

West Lancs and Merseyside



Myeloma Support Group



End of Year Report 2025

The West Lancs and Merseyside Myeloma Support Group was formed to provide an opportunity for all those affected by myeloma to meet in a supportive environment; to share experiences; to exchange information and ideas; to learn more about myeloma and keep up to date and to provide support to each other.

The group held its first meeting on 6th January 2016. Meetings are well attended by an average of 35 – 40 patients and carers, and we have occasional invited speakers. Our programme for 2025 has been based at our venue in Ormskirk, but retained the option of joining in with Zoom for those unable to attend. We have also encouraged our members to keep in touch by using social media , email and telephone as appropriate. This has been successful in supporting members undergoing or recovering from treatment.

In 2020, we successfully registered our support group with the Charity Commission for England and Wales as an independent charity No 1187791 and with HMRC for receipt of Gift Aid. Donations can be made though our website www.wlm-myeloma.uk which is linked to the Charity Aid Foundation.

The group has agreed a constitution and election of officers. We use our funds to support our charitable objectives and for the benefit of our group and the local community. Day to day running costs of the group are mostly met by the members. The charity's trustees are satisfied that during 2025 the support group has been run in accordance with it's charitable objectives.

We continue to work closely with key stakeholders including the Cheshire and Merseyside Cancer Alliance, Leukemia and Myeloma Research UK, Macmillan, Sefton Healthwatch ,the Bloom Appeal, Lymphoma Action and Myeloma UK.

Our social media presence continues to expand and support our members.



We have had another busy year including awareness stand at St Helens' Hospital and an article in the local press. Our support group has been interviewed by Mighty Radio We held two very successful afternoon tea socials, one in May, the other in August, and finished the year with our Xmas social attended by 40 members. We have collaborated with the Liverpool University Air Squadron who ran a fund-raising half marathon for our group. Invited guests have included a talk from Liverpool University and Imperial College, London, art activity with a local artist, an exercise demonstration and a visit from the West Lancs mayor. Also during the year we have also collaborated with our local haematology teams.



We were very pleased to receive donations from the Liverpool University Air Squadron Half Marathon in March. the Duchy of Lancaster, the Ormskirk clock Tower and money from the sale of old IT equipment. Our funds have also been used to support our social programme of events which has included afternoon teas at local garden centres, and a Xmas social. Together with other miscellaneous donations and Gift Aid brought our total income for 2025 to £2,840 which together with a bank balance of £18,476 carried over from 2024 made a total of £21,316 in 2025. We spent £3,403 on member support and publicity which left a remaining bank balance plus petty cash of £17,912 at the end of 2025 carried forward into next year 2026.

We look forward to our next year in 2026 hoping to help and support all those affected by Myeloma in our local area of West Lancs and Merseyside.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2026.

David Simister
Dave Lovelady

www.wlm-myeloma.uk

Registered Charity: 1187791

