

# Support service for patients

For anyone affected by  
Mesothelioma or other  
Asbestos related diseases in  
London and the South East,  
including Essex and Kent

Registered Charity No.1174543



London Asbestos Support Awareness Group



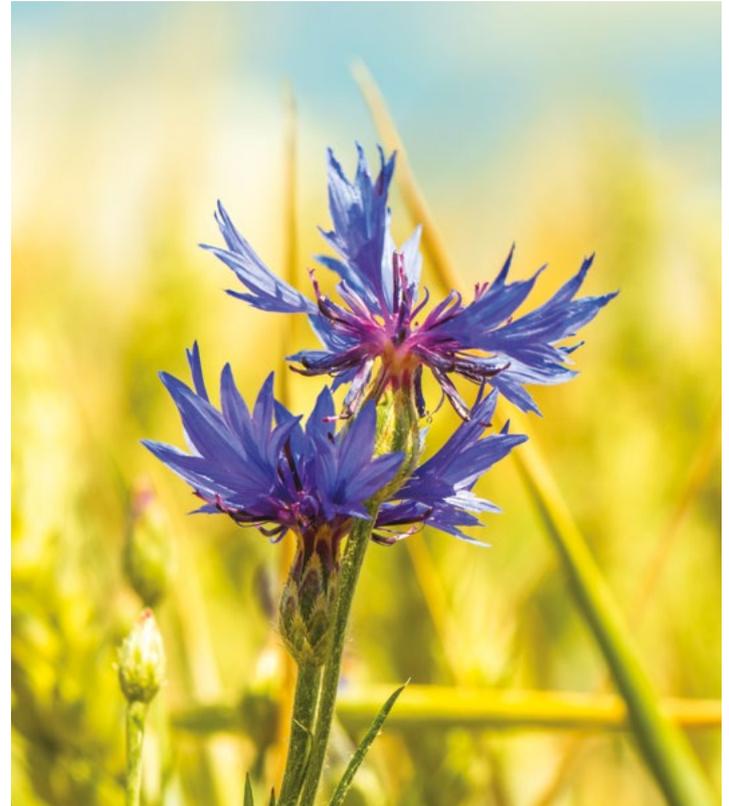
0808 278 2515  
[www.lasag.org.uk](http://www.lasag.org.uk)

# Testimonials

"It is so nice to speak to people with the same condition as myself. And so interesting for me and my wife to listen to the guest speakers. This is a marvellous group run by such lovely people who are so kind and helpful and nice to know they are always at the end of the phone. Long may it continue."  
*Ron*

"These sessions I find amazing. I leave at the end of them feeling very elated. After being with people in the same boat as me, my fears and worries are sent back to where they belong and my positive mental attitude is maintained."  
*Lewis*

"Thank you for coming to see me yesterday. My head's been in a bit of a spin over the past few weeks, so it was good to take time out with you and learn more about my diagnosis and the support you can offer. Notwithstanding the irreplaceable support and love that my family bring, you tend to feel a little isolated once you're outside of the direct care that the medical professionals have been providing. I understand now the importance of the support that you and your organisation offers to sufferers of asbestos related diseases, and how it provides a vital and seamless link between all the various elements of the process. I look forward to staying in touch and will get along to the support group meeting at Canterbury at the first opportunity I have."  
*Keith*



---

# Our services

We offer a wide range of FREE services to all our Mesothelioma and other asbestos related disease sufferers, in a variety of ways.

## Advice and support

Our support workers are very experienced in supporting sufferers of Mesothelioma and other asbestos related conditions, and fully understand the impact such diseases have on individuals and their families, both physically and psychologically. They are very knowledgeable about state benefits payments and will assess your eligibility to ensure you are receiving your full entitlement. They maintain close working relationships with Clinical Nurse Specialists and other key professionals in the care of the sufferer.

## Support group meetings and events

Our staff hold monthly support group meetings across London, Essex and Kent for sufferers and their carers to meet others undergoing the same experience. Our experienced support staff, together with special guest speakers and other professionals will be available to provide information, advice or a listening ear in a safe and private environment. We have good working relationships with Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) meaning they are available to us to answer any questions about your

treatment plan (with your consent) or symptoms you are experiencing.

## Home visits

Our team are available to visit individual sufferers in the comfort of their own home, or can be contacted by telephone or zoom to assist with completion of your paperwork and provide ongoing support and guidance.

