

LEAD
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RCN Agenda Committee Elections

Wednesday 17 May 2023

**Who will
YOU vote for?**





Royal College
of Nursing
Agenda Committee

Congress Agenda Committee elections

Please read this brochure to discover more about the candidates standing for election to the Agenda Committee. Statements are published as written by the candidates themselves.

Those eligible to vote are those registered to vote at Congress on Wednesday 17 May 2023.

If two members have split the voting place on that day (such as one in the morning and one in the afternoon), only one may vote in the election.

Please go to the Governance Desk on the Ground Floor in the Brighton Centre to collect your ballot paper and vote.

Voting is open from 8am to 6pm. It can get very busy so if you can vote outside of the main break times you may find it is quieter and you can avoid a long queue. Don't forget to talk to members in your voting entity to get their views too before making your decision.

Remember, there are four seats up for election and voting is by the transferrable vote method which enables you to cast your vote in order of preference.

The independent scrutineer for these elections, Civica Election Services Ltd, is satisfied that all the following candidates meet the requirements to stand for election.

Candidates are listed in alphabetical order by surname.





Ruth Bailey

Nominated by:

Zimuzo Eneh (East Sussex Branch)

Katharine Gale (Women's Health Forum)

Fiona Holley (UK Learning Representatives Committee)

My skills and experience

I am proud to have been an RCN member throughout my 38-year nursing career and have considerable knowledge and experience of the College, both as a branch secretary and activist and through the Women's Health Forum. I understand the structure and aims of the RCN and have a track record of contributing to its work and have been awarded Forum Committee Member of the Year. I am a frequent Congress attendee; I have experience submitting and presenting items and I understand how Congress works.

My background spans both secondary and primary care and I understand nursing concerns across the board. I am an experienced nurse educator both locally and nationally and I am committed to working with learners to future-proof the profession. I have contributed to a wide range of resources and publications for the nursing press and have developed skills in communicating, lobbying and influencing. I am politically aware and have experience advocating for nursing at a national level, through my role of the Women's Health Forum and as an activist in the South East Region, and I believe I have the skills necessary to make a valuable contribution to the Agenda Committee.

Why you should elect me

Through my activism in both the Trade Union and Professional Nursing sides of the RCN, I understand the concerns of members and will strive to ensure that issues are balanced, so that the Congress agenda that reflects all aspects of our College, in equal measure. I believe our nursing power lies in our ability to harness the talents of our diverse community and would work tirelessly to ensure that the Congress is inclusive, reflecting nursing concerns from communities and workplaces across all four countries of the UK. I would use my mentoring skills to guide and encourage new delegates or those who are unused to public speaking to find their voice. I would be available during Congress to listen to concerns and act to ensure that everyone has an enjoyable experience. I would proactively foster engagement across all voting entities, particularly encouraging the submission of agenda items from branches, forums and committees that have not had an item accepted before, to ensure that the Congress agenda is member focused. Above all, I would share my passion for nursing, my enthusiasm for Congress and my commitment to the RCN, so that the voices of members continue to shape our strategic direction.

How you can contact me

Twitter: [@RuthRGNBrighton](https://twitter.com/RuthRGNBrighton)

Charity Chakanetsa

Nominated by:

Sydney Masawi (Hampshire Branch)

Barbara Okine (Milton Keynes Branch)

Stella Jaiyesimi (Buckinghamshire Branch)



My skills and experience

I am Charity Chakanetsa. I am a former Secretary and a current Committee Member of Hampshire Branch. I am a registered Mental Health Nurse. I have an Advanced Diploma and Degree in Mental Health from Southampton University. I have worked in forensic and acute settings and in mental health research as a Senior Research Nurse.

I joined the RCN as a student and attended my first Congress in Liverpool in 2014 and have attended regularly since. I was a Steward from 2014 to 2019. I achieved many good outcomes during my time supporting members whilst I was a Steward. I have recruited many new RCN members from my workplace. I am a member of the Public Health, Forensic and Education Forums. I am currently a Learning Representative and am committed to all things RCN as an activist and as a professional. I have worked closely with my Senior Officer on employment cases which have achieved positive outcomes for members. I have also worked on supporting the revival of my local Branch and encouraged members to attend meetings. I participated in the strike action at Gosport Memorial Hospital. I am committed to bringing my vast experience to the Agenda Committee.

