

*“St Christopher's embodies a spirit of nursing practice underpinned by research and education resulting in a corps of nurses with experience and expertise dedicated to achieving excellence for patients.”*

**Alison Richardson, Professor of Cancer and Palliative Nursing Care, King's College London**

*“St Christopher's continues to influence the world as an academic hospice—where patient care, education and research are inextricably linked as part of the mission and vision. St Christopher's sets a high standard the rest of us try to reach. Through its scholarship and being a role model of high quality hospice care, St. Christopher's affects the quality of the care around the globe.”*

**Charles von Gunten, MD, PhD, Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine University of California, San Diego and Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Palliative Medicine**

*“St Christopher's continues to be a place of thinking and reflection. Firmly rooted in the daily realities of clinical care and service provision, it also challenges us to think in new ways about how, why and for whom palliative care is provided. It champions the user of services, it promotes community participation and it stimulates debate.*

*St Christopher's is the most famous hospice in the world and manages this responsibility with generosity, inclusiveness and a critical edge that is both supportive and provocative.”*

**Professor David Clark, Director, International Observatory on End of Life Care, Lancaster University**

*“St Christopher's Hospice continues to inspire with its professional yet compassionate approach to care, commitment to provide services that meet the diverse needs of patients and different age groups and its openness and willingness to share its expertise and experience with palliative care efforts around the world. St. Christopher's we salute you!”*

**Dr Harmla Gupta, Founder, CanSupport India**

*“After 40 years, St Christopher's hospice celebrates remaining at the forefront of modern hospice care, focused on the individuality of each patient and those close to him or her. Clinical care for patients lies at the heart of the hospice's activity, and from that flows research into ways to ensure that patients live as fully as possible and with great dignity right up until their natural death.”*

**Professor Ilora Finlay FRCP FRCG, Baroness Finlay of Llandaff**

*“ St Christopher's Hospice provides invaluable help for patients who require palliative care. The staff often work above and beyond their duties. They are relentless in getting help for affected family members. But most of all, they are always a phone call away. They are never too busy to help at very short*

*notice, and if they do not know the answer, they will find someone who does, rather than pass the buck. Our community could not ask for a better team of dedicated health care professionals. Thanks and hats off to them! Happy Anniversary."*

**Dr Martin Iu, local GP**

*"St Christopher's is an integral part of the community of Beckenham and much loved and cherished by residents. They want it to continue to be an inspiring, uplifting and forward looking place offering the best and most imaginative palliative care. It has done so for the last 40 years and we all look forward with confidence to the next 40 caring years".*

**Jacqui Lait, Member of Parliament**

*"What I value about St Christopher's Hospice is its willingness and ability to keep questioning what it does and to push the boundaries of high quality patient and family care - even when it would be much more comfortable for it to sit back on its laurels and to stay the same."*

**Professor Julia Addington-Hall, Professor in End of Life Care, University of Southampton**

*"Leadership, championing the values of hospice care while ensuring that they are debated and remain relevant within a rapidly changing health care service both globally and within the UK. Its exemplary education programme underpins practice development by providing opportunities to learn with national and international leaders in the field. St Christopher's has risen to the challenge of and forged a new identity beyond being a pioneer of new ideas".*

**Dr Marilyn Relf, Head of Education, Sir Michael Sobell House, Oxford**

*"St. Christopher's Hospice is recognised internationally for its pioneering work in the development of end of life care. It was the first of the modern hospices to be established. Since then St Christophers has been a leader in developing community-based care, in supporting the delivery of high quality care in hospitals and nursing homes and in research. We all owe a debt of gratitude to the inspiration of the multiprofessional staff at St. Christophers over the past forty years."*

**Professor Mike Richards, Director of Cancer Services (the 'Cancer Tsar)**

*"The value of St Christopher's Hospice cannot be underestimated. Not only because it pioneered the modern hospice movement when Dame Cicely Saunders founded it in 1967, but for it's continuing vision, commitment to education and huge influence it has all over the world."*

**Eve Richardson, Chief Executive, The National Council for Palliative Care**

*“...From a clinical research perspective St Christopher’s plays a pivotal role in taking up the challenge of research to problem-solve on behalf of patients. With its world wide reputation as a centre for palliative and end of life care, and for education and research, St Christopher’s is a vital source of action and influence in pushing research and development boundaries than impact positively on its own, and the wider community...”*

**Patricia Grocott, Senior Research Fellow, King’s College London**

*“The Humanitarian Assistance Unit at the Department for Culture Media and Sport works within Government to develop and improve the way in which Government plans for and responds to the needs of those affected in emergencies. This involves communication with people who have been bereaved or survived disasters such as the Indian Ocean tsunami, and terrorist attacks including the 7 July bombings. St Christopher’s Candle Project has provided advice and support to the Unit since 2001. St Christopher’s Candle Project has provided us with constant and heartfelt support and encouragement over the past six years. They have always been there and have never let us down.”*