## Help with compensation

Our support workers will provide information for FREE legal advice from a panel of lawyers who are experts in

dealing with asbestos disease claims and have the full interest of sufferers at heart.

## Befriending service

We are able to offer a befriending service for a friendly chat for those who feel alone and overwhelmed.



---

# Our team

Our staff are very diverse and are experienced in supporting sufferers of Mesothelioma and other asbestos related diseases. London Asbestos Support Awareness Group's staff all have the skills, professionalism, knowledge and empathy that is expected to deliver a first class service to our clients at all times. Our staff are all DBS checked for extra security.

**Jodie Bull**  
Support Manager



Jodie is our support manager and has worked in the healthcare profession for 13 years managing services and staff supporting clients in the South East. She has experience in supporting clients in the community who were suffering with conditions ranging from COPD, Motor Neurones Disease, several types of Cancer, Parkinson's Disease and Dementia to End of Life Care.

She has experience of working with social services, district nurses, occupational therapists, dietitians, doctors, discharge planning teams and specialists. Jodie then

expanded her knowledge and experience into the private ambulance sector as an operations manager.

She is a First Aid and Manual Handling Trainer and has completed her First Response Emergency Care Level 3 certificate. Jodie has a passionate, caring nature and her clients, valued staff and volunteers are always her priority.

To contact Jodie please email [jodie@lasag.org.uk](mailto:jodie@lasag.org.uk) or call **07949 767839**.

---

## Louise Chaffe

Support Worker for  
London & Essex



Louise spent 11 years working in a police control room, where she supported people from all walks of life before progressing to management. She then decided to expand her experience in the community to support vulnerable adults in their homes.

This role included support and encouragement to access the community. Louise has a calming, caring, empathetic and productive work ethic due to the nature of her experiences.

To contact Louise please email [louise@lasag.org.uk](mailto:louise@lasag.org.uk) or call **07713 492486**.

## Jenny Tompkins

Support Worker for  
London & Essex



Jenny began her career as a mortgage adviser and arrears counsellor for 15 years at Halifax Building Society. The fundamental part of this role was understanding the needs of her clients in their current situations, giving accurate advice and guidance and gaining sensitive information.

She then joined The Metropolitan Police as a controller and 999 call taker dealing with people from different backgrounds and situations. Jenny used her experience when joining the private ambulance sector as an operations manager. Jenny is pro-active

and organised with an understanding and kind nature.

To contact Jenny please email [jenny@lasag.org.uk](mailto:jenny@lasag.org.uk) or call **07526 499163**.



# Our team

We offer local support groups where our experienced staff, together with special guest speakers and other professionals are available to provide information, advice or a listening ear in a safe and private environment. We can provide information about free legal advice and help that's available from specialist lawyers who are proven experts in dealing with asbestos disease claims.



**Denise Hodges**  
Support Worker for Kent



Denise started her career as an adult nurse in acute medicine and worked with bowel cancer patients as a nurse practitioner before becoming a Lung Cancer Nurse Specialist. She has gained a wealth of experience and a vast knowledge of Mesothelioma and other asbestos related diseases from working with patients over a number of years. When she retired from the NHS, she joined us and has been able to continue to give invaluable support to the sufferers and their families.

To contact Denise please email [denise@lasag.org.uk](mailto:denise@lasag.org.uk) or call **07950 922874**.

**Kelly Sorrell**  
Support Worker for  
Hertfordshire



Kelly has worked within the health and social care industry for over 20 yrs, providing care to vulnerable people within the community. She has supported clients with a variety of needs ranging from physical disabilities, dementia, Parkinson's through to End of Life Care. She has experience of management in various care settings from hourly community care, through to 24 hour live in care. Kelly's experience also includes starting a new domiciliary company which is still thriving today. Kelly is passionate about making sure that sufferers who require

