# Press Release | 1 November 2024

## A group of people posing for a photo Description automatically generatedA heartfelt surprise for Sandra: Celebrating 50 golden years of nursing

Celebrations and tears of joy were flowing as North Cambridgeshire Hospital (NCH) as staff gathered to honour the exceptional Sandra Hopkin and 50 years of devoted service in nursing.

In a touching gathering within the hospital’s Outpatient Department on Friday (1 November), colleagues looked on with pride as Trust CEO Alice Webster presented Sandra with a vibrant bouquet and an elegant glass paperweight to mark her golden anniversary of nursing.

This heartfelt moment served as a tribute to Sandra’s unwavering commitment to patient care and her countless contributions to the NCH family.

Sandra began her nursing journey in 1974 and has devoted her entire professional life to NCH at Wisbech, caring for countless patients with compassion that has touched generations.

Reflecting on her long career, Sandra shared, “I started here when I was 16 and did my training at the old school of nursing at The QEH.”

A person holding a certificate

Description automatically generatedThe celebration was one of two big event for Sandra. Just a few days prior she attended the Trust's bi-monthly long service celebration event in King’s Lynn, during which Alice formally presented her with her 50-year Long Service Award.

She was among 33 colleagues who collectively celebrated an astonishing 645 years of service to the NHS.

Alice expressed her admiration for Sandra’s remarkable career, stating, “We are incredibly grateful for Sandra’s dedication and the many years she has spent caring for the people of Wisbech and beyond. To have served 50 years in the NHS, all at NCH, is an extraordinary achievement and a true testament to her caring nature.”

With tears of joy in her eyes, Sandra expressed her gratitude, saying, “I’m not usually speechless but today I am. I am so honoured to have had the privilege to work with so many lovely doctors and nurses.”

As we celebrate Sandra's extraordinary milestone, we extend our deepest thanks for her half a century of dedication and love in nursing. Here’s to many more years of inspiring care!

**Ends. Notes to editors;** For media enquiries only, please contact Communications Team, [media.enquiries@qehkl.nhs.uk](mailto:media.enquiries@qehkl.nhs.uk) or 01553 613216. For all other enquiries, please contact QEH Switchboard on 01553 613613.