Why you should elect me

Voters should elect me because I think we need new blood in the Committee, not the same people doing everything all the time. As a Rep I have attended the Joint Reps Committee in Newcastle, Cardiff, Belfast and Glasgow and to have travelled to all four countries in the UK which demonstrates how passionate I am. I am an Activist at heart and am passionate about nurses' wellbeing and welfare and so I took part in the RCN pay campaigns and the recent strike action. Once I commit to something I act and if I am elected I will certainly put in the work. I have represented members in distress as a Steward with good outcomes. I am a Learning Rep for the Hampshire Branch and have helped recruit staff.

I have a legal background supported by my Law Degree.

Please vote for me.

How you can contact me

Not supplied.



Maggie Chong-Kwan

Nominated by:

Alison McGregor (Gwent Branch)

Ceri Dolan (Cardiff and The Vale Branch)

Daniel Harrison (Cwm Taf Morgannwg Branch)

My skills and experience

I have been a Congress attendee for the past 13 years both as a voting member and representing my branch of the RCN. Congress has enabled me to engage with RCN members nationally and regionally. I have been an RCN member for almost 18 years. In that time I was a Steward for 13 years being quite proactive and a voice for members within my Trust the BCUHB in North Wales.

As a Steward I have been involved in many nursing campaigns within Wales attending the Welsh Government to promote and discuss the fair pay campaign as well as the safe staffing bill. Within my trust I have been a member of the MHL Development forum. This has allowed me to gain a better understanding of what is important and what members need and want as a nurse. I am a passionate and proactive member of the North Wales Branch, currently I am on a break from stewarding but look forward to engaging in the future as a learning rep. I have been involved in CPD for branch members. I am an advocate and ally for LGBTQI+ issues both in the BCUHB and nationally.

Why you should elect me

I am a passionate, dedicated member of the RCN. I have attended and participated in Congress for 13 years. I am approachable, dependable and non-judgemental. I view issues analytically and balanced in my approach to nursing issues and what is important to nurses, and what is important to the organisation. This I feel is vital to understanding what is important to know what is needed especially within the workplace. I feel it is important to be visible and present within the workplace. I am passionate about the RCN and what the College stands for. I would enjoy the opportunity to discuss and present a balanced view for members and future conference attendees.

I would be honoured to be part the Agenda Committee and be more active within the voice of the RCN on the behalf of Nursing and members of the College, both nationally and regionally and especially for the nurses in North Wales.

How you can contact me

Not supplied.

Pauline Dorrington

Nominated by:

Katherine Gale (Women's Health Forum)

Richard Jones MBE (Cwm Taf Morgannwg Branch)

Tristan Griffin (Gwent Branch)



My skills and experience

As a Registered Nurse of 47 years I have a wide understanding of the political agendas of both health and social care, with an understanding of the other devolved nations and the impact this has on us as nurses working across all sectors. I have worked in a variety of settings as a Registered Nurse in England and Wales and I have also worked in Germany and had the honour to care for our soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. These experiences have given me a broader insight into working with a diverse team, from a range of countries and ethnic backgrounds, these skills will enhance my role should I be appointed to the Agenda Committee.

As a professional I have always had the best interest of the patient/client and colleagues at heart and have been an active branch member in Wales for the last 33 years. I am fair, objective, and embrace change.

Having worked at a senior level, I am used to ensuring whatever group/team/committee that I have worked with, that all members have an equal voice and respect of each other's views, and I am personally pleased to see the refreshed respect character.

Why you should elect me

I am motivated and passionate about our profession, particularly the role of Congress for us as professionals. I can bring a variety of skills to the committee as I have been part of a commissioning team for 450 bedded NHS hospital, and I can stay calm in challenging situations which I also demonstrated when I was part of the team setting up a field hospital in Iraq.

I have worked within the NHS, Independent Sector, third sector and Defence Services which has given me a good understanding of the various areas you all work. I have enhanced organisation, communication, and decision-making skills due to these experiences, I feel that I am prepared for the committee role.

