

Dying Matters Awareness Week

Every year, people around the country use Dying Matters Awareness Week as a moment to encourage all communities to get talking in whatever way, shape or form works for them.

Dying Matters Awareness Week will take place

5 - 11 May 2025



Please see below the events that we have on offer within Herts & West Essex for Dying Matters Awareness Week



The Culture of Dying Matters

📅 Wednesday 7th May 2025

🕒 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

📍 Chapter Two Bookshop, Chesham, HP5 1EP

A free public event hosted at Chapter Two Bookshop and facilitated by clinicians from The Hospice of St Francis

- An opportunity to start thinking about what matters to you when you become less well.
- We hope to provide a safe space to have an open discussion about dying and death.

Please come and join in the conversation! Light refreshment will be available on arrival.

To book your place please email chaptertwo@stfrancis.org.uk or phone 01494 791260



The Culture of Dying Matters

Date and time: 13th May 2025, 14.00 – 16.00 via Zoom

We will explore:

- *What is culture?*
- *Why culture is so important in dying*
- *Look at various cultures and how this relates to dying*
- *Explore our own cultural beliefs in terms of dying*
- *Address the importance of a collective approach to the culture of dying versus an individual approach*

To book a space, please contact

education@isabelhospice.org.uk



Planning For The Future



Fighting for Life

At Keech Hospice, we know that **talking about dying won't make it happen sooner—but it can make life better.**

One of the events we have planned during the week is a live play by Pluto Productions. This is a thought-provoking play exploring end-of-life care. It's a powerful true story of one family's struggle to get the care their elderly parents needed. Based on The Findlay Report, it reveals the heartache, resilience, and fight for dignity - revealing that behind every case is a life worth fighting for. You can find out more here [Fighting for Life — Pluto Play Productions](#)

Wednesday 7 May

Date for your diary:

Date: Wednesday 7th May

Time: 6-8pm

Where: Fountain Suite, Keech Hospice, Luton

Book your tickets Here. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fighting-for-life-tickets-1307844751859?aff=oddtcreator>

By opening up these conversations, we help people to **live well until the very end.**

**KEECH
HOSPICE.**
Learning

Masterclass

Thursday 8 May
6.30-8pm

Online

Guest speaker:
Sarah Dowd

Head of Inclusion and
Safeguarding Lead.



How to book

Click [HERE](#) or scan
the QR code.

Please visit our website
www.keech.org.uk/learning

Contact us

learning@keech.org.uk
01582 497898

Sitting with you in Uncertainty

Navigating the unknown.

**Uncertainty is an unavoidable part of end-of-life care -
for patients, families, and even professionals.**

Questions like How much time is left? or What happens next? can weigh heavily, and while social workers (and all professionals) can't provide certainty, they can offer something just as valuable: support in navigating the unknown.

In this masterclass, we'll explore the idea of Safe Uncertainty—embracing the unknown while creating a sense of safety for those experiencing it. We'll reflect on the tensions professionals face between wanting to 'fix' things and instead sitting alongside families in their uncertainty. By doing so, we help patients, carers, and even colleagues feel more able to manage the unpredictable nature of palliative care.

Through discussion and shared experiences, we'll consider practical ways to provide this kind of support, making space for difficult emotions while fostering resilience.

Learn with us



Tuesday 6th May - webinar for Accoura (an external company) about End-of-Life Care; “what do I need to know”

Tuesday 6th May - HCTs Leadership day
Staff engagement stall - what is culturally important to them around death and dying

Wednesday 7th May – webinar for trainee GP’s
About Anticipatory Medication

SPC nurses are running lunch and learn sessions during this week too



Wednesday 7th May – Staff engagement –
Advance Care Planning



Spiritual Care Team and the Specialist Palliative Care Team:

Wednesday 7th May 12.00 – 15.00

We will be encouraging staff to share how their community or culture feels, talk about and deal with death and dying by doing a few activities such as:

"What is important to you at the end of life" game using flash cards to help people to identify their own preferences/wishes. Staff will be given a little print out of their flash cards so they can be taken away with them.

"Share a memory" an opportunity for staff to share memories of loved ones who have died and post in our memory box.

Freebies for all A range of small gifts for staff in relation to emotional wellbeing and bereavement.

Thursday 8th May 10.00 – 13.00:

Ward Trolley Dash We will be visiting the wards to do a Trolley dash with staff. Staff will learn about different cultures and then do our The Culture of Dying Matters Quiz, the ward with the most answers will get a prize!

Grand Round on Friday 9th May 2025 13.00 - 14.00 in the executive meeting room (WGH). Individual "stalls" representing different teams for Nursing and AHP staff to ask questions about how each team or department supports patients and families at the end of life or after death. Leaflets and booklets detailing information on the different service/Department for staff's learning. Education on grief and bereavement with resources for support.



