



# Spring NEWSLETTER

from the Lawrence Home Nursing Team



*“I want to be cared for  
at home”*



*We provide people with free, end of life  
nursing care in their own homes.*



*This newsletter was written in April 2020 during  
the height of the COVID-19 health crisis.*

## What we do

*I defy anyone to be prepared for the heart rending experience of losing someone that you love so much, that you know is going to leave a cavern that you just can't fill.*

*My wife knew that she was going to die and she wanted to die at home. She wanted familiarity, to see her friends, to eat her own food, to have the dogs on her bed, to be within the family, to feel safe.*

*I knew that my wife was going to die but I was desperate that she didn't. I couldn't imagine life without her. I didn't mind if she was ill, I just didn't want her to go, but she did.*

*End of life care isn't only about the terminal patient, it is also about those who are left behind. This is all too easily forgotten because you are living in this maelstrom of emotion, you simply don't realise.*

*Lawrence Home Nurses cared not only for my wife but for all of our family.*

Robert Johnston, whose wife Marie-Therese died in 2019.

## This is why we need you help.

### A message from our Chair, Tony Yarrow

Over the last six years it has been my privilege to serve the Lawrence Home Nursing Team, as investment adviser, trustee, treasurer, and in the last year as Chair. As time has passed, I have got to know the charity as a supportive community, with Jenny and her team of nurses at its heart.

We know what a wonderful job they do because we regularly receive letters telling us how much the nurses have meant to our patients and their families at a time of anxiety, grief and loss. The nurses are supported by the trustees, and by our excellent band of fundraisers and volunteers, who quietly make all kinds of things happen.

The coronavirus presents us with a new and multi-dimensional challenge, unlike anything we have had to confront in the twenty years of our existence. As the situation has evolved, day by day, we, like everyone else, have had to adapt. Our office staff are working from home, our small and dedicated team of trustees is working hard behind the scenes to understand and comply with the new guidance and – most importantly – our nurses continue to offer the service which we always have, based as ever in Chipping Norton, but covering an enlarged area with the recent addition of the Deddington General Practice.





Our programme of events has inevitably been disrupted by the social distancing rules. At the time of writing it's impossible to know how long the restrictions will need to stay in force, and once they are lifted the necessary planning lead-times mean that we won't be able to resume our expected programme straight away. One thing is for sure – we will resume the events programme as soon as we possibly can. Please keep an eye on the website for updates.

Our aim remains as it was first conceived by Dr Martin Lawrence – to offer people in our area the option to end their lives at home, in peace and with dignity, surrounded by their loved ones. With very best wishes from all of us.

Tony Yarrow, Chair

## An update from our Treasurer, Alan Mathers



As we start the new financial year on the 1st of April we will move the charity forward as a limited liability charity. The legal name of the charity will change to Lawrence Home Nursing Team Ltd. However, we will continue to operate under the name of Lawrence Home Nursing Team. Our logos and branding will remain the same.

The main reason for the change is to provide a limit of the liability for the Trustees. None of the trustees receive any payment for their time or expenses in supporting the Lawrence Home Nursing Team, although each one of them is personally liable for potential unlimited debts incurred by the charity. By forming a limited company, which has been registered at Companies House and approved as a charity by the Charity Commission, the personal liability of the trustees will be limited.

As the limited charity is a different legal entity we have been required to open a new bank account. We will be able to process deposits via the old bank account for several months.

We will be contacting all donors who pay by direct debit or standing order to inform them of the new bank details and requesting them to change instructions to their bank.

The importance of the role of the Lawrence Home Nursing Team in our communities continues to be underlined. Recent surveys have shown that up to 70% of people with a life limiting illness would prefer to die at home in familiar surroundings and with their loved ones around them, and yet this is unavailable to the vast majority of people.

Our team of nurses provide not only this nursing care for people in their own home, they provide emotional support to their families and friends. Thank you to our nurses for providing this amazing level of support and to all of the donors and supporters whose generosity allows the charity to offer this level of service to the public.

Alan Mathers, Treasurer

## Nursing News from Jenny Nolan Registered Nursing Manager



It's been my privilege to be the Registered Nurse Manager of the Lawrence Home Nursing Team since its launch in May 1999. The charity was set up in memory of local GP, Dr Martin Lawrence and following the inspirational vision of District Nursing Sister, Jane Phillips MBE. I know they would be both proud of what the team has achieved.

We have an exceptional team of registered nurses who provide care to patients and their families in their own homes. It is often the small things that mean the most. Listening, being aware of needs without having to be told, supporting, comforting and being a trusted confidant during a difficult time.

We care for patients with any illness who wish to stay at home to die. The service is free of charge. Since our launch we have cared for 911 patients and provided over 31,000 hours of care.

Jenny Nolan, Registered Nursing Manager

## Meet our new ambassadors Jemma Powell & Jack Savoretti

We are delighted and proud to have local residents Jemma Powell and Jack Savoretti as Ambassadors of the Lawrence Home Nursing Team.

Jemma says:

*"Jack and I feel very strongly that Lawrence Home Nursing is a completely wonderful charity serving the community and we would be honoured to support the charity in any way possible"*



Photo courtesy of Tom Pilston

 A huge  
THANKYOU

to all our supporters, donors, volunteers and local businesses, who support our fundraising efforts and who organise their own events for us, we value every contribution and simply couldn't do this without you.



