

Minutes of Meeting 3rd July 2014 – 2-4pm
Venue: Mackenzie Centre, Burnley Gen. Hospital

Present: 23 including specialist nurse Debbie; apologies, - John & Hazel, John H. & Colin S.
We had one new member Tom.

Dave, Chairman, opened the meeting by reading the Minutes of the last meeting (Thursday, 5th June). Since this meeting the Scanner (Gordon Birtwistle Scanner Appeal) has been handed over – the staff at the hospital have received training and the Scanner is now in operation. 2 add on units have been ordered for Ultra Sound for testicular cancer and bladder cancer for both male & female.

An update of the monies for the Scanner Appeal which is still continuing, is £1,000 raised at a concert at Padiham Unitarian Church, with Grace O'Malley and a concert at St. Mary's, Burnley which raised £700.

Dave went on to report on the Classic Car Show which was held at Towneley Park, Burnley in beautiful weather and where our Prostate Cancer Support Group unveiled their new Gazebo and banners which have been bought with our funds. A photograph of this Gazebo was shown on the screen with the helpers on the day – Leon, John G., Stuart M, & Dave R. and Alan P. & Peter C. helped on the day but missed the photograph. This stand is all about bringing awareness of Prostate Cancer to everybody and it will now be used at other functions in the future.

Dave reported that we have applied for a grant of £1,000 from Prostate Cancer UK with whom we are now 'partners'. It is hoped that this money will help to finance any future goods we need to buy or hire.

Dave spoke about the entrance at our venue of the library at the McKenzie suite. Apparently, it is required that we use the front door again and the security locks.

At this point a video showing the journey of two Prostate Cancer patients was shown. We have a DVD with six stories and up to this point we have seen three of them.

New member, Tom, spoke about his battle with Prostate Cancer. He said he was very impressed with "Rosemere" Cancer hospital at Preston and he felt when he had Radiotherapy at first he didn't want to go, but in the end he had met so many good people that he didn't want to leave. He quoted the famous "long walk to freedom" from Nelson Mandella where he thought of his own cancer as "a long walk to health"

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In the 2nd half of the meeting the raffle was drawn and it made £31. The CD was shown again highlighting two more of the men's journeys through Prostate Cancer and this was followed by a question and answer session. During this session it became clear that some

members are still not sure of the procedure for obtaining a PSA test from the doctor or nurse. It was decided that we would try and get this clarified for the next meeting.

Dave asked the members if they knew of any speakers that would be willing to talk at the meetings and of how the members would like the "speaking" field to proceed. The majority of the members wanted future talks to be Prostate related. After this short discussion, Dave brought the meeting to a close and ended with one of his famous prostate jokes.

The next meeting will be by **Thursday, 7th August at 2.00 p.m. at the McKenzie Medical Centre, Burnley General Hospital.**