



THE BRITISH DIETETIC ASSOCIATION

The Professional Association for Registered Dietitians
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M e d i a R e l e a s e

Embargoed until Thursday 16 June 2005

HOSPITAL FOOD PIONEER WINS BRITISH DIETETIC ASSOCIATION AWARD

Rick Wilson, Director of Nutrition and Dietetics at Kings College Hospital NHS Trust, in London, is to receive the prestigious Ibex Award at the British Dietetic Association Awards Ceremony on 15th June in Cardiff. This award for professional achievement is awarded in recognition of his significant contribution to the dietetic profession.

Rick, who has been a dietitian for nearly thirty years, has become well-known for his outstanding work in raising awareness about the role of hospital food in the nutritional care of patients. He has represented the dietetic profession widely, his tireless contribution ensuring that the role of the dietitian remains central to food service. Speaking about his work, Rick commented: *"Being a pragmatist, I could see that hospital food was deteriorating some years ago, food had fallen off the agenda, and I could see that improvements could be made by making a number of basic steps. Work on improving hospital food has certainly snowballed in recent years, but there is still a long way to go. I am proud to have been one of the people who made moves to catalyse these changes."*

Rick represents the British Dietetic Association on the Better Hospital Food Panel and has contributed to TV and radio programmes discussing the role of food in hospitals. He was recently recognised in a broadsheet newspaper's 'top ten' dietitians in the country – a reflection of his outstanding service to the profession.

On winning the award, Rick said: *"I am delighted to have been nominated for this award by my peers. Food is pivotal to the work of dietitians and we should not lose sight of the important role that food has to play in our mission as dietitians."*

Website: <http://www.bda.uk.com>

Ends

Notes to Editors

1. The British Dietetic Association Awards ceremony will be held on Wednesday 15 June 2005 at The Thistle Hotel, Cardiff.

2. Further information on the conference and the awards ceremony is available from:

Dr Frankie Phillips National PR Officer, The British Dietetic Association.
Tel: 01626 362473, Mobile: 07958 715222, Email: pr@bda.uk.com

3. The British Dietetic Association, founded in 1936, is the professional association for registered dietitians in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It is the nation's largest organisation of food and nutrition professionals with over 5,000 members. About two-thirds of members are employed in the National Health Service. The remaining members work in education, industry, research, sport settings or freelance.

Registered dietitians hold the only legally-recognisable graduate qualification in nutrition and dietetics. They are experts in interpreting and translating the science of nutrition into practical ways of promoting nutritional well-being, disease treatment and the prevention of nutrition-related problems. Their advice is sound and based on current scientific evidence.

Registration, awarded by the Health Professionals Council, is an indication that a dietitian is fit to practise and is working within an agreed statement of conduct.

For further details about the British Dietetic Association, please visit our website: www.bda.uk.com

June is Weight Wise at Work month
Choose Healthy Work Habits

www.bdaweightwise.com