

Subject: Pp January E-Bulletin

Date: Wednesday, 1 February 2023 at 14:18:46 Greenwich Mean Time

From: info@prostate-project.net

To: info@prostate-project.org.uk

The latest news from the Prostate Project • January 2023

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I am never sure when we are supposed to stop saying 'Happy New Year', but I think I will say it anyway.

On behalf of everybody connected with the Prostate Project, may I wish you and yours a healthy, and prosperous New Year!



We certainly saw 2023 in with a bang thanks to our long-time supporters and great

friends, music legend **Paul Jones**, and **Tony Smith** of [Eclectic Live Music](#), who once again provided 2 nights of spectacular entertainment at G Live in Guildford, in support of the Prostate Project.

Jools Holland, Madeline Bell, 'Chief Womble' Mike Batt and Mick Rogers were among the famous names (and fabulous voices), that kept packed audiences in raptures with their amazing mix of music and banter. The estimated 2,000 people that were lucky enough to get tickets were clearly in generous mood, with our collection boxes doing a roaring 'trade' thanks to some of our fabulous supporters who gave up their evening to fly the flag for the Prostate Project.

I would like to give a special mention and plug to Noel McCala and Derek Nash from '[The Wonder of Stevie](#)'. They were remarkable and if you get the chance to see them performing at their gig in Godalming this coming March, I can guarantee a great night.

We cannot thank Paul, Tony and their many talented Friends enough for their remarkable generosity, as soon as I know how much money we raised over the two nights, I will let you know. (photo credit: [Rob Blackham Photographer](#)).

Gazebo ...Oh Wow



We are grateful to G Live for allowing us to put up our gazebo for both nights, it provided a wonderful opportunity to meet friend's old and new, talk about our work and pick up a few cheques!

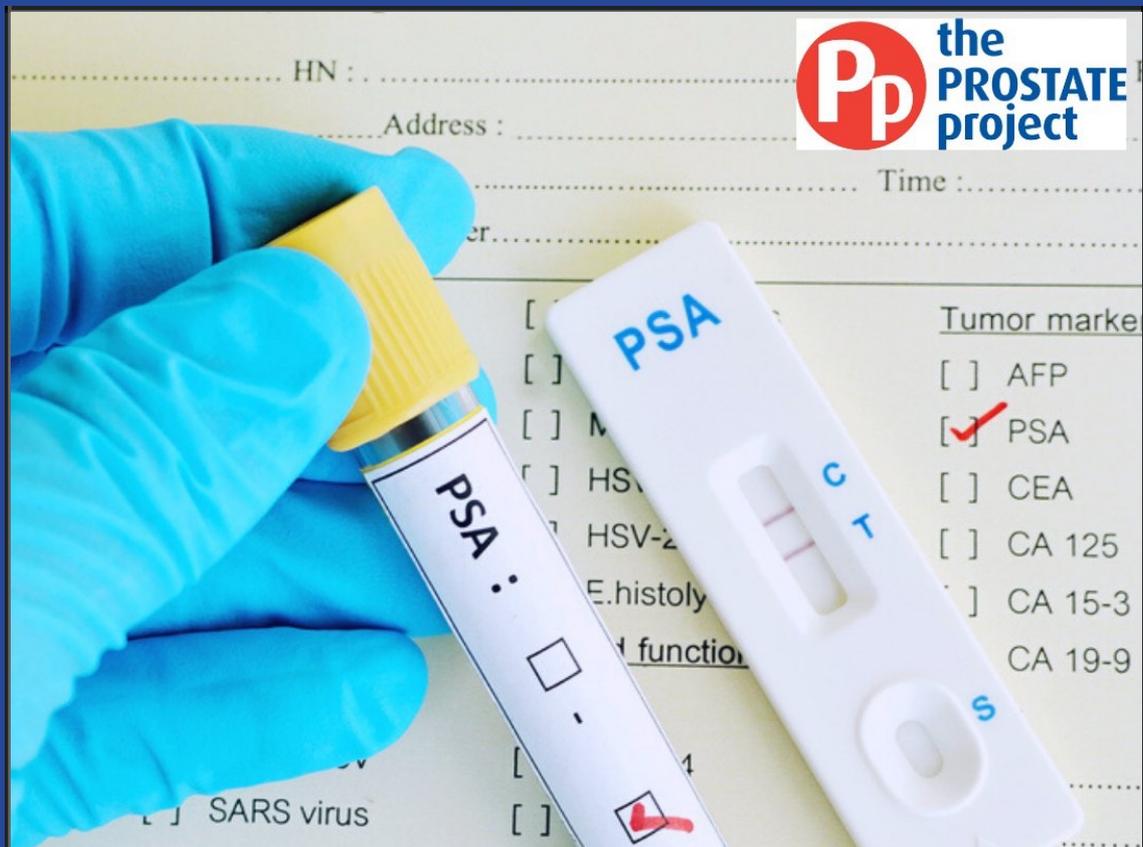
It was terrific to see **Eric and Mike from Guildford Lions Club**, the endless enthusiasm of The Lions and there unstinting support of the Prostate Project really is a cornerstone of our fundraising effort.

Oh, and they brought with them the small matter of a £15,000 donation, thanks to their Firework Spectacular. I will be writing more about The Lions next month...in the meantime, thanks to every single Lion out there.

I was also delighted to welcome **Chris Craggs of McFarlane Telfer Ltd.** to G Live. Chris brought with him a cheque for £1,250, money raised from the company Christmas Raffle in memory of their former Managing Director Mark Brooker, who died from prostate cancer very recently. In thanking everyone at McFarlane Telfer for their extremely generous contribution, may I pass on my condolences to Marks family, friends and colleagues for their loss.



