



The Need for a Global System for testing and approving Cancer Treatments

The lack of an international system for the approval of new cancer therapies subject to clinical trials is costing 2 million lives per year, according to research conducted by the authors of this article, they recommend five steps for harmonizing countries regulations. Doing so, they say, would allow the clinical trials in all participating nations to follow the same criteria. Treatment drugs would get approved faster and become available to more patients' populations sooner, which would prolong the lives of those who are in critical need of treatment.

To start building such an international system, the authors recommend that countries around the world take the following steps:

- 1 Strengthen regulatory bodies
- 2 Preliminarily define requirements for ethnicity-specific trials
- 3 Standardise manufacturing inspection
- 4 Plan for approval in secondary markets
- 5 Reform insurance coverage for life prolonging treatments

The authors have no illusions that making these recommended changes would require a major effort. But given the stakes – the 10 million lives lost to cancer each year globally – it would certainly be worth it.

Taken from an article in the October Prostate Cancer Newsletter written by Bobby Daly MD, Justin Finnegan, Bob T.Li MD, Jing Qian.

Well . . .

Isn't it about time we had another Newsletter...

Lot's going on within the group with a new Chair, new Secretary, numerous events supporting us in our work with PSA testing and member wellbeing.

We have an extra PSA event on 26th November at the West Wight Sports Centre, Freshwater. Sponsored by the Everson family of Totland.

There is still an out of date (12 years) NHS report doing the rounds which was posted on our Facebook page recently. The advantages of having a PSA test have been highlighted by the EU with a 10 million Euros fund for any EU Country to use to trial PSA testing.

The re-occurring message we receive when promoting our PSA events, is an overwhelming one of thanks and gratitude for staging them and how lives have been touched in a positive way.

We must encourage more of our volunteers and Trustees to witness first hand this feedback from the public.

A thank you letter (extract)

Dear Roger,
Needed to thank you and your wonderful colleagues for all that you do and achieve through the generous donation of your time and energy with the IWPCSG.

Along the way, we have been grateful for the invaluable help, support, advice and information available from the group offered freely in a friendly down to earth manner.

I must admit I was shocked and surprised at just how prevalent the problem is.

I work in healthcare myself and I know the accessibility of your testing events has been lifesaving to many men.

*Best wishes T&M
(full names withheld)*



New Trustee Positions

We would like to congratulate Roger Denness for accepting the position of Chair of the Group. We hope under his guiding hand we can re-invigorate the Group and that he can steer us forward.

Our Chair will be supported by our



new Secretary, Paul Davies, from whom many of you will already have received email messages about forthcoming events the Group is planning. We are very grateful to Paul for accepting this post as there has been a good deal of disruption over the past months and a great need for the Group to get back to its objectives of being a prostate cancer Support Group and keep the membership informed on all levels of activity.

Awareness Promotion Events

Tractor Rally

The Vectis Vintage Tractor and Engine Club ran their 2nd Rally run this year in support of the IWPCSG.

With 25 tractors setting off from Godshill, flagged off by Tony Wheatley, Geoff Waddington and Elenid Perry-Lowe, they proceeded on a course to a lunchtime break in Freshwater. They continued arriving in Arreton at a field kindly arranged by the White Lion pub who also donated a prize for the Group's raffle. The vast majority of the tractors completed the course despite the drizzly weather and collected £267 on the way. This was put together with the money raised at several raffles run throughout the year, culminating in a grand sum of £767 for which we are very grateful. Our thanks to all the intrepid drivers of the tractors who braved the inclement weather, Dave Milsom who organised the event, Club Secretary Bernie and Roger who joined me at the finish to hide in the gazebo!

Alan Taylor



Hullabaloo Sandown 15th October

Having regularly attended previous Hullabaloo events we were delighted to be invited back to this year's event.

The weather played quite a part in the day with near gale force winds and squally heavy showers throughout. This limited the number attending and even drove away some of the stall holders whose gazebos were not strong enough to cope with the weather.

Vic, Roger and I endured the interruptions of heavy showers and squally wind, and we were able to pass on details of our PSA programme and support plans to those who enquired. Since we were already committed



to supporting the Tractor Rally the next day at Arreton, Elenid gave our apologies to the organiser, and we upped sticks at the end of the day.

