

## THE PUBLIC LAUNCH OF LASTING POST *The UK's first comprehensive site covering all aspects of death*

**London, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2008:** Lasting Post today announces the public launch of its website, [www.lastingpost.com](http://www.lastingpost.com), which provides a comprehensive guide to the multitude of decisions faced before, during and after the challenging time of death.

The idea for Lasting Post came from co-founder Chantal Rickards following the death of her mother and her brother, both of whom died within a six-month period. Chantal and her family were confronted by the baffling complexities of Funerals, Wills and Probate as well as trying to cope with their grief. Their situation was made worse by neither her mother nor her brother leaving any instructions or indication of their funeral wishes.

It was during this challenging time that Chantal realised that a comprehensive and user-friendly website could help the many people who find themselves in similar situations. In particular, she realised the importance of encouraging people to plan ahead and put their affairs in order. Her idea was then developed by a group of people with varied skills and experience including a probate solicitor, a GP and two bereavement counsellors, all of whom recognised that until now there has been a lack of detailed and helpful information available in one place.

The Lasting Post website is divided into 4 sections:

**Planning Ahead**, provides a straightforward system for people to set down privately the instructions and wishes they want in place for use after their death. This will not only give a person welcomed peace of mind but will help reduce the eventual burden on their family and friends.

**When Death Occurs**, helps a family after the death of a loved one with practical advice including, arranging the funeral, sorting out probate and financial matters. An important part of this section is the creation of a bereavement community providing mutual support and understanding to people suffering from grief.

**Announcements**, provides a place to notify friends and family of the death. These notices are accompanied by a personal obituary and a memorial book.

**Everlasting Post**, is for enduring memorials and tributes to people who have died.

### **Chantal Rickards commented:**

*"Despite Death being the one certainty in Life and over 600,000 people dying in the UK each year, until now there has not been one detailed and comprehensive guide to help people address all the various aspects of this very difficult subject. We wanted to create a website that would bring together all the information necessary to alleviate at least some of the burden on family and friends caused by a person's death. We hope that Lasting Post will help, in one way or another, to ease the troubles caused by the one thing we will all, one day, have to face."*

### **For further information, please contact:**

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### **Chantal Rickards**

