

# Celebrating the Year of the Nurse and Midwife

**SASH nurses and midwives tell us about their NHS journey and how they have made a difference in the NHS. With Carl Sedge**

## Why did you become a nurse/midwife?

I was 17 years old and was working with children at a local leisure centre. I enjoyed working with children and when the year Project 2000 commenced it meant that I could qualify as a nurse and look after children.

## What was your first role?

In 1996 my first job was a paediatric nurse in casualty at the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital.

## Why did you join the NHS/your NHS journey

It was a way of gaining a vocational education with the end goal of achieving my desired outcome of working with children. This also meant that there was longevity and security working in such a large organisation.

## What do you most enjoy about working in nursing/midwifery

I enjoy that as a nurse you can make a huge difference to a patients' journey, a smile goes a long way; listening to our patients and taking time to care and making them feel at ease.

## Where do you work now?

I am the emergency department matron at East Surrey Hospital.

## Describe your proudest moment in your nursing/midwifery career thus far?

Gaining my first ED matron job after 19 years of working in the emergency department, but the proudest moment for me was when #clapforourcarers started, being able to see how many people recognised and supported the whole NHS workforce.

