

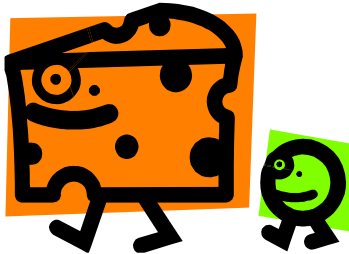
Issue 12 : February 2015

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Welcome from Brian



Now we have brushed off the cobwebs and are hopefully through the worst of winter why not cheer yourself up with our latest newsletter. We have a number of interesting events coming up. Our next quiz is planned for March - see the details below, and Hale Leys week is fast approaching for those of you who enjoy cutting a dash in your hi-viz jacket! We are also looking forward to the fantastic summer music concert we have planned, in conjunction with local Rotary.

Report on our AGM

At our recent AGM, Brian agreed to continue for one more year as Chairman, Roger agreed to continue as Secretary and John Brown as Treasurer. Bruce Cameron and David Barrow agreed to continue as committee members. We have a vacancy for another committee member, so if anyone is interested in standing please have a word with Brian. It's not too onerous and really does help to make sure we have different points of view representing the membership. As far as membership is concerned, we now have more members than ever



before and we are pleased to see awareness of prostate cancer being raised locally, which is always an encouraging sign. We are pleased to report that our efforts to work with Milton Keynes have paid dividends. There is now a thriving MK support group, and we need to acknowledge the efforts of our own John Hazell in helping this come about. As you know we are closely allied to Tackle Prostate Cancer (the Federation) and very pleased to see our secretary, Roger Wotton, has been made Chairman of the national organisation. This is a coup for our local group. Everyone wishes Roger well in his new role. He assures the group that he remains committed to AVPCSG as an important connection to grass roots issues and opinions.

This past year we were successful in having a group stand at a local Macmillan event, we had a successful Hale Leys awareness week, as well as our regular Thame Show. We also held our first quiz evening, deemed to be a resounding success by those who attended. During the year we retained our connection to the local hospice in Berkhamsted and enjoyed a welcome Christmas party, courtesy of Brian and Hazel.

Hale Leys Awareness Week

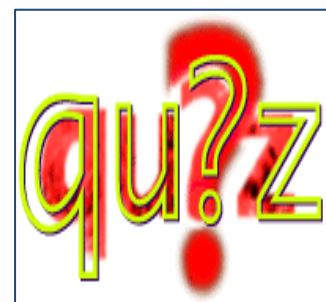


*It's coming up to that time of the year again and we have taken a stand at Hale Leys shopping centre in Aylesbury during prostate cancer awareness week. As usual, we are looking for volunteers to man the stand from **Monday 23rd March through to Saturday 28th March**. We would like at least two members for each two hour slot from 10am to 12noon, 12noon to 2pm and 2pm to 4pm, on each day. We would particularly like to see wives and partners coming along to help man the stand - it really does help with spreading the message to shoppers. If you feel you are able to*

offer your service please email Roger (rwotton@btconnect.com) or call him on 01442 822161.

Quiz Night!

Following the success of our first quiz night our next one is planned for **Tuesday 24th March at the Chandos Arms, Western Turville**, starting at 7pm. Courtesy of Mine Host Chris and his team, we will enjoy a really good fish and chip supper with dessert for a tenner and there will be something for everyone, including prizes for the winning team. Make a note in your diary now for what will be a very enjoyable evening. If you wish to enter a team please let Roger know as soon as possible as places will be limited.



Waitrose Community Matters



We were fortunate enough to be selected as one of the three charities for February in Waitrose, Berkhamsted. The Community Matters scheme is one you will be familiar with, where you place green tokens in your preferred charity box every time you shop at the store. We shall have to wait to see how successful we have been. If you want to approach your local Waitrose store to have our group as one of their monthly charities, please do so, as it's really easy to set up. See Roger if you want some words to use for the display.

Cancer Drugs Fund Petition

You will probably have heard that the Cancer Drugs Fund are proposing the withdrawal of 25 life-saving cancer drugs on March 12th, including one for the treatment of prostate cancer, Cabazitaxel. Our national organisation Tackle Prostate Cancer, has joined a coalition of other leading cancer charities and together are campaigning for these proposals to be withdrawn. A petition has been set up at <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/keepyourpromise> and we would encourage as many of our members as possible to add their name to the growing list. This is something terribly important to those patients for whom this offers possibly the only treatment option available to them. **Time is short, so if you have not done so already, please consider adding your name to the petition.**



Music for the Prostate

*You will remember we mentioned the summer concert in the last newsletter. Preparations now being made for the event on **Friday 26th June at Berkhamsted School at 7.30pm.** Please make a note in your diaries. It will be a fantastic evening celebrating the best of local musical youth in aid of prostate cancer. The acts are being firmed up and we will be looking for members of our group to help out selling tickets and publicising the event.*



Next Group Meeting

Our next lunch meeting is scheduled for **Monday 27th April** at our normal venue of Thame Football Ground. At this meeting we will be having a short presentation from Jamie Peacock, a psychological wellbeing practitioner. He will talk to us about some of the psychological issues some of us face with prostate cancer. We will also have an observer from PCUK, Paul Harvey, who is coming along to see how the group operates.

Finally, don't forget to let Roger know about your slot on the Hale Leys rota and whether you plan to come to the quiz.



Brian Cole
Chair, Aylesbury Vale PCSG



Roger Wotton
Sec., Aylesbury Vale PCSG