

# Learning Matters Health and Care Awards 2017

North West England Award Profiles Booklet



# Learning Matters

Health Education England (HEE) exists for one reason: to improve the quality of care delivered to patients – developing people for health and healthcare



Health Education England is proud to be supporting Voluntary Sector North West to deliver the Learning Matters awards programme. We welcome you on behalf of all partners to tonight's celebration of learning, innovation and regional ingenuity in health and care, right across the North West.

With our partners we want to recognise and highlight individuals, teams and organisations who have gone the extra mile to show how learning is making a real difference to patient care and community well-being. We are determined to harness all talents across the health and care system, whether you provide direct care or support others, whether you are paid or work in a volunteer capacity and whether you have many years' experience or are new to the sector. We want to celebrate the value of apprenticeships for all ages and inspire you with the stories of those who have been transformed by learning and who can inspire others, through learning, to improve the care they offer, their own health and that of our communities.

We also want to celebrate innovation in learning, and the award nominees provide great examples of how their personal experience of education has driven new models of care, better patient and public engagement, wider participation in the workforce and progress through the use of technology.

We are delighted you can join us tonight to celebrate their achievements and we hope you will be inspired by their stories to continue to deliver excellence in health and care across the North West.

**Sally Cheshire**  
**Chair-North West**  
**Health Education England**

Press contact: [jo@jowardchangemaker.org.uk](mailto:jo@jowardchangemaker.org.uk)

# Campaign overview and thank you

The Learning Matters awards are part of a cross sector adult learning campaign delivered for the health and care sector through a number of key regional partnerships and collaborations. The campaign grew out of the biggest and longest running learning campaign in Europe, Adult Learners' Week. Like Adult Learners' Week the Learning Matters campaign is all about: celebrating and recognising the achievements of people who find the time and energy to learn something new each year and whose stories provide the inspiration to encourage others to give learning a go. The overarching theme is simple: lifelong learning is good for people, organisations and health.

## FREE concert to promote wellbeing 16 July 2017

Building on tonight's two fabulous performances by Music in Hospitals and the Do Your Thing choir this year's campaign will deliver a major wellbeing event, Singing in the City, designed to showcase NHS workplace and community choirs. A free concert will be hosted by the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester on Sunday 16 July from 12.30pm. Over twenty-two choirs will share their love of singing in the Grand Hall.

## Thank you

I would also like to take this opportunity to personally express the campaign partnership's gratitude to Gaye Jackson at HEE for her tenacity and vision in driving forward these awards over the last twelve years and in bringing them to the sectors attention through her extensive networks.

I'd like to extend this thank you to the eight regional selection panels and their members who enthusiastically deliberated all nominations and are supporting local recognition ceremonies.

