



Tickets
on sale
now!

FOREST HOLME HOSPICE CHARITY NEWSLETTER

The Strictly Edition



AUTUMN 2026



forest
holme
hospice

Welcome from the Fundraising Team

We're so excited to welcome you to this special Strictly Extravaganza edition of our newsletter, as we count down to another unforgettable evening in support of Forest Holme.

The last time we took to the dancefloor, together we raised an incredible £80,000 for the hospice – and this January, we're hoping to smash that total!

Since then, Strictly Extravaganza has won national recognition as Special Event of the Year at The Emmas. You may also have spotted a familiar face in the new BBC Strictly line-up; Maddie Ingoldsby, UK National Ballroom Champion, who performed at our previous events and lifted our glitterball trophy in 2023.

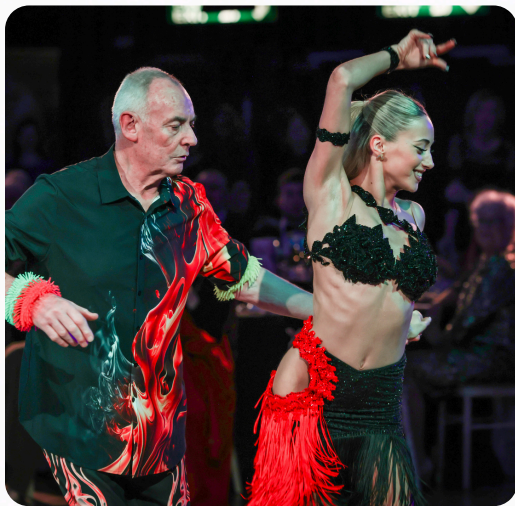
This year promises to be bigger than ever, with a champagne reception, three-course gala dinner with wine, live music from the 20 to 1 Big Band, entertainment, games and a charity auction.

And, of course, our 10 Strictly stars will take to the floor alongside professional and champion Latin and ballroom dancers to compete for the glitterball trophy.

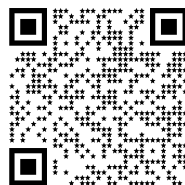
At the heart of the evening are their stories, their connection to Forest Holme and the difference your support makes to local families.

Tickets are on sale now – come and be part of something truly fab-u-lous!

Sara, Claire & Kirsty x
Forest Holme Hospice Charity Team



Tickets are
on sale now



Introducing Oliver Beardmore

Our Professional Dancer & Choreographer

Meet the man behind the magic of *Strictly Extravaganza*.

Behind every step, spin and standing ovation is a dedicated professional committed to bringing out the very best in them, so that when our 10 amazing contestants step onto the dancefloor they achieve something truly extraordinary.

We're thrilled to introduce Oliver Beardmore, the talented dancer who choreographs, teaches and inspires our contestants every step of the way.

Professional Highlights

Oliver is a talented performer with a background in musical theatre, dance and competitive Latin dance.

He trained at Reynolds Performing Arts, where he developed his skills as a versatile performer before making the transition to professional theatre.

Supporting Forest Holme Hospice

Forest Holme Hospice holds a very special place in Oliver's heart. It was here that a dear family friend, Lisa Hopton, was cared for during her final days.



“I'll never forget sitting with Lisa, eating pizza at the hospice, when she made me promise to raise money through dance.”



Before stepping onto the stage, Oliver enjoyed an outstanding career in competitive dance, becoming both the **British National Rising Star Latin Champion** and **European Rising Star**.

“Forest Holme is a place full of love and care, and I'm truly honoured to be involved in supporting it.”



Oliver's professional career has taken him across the stage and the country, working with some of the biggest names in dance.

Toured with **Strictly Come Dancing** professionals Carlos Gu & Amy Dowden in **Reborn**.

Performed alongside Kai Widdrington and Nadiya Bychkova in their hit productions **Once Upon a Time & Behind the Magic**.

A Night to Celebrate

Our Strictly Extravaganza launch party brought the Strictly stars together for a first glimpse of what's to come.



The countdown is on

There was laughter, excitement and more than a little Strictly sparkle as friends, supporters and the Forest Holme team gathered to mark the launch of this year's Strictly Extravaganza.

With the glitterball firmly in sight, the room was full of energy and a shared determination to make this year's event something special!





SATURDAY 23 JANUARY

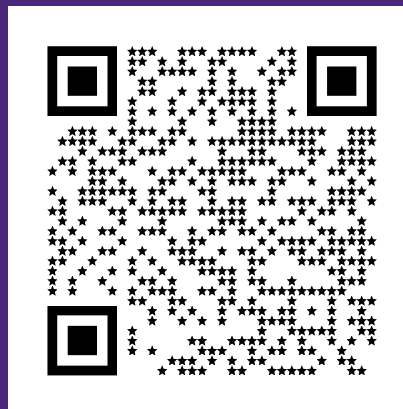
Lighthouse, Poole

Get ready for a fab-u-lous evening of Strictly magic in support of Forest Holme Hospice Charity.

ONE NIGHT. **TEN STARS**. A WHOLE LOT OF SPARKLE



Scan to
BOOK NOW!



Champagne reception



3-course dinner with wine



Live singing & big band



Auction



Entertainment

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

www.forestholmhospice.org.uk/strictly

From Sponsor to Strictly Star

Colten Care takes to the dancefloor in support of Forest Holme.

Colten Care is once again taking centre stage as our headline sponsor, continuing its support for an event that brings the local community together while raising vital funds for hospice care.

Having experienced the energy and generosity surrounding last year's event, Colten Care was keen to return for 2027.

A partnership with shared values

For Colten Care, the partnership also reflects a shared approach to supporting people and families through difficult times.

