

Norfolk & Waveney

Prostate Cancer Support Group

News letter No.1

6th April 2004

Thank you

May I commence this 1st newsletter by extending an enormous thank you to all those who were able to attend the first meeting last night. I hope the 45 men and 19 partners who came felt it to be a great success. From my view point it was more enjoyable than expected, read into that what you will!

Answers to question

Yesterday evening you were asked several questions, we have attempted to summarise the answers, without overlooking any opinions. The responses are very helpful, some simple, and some ambitious.

Question 1.

How did you hear about the group?

Answers varied, Norfolk & Norwich NHS Trust Outpatient department, Eastern daily press, BUPA health check article, Nurses and GP surgeries.

These answers will help us direct our energies more wisely for future advertising.

It was also suggested we involve the big 'C' in future promotion.

Question 2.

What would you like from the group?

Again you supplied a wealth of answers. All mentioned patient-to-patient support and sharing personal experiences. Support for wives from wives was also mentioned several times, as was support for families in general. Information was requested, particularly when given a choice of treatment and in dealing with the side effects or after effects of treatment. Suggestions were made for a telephone help-line and web site. A library of helpful material was suggested, as was a newsletter! You felt the group had a role in raising public awareness. You also felt the group had a role in feeding back comments and suggestion on the way us professionals do things and how we could do better. Finally you would like to support research locally.

Question 3.

Venue?

Most felt the venue suitable. Two requests were made for meetings at Yarmouth. A few people commented that the Atrium was noisy and made hearing difficult.

Question 4.

Would you like a speaker at the next meeting? Suggestions of subjects for discussion.

The answer was definitely yes. Subjects included, self help, complimentary therapies, treatments, new innovation, side effects of treatment, symptoms, screening, understanding PSA, research, erectile problems, diet and government cancer policy (waiting times).

Question 5.

Volunteers to help organise group.

Several people have kindly given contact details and I will be writing to those separately.

Anyone wishing to volunteer, its not too late, please get in touch.

Dates for your diary

Next meeting 7th June 2004 East Atrium 7pm-8.30pm Norfolk & Norwich NHS Trust
Plan for the evening: guest speaker and discussion of the points raised above.

Summer meeting 2nd August 2004

East Atrium 7pm-8.30pm Norfolk & Norwich NHS Trust

Once again thank you for your time and enthusiasm
Sallie Jermy

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