**Jo Ward**  
**Change Maker and Campaign Director**

# Award Programme 2017

**6.30pm** Entertainment and refreshments – *Fossil Gallery*

**7.10pm** Ceremony opens – Living Worlds Gallery – *Jane Hodson MC*

Welcome – *Dr Nick Merriman Director of Manchester Museum*

**7.15pm** Health Education England (HEE) Awards – *Sally Cheshire HEE Chair North*

#### HEE individual awards:

North West Apprentice of the Year in Health and Care Winner

**Colette Doran – Cumbria**

Career Progression in Health and Care Winner

**Paul Connor – Merseyside**

Supporting Learners in Health and Care Winner

**Emma Steeles – Manchester**

Volunteer of the Year in Health and Care Winner

**Lisa Harding – Lancashire**

Widening Participation in Health and Care Winner

**Simon Haworth – Cheshire**

#### HEE project awards:

Regional Innovation Award Winner

**The Greater Manchester Genomics Education Programme**

Regional Ingenuity Award Winner

**Singing for Long-term Conditions – Inspire**

Supporting Learners Award Winner

**The Supporting Bereaved Relatives Programme – Lancaster**

Widening Participation in Health and Care Award Winner

**Liverpool Clinical Laboratories – Merseyside**

**7.45pm** Do Your Thing Choir with Liz Taylor

# Award Programme 2017

#### Sponsored awards:

**8.00pm** Voluntary Sector North West – *Warren Escadale CEO*

Asset Based Community Development in Action Award Winner

**Rossendale Enterprise Anchor Ltd (REAL)**

**8.08pm** The Innovation Agency – *Juliette Kumar*

Digital Innovation in Healthcare Award Winner

**Validate Your Care – Lancashire**

**8.15pm** Workers' Education Association (WEA) – *Geoffrey Appleton*

Social Purpose Learning Champion Award Winner

**Peter McGarry – Eye Witness**

Social Purpose Learning in Action Award Winner

**Fantastic – Peter Carruthers – Black Toffee Productions**

**8.22 pm** Celebrating Success – roll call (please see page 23)

**8.30pm** Photographs and ceremony close.

NB: Project nominations were especially strong and a recommendation is to be taken forward by the regional knowledge management team to profile all project nominations to support wider learning. These case studies will be available on E-win in the summer.

[http://www.ewin.nhs.uk/tools\\_and\\_resources](http://www.ewin.nhs.uk/tools_and_resources)

## Apprentice of the Year in Health and Care Award

### Colette Doran (Cumbria)

Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT)

'It has been very hard with working and training 6 days a week but I enjoy every minute of it.'

**Colette**

Colette is no stranger to facing challenges head on. She not only juggles her job as a support worker with her apprenticeship at the NHS community rehabilitation service in Carlisle whilst being a busy single mum; but she also maintains a demanding commitment to a rigorous training schedule. We should mention Colette is a carer who also throws a very mean javelin. As an international athlete she holds a British record and she will be representing Great Britain in the Deaflympics. So you won't be surprised to hear that although Colette has been deaf from birth – despite her impairment and a car accident that nearly killed her – she has never let it get in her way.

She is a passionate apprentice who enthuses about the power of learning to instil confidence in the care workforce whilst she is ambitiously planning her next steps in to become a nurse associate. As a clear team player she says everyone should be encouraged to, 'commit to learning and development because it enhances knowledge, understanding and skills to do the job efficiently.'

Stephanie her nominator adds, 'Colette promotes learning and development in the workplace and she acts as a role model and encourages others to enhance their development.' Stephanie notes that she believes Colette is constantly motivated to do more by her competitive side because of her sport interests; but Colette is also a reflective learner who regularly draws on her own experiences to enhance patient communication and evidences this well in her formal studies.

Nominator: Stephanie Watson

Publicity contact: Marti Irving  
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## Career Progression in Health and Care Award

### Paul Connor (Liverpool)

Tom Harrison House

Paul was Tom Harrison House's (THH) first graduate. Ross, his nominator says, 'Paul is hands-down the most stunning example of someone who, given the right opportunities, has turned his life around 180 degrees. When the team first met Paul, his life was literally in ruins – his physical and mental health had broken down to an alarming degree, he had destroyed his family relationships and had lost his dignity and self-respect. He had been living on the streets for years and he was totally dependent on alcohol, an addiction that almost killed him on several occasions. One thing that shone through all this chaos and destruction was Paul's determination to lift himself out of that life when the opportunity to engage with THH arose, and to work hard with us on beginning to change his situation.'

Paul has embraced learning in every situation that has presented itself since his first day at THH. His journey commenced when he joined the main THH programme where he began to learn more about himself and his addiction. He continued after his time in rehab with volunteering, training, part-time employment and eventually his most recent undertaking – training in his passion for photography – in a job that he loves. These opportunities have all arisen from Paul's own sense of determination and a willingness to challenge himself; and because he has been so open to learning in the form of the unique THH addiction programme which has proved transformational. Paul adds, 'The THH programme gave me my life back. It was life changing.'

Nominator: Ross Forrest

Publicity contact: Jacquie Johnston- Lynch BEM  
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'I learnt I was wanted and needed and I could put something back.'

**Paul**

## Supporting Learners in Health and Care Award

# Emma Steeles (Manchester)

Manchester Royal Infirmary (MRI)

## Supporting Learners Project Award

# Supporting Bereaved Relatives Royal Lancaster Infirmary

University Hospital Morcambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust (UHMBT)

'She always looks to improve the student and mentor experience.'

**Sharon**

Emma worked in the main theatre at MRI for eight years as an operating department practitioner (ODP). During this time she was and still is deeply passionate and proud of her work in a perioperative environment where patients are most vulnerable. It won't surprise you to hear that she has always been committed to promoting learning and development as a means to improve the quality of care and she has been driven by a set of very clear goals in her work. This has meant she was able to seamlessly move into a new and challenging job to support others just twelve months ago.

