

Lesley

Age: 52

Profession College: Lecturer

Star sign: Pisces

Favourite food: Chocolate!

Favourite exercise: Dancing



What makes you the most happy? Being with my loved ones.

What makes you sad? Unkindness in the world.

The Clot Story

At what age did you have your first clot? 47

Where were your clots? Both lungs.

What caused your clot? Unknown! No risk factors

What has changed for you emotionally and physically since having your clot? Everything, I have a new normal, not as much energy, changed my working hours. Work life balance and more health conscious.

Did it change your life? And if so for better or for worse? I try and be a positive person but I do get down because I loved working full time, but it's opened my eyes to what's important.

The consultant told me that I have had a serious condition and that I wouldn't be back at work as soon as I expected, I was told it is a life style and life changing experience. We have a new normal, it's frustrating that I have had to slow down.

Why do you want to raise awareness of blood clots? For improved support for people who are survivors of blood clots, for professionals to realise that were not all hypochondriacs for suffering symptoms post clots. I wouldn't make it up I want to be well!

It took a month to get my diagnosis, I had seen three GPs before my clots were picked up. I was getting worse, I might not be here if it wasn't for the GP that referred me to the hospital.

We have all been told were lucky to be here, the reason there aren't many groups for people who have had blood clots is because many people die from them.

If a friend or family were to describe your journey what would they say? A lot of my friends were upset for me and felt my frustration as they know me and know that I like to be full of life. My family worry that I do too much, they are always caring about me and it was a shock to them that they nearly lost me. They urge me to listen to my body, remain healthy and embrace my new normal.

These are quotes from Lesley's friends;

"Your sheer determination to not let the condition stop you was inspirational. Your recovery was difficult however you were your usual bubbly happy and fashionable self. "

"Whatever life gives you, you deal with it, and you've had more than your fair share to deal with. When it came to your PE you don't just deal with it you help others do the same year sharing feelings, thoughts and information that otherwise people would not know. So I say Lesley Cherry your journey has been an education for many and you are an inspiration to ALL. Love you lots jelly tots "