

## NAME

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## DATE

September 4, 2021

## DURATION

3m 1s

## 2 SPEAKERS

Interviewer

D

## START OF TRANSCRIPT

**[00:00:01] Interviewer**

Were there any support groups at the time?

**[00:00:03] D**

No, there were no support groups at all in this area. I'd heard of support groups like The Terrence Higgins Trust and they were in Manchester, we never used them, didn't feel it necessary, we just supported each other. At least it- time when it was diagnosed, it give us some time to sort our things out, to sort his affairs out, to sort my affairs out and discuss the way forward. We were able to talk and to- even to plan his own funeral, you know. We didn't find the need to join a support group, and as I've said, there was nowhere local anyways, the nearest would've been Manchester where there was various support groups in them days. Terrence Higgins Trust, I think that's still going strong, isn't it.

**[00:01:04] Interviewer**

Yeah. So you just started your own group afterwards?

**[00:01:08] D**

After- after he died. Yeah, about a year after he died. I got together with a social worker who supported us through his illness and we started our own Cumbrian support group for HIV and AIDS. And at one time, there must have been about 12 of us, we used to meet at various places all over the county. You know, whether it be Carlisle, Whitehaven, Barrow or Keswick, or everywhere we used to have meetings, and we used to support people who had asked for support, you know, we used to go up and see them and support them through their illness, so at least something good came out of it, you know. And that support, it lasted for 8 or 9 years at least anyhow, it's finished now.

**[00:02:13] Interviewer**

So, it's always run just by you and the social worker you mentioned?

**[00:02:18] D**

That's right. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Which was good. Yeah, we recruited people from different areas, you know, which was good. Yeah, who wanted to be involved.

**[00:02:34] Interviewer**

So, the people who come to the group, do they find out the group through some official channels like NHS or do you-?

**[00:02:43] D**

Yeah, I think what we did- when we first started the group we had a helpline. HIV/AIDS helpline, you know, and a lot of enquiries came through that actually, they'd come for support through the helpline

## END OF TRANSCRIPT

