



MARIPOSA AWARDS 2025 PRESENTED TO PREGNANCY, BABY AND CHILD BEREAVEMENT HEROES AT STAR-STUDED GALA IN LONDON

On Saturday, March 15th, Mariposa International held its annual 'Mariposa Ball' at the stunning 5* Landmark Hotel in Marylebone, London. This is the 6th time that the charity, which many will know by the name of its primary support division, 'Saying Goodbye,' has held the ball at the Landmark, which served as the perfect backdrop for what was an incredible night.

Famous faces from stage and screen came in support of the charity - which is one of the leading support organisations for anyone affected by baby loss – with hosts **Briony May Williams** from Bake-Off & Escape to the Country and Sky Sports **James Green** beautifully guiding the programme of entertainment, fundraising and awards over the evening.

During the evening, guests were treated to a wealth of musical entertainment, which started with a breathtaking performance of 'Never Enough' by Millie Ferguson. This was followed by performances by multi-award-winning singer-songwriters Chris and Abby Eaton, Spirit YPC, Bethannie Hare, Fi Laycock and Matt Ford, ex-Corrie star Victoria Ekanoye and an electric performance by 'Britain Got Talent' finalists 'Flawless'.

Mariposa International co-founder and co-CEO Andy Clark-Coates took an opportunity to share about the charity's incredible successes over the past 12 months, with the launch by the British Government of 'Certificates of Loss' for bereaved families after a 9-year campaign by the charity. He paid tribute to the fantastic frontline NHS and community workers who care and support the bereaved but stressed that real global change would happen only by everyone coming together.

Mariposa International provides free support to people affected by baby loss, pregnancy after baby loss, fertility, adoption and more. The organisation has become the leading support charity in this field, reaching over 50,000 people a week globally. Charity co-founder and co-CEO Zoe Clark-Coates MBE said, "Heartbreakingly, around 700 babies die every day in the UK, whether that's in pregnancy, birth or infancy. Despite baby loss affecting so many each year, it is still not widely spoken about, which can leave families struggling for support. Mariposa International exists to ensure that each baby that has gone too soon is recognised and that the parents, extended family, and friends receive the support they need for as long as they need it."

Fundraising on the night came in the form of a silent auction, a live auction, and a hilarious game of 'Heads and Tails', led by the hosts, with auction lots, including jewellery from Boodles, signed artwork by the late great Stan Lee, luxury trips and experiences snapped up to raise vital funds to support the work of the charity.

Over the course of the evening, news anchor Rhiannon Jones hosted the Mariposa Awards. The awards recognise midwives, nurses, bereavement midwives, doctors and community members who have gone above and beyond in the care and support they have provided for people who have experienced baby loss.

This year, a host of celebrities and award judges presented awards in 12 categories, and the 2025 Awards were presented as follows:

The Arlo Award

In memory of Arlo Mallen, who sadly passed away in 2021, this award is for a medical practitioner who has gone above and beyond in the level of care they have provided. This award was **presented by actress and *Mama Mia the Musical* star, Mazz Murray.**

- Winner – Katrina Bull – Royal Berkshire Hospital

The Fertility Champion Award

Sadly, for many people, the road to parenthood is difficult, with many needing fertility experts to assist in their journey. This award pays tribute to such experts. It was **presented by star of the *'Traitors'* season 3, Charlotte Berman.**

- Winner – Dr Neeraja Yaddula – Colchester Hospital

Employer of the Year

When people experience loss, the support of their workplace is critical to ensuring they receive care, time off, pay and so much more. This new award recognises employers who have gone above and beyond. This award was **presented by former *EastEnders* and *Footballers Wives* star Laila Rouass**

- Joint Winners – Hastings Direct and the John Lewis Partnership

The Lifetime Achievement Award

This special award looks to recognise a medical professional who has devoted their life to the care, and support of the bereaved. This award was **presented by chef and author Illiyin Morrison**

- Winner – Karen Stoyles – Royal Cornwall Hospital

The Compassion Award

This award recognises compassionate care by healthcare professionals. This was **presented by model, YouTube star, Influencer and charity Ambassador Grace Booth**

- Winner: Natasha Allan Reeves – Wishaw General Hospital
- Special Recognition: Dr Kath Graham

The Community Award

This award is presented to someone in the community who has supported others through baby loss. This award was **presented by star of *'Traitors'* season 2, Diane Carson**

- Winner: Honeysuckle FC – Mark Henderson – part of Liverpool FC
- Special Recognition: Samantha Catanach & Marie Blythe

Fundraiser of the Year

This award is presented to a person or people who have helped to support the work of the charity by taking on fundraising challenges and projects. It was **presented by charity founders Zoe and Andy Clark-Coates**

- Winner: Natalie Clarke
- Special Recognition: Brittani Bobowick

Midwife of the Year

This award looks to recognise the incredible midwives who form the backbone of maternity care. It was **presented by Hollywood TV & Film star, Max Beesley**

- Winner: Rhian Rees-Jones – Glangwili Hospital
- Special Recognition: Rebecca Taylor

The Archie Bereavement Professional of the Year 2025

This award, named in honour of Kym Marsh's son 'Archie' recognises excellence in care from a bereavement specialist, and was **presented by actor and close friend of Kym's, Michael Grecco**

- Winner: Racheal Crane – James Paget Hospital
- Special Recognition: Anne Marie Sworak

OBGYN of the Year Award

This award is presented to an OBGYN who has displayed exceptional levels of clinical care and support for patients, and was **presented by award judge Professor Nick Harding OBE**

- Winner: Dr Robin Hughes – York Hospital
- Special Recognition: Dr Gemma Mizon & Dr Lucasz Polanski

Bereavement Midwife of the Year 2025

This award looks to recognise excellence in bereavement midwifery. This was **presented by awards judge and Chief Midwife for the International Confederation of Midwives, Professor Jacqueline Dunkley-Bent OBE**

- Winner: Sophie Wilson – Dorchester County Hospital
- Special Recognition: Edyta Szubert, Sharon Hurst, Michelle Powell, Oonagh King, Rhian Morris and Kirsty Barker

Bereavement Team of the Year 2025

This award looks to acknowledge the work of bereavement teams across the UK. This was *presented by star of the 'Traitors' season 3, Minah Shannon*

- Winner: Hull Bereavement Team – Hull University Teaching Hospital
- Special Recognition: Small Steps Team at the QEQM, The Royal Berkshire Bereavement Team and the Queen Charlotte and Chelsea Bereavement Team

The evening concluded with a stellar performance by Bethannie Hare, whose uptempo set, filled the dance floor, prior to DJ Olly Palmer bringing the night to a close. Guests were then treated to luxury goody bags, with items donated by a range of generous brands.

Zoe added, “We know there are so many more unsung heroes supporting those who are grieving and challenging the taboo when it comes to talking about baby loss, so if you know someone who should be recognised, please head to our website and nominate someone for the 2026 awards that are now open.”

-ENDS-

More information on the charity can be found at www.sayinggoodbye.org. The charity has multiple social media pages, and can be followed on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sayinggoodbyeuk and on Twitter @SayingGoodbyeUK.

The charity can be contacted by email at office@sayinggoodbye.org

Editors Notes (not for public release):

For more information and images, for any of the winners please contact the charity press office via press@sayinggoodbye.org