

# THIS IS HOSPICE CARE



Emma and Dominic

## Dominic's story

**Dominic explains how support from Farleigh Hospice has made it easier for him to cope with his illness.**

I have a rare condition called progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP) which is life-limiting with multiple issues including memory function, speech, muscular pain and balance. Eventually I will lose all of my motor functions and will need a wheelchair full-time, which is why Farleigh Hospice is supporting me.

When I was at Addenbrooke's Hospital, my consultant referred me to Farleigh for emotional and physical support as there is no cure for my diagnosis. Farleigh's care and support helps me in lots of ways – physically, mentally and emotionally - which makes it easier to cope with my illness.

**I used to drive rally cars, so one of the hardest things for me was having my licence revoked**

**Occupational Therapist, Emma Bullock, developed some innovative 'highspeed' support for Dominic.**

"I help to improve people's quality of life by adapting their environment or the way they might usually do things, so they can continue to live well and do things that are meaningful to them, even with an illness.

I mostly go to people's homes and start by looking at their basic needs. If they need help, I suggest ways to adapt how they do these activities and simple equipment to make them easier. Once their basic needs are met and they are stable enough, we can think about what is important to them.

In Dominic's case, driving is his big passion, so having his licence taken away was very difficult for him. My partner and I have a PlayStation 5 and he has a steering wheel simulator that feels like you're actually

**because of my condition. My occupational therapist, Emma, approached the David Randall Foundation charity for funding and they kindly donated a driving simulator, which I really enjoy and it helps keep my brain and muscles exercised.**

Without Farleigh's help and support, my life would be more dismal and emotionally draining. I'd feel more shut off as they give me and my family advice and refer us in the right direction for help and advice from councils and other services.

My advice to others looking for the same support is that Farleigh Hospice cares for people with different types of life-limiting illnesses, so you shouldn't be frightened if you do need to reach out for help."

racing a car. I brought it into the hospice for Dominic to try and he absolutely loved it!

I wanted to get him a PlayStation and wheel of his own to use whenever he wants. David Randall Foundation generously bought him everything he needed, including an extra racing game and gearstick so Dominic is delighted! It helps him by stimulating his brain, muscles and co-ordination and it's something he can enjoy with his family and friends."

**Help hospice care live on for all, for now, forever in mid Essex by leaving a gift in your Will.**

**For more information contact [legacies@farleighhospice.org](mailto:legacies@farleighhospice.org) or call 01245 457411.**



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