**Fundraising Manager’s Report**

Since our last AGM fundraising has faced many challenges. In December, 2019 our 20th Anniversary Year, we were fortunate to celebrate with readings from « A Christmas Carol » with actors Alison Steadman and Mark Gatiss at Ditchley Park but little did we know this would be our last major fundraiser before Covid-19 put paid to any further ‘live’ events.

The Covid-19 health crisis led to the cancellation of all spring, summer and autumn fundraising events. Instead we have focused on raising income from grant applications to charitable trusts and foundations and requests of financial support from our Patrons, major individual donors and supporters. To this end we have been successful, raising much needed funds.

As ever, we are most grateful to the community and local supporters who continue to support us and to raise incredible sums of monies. In Spring 2020 Anthony Peters raised over £9,000 from his crowdfunding Just Giving fundraiser and just recently two of our nurses, Monica Overbury and Claire Quick have raised over £2,000 from a sponsored cycle ride.

We have embraced new technology and held virtual fundraisers including a Quiz Night in memory of Jane Phillips, a virtual art exhibition and a virtual tour of Chivel Farm Gardens. In Spring 2020 we produced our first promotional video and set up new social media platforms. We now have an LHNT Instagram page and a YouTube channel. There are now so many different ways to donate to the charity including via cashless technology and QR codes.

I would like to thank all of our corporate partners for their continued support and as ever a huge thank you to our core group of volunteers ; Annette, Brenda, Jenny Tucker, Julia, Linda, Mary, Madeleine, Margaret, Sue Fane, Sue Fermor, Yvonne and Wendy. In particular I would like to express my most grateful thanks to Madeleine for spending so much time reconciling the gift aid returns and taking over the management of the collecting tubs. You have done and continue to do a brilliant job ! Thank you so much.

Verity Fifer

Head of Fundraising

14/10/2020