

## News Release

King's Lynn, Norfolk, UK, Friday, November 20, 2009

### Celebrating the first 25 years and looking to the future of Hospice Care in Norfolk; the 2009 Hugh Ford Founder Lecture.

To mark the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House a special celebration was held on the evening of Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at the Town Hall, King's Lynn. The Hugh Ford Founder Lecture is named in honour of the local GP who spearheaded the founding of the hospice in 1984.

25 years of service to the dying and bereaved of West and North Norfolk was celebrated by past and present volunteers, staff and Trustees who were joined by guests, including the Mayor & Mayoress and Deputy Mayor & Mayoress of King's Lynn & West Norfolk; the Bishop of Lynn, The Rt Revd. James Langstaff, along with colleagues from NHS Norwich, Queen Elizabeth Hospital and MacMillan Cancer Support.

"We were thrilled to be joined by members of Dr Ford's family, and by Christopher Saunders, brother of Dame Cicely OM, founder of the modern Hospice movement and first patron of our Hospice" said Chief Executive Janet Doyle.

Following a reception in the Stone Hall, the assembled company were addressed by Professor David Clark, Director, Glasgow University Dumfries Campus, whose lecture was on '*The changing world of hospice and palliative care: Global and local perspectives*'. He gave an illuminating talk on the challenges and initiatives that are taking place around the world in hospice and palliative care and on the picture in the UK and our region. Professor Clark also highlighted the few pockets of unmet need for



inpatient care, which include West & North Norfolk and the Fens, and he was delighted that there are plans for a new purpose built Hospice at Hillington.

During the evening, special awards were given to staff and volunteers who have served for periods of over 5, 10 and 15 years and to Pat Stainsby, who has volunteered with the Hospice for an astonishing unbroken period of 25 years. "Pat is a superb colleague whose contribution to home and day care, hairdressing and fundraising and so much else is an extraordinary example of the community spirit on which we rely to provide such special care" said Janet Doyle.

Chairman Simon Massen and fellow Trustees of Campaign Care '94, who have raised over £100,000 for the Hospice, received a special 15 year award for their loyal support, which was presented by the Earl of Romney, a Patron of the Capital Campaign.

Concluding the evening, Janet Doyle looked forward to the next 25 years and explained that one in three people have or will be touched by hospice care. She explained the plans to develop existing services for patients and their families to help relieve suffering and enable people to experience the best possible quality of life for whatever time is left.

A Heritage Display, which had been created by present and former staff and volunteers, was unveiled and shows a pictorial record of the first 25 years of the Hospice.

"This has been a wonderful celebration showing the dedication of so many people without whom we would not exist and we offer our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has helped and supported us over the years" said Tessa Scott, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.



- ENDS -

## **Notes to editors**

**Professor David Clark** founded the International Observatory on End of Life Care at Lancaster University in 2003. He is currently engaged in a number of studies concerned with service evaluation relating to the provision of end of life care and with issues of policy development and the international growth of palliative care. He has a particular interest in the historical development of modern end of life care movements and has written a book about the history of the Project on Death in America. He is the author of numerous volumes and papers and has served as a trustee of the UK charity Help the Hospices and a board member of the European Association for Palliative Care. In 2005, with support from the Irish Hospice Foundation, he took up the position of Visiting Professor in Hospice Studies at Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin, where he worked on the creation of the All Ireland Institute for Hospice and Palliative Care.

## **The Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House**

(Reg. Charity No. 1062800)

Since 1984, the Hospice has been providing palliative care to people with cancer, neurological and other life-limiting conditions, to enable them to live life to the full for whatever time is left.

Our services include: holistic day care, home hospice support, bereavement support for families, regular carer support groups, transport, equipment loan and an information service.

We care for over 200 people a month at the Hospice and at home. Our care is provided without charge throughout Norfolk and the Fens and it costs £1 million a year to run our Hospice. We depend on the generosity of the community to survive: 88% of our costs are paid for by all those



individuals, organisations and groups who give generously to support our vital care.

In life nothing is certain but, with your help, we can ensure that Norfolk and the Fens has the finest hospice care possible, now and in the future.

For **media details** please contact:

**Janet Doyle**  
Chief Executive

Tel: 01485 543163  
Mobile: 07746 783631  
Email: [janet.doyle@norfolkospice.org.uk](mailto:janet.doyle@norfolkospice.org.uk)

For further **information about the Capital Campaign** please contact:

Marc Stowell, Capital Campaign Director  
Tel: 07811 446287  
Email: [marc.stowell@norfolkospice.org.uk](mailto:marc.stowell@norfolkospice.org.uk)

Hospice 01485 543163  
Website: [www.norfolkospice.org.uk](http://www.norfolkospice.org.uk)