

Subject: PP October E-Bulletin

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From: info@prostate-project.net

The latest news from the Prostate Project • October 2022

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Dear Katherine

Well, I think it is fair to say that autumn is truly upon us, we have moved from sweltering heat to 'where's my jumper?' in what seems like the blink of an eye. It's also fair to say we have had more than our share of change and madness over the last 6 weeks, a new monarch, Prime Minister, mini-budget, U-Turns and economic uncertainty.

But enough of all that, because it's a much shorter introduction from me this month, thanks to the fact that we have so much news to share.

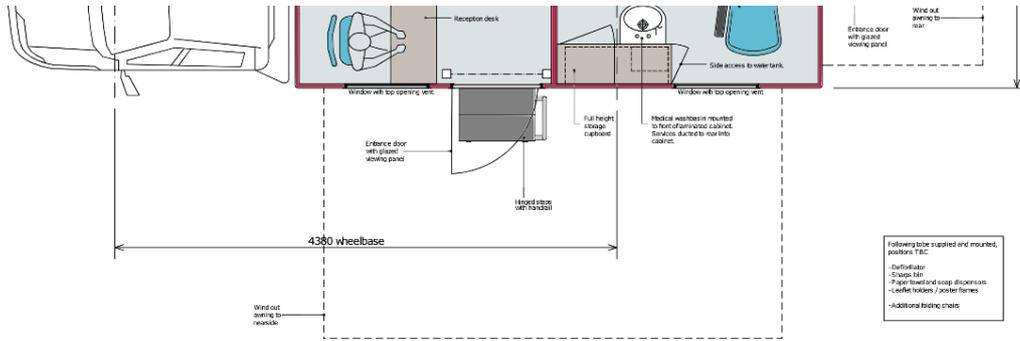
I will say that I could have easily filled this newsletter with 'Thank-You's', so phenomenal have been the efforts of our supporters and friends. Then there's the research news and a rather spectacular update on the Mobile PSA Blood Testing Clinic, or 'Man-Van' as it's become known.

So, without further ado, could I have a drum roll please...

We've only gone and done it

It is my pleasure to announce that we have placed the order for a 3.5 ton, ice-white back to back cab Boxer Van.

In less than 9 months since we launched our appeal, we have raised enough money towards our £200,000 target to purchase the vehicle of our dreams, a vehicle that will take the Prostate Project message on the road and provide prostate cancer testing facilities for thousands of men across Surrey, Hampshire and West Sussex.



[Click here if you would like to make a donation](#)

We have reached a milestone but there's more road to be travelled before we can take a rest.

Our fundraising will continue, and we will be reaching out to our corporate partners for help. We have already received an amazing contribution, knocked our socks off, from Bayer thanks to the dogged perseverance of our Trustee, David Whitby, and there are plenty of other doors for us to knock at.

But, as I always say, it's not just financial help that we need. Every time you tell someone about the Prostate Project, share a message on social media, encourage someone to get tested or take a closer look at our website, it's money in the bank for us, not Barclays or HSBC, but the 'goodwill bank', the place that we can point to and say 'they are our committed army of supporters'.

It really does make a difference when we are talking to 'corporates'.



Events Round Up

As you can see, we've been busy!



Dr Nicola Annells and our University of Surrey PhD students attended **Boogietown** in Walton early in September.

The event which starred Gloria Gaynor, Sister Sledge and Odyssey was organised by PP patron Les Spaine who kindly arranged for the team to take along our gazebo and raise funds on what was, by all accounts a rather splendid night.

I did my bit at another Les Spaine event at Windsor Racecourse, featuring **Madness and Soul2Soul**, and I have to say that the new Gazebo certainly caught a lot of attention and we raised plenty of awareness, and a fair few quid to boot!



My big concern from the event was how many ordinary folks did not understand the risks of prostate cancer or the need to be tested. Those of us who are in the charity are fully aware but it is surprising how much ignorance there is out there!





Colin Stokes and myself also attended a barbecue held by our great friends at **The Drift Golf Club**, receiving an incredible donation of more than £5,000 with the promise of more to come!

I was thrilled to visit the rehearsals of **Rushmore 'Odd Fellows' Male Voice Choir** to pick up a cheque for £500 raised at a brilliant concert held in June at High Cross Church in Camberley. This money will go towards our Mobile PSA Testing Van.

Peter Viveash, Chairman, said "As a we are a group of men, we are only too aware of the importance of spotting and tackling Prostate cancer early. We are delighted to be able to donate our efforts in support of such a vital cause and look forward to being early users of the service."

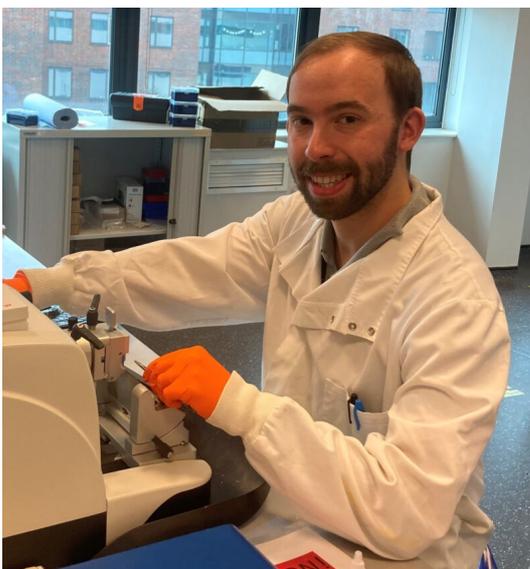


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Some of you will remember Mike Collett as one of the original trustees of the Prostate Project, and we were delighted that Mike's grandson **Will Rosling** and his team of school friends took on a 50 mile run of the Oxford greenbelt, raising the fabulous amount of £2,110 for us. Thank you boys!

