition from their fellow NHS Borders Stroke Services to be announced as Quality Champion of the Year.

This year there are sixteen award categories, including the Nurses Award, the Volunteers Award, the Top Team Award and the renowned Doctors Award.

The awards will culminate in a prestigious award ceremony on the 6 November 2014 at the Corn Exchange in Edinburgh.

Chair of NHS Borders, John Raine said: "This is a fantastic opportunity to recognise those who provide the very best healthcare to people across the Borders. Our staff work hard to ensure that local services are delivered to the highest standards."

"Make sure you nominate your local healthcare hero and give them the recognition they deserve."

For more information on how to nominate your healthcare hero visit [www.scottishhealthawards.com](http://www.scottishhealthawards.com) before the closing date of Monday 8 September.

**End**

**Notes to editors**

A specially selected panel of judges will select three finalists in every category. The finalists will be invited to attend an awards ceremony on the 6 November 2014 at the Corn Exchange in Edinburgh.

The categories for nominations are outlined below.

Categories:

- Doctors Award – both doctors and nurses in practices or hospitals across Scotland
- Nurses Award – nursing teams in general care, community care or specialist care
- Therapists Award – range of therapists from physiotherapy to dental hygiene
- Unsung Hero Award – getting on with their work but bringing much more to their job
- Support Workers Award – ranging from auxiliaries, cleaners, porters – there's so many
- Volunteers Award – unpaid assistance that makes healthcare experience so much better
- Top Team Award – Scotland's top NHS team can come from any service in the country
- Care for Mental Health Award – working with vulnerable members of our communities
- Care for Long-Term Illness Award – specialist care teams who are always on hand
- Services to Women and Children Award – individuals and teams who provide specialist early years services and care for children and their families
- Healthier Lifestyle Award – individuals and teams who are motivating and supporting people to lead healthier lifestyles
- Health in the Workplace Award – recognising employers who have made a contribution to the health and wellbeing of their employees
- Integrated Care for Older People Award – celebrating health and social care staff who provide vital healthcare and personal support to older people
- Innovation Award – rewarding new and innovative ways of improving the quality of healthcare
- Quality Champion of the Year – to honour those who have put quality improvement at the heart of what they do to transform patient care.
- Leading and Managing for Quality Award – is aimed at outstanding and resilient managers and leaders who strive for quality at everything they do.

Your nominee must work for NHSScotland, with the exception of the Healthier Lifestyle, the Volunteer, the Health in the Workplace, the Integrated Care for Older People and the Unsung Hero categories.

The Scottish Health Awards 2014 is managed by the Scottish Government and the Daily Record.

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