

# MEDIA RELEASE

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2 pages

## LPT nurse wins national title

A Hinckley-based nurse has won a prestigious national title. Lesley Wright was named mentor of the year in the Student Nursing Times awards yesterday (27 April 2017).

She said: "I'm shocked, I can't believe it."

Lesley was nominated by eight students that she helped to supervise at Hinckley and Bosworth Community Hospital, and was then interviewed by a panel of judges in London.

They told her her compassion and care shone through, and it was clear she did not realise just how exceptional she was.

Lesley, 48, only completed her own nurse training five years ago after studying at De Montfort University. Some of the placements she undertook were less than ideal, so she was determined to give a better reception to student nurses who came to her ward.

She said: "I thought it doesn't have to be like that. It doesn't take a lot to be welcoming."

She said she made sure the students understood the true importance of caring and compassion, as well as the technical skills of nursing.

She would also recommend nursing as a career.

"It is still the best decision I have ever made. The reward in a patient going



home, or the reward you get from the relatives of a palliative patient who recognise good care is totally worthwhile.

“I love being able to make a difference to people at the most vulnerable times of their lives.”

One of her students told the award organisers: “I know that without Lesley’s support I would not be the nurse that I am today. She showed me that there is more to nursing than skills alone. I take a bit of Lesley’s example to the ward with me every day.”

Another added: “Lesley made care of older people seem like the most enriching and rewarding job a nurse can do.”

A third said she had lacked confidence, and had been on the verge of quitting nursing when she met Lesley. “I would not be here today if it wasn’t for such an inspiring and influential nurse.”

Sarah Latham, inpatient matron at Hinckley and Bosworth Community Hospital, said: “We have always known Lesley was a star, now the whole country knows it as well.

“I am so proud, it is an incredible achievement.

“Lesley is an inspiration to everybody at the hospital.

“She has helped us recruit staff because students know they will get the support they need in the early stages of their career.

“She is regularly named in thank-you letters and notes from grateful patients and relatives for the care she gives.”

#### **Note to editors**

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) provides a range of health and wellbeing services mainly for people living Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The Trust serves a population of one million, has a budget in excess of £267 million and employs approximately 5,400 staff. For more information visit [www.leicspart.nhs.uk](http://www.leicspart.nhs.uk).

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