

Minutes of meeting 2nd October 2014
Venue: Burnley Gen Hospital, 2-4pm

27 people present including speaker Tracey & wives of members. There were apologies from Debbie (Specialist nurse) & Alan P. There were three new members Brian C. with his wife, Alan S. & Dave H.

Dave, Chairman, introduced the meeting by reading the Minutes of the September meeting where Mike Harrison, Prostate Federation, gave a talk and told the members that he likes to go round all the Prostate Support Group Meetings at least once and give an encouraging talk.

He then announced that the new stand was taken to Nelson Football Club where there was a bucket collection for Prostate Cancer UK. John H. thanked everybody who helped on the day – and Nelson won!! The helpers wore the new T. Shirts and Stuart showed one to the group which says “Here 4 U – Talk to Us Today”

A general discussion took place on future events with Dave reminding us that the December meeting will be our **Xmas party/‘Jacobs Join’**, Stuart has spoken with Glenn about entertaining us again and he is hopeful he will be able to do it for us but will confirm at the next meeting.

The January Meeting will fall on 1st January 2015. Do we want to cancel the January meeting? A decision will have to be made at the November meeting after we have also spoken with the Hospital staff.

Dave reminded us that Deborah Dobson (specialist nurse) will be giving a talk at Blackburn & Burnley Hospitals in October & November respectively.

He then reminded the group that the people chairing the meeting and taking part in the organisation of the Support Group have been doing this for some time and would welcome anyone else who would be interested in becoming involved to have a think about it, it can then be brought up at the November meeting.

At the last meeting we had an information talk by Amanda from Age Concern about the delivery of a six week programme of activity for Prostate Cancer sufferers to be held at Nigel House, Padiham. Jimmy C. went to this and informed the group that they are hoping to further extend it. The Chairman expressed the hope that it will take off, as it should help anyone who has been diagnosed with Prostate Cancer.

Dave told the meeting about Leighton Support Group who had carried out a PSA screening ‘clinic’ at Crewe Football Club. A blood sample is taken from the arm for a donation of £10 with these being forwarded to Nottingham University for the results. He wondered if it would be feasible for our support group to set up a screening ‘clinic’. It is hoped that we will have more information by the time of the next meeting after further discussion with a member from the Leighton Group who Dave and Stuart hope to meet at the Annual General Meeting at Christie’s on Saturday 4th October. He said that we would like to get as much

information as possible so that we can discuss some of the questions that will be raised and report back to the Support Group.

Two of our new members gave an account of their “journey” with Prostate Cancer and how it had affected them. Brian C. was reassured by the group and hoped to come again.

Stuart informed the group about goldendaysradio.com in Melbourne, Australia which has been doing features on health matters. They have a doctor talk about Prostate Cancer and other health topics. It’s very interesting for any of our members to listen to.

Tom C. gave a talk about the Rosemere Cancer Foundation in Preston, he is now a promoter for their cause and he intends to spread information about Rosemere throughout the area by word of mouth. John H. who has just had some treatment at Rosemere thought that it would be an advantage to install Wi-Fi at Rosemere. Whilst John was speaking he reminded the group about the following month being **Movember** when men grow beards or Moustaches for the Prostate Cancer charity, it has now become the biggest fundraiser for Prostate Cancer Research and Prostate Cancer charities on a worldwide basis.

BREAK FOR BREW

The raffle was drawn and made £36

In the 2nd half of the meeting Dave introduced Tracey Cook who gave an informal talk on Erectile Dysfunction and the various treatments available to help men with their sexual health difficulties, a number of ‘interesting questions’ were raised. She said that if anyone would like to speak to her on a personal level they could speak to her privately after her talk.

After the talk by Tracey the meeting drew to a close with one of Dave’s famous prostate jokes and a reminder that the next meeting will be on **Thursday 6th November at the Mackenzie Centre, Burnley General Hospital.**