PSA Testing and Referrals



An issue we picked up before Christmas and again during the G Live events was that some men were having difficulty getting PSA tests from their GPs. One even told us that his GP said to him that as he had no symptoms, he did not need a test, when we know there are often no symptoms to the disease. If this happens to you, or a friend or family member, [please let me know](#). Prostate Cancer UK also has some helpful information: [What if My GP won't give me a PSA Blood Test](#)

At the same time the NHS has quietly dropped its target that at least 65 per cent of urgent referrals for prostate and other cancers are met within 'timely pathway milestones'. For me this is unacceptable so we are following this up with our Clinician leads in the Charity to see what actions can be taken.

And the Good (Life) news keeps on coming



FELICITY
KENDAL

JONATHAN
COY

MATTHEW
KELLY

TRACY-ANN
OBERMAN

As we mentioned in our December message, our wonderful patron Felicity Kendal has delivered the Goods once again with a remarkably generous donation to our cause.

Felicity has given us two tickets to see a performance of her latest West End smash, **'Noises Off'** at The Phoenix Theatre in London on **Saturday 4th of March**, including a backstage tour and a 'meet and greet' with Felicity herself for the lucky 'winner'.

We have set up a separate page with more information and details of how you can win this 'money can't buy' prize, please click [here](#):

[Noises Off Raffle](#)

Events for 2023



What a year we have ahead of us, we will see the launch of the 'Man Van', our [Mobile PSA Blood Testing Clinic](#) of which you have heard and read so much.

- Events include the **Peter Alliss Celebration Golf Day**, which will take place on September 28th at Hindhead Golf Club. Peter's widow, and Prostate Project Patron Jackie, is helping us to make this the best day ever, with lots of golf professionals and celebrities 'teeing up' to support the Prostate Project. We are also looking for sponsorship for the event and if you know of anyone who might be interested, please let me know.
- In spring we will be hosting an **art exhibition and on-line auction at The County Club in Guildford**. Dr Nicola Annells, Senior Research Fellow at the University of Surrey has collected for sale dozens of donated works from some of the leading artists in Surrey, with all proceeds going to us!
- We'll have our ever-popular Jazz events, including an evening with **Sammy Rimington and the New Orleans Jazz Band on March 18th at Puttenham Golf Club**. Tickets have been kept at £25.00 per person and this includes supper, for details please contact Katherine at info@prostate-project.org.uk or call on 07724 465 883.

There are other live music extravaganzas in the pipeline, including a spectacular concert that we are currently in the planning stage with...watch this space!

2023 will also see us undertaking a major refresh and update of our website. We will be adding more practical advice and information to the site and introducing a section dedicated to telling the stories of people affected by prostate cancer, their highs and lows, and of course the personal experiences that other people might learn from. I will talk more about this next month.

I could go on about the events that we have planned but I will leave it there for now. One thing I would like to add though is that nothing would happen without the tireless support of you, our many friends and the remarkable generosity of spirit that we see demonstrated every single day.

Patient Support Group Forum



As I mentioned in my previous message, we will be increasing the work done so brilliantly by our Support Group.

We are hosting a **Support Group Forum at 2-3.30pm on 26th January** at Surrey Research Park, any of our current and past prostate cancer support group members, or anyone interested, are welcome to attend this get-together to share thoughts and ideas about the Support Group.

We are particularly interested to know what aspects of the Group have been

beneficial and what you'd like to see more (or possibly less) of. We'd like to know whether more should be done to raise awareness of the Group, particularly with men who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer but not decided on their treatment route.

To find out more, please contact me at info@prostate-project.org.uk

A Very Sad Announcement





Some extremely sad news has reached us, our great friend and loyal supporter, David Haskins has passed away. David was a stalwart supporter of the Prostate Project over many years, with much of his voluntary work taking place behind the scenes, he built our bespoke supporter database and guided us through GDPR and various IT issues.

David's sage advice, fabulous sense of humour, grace and humility will be sorely missed. Despite being among the very top electronic map makers in the early days of the technology, and enjoying legendary status for his work at BT, David never lost his ability to explain often quite complex issues, patiently and clearly

He was indeed a man of many talents, playing drums, clarinet, guitar and piano to a very high standard, and who could possibly forget the time he surprised a Zoom meeting of the entire committee, by whipping out his bagpipes and entertaining us all with a quick skirl, as I believe it is called.

May I wish David's family and close friends my most sincere condolences.

David Haskins, a fine man and a good friend that will be missed by many.

And finally

January can be a bit of a bleak month. I am just about old enough to recall a song from the 1970s, it was by a band called Pilot and it's less than cheery opening line was '*January, sick and tired you've been hanging on me*'...

Well, we're not having any of that are we? Let's look up, not down, forward not back, and take a look at what's great about life, even in January.

Yes, the weather is a bit miserable right now but spring is just around the corner and I hope that this quick e-bulletin is proof that good people are doing great things every single day. Selfless acts of generosity that make a real difference to the lives of real people.

Every month I sit down to write these messages, and every month I begin by wondering how I am going to fill the page, and then as if by magic, the words simply flow out. That's because we have so much good news and positivity to share. Of course our lives are filled with a mix of good times and bad, but sitting here at my desk it is clear to me that I have

the best volunteer job in the world, thank you all and Happy New Year.

Alf Turner



Chairman

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

Ps. Bucket loads of Cash and a great deal of Goodwill



It wouldn't be an e-bulletin without a Ps, and this one is a Crackerjack.

I am delighted to say that the count has been completed and I can confirm that the bucket and card collections at the G Live concerts raised just over £4,000, a remarkable effort.

In addition to the money, as you can see from the photo, our stand was incredibly busy over the two nights, we answered questions and raised awareness about the work we are doing to research and treat prostate cancer, none of this would be possible without your amazing support.

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

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