I have a wide range of clinical and management skills and experience. I have undertaken postgraduate diplomas in Nursing and Interprofessional studies and BSc Clinical Governance and am continually keeping myself updated.

I work part time and I can commit to this role 100% as I am flexible and reliable. I want to give something back to the RCN for all the support I have experienced over the years.

Thank you.

How you can contact me

Twitter: [@poldorrington](https://twitter.com/poldorrington)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pauline.dorrington>



Linda Du Preez

Nominated by:

Adam Mapp (East Kent Branch)

Fiona Le Ber (Bladder and Bowel Forum)

Jayne McCreadie (East Kent Branch)

My skills and experience

As a student and registered Nurse over 50 years with 17 in South Africa and 33 years in Kent I can empathise with the many international nurses coming to the UK. This could be advantageous when they are encouraged to submit agenda items in the following Congress agenda committees.

My career spans acute, community and independent care which will enable my diverse experience to empathise and understand various cultures and different clinical areas from where the matters for discussion and resolution submissions will stem from.

I have excellent computer skills from the years of writing assignments at Canterbury Christ Church University which I attended in between nursing on the wards to complete a diploma in Nursing and the Bachelor of Science in Professional Nursing Studies. The ability to analyse and compare from the references used to argue the pros and cons of various writers whilst completing the assignments should enable weighing up best agenda for Congress submissions.

My skills and experience in management roles and mentoring of students will help towards deciding on the topics produced by branches and forums, when working in a team position within the agenda committee.

Why you should elect me

Voters should elect me following 29 years as an RCN member as I have had various roles. In 1998-2000 I was nominated as a Steward whilst working in a senior role in the elderly care hospital. I was given the opportunity to train in Exeter therefore widening my scope outside my region. I was chosen by the hospital manager to train in health and safety and joined the Joint staff side Committee representing RCN members in the trust.

In 2004 I was elected by the Society of Orthopaedic and Trauma Nursing RCN Forum steering committee which shaped policies in orthopaedic nursing. The forum held conferences in the four countries. As a member of the scientific committee we chose the presentations for the Orthopaedic conferences.

In the role as Secretary for the RCN East Kent Branch I have presented a matter for discussion in 2015 and worked with a colleague on a MFD in 2022. This year I was nominated again as branch secretary. I have been provided with the chance to attend Congress as a voting member and would be delighted to be elected to the Agenda Committee.

How you can contact me

Email: linda.dupreez@reps.rcn.org.uk

Josie Gordon

Nominated by:

Sarah Jenkins (Greater Liverpool and Knowsley Branch)

Jainab Desai (Greater Manchester)

Dawn Marr (Grampian and Orkney Branch)



My skills and experience

I am a student nurse with three years' experience in nursing but fifteen years' experience in organising and running democratic events. I have established and chaired general meetings of societies, acted as an independent Returning Officer for membership organisations and, on one occasion, rewrote a helpline's entire constitution, taking it from scratch up to ratification by an extraordinary conference.

I take it as a point of pride to be fully conversant with the workings of the organisations I participate in, and spent most of Congress 2022 sitting near the Agenda Committee, watching how they work and what they do to help Congress run smoothly and successfully.

Why you should elect me

I am attempting to fulfill my lifelong dream of becoming a democratically elected conference enthusiast. I asked my friend sitting next to me to describe some of the reasons that members should elect me. She said; "you love admin and you organise everything." She's right, I do; but more importantly, I love encouraging and supporting participation in our democratic processes.

Congress is the annual highlight of everything the RCN does and is, and I want to be part of the committee which helps it to be a powerful and exciting force for change. I want to shape the discussion agendas for our future conferences and ensure a broad range of debate for our members. But most of all I want to support and encourage as many members as possible to take part in Congress in whatever ways they can, and I'd love to do that as part of the Agenda Committee.

How you can contact me

Twitter: [@biscuitnurse](https://twitter.com/biscuitnurse)



Sue Hill

Nominated by:

Marysia Graffin (District Nursing Forum)

Natasha Evans (UK Students Committee)

Joanne Bosanquet MBE FRCN (Public Health Forum)

My skills and experience

Student, staff nurse, practice nurse, district nurse, manager, service improvement lead, head of workforce transformation, District Nurse advisor, education commissioner, senior nurse in a region. I have been privileged to have had the opportunity to undertake these roles during my career working both in and out of the NHS and the charity sector, locally, regionally and nationally.

