



The Hummingbird Cancer Support & Therapy Centre Report

16th March 2020, The Hummingbird Centre closed their doors to the general public, who knew then what we know now, we never imagined for one minute we would be keeping our doors closed for over 2 years.

Within 48hrs of closing our doors, our Counsellors were trained to carry out Counselling on line via Zoom and What's App, from March to December 2020 we had supported just over 150 guests requiring counselling. Once Loes from Equilore was given her "Fit to Practice" by Oxfordshire County Council we supported 110 guests 50 being children via Equilore.

September 2020 – ½ dozen of our Complementary Therapists were trained in the donning and doffing of PPE which enabled us to support the NHS re Lymphatic Drainage Massage, Reiki and Hypnotherapy. From the September to December 2020 we were seeing in our Holistic Building 3 guests a day, 12 guests a week, which does not sound a lot but it enabled those patients who needed the treatment via the NHS could come to us.

We would like to thank Launton Parish Council Committee who supported us with funding to enable us to provide PPE for our guests and team.

Our doors may have been closed but our services still continued, at one point our phones and emails were being answered 7 days a week, technology enabled us to support families far and wide, America being the furthest.

Over time we managed to open for just 1 day a week, working in accordance with our Covid Committee we set up a booking system enabling our guests to return for a few hours every Tuesday, we still to this day have very strict COVID procedures, but at least we are now open every Tuesday from 10.00 to 4.00, we will in due course (hopefully end of May be opening on a Thursday for new guests). Our Holistic Building is open daily, every Wednesday we run a Sound Therapy Session, phones, emails, Social Media are all answered daily from 10.00 to 4.00

We are finding our services are needed more due to the backlog within the NHS for Cancer referrals and treatment. Those who are using our services are far younger and more complicated, we have had to face many challenges over the years like many our survival going forward is essential hence some of the changes we have made by appointing a new CEO, funding of which we have been able to obtain

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Website: www.thehummingbirdcentre.org.uk





via a grant, which means monies donated to The Hummingbird Centre is not contributing to a Consultancy Role, this then will enable myself to concentrate on the continual survival of The Hummingbird Centre.

We have continued to pay full rent, rates and bills the same as a business, we did not qualify for any of the funding made available as we don't employ anyone, our funding abilities have been very restricted but we are looking forward to our Summer Festival in July, thank you to the LPFA for enabling us to use their facilities, anyone interested in a stall please contact me.

The bridge closure of course has brought its challenges costing our guests who have to use a taxi £10.00 each way, which in turn reduces how many times in the month they can use our facilities, parking is now becoming an issue, we apologise to those on Station Road we are looking at ways to resolve in due course, one of those is that we have put our Memory Garden on hold to convert back into parking.

Like all of us we have had to embrace the challenges that we face and keep moving forward.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the residence and businesses of Launton for their continued support.

All the very best for 2022 and beyond.

Mechelle Harris – Founder
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