Emma is adamant about the importance of supporting student ODPs in her new role as a clinical skills facilitator. She has a clear sense of responsibility and an ambition to develop and improve all the perioperative care given by future practitioners. She states with confidence that the early experience that student ODPs receive through their training will influence the practitioners they become in the future. In just a short space of time she has transformed the support for student ODPs at MRI, devising key learning resources and rolling out new student support packages. She continually aspires to ensure all students and their mentors have the right knowledge, skills and support to deliver safe, efficient and compassionate care by working alongside students and with colleagues, never imposing from above, but drawing on knowledge and building perspective in a reflective manner.

Nominator: Sharon Green

Publicity contact: Karen Moore

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This unique training package was initially devised to support porters when collecting a deceased patient to take them to the mortuary. The project focused on ensuring porters felt knowledgeable and confident in their roles and as a result bereaved relatives would feel more supported. The objective was to ensure porters were able to converse with family members sensitively even in the most difficult circumstances. This training was also part of a response to the Better Endings report (NIHR 2015) which highlighted the need to improve end of life care.

After a period of consultation a pilot workshop was developed, which has since been extended to include other non-clinical staff. This targeted and flexible training was both factual and practical in content, delivered in tandem by a specialist bereavement nurse and project lead, Helen O'Neil, the education facilitator. Importantly it allowed staff to share their experiences, whilst UHMBT learnt how impactful training with small groups can be on service delivery. UHMBT also realised how much staff appreciated the training investments, and soon realised how much staff appreciated the training investments. The trust is now very clear about the integral role non-clinical staff play in supporting patients and relatives at the end of life. Although the initial focus was on increasing porter confidence and knowledge it has changed practice too, refocusing attention on what was actually happening on wards by highlighting simple, often minor steps to build better practice.

Nominator: Janette Thorpe

Publicity contact: Kayleigh Archer

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'Since the training non-clinical staff are more comfortable when dealing with a deceased patient and their family. Staff also appreciated that their role is valued and this has been highlighted by UHMBT'.

**Janette**

## Widening Participation in Health and Care Award

### Simon Haworth (Cheshire)

Lane End Construction Developments LTD

## Widening Participation in Health and Care Award

### Traineeship Programme (Merseyside)

NHS Liverpool Clinical Laboratories

'Simon isn't a saint, he has made mistakes, learned from them and used the learning to help others.'

Kathryn

This community champion invests much time and energy in coaching and mentoring children and young people from across the North West. He inspires them to follow their dreams and to believe in themselves because he believes in them. He is a veteran, and an accomplished boxer, who openly admits that he initially, struggled to settle in to civvy street, 'knowing nothing but how to use his fists'. At his lowest point he had no friends, no money or home.

Simon is no angel. However he is a man who has learnt how to say sorry and to recognise his own shortcomings. He has also found a powerful way

to make amends for past wrongs, firmly believing life's mistakes can always provide the opportunity for new lessons learnt. His learning transition can only be characterised as transformative as he has clearly left behind a 'once angry man' whose life lacked purpose or direction to become someone who can freely and openly give of himself. Needless to say his early journey quickly spiralled out of control ending in a prison sentence but he turned his life around and developed a new found sense of direction by putting something back. He turned a very big corner and his ambition is to help others to do the same. He has a very clear message, 'There is always hope, apply yourself to your chosen field, learn from every experience, never give up and you too can change your lives for the better.'

Nominator: Kathryn Harrison

Publicity contact: Kathryn Harrison

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Liverpool Clinical Laboratories (LCL) is a multidisciplinary NHS pathology service, jointly owned by the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals and University Hospitals Aintree, developed to provide high quality diagnostic and autopsy services as well as specialist pathology services. They welcomed their first traineeship students in 2017 as part of a bid to use NHS leverage to promote social mobility and to create a sustainable workforce for the future, whilst getting young people interested in careers in healthcare science. A thirteen week course delivered in partnership with Wirral Met College, combines classroom based learning and on the job training, with the aim of enhancing students CV's and furthering their career options after school or college. Students are taught how to receive and check blood and tissue samples and perform laboratory reception duties, giving them the skills and experience which could help them go on to apply for a job as a healthcare science assistant. Dave Eccleston, Head of Modernising Scientific Careers at LCL says, 'The course is an opportunity to not only show young people the range of rewarding and valued careers in the NHS, but to give them skills and experience to make their CV stand out from the crowd. By offering a high quality work experience placement at the end of the training, students boost their chances of getting paid employment and improve their career prospects, whether that's with us or with other NHS organisations.' The project has evolved to ensure it is fully inclusive of the local community.