I have a diverse experience and knowledge, but I have always taken the opportunity to try something new but kept person-centred care at the heart of whatever I have been involved in. I continue to learn and be amazed at what nurses can do in their careers.

I understand the current issues facing our student population and I facilitated the creation of the student council in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight which has ensured students have a voice, this concept is now being spread across the country.

I have been part of the RCN for the last 8 years as a member of the District and Community Nursing Forum committee. This has given me insight into the workings of the RCN and the insight to recognise the topics, the Agenda Committee needs to drive us forward as a profession.

Why you should elect me

The NHS is in crisis and nurses are leaving the profession in droves, we need to support our profession more than ever, across all four countries of the UK.

I am passionate about recognising the challenges we face in all our different settings, in or out of the NHS to develop a strong cohesive profession where we support each other, embrace our diversity and stand together in the desire to provide excellent patient care.

I want to represent all of you and embrace both the trade union and the professional body of the RCN.

Students are our future, yet they have never faced more obstacles to become active members of the profession. We must support students wholeheartedly, embracing their need to learn each and every day. My mantra is #everydayisastudentday.

RCN Congress provides us with a unique opportunity to air our concerns and debate the opportunities we have to make the working lives of nurse better and improve the care we offer to patients. Robust debate is essential, and I will work to ensure the issues that matter most to nurses are discussed.

Vote for me to give you the voice to make the nursing profession effective, rewarding and person-centred.

How you can contact me

Twitter: @5Sue2

Vicky Keir

Nominated by:

Julie Lamberth (Ayrshire and Arran Branch)

Criston Eckberg (Dumfries and Galloway Branch)

Carmel O'Boyle

(Greater Liverpool and Knowsley Branch)



My skills and experience

I am a mental health nurse with 33 years' experience. Being an RCN member and steward forms my entire job roll so it is incredibly important to me.

From the first time I came to Congress in 2007, I was hooked, and I soon learned the important role it plays in the work of the College on behalf of its members. Having the right items forming work our members have chosen and voted on for the next year and beyond is something I promote all year round. I am keen to engage with all members and facilitating their attendance at Congress is always on my list of priorities.

Due to Covid, I have been privileged to work on selecting items for four Congress agendas. The ability to fight for a contentious item or say no to those that don't make the grade is a vital skill. There has never been a more important time to ensure there are experienced and knowledgeable people on the Congress floor. I believe that I am that person going forward for the next two years. Please vote for me as your first preference.

Why you should elect me

I'm a proven member of the current Agenda Committee and I love a good debate, whilst keeping an eye on what is current news in our profession and spotting good items.

As a steward and safety representative, I am used to representing members and problem-solving on their behalf. Delivering for members is my primary working objective. I am a team player and enjoy working to deliver for members at Congress. I love Congress and the RCN; they are a very big part of my working life, so I give them 100%.

I value the professional and the trade union elements of the RCN and actively promote them working together to benefit our members. Congress is the perfect opportunity for the two elements to have their voices heard and to learn from each other. I am always busy, with a young family and everything that comes with it. I do this alongside a full-time job. I can multitask and love the fast-paced environment of Congress.

How you can contact me

Email: vickykeir@btinternet.com

Tel: **07882 301023**

Twitter: **@Vickykeir**



Jane Matthews

Nominated by:

Leonore Newson (UK Stewards Committee)

Andrea Bennett (Greater Bristol Branch)

Helen Rees (Mental Health Forum)

My skills and experience

I was a very mature Student; I have worked in the NHS, and Private Sector, in Primary and Secondary care, in the Community and Hospital environment. Starting, promoting and then running my own business prior to becoming a Nurse. Bringing up a dual generational family has shown how life has evolved, and attitudes and expectations changed.

I joined the RCN in 2007 as a Student member. In 2019, as a full member I became a Health and Safety Rep. I chose the colours and designed the Branch Logo. I'm now the Branch Chair, a position I'm honoured to hold.

I am very passionate about our members' rights; the rebanding of HCSW, to reflect the work and responsibilities they hold. I am an activist and a motivator. During the recent strikes the Branch President, a determined individual, (If you know Nettie you know what I mean), the ONLY way to stop her attending the Vigil and picket line was to include her via TEAMS!!!