---

**Jade Hannan**  
Support Worker for Kent



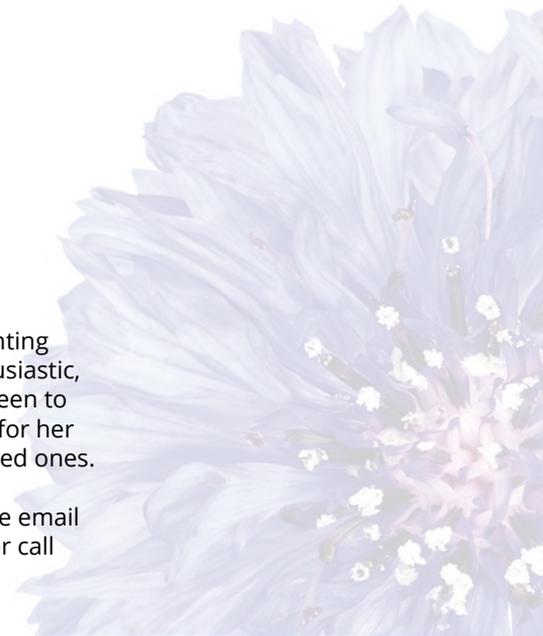
support should receive that to the highest possible. She is a born organiser and enjoys helping people with a view to making their lives easier both in her professional life and her private life.

To contact Kelly please email [kelly@lasag.org.uk](mailto:kelly@lasag.org.uk) or call **07894 175432**.

Jade has been a qualified therapeutic radiographer for 11 years, treating various cancer patients with Radiotherapy. She has a passion for helping others and participates in various different fundraising events to raise awareness as well as volunteering to help vulnerable adults. Jade has personal, as well as professional experience having had family members who have had cancer treatments in the past so can express empathy around this area making it even more important to her to make a difference to patients and their families going through

this difficult and daunting process. Jade is enthusiastic, hardworking and is keen to make things happen for her patients and their loved ones.

To contact Jade please email [jade@lasag.org.uk](mailto:jade@lasag.org.uk) or call **07585 337230**.



If you've been affected by Mesothelioma, other asbestos related diseases, or would like to have a confidential conversation, please contact us today  
**0808 278 2515**

# Legal Help and Compensation

If you or a family member have been diagnosed with Mesothelioma or any other asbestos related disease, you may be entitled to compensation. If you were exposed to asbestos in your workplace, it may be possible to bring a claim against your former employer, even if the employer is no longer in operation. Alternatively, your condition may have been caused outside of your work, for example from washing a family member's asbestos contaminated work clothes.

**Whatever asbestos related disease you have and however you believe it was caused, it is important that you obtain FREE legal advice from a specialist solicitor. Our carefully selected panel of expert solicitors will provide the right advice and will pursue and claim for you whenever possible. This legal service is FREE, whatever the outcome of the claim.**

You may know how your asbestos exposure occurred but frequently sufferers do not recall where or how they were exposed to asbestos. One of the solicitors from our panel of specialist law firms will meet you at home and go through your work history and other possible sources of exposure to find out when, where and how you came into contact with asbestos.



If you've been affected by Mesothelioma, other asbestos related diseases, or would like to have a confidential conversation, please contact us today

**0808 278 2515**

---

### **Why claim?**

It has been known for many decades that asbestos was dangerous to health. From the mid 1960s employers knew it caused Mesothelioma and other asbestos related diseases and yet many employers did not take necessary precautions to protect their workers.

### **Compensation value:**

The aim of compensation is to put you in the same financial position as though you had not developed Mesothelioma. Although the amount awarded in each case is different, the amount

of compensation is usually substantial and could help with your care if needed.

### **Timing & Time Limits:**

A claim should be brought within three years of the date of diagnosis or within three years of the date of death. Asbestos related compensation claims are dealt with as quickly as possible by our panel solicitors and the Courts have fast track procedures in place for dealing with asbestos claims.

### **Legal Fees:**

If the case is successful then the organisation paying your

compensation will also pay your legal costs. If your case is unsuccessful then there is **no charge** to you. Our panel solicitors will explain how the costs work when they meet with you.

### **How can we help?**

We can provide you with information about making a civil compensation claim which includes contact details for solicitors who specialise in asbestos disease claims. To be on our specialist panel, solicitors have had to prove that they are law firms which only represent people with asbestos related

conditions and never act for organisations defending asbestos disease claims.