Nominator: Nicholas Fowler-Johnson

Publicity contact: Chloe Crilly

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'Students are given an opportunity to interview for available positions, join the LCL staff bank or in the future, be supported to complete an apprenticeship.'

Dave

## Volunteer of the Year in Health and Care Award

# Lisa Harding (Lancashire)

Pathways

Lisa provides 'insight into what has worked for her enabling people to make conscious but informed decisions.'

Sean

Lisa describes each day as a joy but it wasn't always that way. She was an active addict for over 40 years and regularly engaged in severe self-harm. She has you might say, experienced 'life's ups and downs' and many of what she describes as life's tricky tests but she has come through to the other side a stronger person, equipped to help others, buoyed by a new found confidence and an energising zest for life. Lisa's learning journey can only be characterised as one of self-discovery and growth. Through her volunteering and the training she has accessed she has been empowered. She has gained vital self-esteem and a

deep sense of purpose, along with a huge capacity to help others. Never one to seek the limelight or look for praise she just gets on with turning her own personal experiences and knowledge of substance abuse into something which is relatable to others; something people can gain insight and knowledge from to build better lives.

Now three years into recovery Lisa is a beacon of hope to her community, inspiring those who knew her before and also those who know her now who are thinking and wanting to change but simply don't know how. Lisa is an open book for advice and guidance whilst also providing a good listening ear.

Nominator: Sean Cusack

Publicity contact: George Wright  
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## HEE Innovation Award

# The Greater Manchester Genomics Education Programme

Manchester Centre for Genomic Education, Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

The 100,000 Genome Project is an ambitious, transformational healthcare project that allies cutting edge science and technology, clinical care and research. The initiative involves collecting and decoding 100,000 human genomes – complete sets of people's genes – (DNA) – to enable scientists and doctors to understand more about specific conditions. Understanding DNA and how it can predict and prevent disease, provide a precise diagnosis and direct targeted treatment is a key component of personalised care. One of thirteen centres nationally ambitiously promoting whole genome sequencing and establishing the city as a key player in a national healthcare system.

Dr Glenda Beaman the project education training lead has trail blazed; working with expert patients and clinical staff to jointly develop and deliver a multi-faceted, education and training programme designed to provide healthcare professionals across Greater Manchester with the knowledge and confidence to refer in to the project. This has involved establishing Genomic Cafes, grand rounds in hospitals, training for GPs and educational session for every foundation year doctor, plus regular talks at nursing forums; as well as significant patient and public engagement events to raise awareness. This work has impacted significantly on the number of genome referrals. Professor Newman said, 'More people have been reached in one year than the previous twenty years', with over 10,000 direct contacts.

Nominator: Professor Bill Newman

Publicity contact: Lauren Flanagan  
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'It is vital to harness the remarkable power of this new form of diagnostic testing and apply it for maximal patient benefit.'

Prof Newman

## HEE Ingenuity Award

# Singing For People With Long Term Illnesses

Inspire Social Enterprise

'The choirs have shown a remarkable resilience and willingness to learn.'

**Adam**

Inspire is a social enterprise developed by professional musicians, educators and researchers. Inspire grew out of a HEFCE 'Do It' award at the University of Manchester. This award aimed to encourage people with long term conditions to become actively involved in singing and music as a way of improving personal resilience, independence and self-care. Work to date has concentrated on people with respiratory disease and aphasia (communication difficulties following strokes etc.) Inspire's pioneering work has focused on developing singing models that are tailored to the needs and expectations of people with a variety of long

term conditions. This work has included establishing a network of singing groups for the North West; fostering independence and building in sustainability for initiatives; evaluating the physical and psychological benefits of singing groups and ultimately understanding the cost effectiveness and social value of this type of social prescribing activity.

