

Minutes of meeting No 34, Thursday 5th September 2013
Venue - Mackenzie Centre, Burnley Gen. Hospital 2-4pm

25 people were present including our Specialist nurses Debbie & Deborah; Apologies from Leon, Hazel. Colin S & Peter Ch. There were 3 new members and 1 "wife" attended.

Chairman Dave opened the meeting by reading the Minutes of the last meeting and spoke about matters arising; he introduced Steve L. as the new Almoner – he will be responsible for checking & supporting members who are unwell. Dave spoke of the Burnley Scanner appeal and read their Minutes. He informed the meeting of the Auction which had taken place at Burnley Miners Club to support this cause and that it had raised £600. He said representatives of the Prostate Cancer Support Group had helped to collect in the town centre of Burnley with a "bucket" in support of the Scanner Appeal and it raised £46. - **These events are an excellent opportunity to gain awareness for our group which will then hopefully enable us to help more patients in the Lancashire area.** Dave asked again for more people to help with the Scanner Appeal and "rattle a bucket" – he said that if we just help one person it will be worth it. . He had previously suggested at our August meeting that we could also do some awareness events in the Nelson & Colne areas, but in order to proceed with this we would require more help from members/other people. Dave also informed the group that certain of the social occasions for the Scanner Appeal had been cancelled owing to poor response.

Dave told the people present about the sheets that were passed out at the last meeting on two things that were liked about the meetings and two things that members do not like. The overall response was very positive; however we still need to know from members what they would like to take place at meetings!

Dave introduced the three new members and asked them if they would inform the group of their own "journey" in the diagnosis of Prostate Cancer and where they had heard about the Support Group. Two people had heard about the group from Blackburn Hospital and one person had spoken to members of the Support Group when they were assisting the Scanner Appeal in Burnley town centre.

Because there was no speaker at this meeting it was suggested that in the second half, tables could be set up with members who had received various treatments talking to other group members of the side effects of their treatment and giving information. This was thought to be a very worthwhile exercise. It was also mentioned about books & information leaflets in the Library which is brought each meeting by Eddie & Moira. The books can be taken away for members to read & return.

BREAK FOR BREW

In the 2nd half of the meeting discussion tables were set up on the various treatments and this seemed to be very successful. Stuart asked the group what they thought about this and the feeling was very positive so this approach would probably be employed again. Stuart will give details about a possible Grant from Prostate Cancer UK in the next meeting.

Stuart spoke about Barry Williams, the speaker that came to the August meeting from Collective Legal Solutions and because his talk was very interesting & informative on legal matters & putting our house in order and lots of members were missing owing to the holiday period, it was decided to ask him to come back in the New Year to give another talk.

Barry has sent us a letter saying how much he enjoyed our meeting and has said a few members asked him to contact them but he has not had much success, he is quite happy to visit anyone f.o.c. who would

like advice re financial matters. Barry's number is: 07535 801283 or 0800 110 5221 email:
Barry@personalwillsandestates.co.uk

One of the new attendees spoke about a treatment he had heard of which was called Green Light Laser Therapy. Stuart said he would try to find out something about this and inform the next meeting.

At the next meeting, Thursday 3rd October, the speaker will be Dr Wiley – Senior Oncologist at Christie Hospital. His talk will last approximately 45 mins. and it is hoped that there will be a very good turn-out for this because it is extremely good of Dr Wiley to give up his valuable time to come to talk to our group group and also because his talk will primarily be about Radiotherapy which is of great interest to lots of our members.

The raffle made £34.50.

Dave concluded the meeting with one of his famous Prostate jokes!

**Next meeting: Thursday 3rd October, 2-4pm
Mackenzie Theatre Burnley Gen. hospital**