**Please note that we do not accept any responsibility relating to the appointment of a solicitor. Each of our panel firms of solicitors are completely independent of the charity.**

# What is Asbestos?

Asbestos is a naturally occurring, fibrous mineral. It was used extensively in the UK from the 1900s. Due to its huge versatility, asbestos was moulded into many forms, including sheeting and cloth. Many people have been exposed to asbestos fibres through their own work, the work of colleagues near to them, washing a family member's contaminated clothing or living near to an asbestos factory. The exposure is likely to have taken place many decades ago. Not everyone who has been exposed to asbestos will develop an asbestos related condition. However, for those people who do, it is important that they receive independent and impartial advice from specialists.

# Examples of products

Cement Roof



Cement Tiles



Pipe Lagging



Ceiling Tiles



Insulating Boards



Floor Tiles

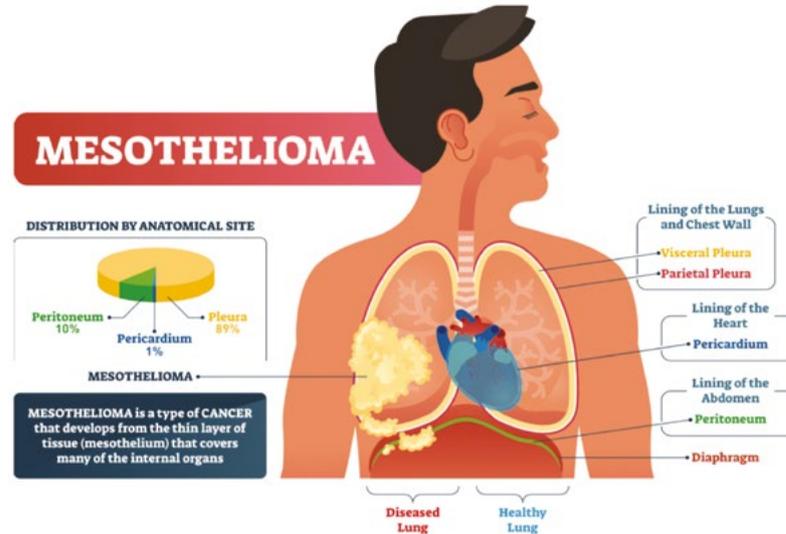


# Asbestos related diseases

**Mesothelioma** is an incurable cancer caused by exposure to asbestos dust and fibre. It usually develops in the fluid in the lining of the lungs (pleural Mesothelioma) but can also affect the lining of the abdomen (peritoneal Mesothelioma) and the lining of the heart (pericardial Mesothelioma).

**Lung cancer** can be caused by significant exposure to asbestos dust and fibre over a period of time. Lung cancer can have causes other than exposure to asbestos, the most common being smoking.

**Asbestosis** is the name for fibrosis in the lung caused by significant exposure to asbestos. This condition is caused when large quantities of asbestos fibres,



over time, damage the inner structure of the lungs, resulting in breathlessness.

**Pleural thickening** is caused when asbestos fibres breathed in penetrate the lining or pleura of the lungs, causing thickening of this

lining. This causes restriction to breathing because the lungs cannot expand fully.

**Pleural plaques** are areas of scarring on the lining of the lungs caused by asbestos fibres penetrating the lining of the lung. They may

become more extensive but they do not develop into any other asbestos disease.

**Please contact us if you have been diagnosed with any of these conditions. Time limits apply to civil compensation claims and for certain benefits.**

---

# Customer commitment charter

We promise to do all we can to give you the best service, support and care that we can and make sure that you are cared for in the best possible way. We think about the sufferer in a person centred way to ensure they are happy with our services. We want you to tell us what you need and we will tell you how we can help. We work with your healthcare professionals providing your care including your clinical nurse specialists, benefits advisers and lawyers. We are committed to improving our services in an ever changing industry by talking to people and coming up with new ideas. These are our stated commitments to you:

## **Commitment 1**

We will support our staff to care about you and how you feel. To help them do this, we make sure they have the relevant training and development they need.

## **Commitment 2**

We promise that every time you see us we will do our best to ensure you are happy with our services. Our staff will be polite, respectful and caring at all times, tell you the truth, take time to listen to you, provide contact details and advise what will happen.

If we are unable to help we will advise you on who can support you and answer your questions as quickly as we can.

## **Commitment 3**

We take time to understand what you need to give you the best service we can. Staff will ask you if our service can be improved and we will always treat you as an individual. This means we will think about you and your needs, advise you what we can and cannot do and keep information about you private

and secure whilst remaining compliant with GDPR at all times.

