



# Cannabis Saves Lives

## FOR THESE PEOPLE CANNABIS IS MEDICINE

It transforms their lives and releases them from pain, suffering and disability.

But the British government calls them criminals. It denies the extensive scientific research that proves how effective and safe their medicine is<sup>1</sup>.

It promotes inaccurate and misleading scare stories which have no basis in fact.

It wastes billions every year<sup>2</sup> in a futile attempt to stamp out a plant which mankind has valued and used safely for at least 10,000 years<sup>3</sup>.

Join today: [www.clear-uk.org](http://www.clear-uk.org)



George Hutchings

*George Hutchings has an extremely rare neurodegenerative condition which leaves him in constant pain. Cannabis helps without the debilitating effects of opiate medicines.*

*Nick Ellis is 34 years old and an ex-soldier. He has a collection of chronic pain conditions including fibromyalgia, colitis and sciatica. Cannabis is the only medicine that works for him.*



Nick Ellis



Karen Order

*Karen Order lives just north of London. She is a mother of two coping with fibromyalgia which can often put her in bed for days at a time. Only cannabis offers her any effective relief.*

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The discovery of the endocannabinoid system (ECS) in 1988 has revealed the science behind the way cannabis works. Dr David Allen describes it as the most important discovery in medical science since the invention of sterile surgery technique. The ECS regulates homeostasis (physiological stability) and prevents disease and aging. Potentially, it could replace the current method of managing symptoms after disease has occurred. Instead, we could prevent disease, including cancer, by manipulation of the ECS. Cannabis is the medicine that could enable this<sup>4</sup>.

Extraordinary results are being achieved in the treatment of chronic pain with fewer side effects and far lower toxicity than pharmaceutical products. Clinical trials on using cannabis to treat Crohn's disease show conclusive proof of its safety and efficacy. There is now very strong evidence that regular, moderate use of cannabis will protect against Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases. Cannabis oil is now proven to treat skin cancer<sup>1</sup>.

Cannabis also makes people feel better and happier. For the British government that seems to be a problem even though the NHS spends more on anti-depressants than any other drugs - products which are often extremely toxic to the liver and have unpredictable side effects. By contrast, cannabis is cheap, safe and there is no such thing as a fatal dose.



**Penny Fitzlyon**  
was diagnosed with  
multiple sclerosis  
in 2001.  
Cannabis helps  
control muscle  
spasms, chronic  
pain and has  
helped preserve  
her ability to walk.

**Paul Lewington** was  
born with spina  
bifida and in later  
life developed  
scoliosis and severe  
pressure sores.  
Cannabis rescues  
him from constant  
pain and suffering.



**John Ellis** is 45  
years old and lives  
on the Wirral.  
He has an extremely  
rare condition  
caused by a copper  
deficiency called spinal  
paraparesis. Cannabis  
helps him cope with  
constant pain.

**Dean Price** lives on  
the Isle of Wight.  
He runs his own  
business but suffers  
from degenerative  
arthritis which gets  
worse every year.  
Cannabis provides  
constant, gentle  
pain relief.



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# CANNABIS SAVES LIVES

There is one exception to the British government's prohibition of cannabis. GW Pharmaceuticals has a unique licence to grow tons of cannabis every year. It uses a sophisticated CO2 extraction process to produce very high quality cannabis oil that it sells at a fantastically high price - so high that the NHS in England refuses to pay for it. GW would have you believe that there is something special about its product but, apart from the price, it is pharmacologically identical to what is grown illegally in people's own homes or by government-approved growers in Holland, Israel or America.

**More than 250 million people in Europe now have legal access to medicinal cannabis**

Britain is becoming increasingly isolated in a world where the therapeutic effects of cannabis are now widely recognised. More than 250 million people in Europe, 210 million in the USA and millions more in Canada and Israel now have legal access to medicinal cannabis. Residents of other EU countries can bring medicinal cannabis into Britain under the protection of the Schengen Agreement and use it without restriction whereas a British resident would be risking prison.



*Clare Burns is 39 and has relapsing remitting MS. She turned to cannabis for pain relief with the full support of her GP who would like to be able to prescribe it.*

Clare Burns

*Kate Stenberg uses cannabis for anxiety, depression and chronic pain. It allows her to function normally without taking handfuls of toxic and harmful pharmaceutical medicines.*



Kate Stenberg



*Chris Adams is a 50 year old musician who lives in the Scottish Highlands. He was diagnosed with PTSD after a serious motorbike accident and he uses cannabis to regulate his mood.*

Chris Adams

*Vicky Hodgson is a 62 year old grandmother with scoliosis and the most painful condition known in medicine, cluster headaches. Cannabis enables her to live as normal a life as possible.*



Vicky Hodgson

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# WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The truth is that most British politicians are much more concerned about tabloid headlines than the health of their own constituents. Many of them are also in the pocket of the alcohol, tobacco and Big Pharma lobbies.

They try to ignore and suppress the truth about cannabis but the truth is clear and we demand change to this oppressive and unjust law.

**CLEAR** seeks an end to the prohibition of cannabis and the urgent availability of medicinal cannabis on a doctor's prescription. Please show your support and join **CLEAR** for a modest annual subscription (concessionary rates are available for the unwaged, disabled and students). We work to support politicians who campaign for a safer, more responsible policy of tax, regulation and doctor's prescription. We work against politicians that support prohibition.

Our supporters come from left, right and all points on the political compass. We join together to overturn what is a cruel, irrational and incredibly wasteful policy. Authoritative research now shows that a tax and regulate regime for cannabis could contribute a net £6.7 billion per annum to the UK economy<sup>2</sup>.

Please go to the **CLEAR** website and join today: [www.clear-uk.org](http://www.clear-uk.org)



[www.clear-uk.org](http://www.clear-uk.org)

[www.facebook.com/ClearUK](https://www.facebook.com/ClearUK)



Dave Davies

*Dave Davies is 48 and finds cannabis is an ideal medicine for his arthritis which enables him to function normally without the side effects of pharmaceutical products.*

*Kim Stainton, 55, is treating skin cancer with cannabis oil. Since starting, her chronic ear infection has cleared up, she has lost two stone and has much improved mood.*



Kim Stainton

## References

1. Medicinal Cannabis: The Evidence, CLEAR, 2015
2. Taxing the UK Cannabis Market. IDMU, 2011
3. Archaeological Evidence for the Tradition of Psychoactive Plant Use in the Old World. Table 1. Economic Botany, 2003
4. A Survey of American Medical School's Acceptance of the Science of the ECS, David B. Allen, 2014