Being part of a choir enables members to learn a wide variety of new skills e.g. new songs; rhythm and harmony as well as learning vital breath control. From the outset choir members are taught performance techniques and how to sing in public. The choirs have relished the opportunity of performing to a wide variety of audiences and venues including the Royal College of Music in London and the Lowry Theatre. Choir members have also been invited to speak at a variety of meetings about their condition and the many health benefits of participating in a choir, including a workshop at the 2016 International Festival for Public Health in Manchester.

Nominator: Dr. Adam Garrow

Publicity contact: Dr. Adam Garrow

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# Manchester Museum



We are delighted to be hosting the 2017 Learning Matters Awards. As a university museum, we are committed to learning in all its varied forms throughout everyone's life – our ambition is to be a Museum for Life. We are undertaking an ambitious development –the Courtyard Project, which will open in 2020 with a new South Asia Gallery and special exhibition space. This transformational project will place health, wellbeing and social inclusion at the very forefront of the museum's role.

A recent evaluation of Inspiring Futures, Volunteering for Wellbeing our HLF funded volunteer project, shows just how great an impact a volunteering learning journey can have on people's lives. One volunteer described his experience as follows:

'Has the course changed my life? Yes, and more. It has actually given me back my life, a life of seemingly lost to lack of hope and depression. I am the real Me again.'  
(If Volunteer)

Museums and heritage have key role to play in these transformational journeys. So we welcome any opportunity to celebrate the value of learning.

**Nick Merriman**  
Director of Manchester Museum

<http://www.museum.manchester.ac.uk/>

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# Voluntary Sector North West (VSNW)

Supporting a connected and influential voluntary and community sector across the North West



*'We are proud to be working with Health Education England and their partners to deliver the 2017 Learning Matters Awards in Health and Care. We have taken great pride in leading this year's awards development. We believe it is more important than ever to recognise the achievements of those people and organisations who invest in their own learning and that of others; and to recognise the positive impact that this can have on the wider community. We were particularly pleased to see clear examples of effective cross-sector working and asset based community development where voluntary and community organisations can play an important part in increasing health and wellbeing across the North West, and in reducing the health inequalities that exist. Congratulations to all those who have been nominated and well done to all the winners.'*

**Warren Escadale CEO Voluntary Sector North West (VSNW)**

Voluntary Sector North West (VSNW) is the regional voluntary sector network. Its purpose is to support a connected and influential voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector, with a focus on economy and health & social care. As a member of the Regional Voices network, VSNW is a Department of Health voluntary sector strategic partner. Working for a well-represented sector, we are developing a progressive and socially just vision of the role the VCSE sector can play in healthy, local economies.

Voluntary Sector North West  
St. Thomas Centre  
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[www.vsnw.org.uk](http://www.vsnw.org.uk)  
[www.regionalvoices.org](http://www.regionalvoices.org)

## Asset Based Approaches to Community Development Award

# Community Links (Lancashire)

Rossendale Enterprise Anchor Limited (REAL)

'Health facilitation is  
all about learning.'

**Dorothy**

REAL (Rossendale Enterprise Anchor Limited) is an exemplary model of asset based approaches in community development. REAL works with and for the communities of the Rossendale Valley by supporting and increasing the capacity of the voluntary, community and faith sectors (VCFS), by further developing partnerships within public and private sectors in order to help make Rossendale a better place to live, work and visit. The trustees are all social entrepreneurs who are passionate about the area. Founding member

Dorothy Mitchell says there are a number of aspects of REAL work which adds to the community impact:

**Community Links** is a highly accessible, central repository of resources to promote wellbeing which highlights the role of social prescribing opportunity (non-medical interventions). It uses 'fun, food and friendship with a health benefit' to support 'doing things which can become a good habit'. Encompassing over 400 organisations it provides 'simple cost effective solutions' which improve wellbeing and drive up community resilience.

**REAL Involvement** helps groups and individuals take part in their community. This includes practical information sessions, share and tell events, a weekly news bulletin, befriending services and a community minibus. The team supports consultation processes so that the people in Rossendale have a voice in what happens to them. They help start up groups, find funds and share information. They advise small groups wanting to start up social enterprises or to form a charity. REAL Involvement is run by older people voluntarily sharing their learning experience to help Rossendale thrive.

