



The Leukaemia & Intensive  
Chemotherapy Fund

Registered charity number: 1078183

Autumn 2023

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

# LincLines



Lincfund



## Meet Lou, our new CEO

Welcome to our autumn edition of the Linc Newsletter, a big thank you from all of us at Linc for taking the time to hear what we have been up to and for your continued support to this amazing charity working to improve the lives of blood cancer patients and their families.

I would like to start by saying a heartfelt thank you to everyone I have met so far in my time at Linc. I started mid-June and from day one everyone has been so incredibly welcoming to me. Meeting all the staff, trustees, volunteers, supporters, patients and clinical team has been my highlight since starting the role. I have been so moved by everyone's dedication to this wonderful charity and the commitment to supporting blood cancer patients and their families locally.

Let me tell you a bit about myself...I have lived in Gloucestershire since moving to Cheltenham for university in 2004, I fell in love with the county and can't imagine living anywhere else. I now live in Hardwicke with my partner and our two boys Freddie who is 10 and Arthur who is 6, they are both football mad!

Proudly, I have been working in the Charity Sector for 17 years now, working for both small local charities to larger national charities, including Age UK, V-Involve and RNIB. Most recently I was Head of Recruitment for Anthony Nolan and my role was responsible for recruiting life saving stem cell donors to the register, to ensure that everyone with blood cancer who needs a transplant has the best chance of finding a match. During my time at the charity I worked directly with patients and their families setting up appeals to find matches which was both rewarding and heart-breaking. I find it incredible now working at Linc that I am seeing the next stage of blood cancer treatment, only the other day I heard that more stem cell transplants had taken place this year than previous years, which is incredible.

After working for national charities for a large part of my career, I was really keen to go back to where my career started working for a local charity in Gloucestershire, making a real impact for local people. When I saw the role at Linc, it felt like just the right fit. It means a lot to continue my work to improve the lives of people with blood cancer, this time locally, by raising money and awareness of the charity, it felt like the perfect alignment. I am incredibly excited to be joining at such an important time in the charity's history as we celebrate 25 years.



## Meet Simon

I was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma in 1999 at the age of 39 when my 3 girls were aged 4, 9 and 11 so it all came as a bit of a shock.

I was given 6 months of chemotherapy and a month of radiotherapy, including several week long stays on Rendcomb ward, in Cheltenham General Hospital, as I was neutropenic. Waiting for blood tests was a regular occurrence and the Linc funded analyser helped reduce the waiting times! This was in the early days of Linc and it was wonderful to have the support of this local charity at that time, especially from one of the founders, Gill Rouse.

Luckily, I made a full recovery and we continue to support Linc through sponsored walks, cycle rides and lunches. We have always enjoyed taking part in the Linc 3 Counties Cycle ride and in its' absence this year a team of us, including my wife Sue, decided to cycle the 40k route through Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire. Between us we made a donation to the charity of £100 to say thank you for the support that they gave me back in 1999 and to help patients currently undergoing treatment for blood cancer.



Supporting local blood cancer patients and their families

## Community & Business Events:

### Rotary of Kingsholm, Jazz Evening

Ed Spurway, President of Rotary of Kingsholm, chose Linc as one of his charities to support during his year in post. As part of his fundraising he organised a Jazz Evening at Warehouse 4 in Gloucester Quays in July. And what a wonderful evening it was, Kim Cypher and her Jazz band gave an excellent performance leaving the audience wanting more. A big thank you to all involved and to the Rotary of Kingsholm for raising the fabulous total of £2500 for Linc.

### Sanctuary Garden

We are pleased to let you know that we have secured another 5 year lease our Linc's Sanctuary Garden in Sandford Park. This beautiful space is so important to patients, their families and the local community. It continues to thrive thanks to our awesome volunteers led by the wonderful Mark Sheldon, who volunteer their time regularly to tend the borders and keep everything looking beautiful. Thank you also goes to local businesses who give their staff the time to lend a helping hand. In the past few months, we have had volunteers from GE Aviation in Bishops Cleeve. If you are interested in joining our group of gardeners please email the Linc team, we usually meet on the last Friday of the month.

