**Lawrence Home Nursing Team**

**Chairman’s report for the AGM October 14th 2020**

In the twenty-year history of the Lawrence Home Nursing Team, today’s meeting will be the first, and I hope the last, to be held virtually. It is always a pleasure to welcome our team members and supporters in person, to enjoy the pleasure of each other’s company, and share the year’s achievements and future plans.

However, we live in strange times, and it is my great pleasure to welcome you now to this virtual meeting.

The last year has been overshadowed by the tragedy of Covid-19, which is unfortunately still with us.

This year has been difficult for all charities, and the Lawrence Home Nursing Team is no exception.

In the five months to the end of August, the nursing team worked roughly 80% more hours than during the same period last year. At the same time our fund-raising activities have been curtailed by the social-distancing regulations. While costs have risen, income has dropped. Our challenge has been to manage the financial constraints while maintaining the quality of the service. I believe we have succeeded in doing this.

I would like to pay tribute to the magnificent way in which Jenny and her nursing team have responded to the crisis. We have come to expect excellence from the nurses, and they have indeed been wonderful. It has been an honour to be involved in a small way with such an inspiring group of people.

With the second wave of the infection gaining traction by the day, we expect the winter which lies ahead to be challenging. We enter this period in good heart - the nurses ready to serve the communities in which we are embedded, and the rest of the charity to support the nursing team in every way we can.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed this year – nurses, volunteers, our corporate sponsors, donors and supporters, and last but not least, the trustees, who became directors in July when we incorporated as a Limited Charity.

The Lawrence Home Nursing Team will rise to whatever challenges lie ahead and looks forward to serving its communities for many years to come.

**Tony Yarrow**

**Chairman**

**October 2020**