**Anna Payne, Humanitarian Assistance Unit, Department for Culture, Media and Sport**

*“Never content to rest on its reputation, it still has the courage and confidence to innovate where change is needed for the benefit of patients and families.”*

**Peter Tebbit, Policy Consultant, The National Council for Palliative Care**

*“ From the outset of Family Liaison Training in the Metropolitan Police service, in 1999, we have been involved with The Candle Project at St Christopher’s Hospice. Their knowledge and expertise have been absolutely invaluable in preparing Police officers in working with adults, children and families in sudden and traumatic death. It is my firm opinion that the Metropolitan Police Service could not have provided the level of service to the families and communities of London without this outstanding friendship and support.”*

**Ronald F Cuthbertson QPM Family Liaison Trainer Metropolitan Police Crime Academy**

*“St Christopher’s Hospice has been inspirational in combining excellence in clinical care, education and research. So often we think that it is just too difficult or indelicate to invite dying people to participate in research but at St Christopher’s there has been ground breaking research... this tradition is very much alive by the impressive scholarship of Barbara Monroe and David Oliviere in a recent series of challenging books.”*

**Professor Sheila Payne, Help the Hospice, Professor of Hospice Studies, Lancaster University**

*"We have recently completed the first randomised controlled trial of cognitive behaviour therapy in palliative care with the St Christophers Home Care Team. I have found the enthusiasm and support for this project from managers and staff to be exceptional demonstrating that the hospice remains at the forefront of new developments in this field."*

**Stirling Moorey Trust Head of Psychotherapy, CBT Service, Maudsley Hospital**

*"St Christopher's is a hospice that has firmly placed the role of mutual support and learning at the centre of the development of palliative care world wide. It recognises the importance of sharing of skills and experiences and, by bringing people together from palliative care services around the world, facilitates the rich exchange of ideas and developments and cements links between people and countries."*

**Dr Suresh Kumar, Director of Palliative Medicine, Medical College, Calcutta, Kerala, India**

*"St Christopher's continue to lead the way in relation to working in partnership with a diverse range of stakeholders locally, nationally and internationally to improve end of life care to patients and their carers. Local examples include providing specialist expert staff to train healthcare professionals working within primary care to implement end of life care tools such as the Liverpool Care Pathway of the dying patient."*

**Timothy Jackson, Nurse Director, South East London Cancer Network**

*"I spent six years at St. Christopher's. There, I learned most of what is important in my medical practice. There, I experienced the living hospice ideal, and that experience has sustained me personally and professionally ever since."*

**Dr Tony O'Brien, Medical Director, Marymount Hospice, Cork**

*"Not only does St Christopher's continue to be at the cutting edge of service development, it works with others to influence policy, develop and share best practice to improve the lives of terminally ill people worldwide. We are pleased that we have been able to collaborate on a number of initiatives including developing training programmes on adult and childhood bereavement and providing quality information to professionals and the public alike."*

**David Prail, Chief Executive, Help the Hospices**

*"...congratulations to St Christopher's on celebrating 40 years of caring. Your Hospice is the flagship for modern palliative care..."*

**John Ashelford, Chief Executive, Hospice in the Weald**

*“The City Bridge Trust has been a willing supporter of the work of St Christopher’s for a number of years. We recognise and appreciate the excellent services which St Christopher’s provides to patients, their families and carers – much of which is due to the impressive commitment of its trustees, staff and volunteers.”*

**Ciaran Raffert, Principal Grants Office, The City Bridge Trust**

*“It’s a life-changing event and the children learn that death and dying are a normal part of life and living. It’s good for us all to know the importance of St Christopher’s as a part of our community.”*

**John Goody, Headteacher, St John the Baptist Primary School, Catford**

*“The partnership developed between St Christopher’s and CHST in promoting better end of life care in care homes with nursing has been tremendously helpful to the staff of the homes and the members of our multidisciplinary team. Clinical Nurse Specialists from the Hospice have given inspiring leadership to our end of life care study days for care home nurses and care assistants. They have also given on the job training, advice and support, raising skills and confidence in both their care of residents and their communication with relatives, particularly, in facilitating introduction of the Gold Standards Framework. We greatly welcome the priority St Christopher’s is currently giving to help care homes with nursing improve their care of residents at the end of their lives, and look forward to continued close collaboration with them.”*

**John Knightly, Service Manager, Care Homes Support Team, Lambeth, Southward and Lewisham PCTs**