

# St Columba's continue to mark their 40 years

✘ St Columba's Hospice in Edinburgh has just launched an interactive timeline to showcase key and quirky moments from its 40 year history.

In 2017, the Edinburgh Hospice marks 40 years since its doors opened to patients and families for the first time.

The work to create a modern hospice in the capital began in 1968, when Matron Ann Weatherill convened a meeting to find out if there was a need for it.

Almost a decade after that initial meeting the Hospice opened its doors on 5 December 1977.

Forty years later the Hospice continues to provide expert specialist care and support for people with terminal illnesses. The free care that the hospice provides includes physical, emotional, spiritual, psychological and social support and it is aimed not only at patients but also their families.

The new state of the art building was officially opened in May 2014.

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Day hospice patients arriving

Most recently the gatehouse was renovated to create a special space ready for the introduction of a bereavement and counselling service for children and young people.

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The Hospice's interactive timeline features key and quirky moments from the last four decades including:

- The arrival of patients on the opening of the day hospice services
- The first donation from the Lothian Health Board for £75,000
- The building of the Education Centre
- Visits from HM The Queen and other royal visits
- The opening of new shops across the city, many of which are still open today
- The introduction of computers to the Hospice
- The adoption of Hospuss – a cat that wandered in to the grounds of the Hospice and didn't leave for 18 years
- The multi-million pound rebuild project launch and progress
- The temporary move to Kirklands House and then back to our Trinity home following the completion of the rebuild project
- The introduction of our therapets
- And much more.

To view the interactive timeline [click here](#)