

**Minutes of meeting No 48, Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014**  
Venue - Mackenzie Centre, Burnley Gen. Hospital 2-4pm

34 people present including our special nurse, Debbie. Apologies were received from Nigel D and we had 1 new member Steve P.

Dave opened the meeting by reading the Minutes of the October meeting and explaining that people must sign in at our regular meetings in order to apply with Fire Regulations and also that **this meeting was our 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary!**. He also stated that as we had been going for 4 years would anyone else be interested in becoming more involved with the running of the group. The response was negative! He introduced Naz from Macmillan; she would like to start a register of people & their family's experiences and their treatment when dealing with Prostate Cancer.

He explained about a benevolent fund in Urology which could fund parts of the equipment for the new Scanner.

He talked about the meeting in Manchester the following Thursday, 13th November which had been organised by the Federation in conjunction with Prostate Cancer UK and that they have normally been held in London. After requests Prostate Cancer UK are happy to have 3 outside London with Manchester being one of the venues. Anybody interested in attending to see Stuart or Dave after this meeting, at the moment 4 people are attending. He felt that we should push hard for people to attend because people say they never hold them "up here" (in the North) – but now they do!

Gary Steele MBE, Chairman of the Leighton Support Group should have been with us to talk about setting up a PSA testing session in our area as he and his group have done, unfortunately he gave his apologies as he was ill – BUT we will show a short video of Gary's campaign later in the meeting and will invite him to the December meeting.

Dave announced that it would be a Christmas Jacob's join for the next meeting and said that a sheet was going round and members could write on what they can bring. Glen, one of our regular members WILL put on music, singing and a Quiz for us again – as everyone knows he did us PROUD last year.

Our 1 new member was asked about his diagnosis of Prostate Cancer and he was told that he could sit with members who had had treatment and would talk to him about their treatments and then he could make an informed choice.

Stuart informed the meeting of a donation of £500 that he had received from the East Lancs Freemasons (Burnley). A letter of thanks had been sent to them. He spoke about the talk given by Deborah – one of our specialist nurses – at the Royal Blackburn hospital and indeed the one at Burnley General Hospital on 21<sup>st</sup> November in the Conference Centre. Our specialist nurse Debbie, and Anne Marie Hope another specialist nurse would be in attendance. Deborah's talk at Blackburn was well supported with 9/10 people in attendance from our Support Group including our EX chairman, Martin.

The course run by Age UK re healthy lifestyles for Prostate Cancer sufferers has now been extended and is held at Knighthill Centre, Padiham.

Stuart also reported that if we provide personnel for bucket collections at football matches organised by Prostate Cancer UK then we are entitled to 50% of the proceeds. There are to be bucket collections at Blackburn Rovers and Accrington Stanley in March 2015 – if we can provide personnel!!! These events are enjoyable, **Volunteers will be able to watch the matches FREE!!!**

A provisional date for PSA testing at Burnley Football Club has been arranged for 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015. - More information at the next meeting.

Stuart asked people to support John H who is a co-ordinator with Prostate Cancer UK and is supporting the Movember campaign, any other members who had managed to grow a moustache could also donate any money they collect to John. This would save having to send off individual forms/donations.

Dave read one or two pieces out of the newspaper and then the group BROKE FOR BREW.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the meeting the raffle was drawn and made £49 the short video was then shown of Gary Steele MBE (who would have been our speaker today before his cancellation through illness). Colin S. spoke about PSA testing and gave statistics of hereditary Prostate Cancer. This information can be found on our web site – but we have leaflets on this information to supply to all our members and it is a MUST for anyone with Prostate Cancer who has sons.

A general discussion took place about the PSA test, especially for younger men.

Dave closed the meeting with a reminder that it was agreed that **the January meeting has been cancelled** completely due to the first Thursday being New Year's Day! He then brought the meeting to a close with one of his famous Prostate jokes. The next meeting will be our Xmas Jacobs join.

**Next meeting: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2-4pm, Burnley Gen Hospital, Mackenzie Centre**