



Alison Penny
Coordinator, Childhood Bereavement Network

Alison coordinates the Childhood Bereavement Network (CBN) and provides project coordination to the National Bereavement Alliance (NBA). She has consulted with bereaved children and young people and adults on their needs and how these can best be met, and used their views to inform publications, practice guides and campaigning tools. She has kept the sector updated with relevant policy and research developments, and helped the field to develop consensus on key policy and practice topics, leading to gains in national policy in bereaved people's interests.

Alison has a particular interest in supporting services to demonstrate the effectiveness of their work, and is currently developing a national outcome tool for the child bereavement sector: work she is also taking forward as a PhD. She is an editor of the peer-review journal *Bereavement Care* and recently authored the *Life after Death* report.



Harvey Ward
Member, NCP's People in Partnership Group

Harvey's last paid employment, before his wife Patricia died in March 2008 from incurable lung cancer and a brain tumour, was as a Carer Support Worker with people with Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Huntington's diseases. This role gave him some insight into the all too common health and social care problems experienced by people with dementia and their carers. However, the compassionate and holistic way that the local NHS responded to Patricia's fatal illness was a revelation. She received the best possible palliative care provided by the local team involving the local GP practice,

Macmillan and district nurses and consultants at Mount Vernon Hospital. A few months after Patricia's death, Harvey felt that he wanted to repay a debt to the NHS by becoming a patient representative with the local commissioning group and a member of the NCPC's People in Partnership Group.

He was lay chair of the Royal College of General Practitioners' Patients and Carers Partnership Group between 2012 and 2015.



Helen Findlay
Member, NCPC People in Partnership Steering Group

Helen was a family carer for her father who had Motor Neurone Disease and her mother who had dementia. Through her experiences, she became the main author of *The Findlay Report* which describes what happened to her father over a period of 4 months leading up to his death and a number of recommendations on how the whole experience could have been improved for all concerned.

She has been an active member of the NCPC People in Partnership Group for nearly 10 years and is also a member of the Marie Curie Expert Voices Group; the Patient and Public Involvement Group at the Cicely Saunders Institute and a member of the MND Association.

Helen was a member of the independent Programme Board established by the UK Government to explore and provide advice on the meaning of choice at end of life that reported in 2015. She has spoken at numerous conferences including the European Association of Palliative Care Conference in Brussels in 2014 and at numerous meetings of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Hospice and Palliative Care and APPG on Motor Neurone Disease.

She has over 35 years professional experience working in communications and campaigning at senior levels in the business, public, political and charitable sectors and is currently studying for a PhD in service user involvement in palliative care at Brunel University.



Michael Hobday
Trustee, NCPC

Mike is an experienced charity leader, having served as Policy Director for both Macmillan Cancer Support and the British Heart Foundation. Having seen examples of really good and really poor end of life care, he is passionate about working to ensure that the UK's health and care system is expected to give everyone the very best support at the end of their lives.

He has been a Trustee at the National Council for Palliative Care since 2014.



Ruth White
Chief Executive of The Rowans Hospice

Ruth has worked within the specialist palliative care field of nursing for over 25 years and has experience within the NHS and independent voluntary sector. Her various positions during that period have given her a sound clinical practice base with experience in management, service development and specialist education. Since qualifying as a Registered General Nurse (RGN) in 1983 she has studied the clinical speciality at Diploma and Post-Graduate Diploma level, as well as achieving a Diploma in Psycho-Dynamic Counselling.

Ruth is committed to the care of patients and their families, and in providing an environment of mutual support for service users and staff alike. She spent her first eight years at The Rowans Hospice in the role of Matron, developing the clinical aspects of the service, before being awarded the position of Hospice Director in 2003, which incorporates strategic management and leadership across clinical and non-clinical aspects of the service.

In April 2006, Ruth assumed the title of Chief Executive for the Rowans Hospice which is a member of Help the Hospices. She is a member of the Advisory Council, representing hospices within the South Central Strategic Health Authority; a member of the Association for Chief Executives for Voluntary Organisation (ACEVO); and a member of the NHS District Implementation Team and local Stakeholders Forum for providers of specialist palliative care. She was also elected by the Central South Coast (Specialist Palliative Care) Cancer Network Group to be the Network Liaison Representative for the National Council for Palliative Care.



Sarah Riches
Deputy Chief Executive, St Giles Hospice, Whittington

Sarah joined St Giles Hospice in September 2005 as Nursing Director and was appointed Deputy Chief Executive on 1 October 2015.

She has over 25 years' experience in the field of palliative and end-of-life care. After graduating from the University of Surrey in 1988, with a degree in Nursing Studies, she went on to gain a Post Graduate Diploma in Palliative Nursing in 1995 and completed a Masters Degree in Hospice Leadership in 2010.

Sarah is the organisational lead for clinical governance and is responsible for Quality and Workforce. She is also the Registered Manager for St Giles Hospice, Whittington, and is currently the West Midlands representative for the National Council for Palliative Care.



Tony Bonser
Chair, NCPC People in Partnership Steering Group

Tony is a trustee of St Catherine's Hospice, Preston and the National Council for Palliative Care, for whom he chairs the People in Partnership User Group. He is also North West Local Champion for the Dying Matters Coalition and a member of the

Lancaster Compassionate Communities project. As a member of the Independent Review Panel for the Liverpool Care Pathway he co-wrote the report and helped to monitor the implementation of the Leadership Alliance's guidelines.

Tony speaks and writes on end of life care issues, and campaigns for better communication between professionals and patients. He broadcasts on television and local and national radio on end of life care issues.