"There is a real connection between the values behind Forest Holme's work and those we hold at Colten Care. At the heart of both is the belief that people deserve to be treated with dignity, compassion and as individuals."

Laura takes centre stage

This year, Colten Care's involvement comes with an added twist. Laura Davis is swapping her usual role as Senior Marketing & Events Manager for Colten Care for a place in the Strictly spotlight.



Why Laura is taking part

Having seen the difference Forest Holme's care can make to local families, Laura's answer was to set herself a challenge unlike anything she had taken on before.

She admits there will be plenty of nerves and "probably a lot of aching feet" along the way, but says it will be worthwhile if her experience helps raise funds and awareness for Forest Holme.

"I haven't danced properly for years, I'm learning the Tango and this is completely outside my comfort zone. But that is also why I wanted to do it."

Laura's message to you

If you're thinking of coming along, Laura has one simple message: **Book that ticket!**

"It's going to be a fantastic night, with plenty of entertainment, brave amateur dancers and lots of laughter. So come along, enjoy the evening and cheer us on, very loudly in my case!"

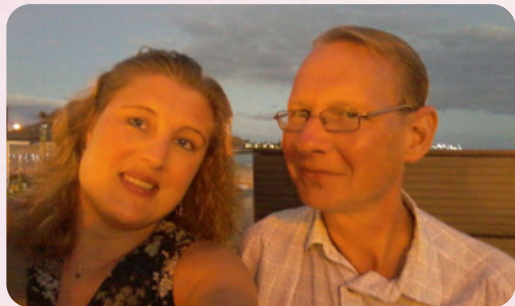


Headline sponsor of Strictly Extravaganza 2027!



Stepping Out For Jules

Victoria's story of love, loss and giving back



For Strictly contestant Victoria, taking to the dancefloor is about much more than learning the steps. She will be dancing in memory of her husband Jules, who was cared for at Forest Holme.

When Victoria thinks of Jules, it is the little things that bring a smile. His lack of tech skills, his ability to cook the perfect steak and the way he took charge on holiday, making sure refreshments and sun cream were always at hand.

"Nothing was ever too much trouble. Jules always gave 110% at everything he did."

The couple loved Strictly, particularly supporting those without a performing background. Grimsby native Kevin Clifton was a favourite, along with Scott Mills' memorable lobster routine.

Victoria particularly treasures their DVD nights and sleepovers at Forest Holme, and the freedom to visit Jules at any time.

Shortly after Jules was admitted, the team arranged an intimate ring blessing for the couple.

"It was a lovely opportunity for us to reinforce our commitment and love for one another," Victoria recalls.

"What Forest Holme can put on in such a short space of time is incredible."

But it is also the smallest acts of care that have stayed with her. Just days before Jules passed away, he mentioned to a member of staff that he wanted a Christmas card for Victoria.

"They went out and bought one for him to give to me. Nothing was ever too much trouble. I will always be truly grateful for the care they gave to both Jules and myself."

"That support has continued through Forest Holme's bereavement cafés and counselling services."

Now Strictly offers a very different way to give something back. "I'm pretty sure Jules will be thinking, 'What is she up to now?'" she laughs. "Jules always claimed to have two left feet. Sadly, we never got the opportunity to find out for certain."

As Victoria steps onto the dancefloor, she believes Jules will be with her in spirit.

"I know he would be proud of everything I have accomplished since his passing and will be cheering me on. I'll do anything I can to support Forest Holme so they can continue the amazing work they do."

Meet our Ten Dancers

Ten incredible dancers, ten unique stories, one unforgettable night in support of Forest Holme!

Our Strictly stars are ready to dance, stepping out of their comfort zones and into the ballroom! Get to know our 10 brave dancers who will light up the dancefloor.

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Carrie

Carrie will be taking on the wonderful **Rumba**, in loving memory of her husband, who also had a passion for dancing! This is the perfect opportunity for her to honour his life, whilst giving back to Forest Holme Hospice.



Simon

After watching the magic unfold from the audience at last year's Strictly Extravaganza, Simon is excited to take his turn on the dancefloor! Despite admitting he has two left feet, he's ready to embrace the challenge and put on a **Samba** spectacular!



Amanda

After losing her husband, Amanda received invaluable bereavement support from Forest Holme and since then, she's been paying it forward as one of our wonderful Ward Volunteers. Now she's taking it one step further by **Jiving** her way onto the ballroom floor.



Kathy

As a huge Strictly fan, Kathy can't wait to take on the **Cha Cha** this January! Working as a local GP, she sees first-hand the incredible impact Forest Holme Hospice has on families in our community, making this challenge even more special.



Louisa

Louisa will be taking on the lively **Cha Cha**, in loving memory of her auntie, who was cared for by Forest Holme. They absolutely loved watching Strictly together, so taking to the dancefloor is the perfect way to celebrate her life.



Peter

Since losing his beautiful wife under the care of our hospital team, Peter has taken up dance classes and is hoping to give back to the hospice for the incredible care they provided. We have no doubt he will **Foxtrot** his way into everyone's heart.



Laura

Last year, Laura, who works for our Strictly headline sponsor Colten Care, was busy helping us behind the scenes. But this time around, she'll be shining under the spotlight to perform the **Tango**!



Kate

Kate is our wonderful Ward Sister here at Forest Holme Hospice, but this January she will be swapping her scrubs for sequins as she **Quicksteps** her way onto the dancefloor!



Victoria

Victoria has kindly supported Forest Holme before, but never quite like this! This time, she'll be stepping out of her comfort zone to take on the elegant **Waltz**, in loving memory of her husband, Jules.



Brad

Despite being signed up by a very persuasive friend, Brad is all fired up for his energetic **Jive**! Knowing the amazing work the hospice does, he's ready to do his bit to support Forest Holme.



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