Bartholomews hair shave  
raised over **£10,000**



# Fundraising EVENTS

At the time of going to print, we do not know, whether all of the following events will go ahead. Please keep up-to-date with our events programme by visiting our website at [www.lawrencehomenursing.org](http://www.lawrencehomenursing.org)

## Our events and fundraisers in 2020



Open Gardens and  
Afternoon Tea at  
Chivel Farm, Heythrop  
Saturday, 28th June



Jane Phillips Memorial  
Golf Day at Cotswolds  
Club, Chipping Norton  
Friday, 24th July



John Barrows  
Memorial Cricket  
Match at Sandford St  
Martin Cricket Club  
Sunday, 6th September



Flock Comedy Night at  
Charlbury Memorial Hall,  
Charlbury, Friday, 30th  
October

## Memories and reflections from John Barrows

*End of life care was something I had never even heard of until about five years ago, as you never expect anyone in your family to be diagnosed with a terminal illness.*

*When my husband and I were hit by this terrible bombshell the one thing I was certain of was that I wanted John to die at home. A tough ask you may think but the Lawrence Home Nursing Team made this so easy and so possible. They moved in quietly and efficiently, without any red tape or fuss. Before we knew what was happening a hospital bed had been installed and nurses appeared at regular intervals to offer help.*

*Lawrence nurses were so kind and considerate and saw where their skills were needed without being asked. For example, when I declined their offer of sitting with John whilst I slept as I did not want to leave him alone, I woke to find washing drying on the line, washing in the machine and ironing done! Having had first hand experience of the work they do I was determined to do something for them in return.*

*To this end, since John died in 2015, I have held the John Barrows Memorial Cricket Match every year at Sandford St. Martin Cricket Club.*



Drama and Music  
with Jack Savoretti &  
friends at Broughton  
Castle, Near Banbury,  
Saturday, 14th  
November



## All year round greetings cards

Many of you have bought our Christmas cards in the past. These blank greetings cards will last the whole year. They make perfect 'thank you' or personalised birthday cards and are great for writing a note to friends and relatives.

Order your pack of 8 cards priced at £4 per pack plus postage (4 cards of each design with envelopes) by calling Verity Fifer, Head of Fundraising on 01608 684 475 or email her at [fundraiser@lawrencehomenursing.org](mailto:fundraiser@lawrencehomenursing.org)



## A message from Verity Fifer, Head of Fundraising

### Please get in touch!

For information on any of our forthcoming events or if you have a fundraising idea of your own, we would love to hear from you.



### How can you help?

We want to be there to support every person and family in the local area when they need it most. As we only receive a small NHS grant we rely on the generosity of supporters to maintain this vital community service. We can only continue to provide free end of life home care with your help.

Thank you.

Verity Fifer, Head of Fundraising

## Stay in touch - subscribe to our newsletter

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Lawrence Home Nursing Team will only use these details to contact you and for no other purpose. If you would like to be removed from our database please write to the address below:  
*Lawrence Home Nursing Team, Chipping Norton Hospital, Russell Way, Chipping Norton OX7 5FA.*

## How can you help?

- Make a one-off donation (form below)
- Set up a monthly standing order or direct debit (contact us)
- Leave a legacy in your will (contact us)
- Charitable trusts & foundations (contact us)
- Online shopping (contact us)
- Organise a fundraising event
- Sponsor a fundraising event
- Sell Christmas or thank you cards

Please contact: Verity Fifer, Head of Fundraising at [fundraiser@lawrencehomenursing.org](mailto:fundraiser@lawrencehomenursing.org) or complete the form below.

Name:

Address:

Post code:

Telephone:

Email:

I would like to make a donation to Lawrence Home Nursing Team of £

Please find enclosed a cheque made payable to Lawrence Home Nursing Team

I wish this donation to be anonymous

*giftaid it*

### Gift Aid Declaration

Using Gift Aid means that for every pound you give, we get an extra 25 pence from the Inland Revenue, helping your donation go further, and it doesn't cost you a thing.

I declare that I am a taxpayer and I want the Charity to treat my donation of £  which I made on the  /  /  (date of cheque) and any future donations I make as Gift Aid donations.

I understand the requirement is that I must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax deemed to have been deducted from this donation.

I would like Lawrence Home Nursing Team to claim the tax back on this donation.

Don't forget to Gift Aid your donation!

*“The nurses helped with the difficult conversations we needed to have but they also enabled life to continue, memories to be made and death to be dignified.”*

Jo Bason, whose husband Al died in 2015, aged 44.

### A Will for Lawrence

It costs approximately £500 to care for a patient in their home overnight. When we ask people to support us we cannot promise a brick with your name on it or to put a plaque on a wall. All we can promise is that your money will be used to help people to leave this world with dignity and love, to sustain their families at a time of loss and that unknowingly you will have a place in their hearts.

When planning your future making, or changing a will, please help us to plan ours. Leaving a legacy to the Lawrence Home Nursing Team, however large or small, makes a significant difference to our ability to meet the needs of our community and to plan for the future of the charity.

Details of our Legacy Pack are available on the website [www.lawrencehomenursing.org](http://www.lawrencehomenursing.org) or contact Verity Fifer for information.

### CONTACT

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[www.lawrencehomenursing.org](http://www.lawrencehomenursing.org)

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