I have lived experience, a passion for nursing and a love for the development of Nursing. I hope I have shown how my experience and skills will help me fulfil the role on the RCN Agenda Committee.

Why you should elect me

Working as a Children's nurse has provided me with experience of advocacy, I'm exchanging advocacy for children, to advocate for Congress. Congress is the arena for the development of the RCN. As an RCN Agenda Committee member, I will bring a fresh vision with my varied background to the selection of resolutions, and matters for debate that will fashion the direction the RCN follow over the next 12 months.

As part of the Agenda Committee I will show my passion about the importance of empowering members to have the confidence, to be part of the future of the RCN. To raise the profile, the importance of submitting agenda items, from all Branches, Forums and Committees covering current affairs which reflect their views. In turn, selecting a range of diverse topics, that will stimulate a discussion and a positive direction for the College to follow, while delivering a quality agenda, representative of the members and objectives of Congress

During Congress, I would have the self-assurance to engage, provide support, encouragement and inspire confidence in first time speakers, guiding attendees through the rules and advising them on the etiquette of congress. While working collaboratively with RCN Council, to present the agenda.

How you can contact me

Twitter: @Jane06083539

Stuart Quarterman

Nominated by:

Vicky Brotherton (Plymouth Branch)

Leonore Newson (UK Stewards Committee)

Jade Hunt (UK Students Committee)



My skills and experience

I have worked in nursing for 25 years. I started in the independent sector as a 'Care Assistant' before joining the NHS in 2001, working in Ophthalmology.

In 2004, I went to university, starting my journey to become a Registered Nurse and joined the RCN. After 18 months as a preceptee in Trauma & Orthopaedics, I got a job in an Emergency Department that quickly became a Major Trauma Centre. I progressed to Charge Nurse and became the Clinical Educator, supporting 250 staff.

Shortly after the pandemic started, I completed my Emergency Nurse Practitioner's course. Having given the Clinical Educator role four years, I started as an ENP. Last year an exciting opportunity arose to take up Clinical Lead for Learning Disabilities, an area of particular interest and passion for me.

Throughout this time, I have experienced a variety of aspects of nursing to varying levels. The Emergency Department gave me opportunities, not just in emergency medicine and trauma, but also mental health, research and remote medicine, branching out with the British Antarctic Survey. I have been an RCN Steward and Activist for over five years now, playing a very active part in the recent industrial action in my Trust.

Why you should elect me

I have a wide range of experience that can aid my ability to contextualise and empathise different views. I understand the relativity of people's problems and concerns and find learning and experiencing new things and perspectives fascinating.

I like to remain open-minded to people's opinions relating to the success and struggles of different aspects of nursing. I have committee experience having sat on and contributed to various committees both in nursing and further afield. I therefore feel that I have the necessary administration and communication skills needed for this role.

I have contemporary experience in nursing and RCN activism and hope that I have a good feeling for what is happening. I would happily say that I inadvertently follow the 'Nolan Principles' of selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, and leadership. I believe that the importance of debate and a rich embodiment of opinion should be a high priority on the Congress Agenda.

Being part of such an important event is an exciting prospect and it would be a privilege to support the membership in pointing the College in the direction its members wish it to travel.

How you can contact me

Email: argaumstu@hotmail.co.uk Tel: **07817 428389** Twitter: **@stuwieq**



Claire Richardson

Nominated by:

Sarah-Jane Percival-Clarke

(Birmingham East North and Solihull Branch)

Natalie Anderson (Defence Nursing Forum)

Phil Cole (UK Stewards Committee)

My skills and experience

I have been in and around nursing for the best part of 20 years and worked in multiple NHS Trusts, in a variety of roles and specialities as well as the independent sector and Defence. I have a keen interest in Infection Prevention and Control and have recently moved into Critical Care, broadening my clinical and non-technical skills.

The roles have allowed me to gain experience and skills which I feel could be used as an asset on the RCN Agenda Committee. My ability to remain objective is an important part of former my role as Secretary for my Branch (I am currently Treasurer). Objectivity is something I consider paramount, both for my patients and to support my colleagues in all sectors and specialities. It allows me to consider all views and balance these as needed.

