



## Updates from the GSF Team

**GSF Care Home of the Year 2021 awarded to Bluebirds Neurological Care Centre in Milton Keynes!**



Bluebirds Neurological Care Centre in Milton Keynes has been awarded Care Home of the Year, 2021 for its outstanding end of life care. The Award was given as part of the Gold Standards Framework (GSF) Virtual Awards, which recognises health and social care providers delivering quality care in the final year of life. Bluebirds Neurological Care Centre was nominated alongside ten other care homes, who were all applauded for their excellent end of life care during a pandemic.

Colleen Brothers, Manager at Bluebirds Neurological Care Centre said: “We are delighted to be awarded GSF Care Home of the Year 2021! This accolade has been well received by all at Bluebirds and the wider team at PJ Care. After nearly a decade of sustaining this well-respected accreditation, this has highlighted that GSF has significantly contributed to the high quality of care we provide to our residents, both in the end stages of life and when promoting a quality of life throughout our residents whole journey with us.”

Julie Armstrong Wilson, Lead Nurser and Operational Manager for GSF said: “We were so proud to have awarded care home of the year to the team at Bluebirds Neurological Care Centre, and to see that they are continuing to develop their service. They have incorporated the soul midwives philosophy to enhance the care of the dying and the chef is aiming for a Michelin Star in the future for their food preparation! Congratulations for continually striving to make individuals end of life care experience the best that it can be.”

Congratulations to all 11 finalists!

- ❖ Bluebirds Neurological Care Centre, Buckinghamshire
- ❖ Cedars Castle Hill, Dorset

- ❖ Cholwell House Nursing Home, Avon
- ❖ Cornmill Nursing Home, Lancashire
- ❖ Grosvenor House Care Home, Lincolnshire
- ❖ Herncliffe Care Home, West Yorkshire
- ❖ Ivelhurst Nursing Home, Somerset
- ❖ Malmesbury Lawn, Hampshire
- ❖ Morton Grange Nursing Home, Derbyshire
- ❖ Princess Christian Care Centre, Surrey
- ❖ The Willows Care Home, Lancashire

### **FIRST Domiciliary Care Agency receives GSF Accreditation**



Bluebird Care Newcastle and South Tyneside has been awarded a national Gold Standards Framework (GSF) Quality Hallmark Award for its delivery of end of life care during the pandemic. The Award was given as part of the Gold Standards Framework (GSF) Virtual Awards on 11<sup>th</sup> November, which recognises health and social care providers delivering quality care in the final year of life.

Bluebird Care Newcastle and South Tyneside is one of 28 care homes, retirement villages, and domiciliary care agencies, who have received the prestigious GSF quality hallmark across the country during the virtual ceremony.

Julie Armstrong-Wilson, Lead Nurse for GSF said: “This year we have seen our first ever Domiciliary Care Agency receiving the award trailblazing the way for others to follow. The GSF team are so very proud of all our Award Winners, as there has never been a more important time to ensure we deliver quality end of life care, well done!”

You can hear from Bluebird Care Newcastle & South Tyneside here:  
<https://youtu.be/katGN8zOjU>

### **GSF Training & Accreditation Dates (also available on the GSF homepage)**

#### **Upcoming Training**

- Care Homes Training & Accreditation Programme: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- Domiciliary Care Training & Accreditation Programme: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- Hospitals Training & Accreditation Programme: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- Retirement Villages Training & Accreditation Programme: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022

#### **Accreditation / Re-Accreditation Timeline**

- Invitations go out: 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

- Registration deadline: 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022
- E-Portfolio Submission Deadline: 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022

For more information, please contact the team by emailing [info@gsfcentre.co.uk](mailto:info@gsfcentre.co.uk).

### **Action for Happiness Calendar Link**

Continuing to be resilient in light of Covid-19 will pose individual challenges over the next year. The Action for Happiness monthly calendars are one of the tools we have introduced as a team. Reflecting on the note of the day brings forth reflective practice, stimulates new thoughts or new ways of working but ultimately makes us smile!

<https://www.actionforhappiness.org/>

### **The Healthcare Improvement Studies Institute**

A new research project, called Improving Implementation of NICE Recommendations on Planning Treatment and Care Towards the End of Life, seeks to address a key problem: that many people nearing the end of their lives are not consulted on their preferences for treatment and care towards the end of life. This can result in less personalised care and poorer experiences for individuals, their families and carers. The study will try to improve the quality of end-of-life care planning by learning from the views and experiences of a wide range of people. Share your views, and help us understand what works and what doesn't in end-of-life treatment and care.

Find out more: <https://www.thiscovery.org/end-of-life-care/>

### **Success Stories - Share your success stories with GSF!**

Do you have a success story from your organisation or an example of good practice that you would like to share with us? Lets celebrate your success! You can send videos, pictures and case studies to [ann-marie@gsfcentre.co.uk](mailto:ann-marie@gsfcentre.co.uk).

### **End of Year Message from the GSF Team**

Thank you to all of the wonderful teams that have gone through the GSF Training and Accreditation programme this year, and to those who have consistently embedded GSF within their organisation to achieve their Reaccreditation. We are very proud of you all.

The GSF offices will be closed for the Christmas period from 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021, and we will be back open on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and are hopeful for a positive 2022.

Best Regards,



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