

MINUTES OF MEETING, THURSDAY, 6th DECEMBER 2012 2-4 p.m.
VENUE – MACKENZIE MEDICAL CENTRE BURNLEY GENERAL HOSPITAL
Chaired by Dave Riley

As this was the Support Group Christmas meeting / party it had been decided that this meeting would be light hearted, followed by a Jacobs Join with food and drinks provided by the members and wives. 29 people attended, apologies were received from Don and Colin, Deborah Dobson and Donna Sheridan. There were two new attendees

Dave Riley our new chairman introduced the meeting and mentioned that Colin, who he called Dr. Colin, because he knows so much about different treatments and will be very helpful to any new member who has questions about treatments that are out there – had sent his apologies but hoped to be at the meeting in January. Dave carried on in a light hearted manner about treatments and told the group that it is the intention to hold a second raffle for the voucher worth £30, which is left over from the visit to the Sanctuary of Healing. He went on to tell the group about the visit to the Sanctuary of Healing by some of the members and of follow up visits that had been made by some of the group members.

Dave introduced new members Ted D. and Steve T, Steve had travelled from Skipton, he explained that he had lived in London where he had visited a Prostate Cancer Support Group after being diagnosed positive. On coming back up North he had been trying to locate a Support Group and had found us via our website on the internet. Dave asked him if he would like to tell us where he was at with his treatment. He said he was diagnosed two years ago and it was recommended that he have a Prostatectomy. He did further research and elected to take the trial for High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) which appealed to him more due to it being less invasive. He went back to his Consultant and was put on a 3 year trial. He had a biopsy which took 60 ‘snaps’ to pinpoint exactly where the cancer actually was so that the HIFU would ‘hit’ the exact cells. Although some people have side effects he is happy with the treatment, he suffered some erectile dysfunction but now things are pretty much back to normal and he thinks the treatment is very good. Obviously, he is being monitored and will have to have another small biopsy and regular PSA tests but he feels that is a small price to pay. He was happy to talk about his treatment. At this point Dave mentioned about the badges that Steve L had brought that we can wear in order to identify the treatment each of us have incurred, this would help each other to interact with new members to help with their decision making about treatments they wish to follow.

Our previous chairman, Martin, joined the group. Dave thanked him and paid tribute to him saying that it takes some doing to speak for about an hour on Prostate Cancer at meetings.

Dave then organised the drawing of the 1st raffle which made £52 and the official meeting was adjourned so that the party could begin and people enjoy the eats and drinks. Later, a few jokes were made about Potato Pie, provided by Leon then the 2nd raffle (the voucher plus bottle of whisky) was drawn and this raised £74. Thank you! The meeting was concluded wishing everyone a joyful Christmas and Happy New Year.

Next Meeting, Thursday, 3rd January 2013 2-4 p.m. Mackenzie Medical Centre, Burnley General Hospital