

1991

After a massive fundraising effort by a committed and determined Appeal Committee - led by Dr Wink White and his wife Iris - Luton and south Bedfordshire's adult hospice welcomes its first patient. A Royal opening by the Duchess of Gloucester follows in November.

1993

Our first shop opens in Dunstable. Over the years, this has grown to 33 shops across our communities, contributing over £1m a year towards our care.

1996

Adult patients start coming to the hospice for rehab, treatments and therapies, thanks to our new day-support centre. Our Lottery launches and an early version of Smiley Sam goes out for the first time at Christmas.

30

YEARS OF CARE

2000

The children's service is born, welcomed into the world by HRH The Princess Royal.

2002

The hydrotherapy pool opens with a big splash!

2005

Sparklers support group lightens the load for the children and young siblings of patients.

2007

More local families benefit from our support when we become the children's hospice for Milton Keynes as well as Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

2009

Facilities for patients and their families are extended and modernised in the adult in-patient unit; adult and children's services unite to become Keech Hospice Care.



2019

Keech volunteers train to help patients who may lose their voice, with our new voice banking service.

2018

Families of any child with a life-limiting illness now benefit from our new 24-hour adviceline. Local health professionals up-skill with our newly formed clinical education team. Our first-ever aquatic therapist gets patients mobile in the pool.

2017

The focus is on adult patients' mobility and quality of life as we launch the Independence and Wellbeing Service. TV gardener Adam Frost creates our beautiful, contemplative Courtyard Garden.

2016

TRHs The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge visit the hospice to celebrate our 25th birthday.

2015

The first KeechFest celebrates the opening of our Alan Titchmarsh-designed wildlife garden.

2014

Patients and carers can access 24/7 support when the adult helpline launches.

2011

Adult patients benefit from additional services and facilities when the day-support centre transforms into Keech Palliative Care Centre.



2020

Our Wellbeing Centre opens, bringing together everything patients need to live well and be independent. Our volunteers receive the highest accolade: The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. And we came together in a time of crisis to support patients and their families on the frontline of the coronavirus pandemic.



2021

Our 30th anniversary sees us still on the pandemic frontline, working round the clock, to Keep Keech Caring for another 30 years.