Nominator: Dorothy Mitchell

Publicity contact: Barry Payton

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## Innovation Agency

We are catalysts for the spread of innovation, connecting NHS, academia, local authorities, businesses and others to improve health and generate economic growth



*Congratulations to everyone who has been nominated as you have clearly done something very special; we look forward to hearing about your great work and welcoming you into our network of innovation champions.*

**Dr Liz Mear CEO Innovation Agency**

The Innovation Agency aims to spread innovation which improves health, which is why we are delighted to celebrate innovative work through the Learning Matters awards. As the Academic Health Science Network for the North West Coast, covering Cheshire, Lancashire, Merseyside and South Cumbria we work by collaborating with individuals and organisations in the NHS, academia, local government, businesses and third sector.

Our role is to accelerate the spread and adoption of new technologies and approaches – and this can only happen where the culture is innovation-ready; in other words, where people are open to collaborating and have the skills to enable change to happen.

We met some amazing individuals at last year's awards who were champions of innovation and it was evident that they all worked in supportive, forward looking organisations, where the culture supported their ideas and enthusiasm.

**[www.innovationagencynwc.nhs.uk](http://www.innovationagencynwc.nhs.uk)**

**Follow us on twitter: @innovationnwc**



## Digital Innovation in Health Care Award

### Validate Your Care (V-Care) (Library and E-Learning Service)

The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

Validate Your Care (V-Care) is a powerful knowledge assurance tool for those working in adult acute care, facilitating a flexible approach to learning and development. It aims to provide an evidence-based, one stop, user friendly on-line learning portal to support busy nurses; to assess, develop and assure themselves of their knowledge across core areas of fundamental nursing care. It has provided an opportunity to assure the public and other stakeholders that its nursing workforce is up-to-date, and practising caring and compassionate evidence based care. It is accessible at any time in or out of the trust, on any device. Completion of the programme takes between 2–10 hours and it is structured around three modules:

- Recognition and management of the deteriorating adult
- Care of older people in health care settings
- Evidence based acute medical and surgical nursing care.

The V-Care team developed core resources in conjunction with a leading professor of nursing, who worked closely with subject matter experts, working in the trust to develop subject specific content that was up to date, and relevant to current training practices within the trust. Verification was sought by scoping local and national policy directives and through a survey of senior nurses across Greater Manchester. The resulting programme engenders the 6 C's, reduces duplication of the requirements of some mandatory training, uses the best available evidence and supports nurses to prepare for the professional revalidation requirements from the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). The team now hope to roll V-Care out to other clinical areas and other NHS organisations.

Nominator: John Bramwell

Publicity contact: Toby Jenkinson

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*'It's given me the confidence to know I'm giving my patients the best evidence based, up to date care that there is.'*

**Staff Nurse**

## WEA

A better world – equal, democratic and just; through adult education the WEA challenges and inspires individuals, communities and society



The WEA was founded in 1903. We are the UK's largest voluntary sector provider of adult education and one of Britain's biggest charities. The WEA is a democratic and voluntary adult education movement, committed to widening participation in learning and education with a social purpose. We deliver our mission by developing partnerships to meet individual and collective needs, using active learning and a student centred approach in

which teachers and students work as equals. We are very proud to be a sponsor for Learning Matters Social Purpose Awards and to recognise the work that both Pete and Black Toffee Productions have been involved in. WEA classes often involve creative writing projects and drama productions where students have their say about issues and events important to them, and Pete and Black Toffee Productions provide a clear inspiration for our students and tutors.

**Julie Ballantyne**  
North West Regional Education Manager WEA

*'Our business is not to organise classes for those whom, in the circumstances of today, it may, for one reason or another, be easiest to attract. It is to create a demand for education in individuals and bodies who at the moment may be unconscious of its importance to them but who, if a tolerable society is to be created, must be won to believe in it.'*

**Professor RH Tawney**

Press contact: Melissa Nethersole  
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Workers' Educational Association

