

Meet the Judging Panel: General Practice & Community Nursing Award



Gary Bell
Editorial director of RCNi

Gary Bell has been a journalist for 30 years, working on newspapers in Australia and the UK.

He joined RCNi in 2004 and held a number of different posts within the company, before being appointed to his current role in June 2019.



Julie Sylvester
Editor of Primary Health Care, RCNi

Ms Sylvester has been a journalist for more than 30 years, many of which have been spent in nursing journalism as a reporter, writer and editor. As the editor of Primary Health Care, she has overseen the growth and development of the journal in championing the work of nurses across all community and primary care settings. She is also the managing editor of Nurse Researcher, the RCNi's quarterly international research methodology journal.



Karen Storey

Karen is the National Primary Care Nursing Lead at NHS England/Improvement leading on the General Practice Nursing Ten Point Plan to support recruitment, retention and return of the nursing workforce in general practice. Prior to this she was primary care lead nurse at Health Education England West Midlands leading on Training Hubs. She has held previous positions as Primary Care Nurse Facilitator in a CCG, and Clinical Lead Nurse for an NHS Walk – In Centre. She has a background as a General Practice Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, Independent Nurse Prescriber and an MSc in Health Studies. Karen has held various national roles to develop the HEE GPN career framework, nurse lead on the HEE primary care workforce commission 'The future of primary care creating teams for tomorrow', HEE national general practice nursing workforce plan 'Recognise, Reform, Rethink'. Karen's role as associate lecturer in the Faculty of Applied Health Care Research University of Birmingham has included visits to primary care in Denmark, Netherlands and China. She has a particular interest in nursing leadership in primary care and has developed a shared leadership programme for primary care known as 'Triumvirate leadership'. Karen is a Queen's Nurse and is a graduate of the QNI Executive Nurse Leaders Programme. She has jointly published a book with two GP colleagues entitled 'Collaborative Practice in Primary and community care'. Karen is writing a second book entitled 'A Nurse's Survival Guide to General Practice Nursing'.



Margaret Sneddon

Honorary senior research fellow, University of Glasgow

Margaret Sneddon joined nursing and the Royal College of Nursing in 1974 as a student. Her clinical background spans gynaecology, oncology and palliative care, subsequently specialising in lymphoedema. She is an educator who initiated and led various palliative care and lymphoedema programmes in the University of Glasgow, taking on leadership of the Nursing & Health Care School for nine years. Ms Sneddon's contribution was recognised by the university with a Teaching Excellence Award in 2007 and an Outstanding Contribution to Lymphoedema Education from the International Lymphoedema Framework in 2009. In 2016 she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the British Lymphology Society. Having retired as head of school in 2016, Ms Sneddon continues input to university education of all disciplines, support of the RCN and has an active leadership role as a trustee with the British Lymphology Society to further understanding of lymphoedema and chronic oedema.



Ruth Oshikanlu MBE

CEO, Goal Mind

Ruth Oshikanlu is an expert nurse, midwife and health visitor with more than 23 years' experience in delivering secondary and primary healthcare services in the statutory and voluntary sectors. She is the CEO of Goal Mind – a coaching consultancy that helps individuals improve their performance at work through employee engagement. She is also a Queen's Nurse, Winston Churchill Fellow and Fellow of the Institute of Health Visiting and Royal College of Nursing. Ms Oshikanlu is the recipient of several national healthcare and business awards. She is a regular columnist and has published several feature articles in numerous national nursing and healthcare journals. She also received an Honorary Doctorate degree from London South Bank University in November 2019.



Sue Warner

Ms Warner has 40 years' experience as a district nurse and senior manager of community health services, including developing a 24-hour district nursing service, hospital at home and intermediate care. She now works as a health visitor and staff governor for South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust. Ms Warner was chair of RCN Council in 2019 and a Council member from 2012 to 2019. She is also a former chair of the RCN nursing policy and practice committee, forums governance group and remuneration committee. She is committed to continuous professional development for all nurses.



Yvonne Coghill CBE, OBE

Director of WRES Implementation in NHS England

Yvonne Coghill commenced nurse training at Central Middlesex Hospital in 1977, qualified as a general nurse in 1980 and then went on to qualify in mental health nursing and health visiting. In 1986 she secured her first NHS management job and has since held a number of operational and strategic leadership posts.

Ms Coghill has been voted by colleagues in the NHS as one of the top 50 most inspirational women, one of the top 50 most inspirational nurse leaders and one of the top 50 BME pioneers. In 2018 she was awarded a fellowship of the Royal College of Nursing, an honorary fellowship from King's College University, honorary doctorates from the Middlesex and Buckinghamshire Universities and has become deputy president of the RCN.