Alan Taylor

ASDA Event

Asda Newport are very keen to support our PSA testing initiative and so invited us back to help promote our latest PSA event this October. The community Champion, Clair Jones, arranged a Wednesday 12th October day and as always, we were very busy in the four hours we spent there. Rita Smith, Roger, Vic and I gave out 100 flyers about the test event and engaged with several of the general public helping with all sorts of enquiries. You really do get an idea of just how the public feel

about prostate cancer with so many knowing someone who has had it, is being treated or did not survive the illness.

Alan Taylor



Bingo and Curry Fundraiser at the Sun Inn Calbourne

For the past 4 years, Debs and Ted Downer have been organising a Bingo and Curry evening over at the Sun Inn in Calbourne and it is to my shame that no one from our Trustees has ever attended. Well, this year the event fell on the 14th of October and since Angela and I were looking for somewhere to go on our special day we decided to attend the event.

We were greeted by about 50 people from around Calbourne, and thoroughly enjoyed the evening with the Bingo followed by a hearty meal and a raffle, all in aid of the IWPCSG. We shared a table with a couple who had been through the prostate cancer mill and several others there were also in remission. I gave a brief review of how their donation would be spent

and at the end of the evening left with an invitation to receive the £700+ that had been raised. Many thanks to all those who attended and to Debs and Ted who organised the evening.

Alan Taylor



Music Quiz

Claim your IWPCSG enamel badge and pen by answering the following:

1. 50's – Stranger in Paradise was a hit in 1955 for three different artists, name one?
2. 60's – Concrete and Clay was a hit for which group in 1965?
3. 70's – Billy Swan's only UK hit in 1975?

Answers to: iwpcsg4@gmail.com

Good Luck!



Totland PSA Testing Event 2nd October

Because of the sad news of the passing of Bill Turnbull we had a large waiting list left over from the Ryde event in September, so we decided to again increase the Totland event from 250 to 275 patients. In complete contrast to Ryde, Totland Bowls Club room is a smaller venue but with a thoughtful layout we were able to set up the 5 booths on the Friday night, ready for the Saturday event. Our thanks to all the helpers who turned up on Friday night to help.

Saturday dawned cloudy, very windy with a threat of rain which fortunately in the main held off. We are grateful to the Parish Council for the use of the recreation ground for parking and to all the donators towards the event that enabled us to pay for the event.

Eventually 276 men were tested, with 26 having abnormal PSA results, and we are awaiting the more detailed results of high-risk greens. Yet again the volunteers worked exceptionally hard to maintain the smooth running of the test and our administrator having to cope with many drop-outs due to Covid, whose places were filled by last minute appointments. Our thanks also go to Pam Everson who pulled all the strings at the Totland end to enable us to perform the test event.

Yet again a local celebrity attended the event, this time the Magician Randini, who was determined to promote awareness of our PSA tests to his many admirers.



Ryde PSA Event 24th September

The highly successful promotional events attended by some of our trustees and members leading up to this PSA test created a problem for the organiser. We had 250 places for the event, but now had a waiting list of almost 70 men as we approached the test. It was calculated that we could increase the event to 275 without increasing our time schedule for the day or extra volunteers. Our venue, Ryde Academy, so generously donated to us for the day by the Academy's Head Teacher, Joy Ballard, is one of the best venues we use, and its size tends to swallow up the number of patients giving the impression of only a few men attending. In the end 278 were tested with 25 recording abnormal PSA results and 51 having a high-risk green result, needing retesting soon. The volunteers were fantastic as always, despite having to work around a film crew who were following random men through the test, and all went very smoothly with a good response from men leaving the test centre.

If you wish to look at the programme that was made of the event, then go to "Meridian Dave" and catch the short programme on his Facebook site. He is hoping to interest some TV channels for broadcasting.

We also tested the Mayor of Ryde, Hon. Michael Lilley, who volunteered to place awareness material of our Group on his Facebook page.



Members' October Meeting

The members' meeting on 27th October was unfortunately our last in the County Cricket Club Pavilion at Blackwater. Having arrived there in 2018 we have been well looked after during this time by Nikki the Manager and Sam at the bar.

The owners have had to make the difficult decision to close the premises during the cricket off-season, due to the financial climate we all find ourselves in now, and so we must now look for somewhere else to make our new meeting venue. Again, our thanks for the 5 years we have been able to meet at the Pavilion, having held our 10 year anniversary party, AGM's and about 50 members' meetings.