## Social Purpose Learning Champion Award

### Peter McGarry (Tameside)

Eye Witness Theatre

Pete epitomises social purpose learning in action. He says, 'As I hurtle towards my seventies I feel an ever increasing ambition to write something of value. Although I have had TV, radio and theatre success I am still wrenched towards using my writing to enhance the quality of life for others – rather than gaining recognition in insubstantial, and transitory, conventions of the mainstream.' Since qualifying as a social worker in 1977 Pete's career has been underpinned by a series of opportunities that have served as an innovative platform both for development in writing and in the provision of health and social care awareness and training. His writing has been bound up with his social work practice as a child protection specialist and he has been deeply attracted to the idea of using performance as a theatrical tool for training and learning in child protection/safeguarding arenas. He formed Eye Witness Theatre Company to support the production of theatre based training modules and over the last twenty five years such modules – both as theatre production and film - have been delivered to multi-agency professionals not only in the UK and Ireland but also in Australia, US/Canada and across Europe. More recently he adds, 'Chronological inevitability is directing my ambition, to further develop scripts, scenarios and plays with inter-active workshops not only for training and awareness for professionals but for older people too. Such modules have, so far, been instrumental in engendering dialogue between professionals in adult social care and older people'.

Nominator: Nell Corrin

Publicity contact: Peter McGarry  
Tel: 07484 633269  
Email: eyewitnesstheatre@hotmail.com

'It is manifestly clear, as a learning process for me and in a wider social requisite, that dialogue should underpin all assessment and delivery of adult social care.'

## Social Purpose Learning in Action Award

# Black Toffee Productions – Fantastic – A One Act Play (Bolton)

Peter Carruthers and Laura Lindsay

## Roll Call for 2017 Runners Up

'Theatre, if done carefully and respectfully, can be a powerful learning tool for people who work in health as well as in the wider general public.'

Peter

Fantastic is a seventy minute one-act play- which explores themes of mental health, forced treatment, the clinicalisation of human experience and the pressure placed on people to conform to a notion of normal. Set in a dystopian view of the not-too-distant future a new 'miracle cure' has been discovered. Simply called, 'The Implant', the treatment promises to cure any psychological disorder by electronically 'normalising' brain activity. The implant promises a happier life, free from distress and a reassurance of finally fitting in. Aisling (who is a voice hearer) and her brother Joseph (who has Aspergers and is a synesthete), are potential recipients of the new treatment. 'Fantastic' depicts their battle to work out if the implant is the scientific

advancement they've been waiting for, or if it poses a threat to the very thing that makes them human.

This project stemmed from an extensive period of research and interviews with 'experts by experience' and clinicians. Rehearsed readings were presented to an invited audience of health professionals, students and those with lived experience. Audience feedback was deemed absolutely fundamental to the play's development. A full production of Fantastic will run for two weeks in Manchester during November. Ongoing open rehearsals will further support creative engagement and development. A series of post-show Q&As with expert panels will also open up discussion, and a cross-discipline symposium between the arts and health sectors entitled 'Change of mind: alternative perspectives on mental health and disorders' is planned.

Nominator: Peter Carruthers

Publicity contact: Peter Carruthers Black Toffee Productions

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Learning Matters is founded on the principle - all learning should be valued. Hence every nominee receives a certificate of recognition and HEE supports local recognition ceremonies. Gaye Jackson Head of Continuing Professional Development at HEE adds, 'We always get a very high calibre of nominations but this year it was harder than ever to make some very difficult decisions about some outstanding people and projects. So at HEE we wanted to formally recognise this year's runners up too.'

### Joint North West Apprentice of the Year in Health and Care Runners Up

Liam Potter – Families and Babies (FAB), Bolton

Rosemarie Lee – Ward 11 and 12 – Central Manchester University Hospital NHS Trust

### Joint Career Progression in Health and Care Runners Up

Gayle Davidson – The Carleton Clinic, Cumbria Partnership NHS FT

Steven Lee – Walton Neurology Centre, Liverpool

### Supporting Learners in Health and Care Runner Up

Arts Loco in partnership with PARTIA – Elaine McNeill – Liverpool John Moores University

and Paula O'Malley – Aintree University Hospital Trust, Liverpool

### Widening Participation in Health Care

Individual runner up: Caroline Ingram – Countess of Chester Foundation Trust, Chester

Project runner up: Widening Participation and CSR – Salford Royal Foundation Trust

### Ingenuity Project Award Runner Up

Dadly Does It – Chris Dabbs – Unlimited Potential, Salford and Rochdale

### Joint Volunteer of the Year Runners Up

John Dix – Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Chester

Chris Makin – Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Trust

### Joint Asset Based Community Development Runners Up

Hyde Community Action – Women Supporting Women

Court Thorn Surgery PPG – Transforming Lives through Community Health Seminars.

# Thank you to all of our funders and partners for their support



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