Our great long-term supporters, Univar hosted their annual **Univar Charity Golf Day**, with myself, Colin and Dr Guy Simpson in attendance and they raised in the region of £20,000+, an astonishing effort for one day and evening I am sure you will all agree.



The money raised by Univar will continue to fund Chris Smith, our PhD student currently researching into the detection and treatment of Neuroendocrine Prostate Cancer, a form of advanced prostate cancer. You can learn more about Chris' work in this [video](#).

On a separate note, our annual **Jazz Night** has been moved from its traditional October/November slot and will now take place in spring...watch this space!

And finally, good luck to Alex Buchanan who is running the **Dorney Lake Half-Marathon** for us next week, Alex is running in memory of her Grandad, and staunch PP supporter Ken Buchanan. You can support her [here](#).

Remember, Remember the 5th of November

Our very great friends at Guildford Lions are once again hosting their annual Fireworks Fiesta in Stoke Park this November 5th. It promises to be a fabulous family event, with live music, street food and bars, with non-stop entertainment hosted by the one and only Peter Gordon.



Tickets are available [here](#) with the Prostate Project being a major beneficiary of all sales, we will also have a presence on the night with lots of PP volunteers helping out and taking collections

The event will sell out so make sure you get your skates on and book tickets [here](#).

Calling all Bowlers



That's bowlers of the lawn, indoor and short mat variety. We are putting together a list of players interested in representing the Prostate Project in fixtures in and around Surrey, we will arrange the dates and the opposition and we'll even supply the shirts, courtesy of a sponsor.

We even have our own PT Instructor, ex-Met Police Officer John Roach will be leading a short series of exercises before each fixture and he will be on hand to give fitness tips during the day. John has developed a series of exercises that just require a pair of woods, and he is happy to share his expertise with bowlers of all ages and abilities.

Anybody interested should email ianguildford1@gmail.com with contact details, Ian will be arranging a number of indoor fixtures this year and he would love to hear from you.

Prostate Cancer Screening Programme - A must read for all men

Perhaps the biggest news that I have to share this month involves an initiative headlined '**Life-changing recommendations by European Commission for men impacted by prostate cancer**'.

That's quite a mouthful (and has nothing to do with Brexit!) but what it means is that for the very first time, prostate cancer has been added to the list of cancer screening recommendations, a list which already featured breast, colorectal and cervical cancer. Prostate cancer screening will now benefit from European guidelines and quality assurance, as well as an additional commitment to data sharing and screening support.

In real terms, this makes our Mobile PSA Blood Testing Clinic an even more valuable asset.



Professor Hendrik Van Poppel, Chair of the European Association of Urology Policy Office was quoted as saying 'We warmly welcome the European Commission's proposal to include PSA-based prostate cancer screening with a risk-adapted approach for follow-up in the update of the EU Screening Recommendations. Prostate cancer is the most common form of male cancer and is a serious condition that kills over 100,000 men each year in Europe. We are really excited to see the European Commission taking this approach.'" You can read further details [here](#).

I will be writing more on this hugely important breakthrough very soon, and hope to include a clinician's perspective provided by our own Professor Stephen Langley, Consultant Urological Surgeon and Patron of the Prostate Project.

BBC Fundraiser of the Year Award





Tony Smith - Fundraiser of the Year BBC Make A Difference Awards

Congratulations to all the winners at the recent BBC Surrey Make a Difference Awards. Tony Smith, from Eclectic Live Music, and our long-time supporter and friend, made it to the final 4 for Fundraiser of the Year for all his incredible fundraising he has done for us at the Prostate Project. What an achievement! You can watch his story [here](#).

The Passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II



I feel that it would be remiss of me not to say a few words on the passing of Her Majesty. While many wonderful tributes have justifiably been paid in the weeks since the sad departure, I would like to give thanks not only for the years of service, but also for the tireless efforts made on behalf of so many charities and worthwhile causes. Good rest her soul.

A final word about the 'Man-Van'

I cannot stress strongly enough what a game-changer this vehicle will be for us all. We have taken very great care to ensure that the voices of clinician's and nursing staff have been listened to, the van will not require a special licence to drive, making it far more practical to use. It is large enough to offer a discrete, functioning clinical environment with space for nurses, drivers and administration.

The van is scheduled for delivery in 2023, by which time it will be completely kitted-out and ready to hand over to the NHS.

We have raised 70% of our overall target, that's around £140,000 of the £200,00 that we set ourselves earlier this year, and with one last big push we will have a state of the art facility that we can all be proud of, not quite a Stokes Centre on wheels but something very close to it!

Keep warm, keep active and as Bruce Forsyth almost used to say...Keep Fundraising

Alf Turner



Chairman

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