**

8th November 2018

**BIRMINGHAM ST MARY’S HOSPICE GETS A HELPING HAND FROM THE SCREWFIX FOUNDATION**

Birmingham St Mary’s Hospice is celebrating after being awarded £5,000 worth of funding from The Screwfix Foundation, a charity which supports projects to fix, repair, maintain and improve properties and facilities for those in need.

The Hospice – which provides vital care and support to people and their families who are living with life-limiting illness – will be using the funding to renovate a bathroom at its Inpatient Unit in Selly Park. The renovation will include the installation of a therapeutic bath, which will play a vital role in helping to boost wellbeing and comfort to people when they need it most.

Lucy Watkins, head of fundraising at Birmingham St Mary’s Hospice, said: “We are really grateful to The Screwfix Foundation for donating these much-needed funds to our charity. We’re really looking forward to renovating our bathroom and I know that once completed, it will be a huge benefit to the people we care for at the Hospice.

“It costs £8 million each year to run our vital services – over 60 per cent of which needs to come from voluntary donations – so we really do rely on the generous support of other charities, such as The Screwfix Foundation, to ensure we can continue to care for people wherever and whenever they need us. On behalf of the Hospice, I’d like to thank everyone who was involved in the fundraising – it will make a real difference to people living with life-limiting illness across Birmingham and Sandwell.”

Kayleigh Shorthouse Store Manager of the Kings Norton Screwfix store, comments: “We’re really pleased that one of our local charities has been awarded funding by The Screwfix Foundation. Staff from across the business have held a variety of fundraising events to raise vital funds for The Screwfix Foundation, so it’s fantastic to see the money we have raised being invested back into such a worthwhile community project.”

The Screwfix Foundation, which launched in April 2013, donates much needed funding to help a variety of local projects throughout the UK, from repairing buildings and improving community facilities, to improving the homes of people living with sickness or disability.

It also works closely with two national charity partners, Barnardo’s children’s charity and Macmillan Cancer Support, as well as supporting smaller, local registered charities like Birmingham St Mary’s Hospice.

Relevant projects from across Birmingham are invited to apply online for a share of the funding at screwfixfoundation.com.

For more information about The Screwfix Foundation, visit screwfixfoundation.com.

For more information about Birmingham St Mary’s Hospice, visit: birminghamhospice.org.uk

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**Note to editors**

**About The Screwfix Foundation:**

The Screwfix Foundation is a charity set up by Screwfix in April 2013. We have a clear purpose of raising funds to support projects that will fix, repair, maintain and improve properties and community facilities specifically for those in need in the UK.

The Screwfix Foundation raises funds throughout the year to support causes that will change people’s lives. Working with both national and local charities, The Screwfix Foundation donates much needed funding to help all sorts of projects, from repairing buildings and improving community facilities, to improving the homes of people living with sickness or disability.

**About Birmingham St Mary’s Hospice**

* The Hospice must be referred to as ‘Birmingham St Mary’s Hospice’, ‘Birmingham St Mary’s’ or ‘the Hospice’ for short.
* Birmingham St Mary's Hospice provides vital care and support to people, and their families and carers, who are living with life-limiting illness.
* Every day, the Hospice cares for 400 people across Birmingham and Sandwell.
* Birmingham St Mary’s Hospice offers a range of services in people’s homes, in the community and at the Hospice, offering people more choice wherever and whenever they need it.
* The Hospice supports families and carers too, throughout a person’s illness and after bereavement, for as long as necessary.
* The Harry Moseley Family centre opened in May 2014. The centre allows families to stay at the Hospice and to be with their loved one doctors and nurses manage symptoms, assess a patient’s readiness to return home, or provide care during their final days.
* There is also a Day Hospice, which focusses on people to live well. The Day Hospice offer a 12-week therapeutic programme of care – which features education workshops, relaxation sessions and therapeutic services.
* Since 2016, the Hospice has three Satellite Clinics which provide specialist care and support in community locations, such as GP surgeries and health centres.
* All of Birmingham St Mary’s services are free of charge to everyone that uses them, including patients, family members, carers and loved ones.
* Birmingham St Mary’s Hospice needs to raise £8 million each year to fund its vital care. Over 60% of this needs to come from generous, voluntary donations.
* Birmingham St Mary’s Hospice’s four year strategy ‘Hospice Care for All’ (2016-2020) can be downloaded from the website: [www.birminghamhospice.org.uk/our-values](http://www.birminghamhospice.org.uk/our-values)
* Digital addresses are:
  + Website: [www.birminghamhospice.org.uk](http://www.birminghamhospice.org.uk)
  + Facebook: [www.facebook.com/birminghamstmaryshospice](http://www.facebook.com/birminghamstmaryshospice)
  + Twitter: [@brumshospice](https://twitter.com/brumshospice)

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