

Newsletter

Winter 2014

[Andrew's Ramblings](#)

[See Diary Dates for next meeting](#)

Exciting News!!



Sir Michael Parkinson CBE

Sir Michael Parkinson is a 'Prostate Cancer Survivor' and has very kindly consented to become the **Patron of CPCSG**. He was diagnosed and had radiotherapy treatment during 2013. He signed up to the Men United campaign organised by Prostate Cancer UK when he said:

"I'm signing up to Men United because I know what it is to confront prostate cancer. You definitely don't want to do it alone. However tough you are you need all the support you can get. Every year around 40,000 men are diagnosed with this disease in the UK, and men need to join together to fight back".

I approached Sir Michael when he was enjoying a family lunch at one of his son's establishments, The Belgian Arms in Holyport. I wrote to him and outlined the background and activities of CPCSG and received an immediate reply indicating that he would be pleased to become Patron of our Group.

I am delighted to welcome Sir Michael to CPCSG.

A Welcome Surprise

We are lucky to have a good relationship with the Wycombe Orpheus Male Voice Choir – you may recall our joint concert in Princes Risborough during Mike Basnett's term as Chairman.

The Choir Secretary Craig Lewis and his wife Linda organised a concert party for her birthday (I am far too discreet to disclose which one!!) also as a way of thanking those members who had supported her during a period of treatment. They collected over £1,000, the majority of which was donated using Gift Aid and gave all the funds to CPCSG. I was invited to a Choir rehearsal in March when the proceeds were given to us and I was able to thank Craig, Linda and the Choir for their generosity.

Since that time the Choir have asked whether we could join them in organising a major performance during 2015. I am sure we will help.

Hilary Baker

It is with mixed emotions that I must announce that Hilary will be leaving Wycombe (and CPCSG) in the Autumn of 2014 after some 14 years service. I am delighted for her as she is taking up the position of the Lead Uro-oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist at UCLH. This is a promotion into an exciting new post managing a team of CNS looking at developing urology cancer services at a corporate and network level. Before then, however, she will be having hip replacement surgery next month so will be away from work for several weeks.

Hilary was the driving force behind the creation of CPCSG in 2005. She initiated the concept, she enthused the former patients (me included), and she ensured the group came into life. It was her enthusiasm and drive which resulted in many patients receiving the encouragement and support of the CPCSG as they confronted prostate cancer.. We shall miss her greatly.

Newsletter

Pam Ging.

Pam works tirelessly as our Secretary in addition to her demanding role as Prostate Nurse Specialist at Wycombe.. She is taking a sabbatical and will be away from early May until the Autumn. We shall miss her but we wish her a welcome break.

Rotary Club

I was invited to speak at the Rotary Club of Gerrards Cross and the Chalfonts in April. My presentation about CPCSG and my own personal prostate cancer journey appeared to be well received and it provoked a number of questions. The Club kindly made a donation of £200 to CPCSG for which I have written a letter of thanks.

Federation Workshop

Tony Meaden and I attended the Autumn Workshop at the University of Birmingham in November 2013. It was very well attended and had a wide range of speakers on several challenging topics – as usual the programme was full and there was little time for networking. Full details of the workshop are given in the Winter edition of 'Prostate Matters'.

Please note that the Federation has a new and much more informative website – www.tackleprostate.org. Please go and see how the Federation is becoming much more active and raising its profile.

Regionalisation

Roger Wotton of Aylesbury Vale PCSG spoke at the Workshop promoting the concept of the Federation becoming regionalised. The principal purpose is to improve communication both within the Federation and across its participating members. It is an excellent initiative and CPCSG is in the Midlands Region comprising Aylesbury Vale, FOPS, Oxfordshire, Reading, Cotswolds and Milton Keynes (once it is established). Fortunately we already know most of these Groups with whom we have corresponded for some time.

Christmas Social

We held our social event in early December – it was again well attended and I am very grateful to all those who helped. I must make particular mention of my wife, Lynda, who did the catering; to Alan Rowe who organised the ticket sales; and to Jeff Gunn for running the raffle. A good time was had by all.

Prostate Cancer UK

The charity is working hard to improve links with the Federation and support groups. It held a regional meeting in early March which I attended and where local support groups exchanged ideas and experiences.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 14 May 2014

Members Meeting and AGM

7.00 pm at Wycombe Hospital

The guest speaker will be **Lorraine Grover** who is a **Therapist in Sexual Wellbeing** – www.lorrainegrover.com

Lorraine has spoken to our group before – her presentation is unmissable – it is stimulating, amusing, thought provoking, and guaranteed to capture your attention.

YOU MUST COME.

Other meeting dates for 2014 are already on the website.

Remember – I sit as your representative on the Patient Experience Group (PEG) of the NHS Trust. Please contact me if you have any good or bad experiences you wish me to raise.

Best wishes to you all

Andrew Scott-Priestley

If you would like more details on any of the above information, or you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please contact the CPCSG Secretary, Pam Ging, Prostate Nurse Specialist, Urology Dept, Wycombe Hospital, High Wycombe, HP11 2TT, Tel: 01494 426020, email: Pamela.GING@buckshealthcare.nhs.uk