As a school governor, I am well versed in how policy, format and agenda work and I strive to see the wider impact of decisions (not necessarily mine) and am committed to ensuring equality and inclusion for all.

Why you should elect me

My biggest RCN passion is Congress, I believe it has the potential to impact not only our profession in the UK, but worldwide. I want all those who are called to nurse to feel empowered, safe and above all fulfilled.

Congress is the beating heart of nursing, it is where the big questions are debated, where resolutions are decided and where challenge should be welcomed. I am committed to encouraging submissions of agenda items by Members and ensuring voices are heard. We all bring something to our Congress and learning, networking, and growing is something I feel very strongly about. It is through this healthy debate, in a non-judgmental environment that we bring positive change to our patients' experiences, ourselves and our profession.

Nursing is bigger than one person, it is so much bigger than me and I would love the opportunity to work with everyone and represent all views, your views.

How you can contact me

Not supplied.

Andy Roy

Nominated by:

Laura Duffell (South East London Inner Branch)

Mel Stewart (North Lincolnshire Branch)

Geoffrey Walker (Dorset Branch)



My skills and experience

I am an emergency department charge nurse; RCN Representative and I have been involved with the RCN since becoming a student in London back in 2014. Prior to training as a nurse, I worked in the NHS non-clinically and was very active as a trade unionist, locally and nationally.

I am a loud and proud RCN member who always strives to stand up for what is right, and to ensure that the voice of nursing is upheld within my workplace, region and beyond. I have attended Congress every year since joining the RCN, and it has allowed me to develop and build my confidence. I have held many different positions, from setting up the RCN Student Ambassador network across London from scratch, through to sitting on the Eastern Regional Board, and finally as an interim member of Council representing all members in the Eastern region where I now live and work for the NHS.

I'm experienced and well organised within the RCN both as a student and qualified nursing representative. I am a strong trade union activist that is passionate about developing our future nurses. I can promise to give the role of Agenda Committee member my 100% full commitment.

Why you should elect me

I want to bring my experience, passion, and friendly bubbly personality to the Agenda Committee to continue the great work that has been done by my colleagues before me.

I believe that thinking outside the box, and bringing new fresh ideas will enable Congress to continually evolve and improve. I am not afraid to challenge the norm, and I will always encourage feedback and opportunities to improve and develop myself and others.

The RCN has so many opportunities to get involved in. I am proud of the roles I have undertaken, and I know that my experiences within the College will help me further develop my role on the Agenda Committee.

I am openminded, and an approachable, friendly, reliable, confident, and supportive person.

I am excited to be able to join the Agenda Committee and to help shape future Congress agendas to ensure all aspects of nursing are well represented. I have always seen it as a privilege to represent my peers at Congress. I would be honoured to serve RCN members and the wider nursing family as an Agenda Committee member.

Come and talk to me, and share you're congress ideas. Vote for Andy!

How you can contact me

Twitter: [@AndyRoy76](https://twitter.com/AndyRoy76)



Katharine Whayman

Nominated by:

Alison Ball (Gastrointestinal Nursing Forum)

Sally Bassett (Nurses in Management and Leadership Forum)

Claire Amy (Northamptonshire Branch)

My skills and experience

In my role as Clinical Nurse Specialist, then Nurse Educator and also as Gastrointestinal Nursing Forum, I have developed a deep understanding of nursing and health issues. I have a passion for the nursing profession and to help influence others in their quest to make a difference to people's lives through their care and nursing practice. Nursing is a changing dimension in healthcare across the globe, and we face a nursing workforce crisis. The welfare needs of nurses is high, and nursing communities are diverse covering a wealth of cultures, settings, and specialties. In addition, nursing is finding its voice, politically and professionally.

Through my eight years on a forum steering committee, as a Forum Chair, and as a member of the Forums Governance Group, I am very aware of the College's strategies and aims. Throughout my time as a Forum Chair, I have been very keen to listen to members' wishes. And encourage them to voice their views, concerns and sharing of practice.

