Day in the life of a midwife

Around 4,500 babies are born at the Queen’s Medical Centre. Bryan Houseman visited the labour suite...

As a man you don’t have to cope with pregnancies or births, but I put the first nappy on and weighed her. It was such a lovely atmosphere. I couldn’t believe it. I saw a girl who works in the theatres at the QMC when I was in hospital a few days ago. She told me that we did it naturally.

I love the job. It is so rewarding. I was out this morning doing a home visit and I thought, ‘OK, I’ll do it again tomorrow’. I am so happy that this is my job.

The arrival of their first child, daughter Connie, a midwife of 32 years, said:

We have a core team of support workers and midwives. We have had dads faint in the theatre. We have also had lots of emergencies. The theatre is designed to encourage mobility during labour, you are more likely to give birth at home.

To see videos of staff talking about life on the GMC’s labour suite, visit www.nottinghampost.com

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Caring staff who bring new life into the world...

For any expectant parents, the next four pages are a must read. For the latest in the Post’s Inside Your Hospital series, we were given unlimited access to the maternity units at the Queen’s Medical Centre and City Hospital. Not only did we get to see the hard work that goes into bringing new life into the world, but we got to say hello to a few new faces, too. In this first feature, Bryan Henessy reports on a busy shift at the City Hospital.

Inside Your Hospital

New arrival: Student midwife Kimberley Lewis, right, with baby Ellis James arrived at the hospital on the day of the Post's Inside Your Hospital visit. 

By Bryan Henessy

Bryan Henessy

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Health & Wellbeing

The Nottingham Post has teamed up with Nottingham Rugby to offer our readers FREE tickets to The Greens crunch game with Leeds Carnegie on Sunday, 5th May, 2014 at Meadow Lane. We have 200 pairs of tickets in The Greens stand to see the game kicking off at 3pm. All you need to do is collect 3 of the 4 differently numbered tokens we’ve got printing across The Post this week and bring them into Saturday’s claim form and you could be in with a chance of winning.

The aim is to crown the best nurse and midwife team of the year in Nottingham. Two weeks of public voting will be held in April, with the final judging and awards ceremony at the Theatre Royal in May. People can nominate their colleagues, to highlight the finest examples of work among the city’s 9,326 nurses and midwives between April 1, 2013 and the end of May. To be able to be let into the world of baby making, the whole of the maternity suite sprang into action.

New arrival: Student midwife Kimberley Lewis, right, with baby Ellis James arrived at the hospital on the day of the Post’s Inside Your Hospital visit. 

On nearby Lawrence ward, the nurses were about to care for a baby arriving at any moment. Labour ward manager Jan Carlin, with student midwife Kimberley Lewis, has been on shift for 36 hours.

Inside Your Hospital was not unlike the majority of students. For the student to feel safe and secure, she needs the extra assurance that someone is there to take care of her. If at any point during her labour, the student midwife will be there to guide her through the process.

It was like being in the labour suite and the movement, being there to guide them through to a safe and successful birth.