## **Commitment 4**

We will make sure the places we meet you are friendly, safe and easy to access. Staff will be friendly and welcoming, thinking about your needs and support when you use our services and will ensure the locations we see you are safe, clean and tidy.

## **Commitment 5**

We will listen to your feedback and make changes where

possible. Trustees and managers will listen to what our clients have suggested and decide if we need to make changes. We will make sure our staff learn from each other and follow good practice.

## **Need help?**

Our support manager can support you. You can ask questions, make suggestions and log a complaint. Please email [support@lasag.org.uk](mailto:support@lasag.org.uk)

Our Complaints Policy and Procedure is available on request.

# A Testimonial from a Cancer Nurse Specialist



**East Kent  
Hospitals University**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Kent and Canterbury Hospital  
Ethelbert Road, Canterbury  
Kent, CT1 3NG  
01227 868666

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

RE: LONDON ASBESTOS SUPPORT AWARENESS GROUP

I have referred many mesothelioma patients to the above group for help and advice with claiming compensation and benefits relating to their disease.

The Support Workers consist of retired Lung Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialists and benefits claims specialists. Due to this their professional knowledge and experience of mesothelioma is extensive.

I have had nothing but positive feedback from my patients who have been helped by LASAG. From my perspective I feel that because the service is run by professionals who I know and trust, I can refer patients to them confident in the knowledge that they will be given the best advice and support.

Toni Fleming  
Lead Macmillan Lung Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialist/Mesothelioma UK CNS  
Kent and Canterbury/QEQM Hospitals

# Our story

The London Asbestos Support Awareness Group operates across London and the South East. The charity was set up by The London Hazards Centre Trust Limited, a registered charity, established in 1984. We obtained independent charity status in 2017, and all of our services are free.

Our trustees have been carefully selected and represent a diverse group with significant knowledge and experience of governance within the charity sector, as well as leading caring organisations and in campaigning for those suffering and in need of help and care.

# Our Trustees

## **David Ellis OBE**

David is committed to supporting the victims of exposure to asbestos. His wife died in 2011 from Mesothelioma. He has therefore experienced at first-hand the agony his wife suffered and the devastating impact her illness and eventual death had on the whole family and their friends. David has over 20 years experience as a charity trustee including as Chairman of Hospice Boards.

## **Christine Stephens**

Christine has 40 years management/leadership experience in both corporate and for non-profit organisations. Included in that is over 10 years governance experience as a Hospice Trustee; previous Chair of Governors for a local junior school and a Chair of HR committee for an Independent girls school. Christine is passionate about working to build support networks to help alleviate the pain, fear and suffering for the victims of asbestos related diseases and their families.

## **Belinda Chadwick**

Belinda has over 30 years experience of charity fundraising and support groups. Belinda has sound experience of governance through her trustee appointments and chair of three charities. Belinda's motivation for trusteeship at the charity was instigated by the death of a very dear friend through an asbestos related disease.

## **Phil Lewis**

Phil is one of the two founding trustees. He is a lifetime activist against asbestos, using all means at his disposal to campaign against it and support those victims affected.

# Fundraising

Everything we do depends on the generous donations of our supporters. 100% of the money we spend each year comes from the people, companies and trusts who decide to support us. Whether it is putting a few pounds in the donation tins, donations in lieu of flowers, making a corporate donation or hosting an event, we are extremely grateful for your support.

Visit [www.lasag.org.uk/fundraising](http://www.lasag.org.uk/fundraising) for more ways you can support us

## Bank Payments

London Asbestos Support  
SC: 30-98-90 Acc. No: 18406368

## Card Payments

Secure online donations: [www.lasag.org.uk/donate](http://www.lasag.org.uk/donate)

## Cash / Cheque

Farthings, Bridle Lane Rickmansworth, WD3 4JQ

# Donation slip

I wish to make a donation to London Asbestos Support for £

Title Name

Address

Postcode

Email

Phone

I am happy for the charity to contact me by (tick all that apply):

Post  Email  Phone  SMS



I am a UK taxpayer and wish to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years.

*giftaid it*

You must pay income tax equal to the tax reclaimed by the charity on the donation. If you pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all donations in that tax year it is your responsibility to pay any difference.