Why you should elect me

In my role as Senior Lecturer in higher education, I am no stranger to organising events and conferences, delegates need, and disseminate, best practice innovations and initiatives. I am practical in nature and a pragmatic decision maker. I am keen to listen, and employ consistency, fairness, and good judgement in my work, both as a Nurse Educator, and Forum Chair acting in the best interests of students, or membership on behalf of the Royal College. I respect others and believe I have the communication skills, honesty, and vision to think strategically, to see the practical issues which members face and are challenged by.

I feel ready to take the challenge of this role on, to represent voting entities and it would be a privilege to do so.

How you can contact me

Twitter: @K_Whayman

Rhian Wheeler

Nominated by:

Peter Davis (UK Stewards Committee)

Mathew Sidebottom (West Yorkshire Branch)

Kirsty Craven (UK Safety Representatives Committee)



My skills and experience

I have been an RCN member most of my nursing career and more recently attending Congress. Well, I got bitten by the bug of wanting to find a way to not only raise my voice, but to support and raise the voice of other members too. That's why I'm putting myself forward for Agenda Committee.

I am an RN of 22 years and work frontline. I'm insanely proud of nursing. I am an RCN Steward and Safety Rep so spend time standing up for members in my workplace, supporting you through difficult times and raising concerns. I am a member of the branch executive and actively involved in branch work. Most recently seen as a picket supervisor - I didn't need a megaphone - my passion, drive and personality are enough to raise the roofs of many hospital buildings (disclaimer - no roofs were damaged on my picket line). Someone gave me a microphone back in November and I have no intention of putting it down. I feel and strongly believe that I can do that whilst being part of the Agenda Committee I will use my sound understanding of nursing and health issues to have your voice heard.

Why you should elect me

I am mad as a box of frogs - interested as a passionate, strong, full of love person who has your priorities, thoughts and ideas at the centre of my intentions. I am all about you and helping get you and your voice to where you want it to be. There are so many roles within our nursing teams across all the countries and I want to make sure that everyone is listened to and has the opportunity to put their thoughts forward.

I am approachable, loving, caring and passionate about nursing and about nursing as a profession. The RCN is moving in amazing directions and I can assure you 100% that I would do my absolute best to support you as members if I am elected as a representative on the agenda committee. In fact, it would be my privilege and honour to be in such a position for you and for nursing.

How you can contact me

Not supplied.



Colleen White-O'Hare

Nominated by:

Zeba Arif (Mental Health Forum)

Katrina Cooper (CYP: Acute Care Forum)

Sarah Manson (Perioperative Forum)

My skills and experience

I have been an RCN member for over 20 years and have approximately 15 years' experience as an RCN Steward. I have influenced the needs of members up to the Chief Executive level and have been a member of the local Staff Side Committee. I was a key member in the first RCN Industrial Action and Strike and have wide experience negotiating and representing nurses. I am currently in my fourth year of being on Agenda Committee, experiencing a cancelled Congress, as well as a hybrid and online Congress. The skills that we have experienced were challenging but demonstrated our determination to succeed.

Because the RCN membership is growing by several thousand each week demonstrates that members clearly feel the organization is led by the members. I have been very active in encouraging new views and I try to invite members to become active such as stewards and invite and encourage members to apply for governance positions. My skills in challenging a politician and offering commentaries to reporters demonstrate that I am prepared to challenge those responsible for the provision of healthcare.

Why you should elect me

You should elect me if you want value for your money which you pay. It is not easy to earn – so you deserve it to be put to good use. You should elect me to be your voice. It is you who gives me the mandate to act on your behalf. I appreciate and am guided by the RCN policies framework and core behaviour for which you should elect me for my passion, my determination to be your advocate.

You should vote for me as I strive to be a voice for 500,00 members. Ultimately, I will be an advocate for the patients, service and ultimately each and every one of your family, friends and you! You should please elect me if you want me to stop at nothing and find a way to be your voice. I have approximately 15 years of experience as a Steward.

Having that experience also as a Branch Chair, Secretary and Treasurer means that, combined with many years when I was seconded, and four years on Agenda Committee means I have represented all the nursing family. As a disabled nurse, I want to support all members to have a voice. Thank you.

How you can contact me

Twitter: **@Colleen75187318**



Royal College
of Nursing
Agenda Committee

VOTE TODAY

at the Governance
stand on the ground floor

