

PRESS RELEASE



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HEALTH & CARE STUDENTS CELEBRATE YEAR OF SUCCESS

Yeovil College's Health, Care and Teacher Training Faculty has held its second annual awards ceremony as part of Festival Fortnight celebrations.

Thirty awards were handed out to students from across the spectrum of courses and age groups. They included awards for Outstanding Achievement, Endeavour, Dedication and Progression and Personal Progression, as well as for Inspiration.

A number of awards were sponsored by local employers. They included Westcraft Windows, Smartees Nursery, Marsh Lane Nursery, Barnabas Housing Association, Little Rascals, Studio CKK, Sunnyside Care Home, Kylemore, Honey Pot Nursery and Lufton College. Guest of honour at the event was Deputy Mayor Clive Davis.

The evening's awards included Outstanding Adult Learner, which went to **Jennifer Smith** (39) of Yeovil, who supported her peers and is continuing to Higher Education, the Personal Development Award, given to determined **Thea Rendall** (18) of Yeovil who overcame Dyslexia and grew in knowledge and confidence through the course, and the Shining Star award, presented to **Kelly Meyrick** (17) of Yeovil by Cllr. Davis for being an excellent all round student. The Stretch Award went to "delightful student" **Sharon Kennedy** (39) of Dorchester, who successfully balanced paid work and study, completed her course and is progressing to HE. The Ambassador award went to **Lizzie Cassidy** (18) of Yeovil, who proved herself a credit to the College during a visit to Prague.



Faculty Director Kate Hill with
Cathy Smith

This year, the Nicola Baker Endeavour Cup, awarded in memory of a student who passed away during her studies, went to **Cathy Smith** (55) of Ilminster. Described as a "worthy winner" by staff, Cathy grew in confidence during her course, even learning to use a computer for the first time.



The Nancy Harman Cup was presented for the first time this year. Ms Harman is retiring from the staff of Yeovil College and initiated this award as a parting gift. The Cup is awarded to a student on a Level 3 Childcare course. The first winner of this award was **Felicity Knowles** (18) of Dorchester, who excelled despite personal difficulties and worked hard with a smile.

Nancy Harman with Felicity
Knowles

Director of Health, Care and Teacher Training Kate Hill said *“This evening was about celebrating the achievements of all of our students, part-time, full-time, from 16 to 60. It can be very daunting taking that first step into education, particularly for older students who’ve been away from education for a while, so these students really deserve credit for what they’ve achieved. The staff nominated students for these awards and have been so impressed by this year’s intake that they would probably have given an award to every single one of them if they could. But all the award winners have shown exceptional and inspirational qualities which made them stand out. We’re delighted to have this opportunity to praise them and show them how they make our jobs worthwhile.”*

For more information on Health, Care and Teacher Training courses available from Yeovil College, please visit www.yeovil.ac.uk.

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Notes to Editors

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