



Norfolk and Suffolk Health and Care Awards 2026

Unsung Hero Award

Tom Horrex

Bethesda Eventide Homes

Tom is an exceptional leader whose dedication to developing the future health and social care workforce has made a lasting and meaningful impact. Alongside his role as Manager at Bethesda Eventide Homes, he has voluntarily committed hundreds of hours to teaching, mentoring and inspiring students studying health and social care at local colleges. Through this work, he has supported hundreds of young people to build confidence, gain practical skills and develop a genuine understanding of compassionate, person-centred care.

Tom consistently goes above and beyond his role, using his own time to champion the sector during a period of significant workforce challenges. His engaging teaching style and passion for care have helped change perceptions, encouraging students to see health and social care as a rewarding and purposeful career. He has also created valuable placement opportunities within his care home, giving students real-life experience in a supportive, values-led environment.

His impact extends beyond individual learners to the wider system. By bridging the gap between education and practice, Tom has strengthened local workforce development and supported more young people into employment, apprenticeships and long-term careers in care. Many students credit him with inspiring their career choices and building their confidence.

This impact is sustained and measurable, with strong feedback from students and ongoing partnerships with colleges. Tom's dedication has even attracted national recognition. Through compassion, commitment and leadership, he is helping to shape a skilled, motivated and resilient future workforce for health and social care.