### Quedgeley Knit & Natter Group

They raised an incredible £320 selling their knitted creations for Linc, thank you to everyone who knitted and donated. Tesco Community Champion Theresa Fisher is keen to support local groups and raise funds for good causes.

### Gin

Thank you to GIN – The Gloucestershire Independent Business Network whose members walked the Malvern Hills in June in memory of much-loved friend and member Jonathan Moffitt, and raised £1,000 for Linc. (see pic GIN memorial walk for Jonathan Moffitt)

### JMP Ltd

Thank you to John Morgan Partnership, The Roundhouse, Cheltenham and Artisan Bakers for raising £340 for Linc at a business breakfast to mark 'Leukaemia and Lymphoma month' this September (see pic JMP Networking Breakfast Sept 23 at The Roundhouse)



## Just a few fundraising ideas..

- Does your place of work have a charity of the year? Does it support charities?
- Do your children/grandchildren's school support a charity?
- Are you part of an activity group? A running club? A choir? A Rotary Club? Could your group, with some support from us, help Linc celebrate our 25th by raising vital funds for us?
- Could you recycle your ink cartridges, foreign coins or your old bras?! Do you know that those items and many others help Linc raise vital income. Please drop them into our shop on Bath Road.
- Would you like to put on a small event but don't know how to? We can help! Here at Linc we have a fantastic team who are experienced in supporting people support us!
- If any of these, are things you could help us with, we would love to hear from you.

## Linc Events:

### Golf Day

On Wednesday 19 July we welcomed 14 teams keen to support us and enjoy the beautiful course at Cotswold Hills Golf Club. We were very lucky with the weather avoiding the downpours that were forecast. DJK Flyers took the trophy, closely followed by The Quorn Golf Society and then Birdie Business.

A big thank you to Cotswold Hills Golf Club for once again hosting our charity Golf Day, Richard Mobley, Club Secretary, for all of his help in planning and support on the day and of course the fabulous catering team for the delicious food.

Thanks also goes to our wonderful volunteers, Di Cox, Andy Cox, Steve Wood and Tim Evans for helping to make the day a success raising the grand total of £2500.

### Polo Networking Day

There was a great turnout for the Linc Charity Polo Day at The Beaufort Polo Club on 30th June.

Patrons Laurence & Jackie Llewelyn-Bowen, special guest The Countess Sara Bathurst and over 120 local business people came together to raise over £10,000 in of support blood cancer patients and their families.

Welcomed by our new CEO Lou Neal and Auctioneer Nicholas Granger of British Bespoke Auctions, guests were treated to sparkling reception with live jazz and polo demonstration, followed by a delicious 3 course lunch, live & silent auction, thrilling polo match and afternoon tea!

Sponsors included The Queens Hotel Cheltenham, John Morgan Partnership Ltd, British Bespoke Auctions and Llewelyn-Bowen Design. Prizes were given by Rybrook Bentley Bristol, Richard George Tailoring, Bees & Co Wills, Llewelyn-Bowen Design, Queens Hotel Cheltenham, Beaufort Polo Club, The Dial House Hotel, The House Ministry, Ellenborough Park Hotel, RRA Architects and Lumley Insurance Ltd.

Organiser and senior fundraiser Alice Robin says "we were bowled over by the enthusiastic response to this wonderful, unique day and will definitely hold it again next year."

Contact Alice at [a.robins@nhs.net](mailto:a.robins@nhs.net) to find out more about next year's event.



### Garden Party

A huge thank you to our Patrons Jackie and Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen for hosting this fabulous Garden Party in their beautiful garden, raising funds for Linc and Cobalt charities. A good time was had by all and we raised just under £3,000!

We are so grateful to everyone involved for making this day so special. To Creed Foodservice who once again donated the food and beverages, their continued support is very much appreciated. To the awesome Volunteers, to Vintage Gold China Hire for lending such elegant tableware, to The Cheltenham Flower Club for beautiful floral demonstrations, to Mandy Pickering for letting us park in her field, to Siddington Village Hall for loan of the chairs, to the stallholders, to Tom from Cotswold TV, and to the New Delta Jazz Band for the perfect summer afternoon music and last but not least to our Patron PJ Crook, our chair Gill Parker, and all the adventurous, generous hearted guests who made the event such fun.



