

# East Lancashire Prostate Cancer Support Group Newsletter



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## GARY STEELE M.B.E. R.I.P.

Sad news has reached the group that Gary Steele died in St. Luke's Hospice, Winsford this morning, Friday 24th November 2017.

The Group sends its condolences to Gary's widow Mary and family.

### Gary Steele MBE (Founder and Chairman to May 2017)

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Gary was diagnosed with Prostate Cancer in 1999 and his experiences following diagnosis lead him to start a support and awareness group. He has been said to be a one-man crusade promoting awareness of Prostate Cancer throughout Staffordshire, Cheshire the North West and beyond.

Gary devotes a huge amount of time and energy talking to men, travelling around the country, setting up temporary Drop-In centres at supermarkets, shopping pre-

dicts etc., as well as talking at Working Men's Clubs, Probus, Freemasons & Rotary Clubs. In addition to this he goes to companies and anywhere else he is invited to promote awareness of Prostate Cancer.

He initiated the Group's PSA testing sessions, thanks to which, to date, over 6,000 men have been tested, and many confirmed cancers identified, enabling treatment and/or active surveillance to those diagnosed followed.

He is the main fundraiser for the Group,

having single-handedly raised over £600,000 for vital equipment, research, staff specialist cancer training and promoting awareness. He arranges functions, special nights, Big Band concerts, 60's Nights and Fashion Shows.

Together with Mr Pradip Javle, the consultant Urological Surgeon who treated Gary, he competed in the BUPA Great North Run raising over £8,000 for research and equipment for the care and comfort of patients admitted to Leighton Hospital when diagnosed with Prostate

Merry Christmas



SDU

Cancer.

Gary is a Trustee of the Prostate Cancer Federation "Tackle" and Vice Chairman of Prostate Cancer Support North-West. He is the first response for medical advice on the Prostate Cancer Support National Help-Line and has helped to compile a register of men willing to talk to newly diagnosed patients and their families regarding treatment, care, and living with cancer.

He has appeared on national and local TV and local radio phone-ins and will do whatever he can to promote awareness to this most common Cancer in men. Gary was awarded the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honour's List in 2012 for his sterling work.

Gary initiated the sponsorship of local junior football and cricket teams who promote the "Save A Dad" campaign and he also set up the Group's association with the Medical Detection Dogs' trials to "sniff-out" Prostate Cancer.

He has also set up sponsorship of the sporting curriculum at Sir William Stanier School in Crewe which we believe to be the first of its kind in the UK



*Next Meeting Is The  
Christmas Knee's Up.  
Lots Of Food & Drink  
Merriment For All*

*Thursday 7th*

*December In The  
Lounge Bar The  
Mackenzie Building,  
Burnley General  
Hospital*

*2:00pm—4:00pm*

# An Invitation to Participate in Research

## Metastatic Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer

Hi Leon

My name is Kate and I'm from Exafield, a medical market research company based in Manchester.

We have some research currently taking place on the topic of metastatic castrate resistant prostate cancer and I wondered whether you would be able to ask any of your members if they'd be interested in taking part?

The interview would discuss their experiences, the support received during diagnosis and treatment and their opinions/ideas for improvement. The patient voice is vital in research to educate healthcare professionals and it's really important to allow patients to provide their feedback.

It would be a 60 minute telephone interview and we'd be pleased to offer £60 for their time. In addition, we'd offer a contribution to Prostate Cancer UK of £30 for your referral. The interviews are taking place from 22<sup>nd</sup> November to 8<sup>th</sup> December at a time convenient to each individual.

Any members can contact me on this email or the phone number below to discuss further.

Many thanks

Kate

**Kate Shaul**

Senior Project Manager



T : +44 (0) 1625 801337

D : +44 (0) 1625 801339

RFQ : [UKquotation@exafield.com](mailto:UKquotation@exafield.com)

E : [shaul@exafield.com](mailto:shaul@exafield.com)

W : [www.exafield.com](http://www.exafield.com)

A : 1st Floor, Suite F6.2b, Grimshaw Lane, Bollington, SK105JB



# Tailored treatment study aims to improve prostate cancer care BBC News

2 November 2017 From the section [Glasgow & West Scotland](#)

A study to develop "tailored treatments" for prostate cancer sufferers is being led by researchers at the University of Glasgow. BBC News 2nd

By selecting drugs best suited to an individual man's cancer, they hope to significantly extend life expectancy.

They predict it has the potential to extend the lives of 9,000 men every year in the U.K.

They will join teams from Belfast, Manchester and London in the £1.4m study launched by Prostate Cancer UK.

Currently, men diagnosed with advanced prostate cancer are typically treated with hormone therapy, and move on to life-extending treatments such as Docetaxel, Abiraterone and Enzalutamide once hormone therapy has stopped working.

Dr Iain Frame, director of research at Prostate Cancer UK said: "Every man's prostate cancer is unique to him and so not surprisingly the way men respond to treatments varies enormously. Clinicians are in effect left to treat patients 'in the dark' - with little idea as to which treatments will work best for which men".

The research would see a shift from the traditional "one size fits all" approach, towards identifying what drives an individual's cancer, and which drugs will work best to stop it.

### Tailored approach

The programme, which has been co-funded by Prostate Cancer UK, the Movember Foundation and the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride, will first study men with advanced prostate cancer before it has become resistant to hormone therapy.

The aim is to identify changes in the DNA make up of prostate cancer cells. The researchers will then develop a test to detect these changes and establish which drugs best target them, preventing the cancer from spreading further.

The same technique is already used for women diagnosed with advanced breast cancer.

Dr Robert Jones, Professor of Clinical Cancer Research, is leading the study at the University of Glasgow.

He said "It's already becoming clear in other common cancers, including cancers of the breast, lung and colon, that better outcomes can be achieved if we test the individual patient's tumour biology and then select the most appropriate treatment."

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men, with over 47,000 new diagnoses every year in the UK.

About a quarter of these are diagnosed after the cancer cells have spread to other parts of the body, reducing the chances of successful treatment and survival.



## Contact Information

Tel: 07548 033930  
E Mail leondwright4@gmail.com

From Left to Right Hazel Goulding (Treasurer) Leon D Wright (IT Admin) Stuart Marshall (Secretary) Steve Laird (Vice Chairman) Dave Riley (Chairman)

We are a group of local people who know about prostate cancer. We are a friendly organisation dedicated to offering support to men who have had or who are experiencing the effects of this potentially life threatening disease.

The East Lanc's Prostate Cancer Support Group offers a place for free exchange of information and help for local men and their supporters (family and friends) who may be affected by this increasingly common form of male cancer.

At each meeting we strive to be a happy, supportive and upbeat group of people; encouraging open discussion on what can be a very difficult and perhaps for some an