---

# Contact us

## London Asbestos Support Awareness Group

Registered Charity No: 1174543

## Charity Registered Address

Farthings, Bridle Lane, Loudwater,  
Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 4JQ

## Postal Address

20-22 Wenlock Road, London N1 7GU

**Telephone** 0808 278 2515

**Email** [support@lasag.org.uk](mailto:support@lasag.org.uk)

# Social Media

[www.linkedin.com/company/london-asbestos-support-awareness-group](http://www.linkedin.com/company/london-asbestos-support-awareness-group)

[www.facebook.com/LondonAsbestosSupportAwarenessGroup](http://www.facebook.com/LondonAsbestosSupportAwarenessGroup)

[www.instagram.com/londonasbestossupportgroup](http://www.instagram.com/londonasbestossupportgroup)

[www.twitter.com/LASAG\\_UK](http://www.twitter.com/LASAG_UK)

---

# Support groups

For anyone affected by Mesothelioma and other asbestos related diseases. Join us for coffee, cake and conversation at your nearest support group which cover London and the south east, Essex, Kent and Hertfordshire, it's an opportunity to meet others living with the disease. Our experienced staff will be available to provide information, advice or a listening ear in a safe and private environment.

## Surrey, London

Every 7th Friday  
12.00 noon - 2.00pm  
Holy Trinity Church,  
Maldon Road, Wallington  
London,  
SM6 8BL

### Contact

[louise@lasag.org.uk](mailto:louise@lasag.org.uk)  
07713 492486

## Canterbury, Kent

The 2nd Tuesday of  
each month.  
2.00pm - 4.00pm  
A.R.C.A. Hall, 151 Ashford Rd,  
Thanington, Canterbury,  
CT1 3XR

### Contact

[denise@lasag.org.uk](mailto:denise@lasag.org.uk)  
07950 922874

[Jade@lasag.org.uk](mailto:Jade@lasag.org.uk)  
07585 337230

## Isle of Sheppey, Kent

The 1st Wednesday of  
each month.  
3.00pm - 4.30pm  
Harps Inn, Minster Rd,  
Minster on Sea, Sheerness,  
ME12 3N

### Contact

[denise@lasag.org.uk](mailto:denise@lasag.org.uk)  
07950 922874

[Jade@lasag.org.uk](mailto:Jade@lasag.org.uk)  
07585 337230

## Dagenham, Essex

The last Thursday of each  
month. 11.00am - 1.00pm  
Toby Carvery Moby Dick,  
Whalebone Lane,  
Dagenham,  
RM6 6QU

### Contact

[Jenny@lasag.org.uk](mailto:Jenny@lasag.org.uk)  
07526 499163

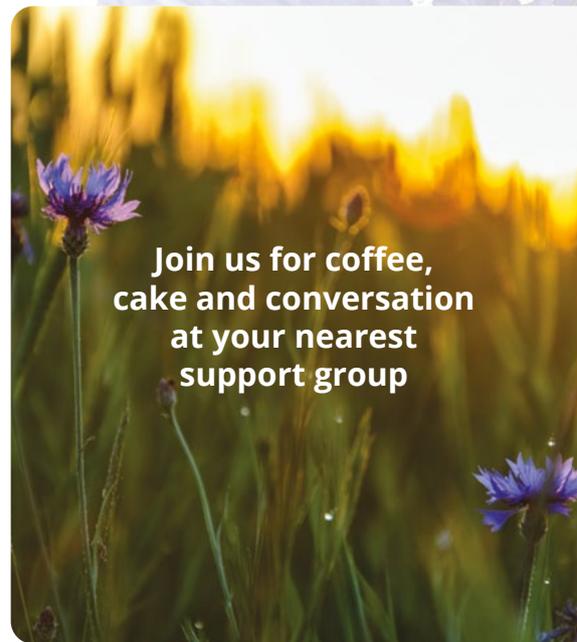
---

## Other support groups

We are always looking to provide other support groups. For further updates or if you would like us to provide a group

### Contact

[support@lasag.org.uk](mailto:support@lasag.org.uk)



**Join us for coffee,  
cake and conversation  
at your nearest  
support group**



For anyone affected by Mesothelioma or other Asbestos related diseases in London and the South East, including Essex and Kent | Registered Charity No.1174543



0808 278 2515  
[www.lasag.org.uk](http://www.lasag.org.uk)