

# Newsletter

**Spring 2015**

## [Andrew's Ramblings](#)

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### **Exciting News!!**

Our next meeting is the AGM – but we have managed to attract an excellent speaker who has agreed to come and entertain us. Make a note in your diary now – **Thursday 14 May 2015 at 7.00 p.m. in the Lecture Theatre at Wycombe Hospital (our usual meeting venue)**. The speaker is Dr Tony Maisey whose topic “Spare Part Surgery” is guaranteed to be both entertaining and amusing – so do come and join us.

### **Exciting News #2**

The AGM will be my final meeting as your Chairman because our constitution does not allow the Chairman to be re-elected for a fourth successive year. It has been an honour to serve CPCSG over the past few years and I am very grateful for the support and encouragement I have received from so many people.

The really important news however is that **Terry Brown** who is one of the founder members of CPCSG has agreed to accept nomination as Chairman. Please come to the AGM and demonstrate your support for him. Remember that all our meetings are open to members, their partners and their friends.

### **Pam Ging**

Pam has acted as Secretary of the Group since its formation in 2005 and she has proved to be a tower of strength in supporting the Committee and the Chairmen. She has managed to maintain the database, produce agendas and minutes of meetings, distribute newsletters etc and this has all been done in her own time. This is in addition to her “proper job” as a Prostate Clinical Nurse Specialist. I am very grateful to her and I know that my

predecessor Mike Basnett feels the same.

However, the time has come for our Group to stand on its own two feet, and so Pam will be relinquishing her role as Secretary at the AGM.

Good News! **Keith Gordon**, who has been an active Committee member for some years and who was also a co-author of our Constitution, has agreed to accept nomination as Secretary at the AGM.

### **Rose Southby**

Rose succeeded Hilary Baker as the Lead CNS at the Bucks Healthcare Trust and has settled in well. Rose had been a nurse at Wycombe before moving to the Churchill Hospital in Oxford. We are very lucky to have managed to attract her back to Wycombe and to step into the role caused by Hilary's departure. Rose met many of you at the Christmas Social at Wycombe Cricket Club and at our last meeting in March.

Rose has a strong belief in the value of our support group and we are already enjoying working with her.

### **Events**

Our **Christmas Social**, held at Wycombe Cricket Club, (many thanks to Colin MacArthur for organising) for the first time, proved to be a real success. Over 50 members attended and were greeted with a glass of prosecco on arrival before they elected to use the main bar. The buffet selection was very well received and had a wide selection to satisfy all tastes. Members had the chance to meet Rose and Pam in an informal setting – then to the delight of many Hilary Baker popped in to see us all. Jeff Gunn organised an excellent raffle and the Cricket Club also kindly donated some wine prizes. A very successful evening and I feel sure that Terry and Colin will want to repeat it this year.

At our meeting on 3 March we received a fascinating presentation from one of our members, Alan Ralston-Good, who

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very kindly offered his services. His talk was on the subject of "The Secret War of Malaya and Indonesia" which he illustrated with photographs from the era to explain and amplify the nature of the conflict. He explained that the secret element was because HMG/Army were reluctant to admit to the presence of armed forces in the region.

Alan presented a very interesting account of the conflict and also spoke about his personal prostate cancer journey. Many thanks Alan.

The meeting was well attended, some newly diagnosed patients came for the first time, and there was ample time for members to mingle and socialise over a glass of wine.

## **Golf News**

Last September four of us played in the Charity Golf day which had been organised by the two Rotary Clubs in the Gerrards Cross/Chalfonts area. We didn't play particularly well but it was a very enjoyable day at the Gerrards Cross GC. At the Dinner I was able to speak to the participants, to outline the services provided by CPCSG, and to thank the two Clubs for their kind support as we were to be one of the beneficiaries.

You can imagine my surprise when, some months later, we received a huge cheque for more than £4,000, to help us continue our mission to help prostate cancer patients.

So a big "Thank You" to the Rotary Clubs of GX & The Chalfonts and Misbourne Matins.

## **Funds**

In February we were invited to benefit from a concert organised by our good friends **Wycombe Orpheus Male Voice Choir** who were singing with St Edmundsbury MVC at the Royal Grammar School. The concert was excellent, the programme appealed to all tastes and was attended by around 200 guests. I was able to speak to the audience about our Group and how we are committed to helping others. We

subsequently received a generous donation.

We were again invited by the **Burnham Joggers** to their Charity evening. This is the occasion when they make donations to the various charities which they have elected to support during the year. CPCSG is very honoured to again be chosen as a recipient of a significant donation – the "Joggers" have been wonderful supporters in recent years and we are very grateful.

## **PSA Testing**

We have just heard that the PSA testing event at Adams Park organised by Wycombe Lions club resulted in around 140 men being tested. After analysis around 16 men have been advised to visit their GP for further investigation. How much better it would have been if they had been sensible enough to visit their GP in the first place or their GP had been more proactive.

## **Cancer Drugs Fund**

I wrote to Cheryl Gillan MP expressing regret that one of the drugs being withdrawn may be Cabazitaxel and have received a reply from the Secretary of State for Health

## **Diary Dates (usually 7.00 pm)**

Thurs 14 May – Speaker + AGM

Thurs 20 August - TBA

Thurs 3 December – Christmas Social

**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**

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*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:*

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