At present a temporary venue for our next meeting in November will be at 2pm, at the Island Riding Centre signposted GG's Staplers Road, Newport, PO30 2NB.

At our last meeting we heard from The Footprint Trust, the speaker passed out very useful handouts on how to make savings on energy payments, water costs and heating our houses. Our thanks to Ray Harrington-Vale for attending our final meeting at the Pavilion.

Quote Unquote

Unfortunately, people never truly understand something until it happens to them. *N Armstrong.*

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream. *C S Lewis.*

Effort and courage are not enough without purpose and direction *J.F.K.*

True happiness is attained through a worthy purpose. *H. Keller.*

The best way to lengthen your day is to walk with a purpose. *C. Dickens.*

You can never be lost if you have purpose. *J.D. Rockefeller.*

If you want the rainbow you gotta put up with the rain. *D Parton.*

Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood. *E. Roosevelt.*



Ryde Fashion Show

Two shops in Ryde teamed up to raise funds for us with their autumn/winter fashion show.

The bi-annual event raised more than £1,850 for the IWPCSG.

The event, jointly held by ladies' fashion store Bellissima and lingerie shop Sugar and Spice, took place at The Royal Esplanade Hotel on the weekend before Halloween.

The room was decorated to the theme of Halloween and guests were treated to a "thriller" opening dance routine, performed by several of the models and two guests from Spotlight Theatre company.

There was also an appearance from 'James Bond' and 'M' to open the second half.

Sheila Wilson, owner of Sugar and Spice, said:

"It's always a fabulous evening and such is the popularity of the event tickets had sold out several weeks beforehand"

Tina Lettington, owner of Bellissima, added:

"A lot of work goes into the evening and this time included making the costumes for the thriller routine, but it's always worth it when we hand over that cheque"

A cheque for £1,878 was presented to Graham Dooley and Pam Blayney, representatives of the IWPCSG.

Ladies' October Meeting

The ladies group met on 27th October at Quay Arts, Newport, 11am, for their monthly meeting, as always it was a lively and supportive meeting. The next meeting will be on Thursday 24th November, time, and venue to be advised.

The Co-operative Society

The group were fortunate to have been selected as one of the Island charities to partake in the Co-op Community Fund initiative which ran for twelve months commencing October 2021.

For every £1 spent on co-op branded products in this period 1% was allocated to charity.

Co-op members could choose a local charity to support, and their expenditure was directly allocated to that group and in addition if no specific charity was chosen the remaining monies were equally divided amongst all participants.

We were very pleasantly surprised when Geoff Waddington our Treasurer and Trustee attended the Shanklin store in early November on 'Celebration Day' and was officially given the total raised by customers over the twelve month period which was £3,029.59!

A huge thank you to the Co-op and it's customers.



Future Dates/Events

1st to 30th November

Ladies with Moustache at Brighstone Post Office, to raise money for PSA tests, please support them.

17th November

Men in Sheds (Seaview) – PSA talk – attended and presented by Rita Smith and Roger Denness.

24th November

Ladies meeting, time, and venue to be confirmed.

24th November

Members' meeting at 2pm, at the Island Riding Centre signposted GG's Staplers Road, Newport, PO30 2NB.

26th November

PSA Test Preparation at West Wight Sports & Community Centre, Freshwater:

Preparation/Set up – 10.30 – 11.30am, Helpers welcome to set up morning.

26th November

PSA Test Event at West Wight Sports & Community Centre, Freshwater:

Testing 11.30 am – 3.30pm Volunteers for the day please contact the Organiser on 07568 245124.

30th November

IWPCSG Christmas lunch and raffle at the Woodman's Arms, Wootton, at 12 noon. Contact Elenid at randsiow@gmail.com for details. The Menu is as detailed below.

<https://www.woodmansarms.co.uk/food>

The cost for two courses is £15 and three courses £20

Please email your choices to Elenid randsiow@gmail.com by 1st November and payment to be sent to

IWPCSG, Regal House Office, 8 High St, Shanklin, PO37 6LB

We are also looking for raffle prizes to raise some additional funds for the Charity. Please let Elenid know if you can help.

2nd December to 2nd January

Pearl Centre, Brighstone, Christmas trees display, we will be displaying our Christmas tree.

29th December

Ladies meeting, time, and venue to be confirmed.

Traditionally the Support Group does not hold a members' meeting in December so the next meeting will be on **26th January 2023 at The Riverside Centre in Newport.**