

Maggie's Oxford

The architect — Wilkinson Eyre

Chris Wilkinson founded the practice in 1983 in order to explore new directions in architecture, and together with Jim Eyre has established it as a leading force in the design world. His approach has best been described in the practice monograph 'Bridging Art & Science' where equal emphasis is given to conceptual creative innovation as it is to detailed technical design.

"Our design encapsulates the philosophy and principles on which the Maggie's Centres are based - the tree house concept maximises the relationship between the internal space and the external landscape offering discreet spaces for relaxation, information and therapy, it will provide a sympathetic and caring retreat, in tune with its surroundings."

– Chris Wilkinson of Wilkinson Eyre



Maggie's Manchester

The architect – Foster + Partners

Lord Foster is one of the leading architects of his generation and the works of his practice, Foster + Partners, include an international portfolio of famous buildings including 30 St Mary Axe – otherwise known as “The Gherkin”, Hong Kong International Airport and Hearst Tower in New York.

"This project has a particular personal significance, as I was born in the city and have first-hand experience of the distress of a cancer diagnosis. I believe in the power of architecture to lift the spirits and help in the process of therapy."

– Lord Foster



Maggie's Edinburgh

The architect – Richard Murphy Architects

Richard Murphy Architects is an Edinburgh based practice that was founded in 1991.

Awards won by Maggie's Edinburgh:

1997 RIBA Award

1997 RIBA Stirling Shortlist

1996 EAA Conservation Award

1997 RIBA / Department of Health National Award

“Architecturally the idea was to slip a building within a building, lots of little niches and intimate spaces, all on the small side.” *From 'Architecture of Hope', p97*



Maggie's Yorkshire

The architect – Heatherwick Studio

Heatherwick Studio's motivation is to design soulful and interesting places which embrace and celebrate the complexities of the real world.

It's been a tremendous experience and honour to design the Maggie's centre in Yorkshire. Our aim was to build a home for people affected by cancer that would be soulful and welcoming, unlike other typical clinical environments.

Maggie's Yorkshire has been a very special project for me and my team because we are convinced that there are kinder, more empathic ways to design places that can have powerful impacts on the way that we feel. This is particularly important in the design of healthcare environments, but is so frequently overlooked.

Thomas Heatherwick, Founder of Heatherwick Studio



Maggie's Glasgow

The architect – Rem Koolhaas

OMA is a truly international architectural practice, with offices in Rotterdam, New York, Beijing, Hong Kong and Doha. OMA is led by six partners – Rem Koolhaas, Ellen van Loon, Reinier de Graaf, Shohei Shigematsu, Iyad Alsaka, and David Gianotten.

“We accepted the commission with eagerness. I don’t think it should be a building that challenges people to live better; rather it should have a direct effect on the people who use it. The space we have is great because it is linked to the existing hospital, but far enough away from it for us to create another world. It has both privacy and a central position; both sheltered and slightly exposed. The Centre will have a holistic feel and hopefully will provide respite and comfort for people.”



Maggie's Oldham

The building

Designed by Alex de Rijke of dRMM, the Oldham centre is a one-storey building supported over its garden by steel legs. Clad in corrugated, thermally treated tulipwood, and with the same wood worked into cross laminated timber to create the main load-bearing structure, the building is as lovely to look at as it is to use; the door fixings are timber too and the kitchen features an enormous plank of walnut as a work surface.

The internal space can be subdivided by a series of curtains, while the tree growing through the centre brings nature inside. To the north there's a view across Oldham to the Pennines and their ever-changing weather.



The garden

The garden at Maggie's Oldham flows below the building into a walled and secluded woodland sanctuary. Garden designer Rupert Muldoon drew inspiration for the surrounding Pennines to plant a textured, ephemeral wilderness, which is also ornamental and composed of highly scented flowers and shrubs. The greenhouse and potted herb garden offer a more social place with the opportunity of some hands-on gardening for centre visitors.



Maggie's Swansea

The architect — Kisho Kurokawa with Garbers & James

Kisho Kurokawa was one of the greatest Japanese architects of the 20th Century. He was a personal friend of our founder Maggie Keswick Jencks and has created a design which will both inspire and comfort people. Sadly, Dr Kurokawa died before the centre could be built, but his designs were able to be realised thanks to collaboration with the architects Garbers & James.

“The new Maggie’s Centre will come out of the earth and swing around with two arms like a rotating galaxy. One side will welcome the visitor and lead to the other side, which embraces nature, the trees, rocks and water. A place set apart, as she said of a garden.”

– Kisho Kurokawa

