

ROUTINE VACCINE DROP

A special report looking at the drop in routine vaccinations **page 6**



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THE MAGAZINE FOR PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANTS



A roaring success!

The Recognition of Excellence Awards took place on 24 June at The Londoner, Leicester Square.

Millie Browning reports



SPECIAL REPORT

Winners of the ninth annual Recognition of Excellence (RoE) Awards were announced on 24 June at a glittering awards ceremony attended by the best of the pharmacy industry. Finalists and guests flocked to The Londoner Hotel in Leicester Square for a delicious meal, inspiring speeches and incredible stories.

Inspiring words

Kicking the day off was Ken Deeks, MBE, who spoke to the audience about RoE charity partner, Action for Children's #BoycottYourBed campaign. The campaign encourages people to give up their beds for one night and sleep outside to help raise awareness and vital funds for child poverty. This year the event falls on 7 October, *TM* has already entered a team, so please do consider getting your pharmacy team (or your family and friends) involved to help raise money for this important cause. Visit: actionforchildren.org.uk/support-us/boycott-your-bed for more.

After Ken had spoken, the room sat down for a delicious three-course meal, followed by a talk from guest speaker, Sophie Lee. Sophie is an influencer and

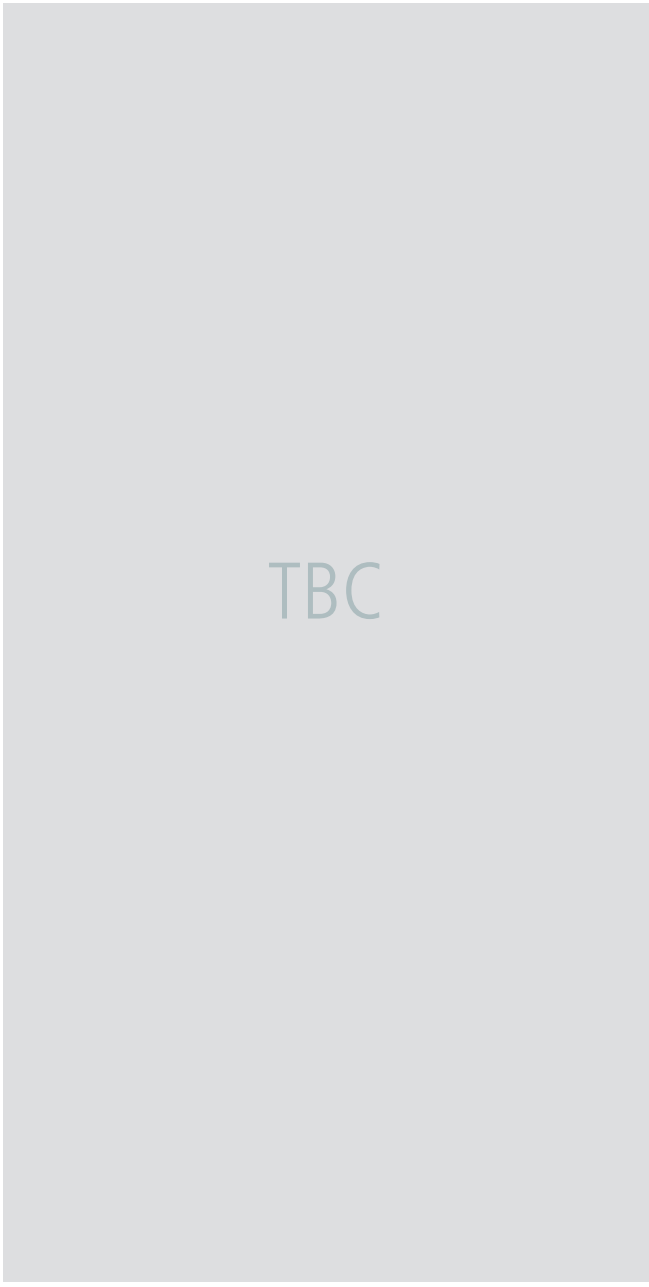
burns survivor who spoke of how her 2018 fire breathing accident changed her perception on life, teaching her that beauty is only skin deep, and it is what's inside that matters. Sophie also told our exceptional finalists never to underestimate how much their work means, explaining that the kind words and smiling faces of the pharmacy team who'd provided her medication after her accident made all the difference.

Rewarding excellence

And it's safe to say our finalists definitely make a difference too! As the only national awards exclusively for community pharmacy support staff, the *TM* team and RoE judges were blown away by the standard of entries from technicians to dispensers, managers to assistants.

Nicole Tolkin, manager of Halton Pharmacy in Leeds, received the overall Spotlight Award for her dedication to the pharmacy industry. The judge's thought Nicole was a "complete asset to the pharmacy profession" who has had "a glittering career" with some amazing achievements – and we couldn't agree more!

See the RoE supplement, published alongside this issue, for more on Nicole and all our finalists, plus a rundown of the big day.



SUPPORTING

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IN PHARMACY

The Professional Assistant:
Travel health

This month's module focuses on travel health and looks at the travel advice pharmacy staff can offer patients going abroad, as well as how to find out what Covid-19 restrictions they should be aware of.

Technician Matters

This month's CPD module (page 36) looks at first prescriptions for osteoporosis. On page 38, our series in conjunction with CPPE continues looking at enhancing professional practice, while page 34 brings you our new column with APTUK.