## 25th Anniversary Plans

From October 2023 to October 2024 we are celebrating 25 years since Linc was founded. It's incredible to think how the charity has grown, the impact it has made and the people it has touched during that time. We want to celebrate this milestone in a big and memorable way as well to ensure that everyone knows about the work we do as well as using these 12 months to make exciting changes to guarantee that Linc's next 25 years are even more impactful.

### We have some exciting things we would like to tell you about.

Linc is going to have a make over during the next few months! Our brand is so important and we want to ensure that it is ready for the next chapter and that it stands out but still remains symbolic to the trustworthy and caring organisation we have always been. We look forward to sharing our re-brand with you in the next edition!

We have started work on our new website. Our current one has served us well but now it's time to create our new digital space which we hope will be a place for our volunteers and supporters to feel inspired and updated about ways to get involved. It will also be a place for our patients, families and clinical staff to be signposted to for information and support. We will feature the new website in the next edition and show you around!

We hope to be raising money for some amazing new things within the next 12 months. As you know at Linc we have always raised money for items or services which our patients, families and clinical staff have asked for and we have funded the things which they feel will make the biggest impact. For a few years now there has been a lot of conversation around the importance of nutrition for blood cancer patients during and after their treatment. We are currently planning to launch an appeal within the next 12 months to raise money for a Nutritionist to work from the Linc Outpatients to support patients and help them make informed choices to aid their treatment pathways.

We would also like to freshen up both waiting rooms at the Linc Outpatients in Cheltenham General and The Edward Jenner Clinic at Gloucester Royal Hospital. We want to talk more directly to patients in those spaces about the support we can offer them, ways to get involved and generally make the space more inviting and comfortable. We believe this would be a fantastic way to mark our 25th year!

# Thank you...

To everyone who supports Linc. Whether you volunteer, fundraise, make a donation in memory of a loved one, support the shop or recycle for us. Every contribution makes a difference.



We said a very fond farewell to dear Marie Davis who retired earlier this year. Marie has welcomed patients to the Linc OPD reception with care & warmth for the last 23 years. "I've had an enjoyable time meeting with such lovely people and will miss you all" says Marie. We thank you for all your fabulous help and support for Linc charity over the years.

Thanks to this great team of volunteers who folded and stuffed over 3,000 May Newsletters and Gift Aid letters to get them to you. Spirits were raised with coffee, cake and a Samoan hands clapping game to relieve tired wrists!



## Linc Shop



As the season starts to change, we are now busy sorting out our winter stock and getting it out on the rails and shelves, we have lots of lovely coats and boots on sale.

We are also preparing for all things Christmassy including decorations and festive jumpers at great prices along with a great range of packs of Christmas for sale.

Volunteering - If you have been thinking about giving your time to help out in a charity shop come and join the Linc team. We are in need of helping hands for steaming, sorting and serving customers. Weekdays and Saturdays, mornings or afternoons. [Please contact Laura at the shop on 01242 262112 for further information.](#)

We are still keen to recycle where we can. We take ink cartridges which we can sell on and also bras that we get paid for by a charity who send them to developing countries where they are not readily available.

Donate or come and take a browse, we look forward to seeing you.

## Dates for your diary

### Saturday 4 November 2023

Coronation Cocktail Party at The Queens Hotel

### Date TBC December 2023

Linc Volunteers Christmas Get Together

### Saturday 3 February 2024

Coronation Ball at The Queens Hotel

### Friday 14 June 2024

Linc Polo Day

### Friday 12 July 2024

Linc Golf Day at Cotswold Hills

See the events page at [www.Lincfund.org.uk](http://www.Lincfund.org.uk) for tickets

## Reply Slip

|                                        |                          |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| I would like to make a donation        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I would like to become a Regular Giver | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I would like to join the 100 club      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I would like to volunteer              | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please return to Linc Charity Office, Linc Outpatients Dept,  
Cheltenham General Hospital, Sandford Road, Cheltenham, GL53 7AN  
or email [ghn-tr.Linc@nhs.net](mailto:ghn-tr.Linc@nhs.net)

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