

Today is International Nurses Day!

May 12 is an important date to all nurses as it is the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, widely considered the founder of modern nursing. We have celebrated on May 12 since 1965. What makes it even more special is that this year marks the 200th birthday of Florence Nightingale making this year the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife.

This year is very different to other years due to the COVID-19 pandemic and we realise that each and every nurse has adapted to working differently and stepped up to great.

[Watch Anne Scott's, interim director of nursing, allied health professionals and quality, message to you.](#)



The NHS chief nursing officers have also written a letter of thanks to nursing colleagues all over the U.K. [Click here to read the letter.](#)

Help us 'Shine a Light' for our brilliant nurses

The work and plight of all our 2776 nurses has been shown throughout this pandemic. Now we want to be able to do something to show our gratitude and support. International Nurses Day gives us this opportunity. Light is a visible symbol of welcome, hope and warmth. We will be asking everyone to **Shine a Light** for our brilliant nurses at **8pm today**, to show thanks and to participate in our International Nurses Day 2020 celebration.

Although we are not able to celebrate the day as we usually do, we do encourage you to have virtual celebrations. We would love if you could print the poster ([download the poster here](#)) and take a picture as a team (socially distanced of course!) or individually. Please send your photos to the communications team and share on social media. We look forward to seeing your pictures!



Our International Nurses Day event is postponed but we will update you when a new date is set.

Being the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife, we wanted to share some nursing journeys from our staff at LPT:

- [Read Anne Scott's nursing journey](#)
- [Read Emma Wallis' nursing journey](#)
- [Read Louise Evans' nursing journey from operational management to deputy head of nursing in FYPC](#)
- [Read Amanda Hemsley's nursing journey](#)

We'd love to know what made you start your journey into nursing. Email the [communications team](#) and let us know.

Why do we celebrate International Nurses Day?



Every year, on 12 May, we mark International Nurses Day. It's not just a celebration of nursing; it's also the birthday of one of the world's most famous nurses, Florence Nightingale. A talented mathematician, she was also drawn to caring for the sick in her family and community. Florence Nightingale was a British social reformer and statistician, and the founder of modern nursing. Nightingale came to prominence while serving as a manager and trainer of nurses during the Crimean War, in which she organised care for wounded soldiers. She gave nursing a favourable reputation and became "The Lady with the Lamp" making rounds of wounded soldiers at night. 2020 marks 200 years since Florence Nightingale's birth making this year The Year of the Nurse and Midwife.

A moment in LPT nursing history

Last year, nursing associates were made a new member of the nursing family and trained for two years to work with people of all ages and in a variety of settings in health care. The role is regulated by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) as a stand-alone role in its own right, and it also provides a progression route into graduate level nursing. This was a moment in LPT nursing history; the first nursing associates to qualify in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and in our Trust.



NHS leadership support sessions

The Florence Nightingale Foundation (FNF) has launched an NHS leadership support service known as Nightingale Frontline, to support nurses and midwives to continue to lead and support the NHS now and be inspired to lead beyond COVID - 19. We encourage you to join these virtual sessions. [Find out further information here.](#)

Thank you to all of our nurses and a small gift from us to you all

We want to thank all of our nurses at LPT for the hard work that is put in – not just today but every day that you put your uniform on. Each nurse, including bank nurses, will have a hand cream waiting for them at their base – Just a small token of our

appreciation.

Let's celebrate a wonderful profession and the contribution that our nurses make to patients, families and each other. If you are celebrating locally, please let the [communications team](#) know.

This is OUR Time
2020
#YearOfTheNurseAndMidwife

