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## KYM MARSH SEARCHES FOR STAR MIDWIVES WITH THE MARIPOSA TRUST



Actress Kym Marsh has joined with The Mariposa Trust, one of the UK's leading support charities working within the field of bereavement care, to launch the 'Mariposa Awards'. New for 2018, the awards are looking for midwives, nurses, bereavement midwives, doctors and community members who have gone above and beyond in the care and support that they have provided for people who have experienced baby loss.

The awards will take place at the charities flagship ball at the iconic Savoy Hotel in London on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018, with shortlisted finalists attending on the night, to see who will be the inaugural winners.

Three categories are open to public votes, and these are:

**The Archie Award:** In memory of Kym's son Archie, who sadly passed away during pregnancy, this award is for a Midwife who has gone above and beyond in the level of care they have provided.

*Kym who is one of the charities Ambassadors commented 'When I sadly lost my precious son Archie during pregnancy, the medical team provided a lifeline of care. In Archie's memory, we are looking for a midwife who has excelled in the level of compassion they have shown. If you have experienced exceptional midwifery, through your journey of baby loss, please nominate your midwife today!'*

**The Compassion Award:** This award section looks to honour a GP, Doctor or Medical Professional who has shown genuine care and compassion for a patient who has suffered baby loss.

**The Community Award:** This award is for someone in the community who has supported someone through baby loss. They could be medical professional, community worker, social worker, member of clergy, teacher or just a general member of the public, who has truly got alongside and supported someone through their loss and grief.

In addition, the charity will also be giving awards to a **'Corporate Hero'**, awarded to a company that have donated to the charity whether that be financial or in kind, and to a **'Volunteer Hero'**, who has positively impacted the work of the charity.

To nominate for one of the 3 categories, please go to <https://www.sayinggoodbye.org/mariposaawards-2018/> and place your nomination, or you can email [awards@sayinggoodbye.org](mailto:awards@sayinggoodbye.org) with your full contact details, name and contact details for the person you are nominating, the category you are nominating them for, and in less than 500 words, describe why you think they should win. Nominations close at 5pm on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018, and the shortlist will be announced on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

Baby Loss:

When parents go through the devastating loss of a baby, whether during pregnancy, at birth or in infancy, they often feel isolated and unable to process the overwhelming grief and trauma that miscarriage, stillbirth, neonatal and early years loss brings. What most do not realise is that they are not alone and sadly around 700 other parents will go through the same loss each day in the UK.

The Mariposa Trust, often known by the name of it's leading division 'Saying Goodbye', provides support globally that reaches over 50,000 people each week who have experienced or been affected by baby loss, some recently and some decades ago. The charity provides a range of support options via 6 support divisions, from online support via social media and forums to befrienders and therapy.

- Saying Goodbye, [www.sayinggoodbye.org](http://www.sayinggoodbye.org), provides support for anyone who has suffered baby loss
- GrowingYou, provides support for people who are going through pregnancy, following baby loss
- Holding Hope provides advice and support for those going through fertility treatment
- Waiting for You, walks alongside people who are going through the adoption process
- So Cherished supports people who have received a terminal or life altering diagnosis of their baby.
- Love in Every Tear supports people who are supporting others through loss.

Statistics for baby loss show that around 1 in 4 pregnancies end in loss, with around 250,000 miscarriages, and round 7,000 stillbirths, neonatal and early years losses each year in the UK. Globally figures stand at an estimated 30,000,000 miscarriages and around 8,000,000 stillbirths, neonatal and early years losses. For each child lost, parents, extended family and friends are left traumatised and often with no formal acknowledgement that their child existed.

More information on the charity can be found at [www.mariposatrust.org](http://www.mariposatrust.org) and via [www.sayinggoodbye.org](http://www.sayinggoodbye.org). The charity also has multiple social media pages, and can be followed on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/sayinggoodbyeuk](http://www.facebook.com/sayinggoodbyeuk) and on Twitter @SayingGoodbyeUK.

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