

Minutes of meeting No 65 5th May 2016 2-4pm

Venue: Mackenzie Centre Burnley Gen Hospital

26 people present including our speaker Martin Wells and our Specialist Nurse, Debbie. 1 new member attended David H.

Chairman's Report Dave opened the meeting by introducing Martin our ex Chairman who has not been to a meeting for 3 & half years – much laughter!! Martin is to be our speaker in the 2nd half. Dave then went on to read out the April Minutes and then spoke about the Presentation at Christie's Hospital on 9th April. He said that all our members who attended had enjoyed the experience and that he had been very impressed with the talk from a nurse about what to do to strengthen bones.

He mentioned that the 3rd blood testing event held at Burnley Football Club in April had seen 404 men take the test and not 382 as previously reported. He said that 75 people had volunteered samples to the Detector Dogs and he asked Debbie if she had seen anyone who had attended the blood testing event come through her clinic. She had seen about 6 coming through. A general discussion took place as to why men prefer to attend these blood testing events rather than visit their own G.P.s. A general consensus is that they fear having an examination and are happier with the camaraderie of the group testings.

The bucket collection at Accrington Stanley for Prostate Cancer UK organised by John Hayworth raised £630. John does a lot of work for Prostate Cancer UK and this amount is very welcome.

There's to be a Conference on Prostate Cancer in Nottingham, if anyone is interested then Dave will give them the link to get the information.

Gary Steele was admitted to hospital in late 2015 with heart failure linked to him taking Arbiraterone. So he is taking a step backwards. Blood testing will still hopefully carry on, but maybe he will ease up a little. We will give more news of this if and when we get it.

Dave asked if anyone would be interested in going for a trip to see the detector dogs in Milton Keynes. Stuart sent a list round to ask anyone if they would be interested and if enough were we would get a mini-bus to take us.

He spoke about Jeff Stelling, Sky Football Presenter who has spent 10 days walking between Football Clubs (26 miles every day) and has raised £600,000 for Prostate Cancer.

Dave told the group that he is going to Los Angeles before the next meeting and is hoping to attend a Prostate Meeting whilst there and report back to the group. He said the Los Angeles Police Department have their own group and Dave is trying to attend one of their meetings whilst there. He read out his correspondence with them to an amused audience

and promised to inform the group how good they are or what it is all about at the next meeting in June.

Dave then showed the new TV advert by Prostate Cancer UK and another CD about the Gleeson Score.

Secretary's Report Stuart spoke about the blood testing event at Burnley Football Club being a huge success and reported that there was 38 people who had the red warning and should go to their doctor's immediately. He felt that the testing event itself had been a huge success but time will tell.

The new member was introduced as Dave H. and he was asked if he would like to tell of his Prostate Cancer journey so far. He spoke briefly about his diagnosis and mentioned that he thought that he would opt for Brachytherapy. Stuart gave him some useful leaflets to help him with his decision.

He told the group that Asda in Burnley is giving us a Prostate Cancer Awareness day on 28th October. He has arranged to take our Stand to the awareness day and will need volunteers to man the stand and speak to any interested parties. He said that Asda were excellent to deal with and very supportive on things like this.

BREAK FOR BREW – the raffle was drawn and made £32.

In the 2nd half of the meeting we had a very informative and thought provoking talk by our previous Chairman, Martin Wells. Martin was thanked for his talk and was invited to attend any of our future meetings.

The meeting drew to a close with Dave telling us one of his famous Prostate jokes and a reminder of the next meeting which is **Thursday, 2nd June 2016**.