



The NACC celebrates excellence at the NACC Awards 2017

The National Association of Care Catering (NACC) crowned the winners of the NACC Awards 2017 at a gala dinner last night, which also celebrated the association's 30th anniversary.

The winners of the eight prestigious awards exemplified excellence, innovation and exceptional service in the care catering sector and a commitment to improving standards and experiences for all, from service users and their loved ones to the people on the front line.

This year's inspirational winners were recognised and celebrated by their fellow NACC members and industry colleagues at the special event held at the East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham.

The 2017 NACC Awards winners are:

- **Care Establishment of the Year Award:** *John Wills House, St Monica Trust*
The judges described John Wills House, which provides palliative care, nursing care and dementia care, as a model for success in dealing with the range and complexity of care provided.
- **Meals on Wheels Award:** *West Sussex County Council, Meals on Wheels Service*
West Sussex County Council makes Meals on Wheels available to all of its 850,000 residents and during the past 12 months the service has grown by 10%, now providing 150,000 meals a year, plus 20,000 to Day Centres. The judges praised the outstanding service of which West Sussex residents can be justifiably proud.
- **Catering Team of the Year Award:** *Gracewell of Horley Park Catering Team*
The judges commended the 'supremely well-led team' that, in a short period of time, has been re-motivated from a state of low morale and raised standards

overall, improving residents' quality of life through its attitude, consistency and personalised approach.

- **Catering Manager of the Year Award:** *Stuart Keown, Dining Service Coordinator, Sunrise of Banstead*
As Cluster Dining Service Coordinator, supporting four other sites, and a Food Safety Trainer, Stuart promotes efficiency and resident-led service, consistently going the extra mile to achieve excellent standards. With no sign of slowing down and studying for his Level 4 in Management, the judges declared his commitment and boundless energy as an example to all.
- **Our Care Catering Hero Award:** *Joy Whitlock, Head Chef, Harton Grange*
Head Chef at Harton Grange, Joy is also Barchester Healthcare's *Hospitality Champion of the Year*. Consistently giving her time to make sure the residents receive the very best of everything, she is often thanked and praised by residents' families for looking after their loved ones so well. The judges agreed that she is a diamond.
- **Region of the Year Award:** *South West Region*
The South West region stood out to the judges for the quality of its regional meetings and its specific work in targeting prospective new members.
- **Pam Rhodes Outstanding Achievement Award:** *Roger Bayliss*
The Pam Rhodes Award recognises the work and commitment of an individual that has made a lasting contribution to the NACC. Admired by his colleagues, Roger has been a member of the NACC since 1990 and still contributes to the life of the association in the role of National Treasurer, a post he has held for four years.
- **Chairman's Award 2017 – Era Varellas**
Neel Radia, the NACC Chairman, awarded this special recognition to Era for her inspirational, long-term support of the care sector, working for the London Borough of Haringey, and the NACC. And, also for the encouragement and support she has given him since he joined the association. A NACC member for over 20 years, including South East regional chair for four years, Era has been instrumental in helping to write and structure important guidelines and in promoting the NACC wherever she goes – including Australia!

Neel Radia, national chair, NACC comments: "What a night! Heartfelt congratulations to all our award winners in our 30th anniversary year. Every single

one of them, and all the finalists, exemplify exactly what is so great about the care catering sector. They all have an unwavering commitment and desire to raise standards of catering through innovative and exceptional service, and ultimately improve the lives of the people they are feeding.

“I know for a fact that the judges had a tough time selecting the overall winners from such a fantastic pool of entries. Observations by the judges, such as ‘a model for success’, ‘a supremely well-led team’, ‘commitment and boundless energy’ and ‘outstanding service’, sum up perfectly the award-winning characteristics that are plentiful within our sector. Catering for the elderly and vulnerable requires specific skills, knowledge, responsibility and care, and the NACC Awards are proof that we continue to push the boundaries and raise the bar.”

For further information on the NACC Awards 2017 and the NACC contact info@thenacc.co.uk / 0870 748 0180, or visit www.thenacc.co.uk.

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The NACC

The National Association of Care Catering (NACC) is a progressive organisation representing professionals providing catering to the care industry. They are recognised by Local Authorities, independent providers, the charitable sector and Government departments as a prime source of information and opinion on all aspects of catering within the care sector and whose primary aim is to improve standards.

The NACC works with a number of partners to:

- Promote and enrich the standard of catering within the care sector, whether that catering be provided by Social Care Departments or other Caring Agencies
- Provide a forum for debate among individuals, companies and organisations of all kinds involved in catering for the care sector
- Facilitate the exchange of information, experience and expertise
- Promote the development of professional standards among those involved in catering for the care sector
- Commission research into matters relating to catering for the care sector
- Publish guidelines, policy papers and authoritative statements on all aspects of catering for the care sector

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