An End-of-Life Study Session is being held at Robertson House on 19th May. The morning session will be for Residential & Nursing Settings and the afternoon for Homecare Settings.

The sessions aim to support care providers to ensure they are delivering compassionate and effective end-of-life care. Supporting staff to ensure they can handle the practical and emotional challenges of end-of-life care, will ensure comfort is given, while honouring of the patient's wishes, provide emotional support, and know the right actions to take are crucial for the best care.

This session for Managers, Deputies, Unit Leads, Team Leaders and Compliance leads, will focus on roles and responsibilities within all care services to meet current best practice.

The session will focus on day-to-day care including;

- Importance of Advance Care Planning (ACP)
- Delivering Good End-of-Life Care, key considerations, factors that make a good death, and communication.
- Myth Busting, addressing misconceptions and clarifying terms.
- End of life Care Documents, essential documents and legal aspects.
- Roles and Responsibilities, guidance on providing and evidencing care, including ReSPECT forms.
- Support and Decision Making, resources and information sharing.
- Supporting Staff, strategies for staff support and emotional impact.
- Scenario-Based Training, Real-life scenarios and applying ACP principles.
- Collaborative Working, Partnering with hospices and enhancing education.



Marie Curie offers Webinar Training for Social Prescribers

Social Prescribers provide valuable connections to practical, social and emotional support for people with a wide range of needs. Sadly, this can also include people affected by terminal illness and/or grief and bereavement. So that Social Prescribers are better able to support their clients and as part of Dying Matters week, Marie Curie is offering the following webinars:

Tuesday 6 May: 10am – 11.30am

Supporting Clients Affected by Terminal Illness

Those living or supporting a family member with a terminal illness can often feel overwhelmed and struggle to cope. In this session, we'll share how you can offer guidance to clients experiencing this, pointing them to emotional, physical and practical support.

- Understanding terminal illness
- Supporting people affected by terminal illness
- Benefits and resources for people affected by terminal illness
- Marie Curie Companion Service

Tuesday 13 May: 10am – 11.30am

Supporting Clients Affected by Grief & Bereavement

Grief affects everyone differently. Understanding grief can help us process our own experiences, and support clients who've been bereaved. In this session, we'll provide advice on how to talk to someone who is recently bereaved and how to help them access further support.

- Understanding loss, bereavement and grief
- Supporting someone with grief
- Benefits and resources for people affected by grief and bereavement
- Marie Curie Bereavement Service

To register for free, simply click here:
<https://forms.office.com/e/kzHv2LByCu>



Tues 6th May

Borehamwood Support Hub [Your Community Hub, Borehamwood - Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care](#) 10.30-11.30 5 Leeming Road, Borehamwood, WD6 4EB

Harpenden Compassionate Café [Compassionate Café, Well Bean Café, Harpenden - Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care](#) 2.00-3.30

Well Bean Café, Harpenden Trust Halls (above the Co-op), 130 Southdown Road, Harpenden, AL5 1PU

Wed 7th May

Potters Bar Compassionate Café [Compassionate Café, Loaves & Fishes Café, Potters Bar - Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care](#) 10.00-12.00 Loaves & Fishes Café, Christ Church Little Heath, Great North Rd, Potters Bar, EN6 1JN

Wigginton Compassionate Café [Compassionate Café, Wigginton Community Shop Café, Tring - Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care](#) 1.30-3.00 Wigginton Community Shop & Café, The Sports Ground, Chesham Road, Wigginton, HP23 6HH

Abbots Langley Compassionate Café [St Lawrence Church, Abbots Langley - Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care](#) 2.00-3.30 St Lawrence Church Café, Breakspear Room, High Street, Abbots Langley, WD5 0AS

Thurs 8th May

Potters Bar Support Hub [Support Hubs: Wylyotts Centre, Potters Bar - Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care](#) 10.00-12.00 Wylyotts Centre, Wylyotts Place, Potters Bar, EN6 2HZ

Free virtual workshop: What is Advance Care Planning (ACP)? [Free virtual workshop: What is Advance Care Planning \(ACP\)? - Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care](#)

12.00 – 1.30

Online

Fri 9th May

Jersey Farm Compassionate Café [Jersey Farm Café, St Albans - Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care](#) 2.30-4.00 Jersey Farm Café, Jersey Farm Community Centre, 3 St. Brelades Pl, St Albans AL4 9RG

Mon 11th May (Just out of the week but was going to link it to Dying Matters week)

Free virtual workshop: How to talk about Death, Dying and Loss [Free virtual workshop: How to talk about Death, Dying and Loss - Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care](#) 1.30-3.00 Online