

Nepean/Blue Mountains Prostate Cancer Support Group Inc.



ABN 35 871 442 176 – CFN/2037577
Affiliated with the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia
Affiliated with Us TOO International (USA)
President: David Wilkinson



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Motto: YOU ARE NOT ALONE

www.prostatesupport.org.au

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Dear Member

The Nepean/Blue Mountains Prostate Cancer Support Group (NBMPCSG) has had many new members join recently and so it is timely to write to you to let you know a little about your Support Group and to invite you to participate in our fundraising and awareness events and also to consider nominating for the committee at the AGM in October.

Your Support Group has been in action for around 16 years and was started by a group of men with prostate cancer and their partners who wished to support each other. Our motto 'You are not alone' was coined about that time.

Since then the NBMPCSG has become affiliated with the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia (PCFA) and is widely recognised as one of the most active Support Groups in Australia.

We welcome all men and their partners but particularly those from the local government areas of Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury and Penrith which are the local government areas that our constitution allows us to service.

Since inception we have offered our meetings and peripheral services at no charge and we intend to continue that way. We have also kept our membership fees at a very low \$10 per family per annum and there is no thought to change those fees now.

However, our Support Group must meet around \$4000 in costs each year and these include rent of our meeting room \$600, Insurance \$1500, Website Maintenance \$600, 1300 telephone number \$300, publicity material \$500 and printing/postage \$300.

Funds to meet these costs are raised through our members assisting with our fundraising efforts and from the goodwill of a number of donors including PCFA who meet the costs of our meeting room, the Gaels Club with an annual donation and the free use of one of their rooms for our Board meetings, the Glenbrook Panthers Bowling Club with an annual donation, the Glenmore Heritage Veteran Golfers and others from time to time.

Our own fundraising activities are also awareness events and we need support from our members to make these a reality. Awareness events are where we interact with the public and hand out brochures and answer questions about prostate cancer as we can.

Unfortunately, our member numbers have been down of late at our fundraising and awareness events and so I invite all members to consider helping on these days as they can. Even if you have no experience we all started once, and “on the job training” is given by our more experienced members. The next two fundraising /awareness events are on 2 September 2017 and 28 October 2017 and are a Bunnings BBQ at Penrith North and scrutineering at the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic.

The Bunnings BBQ is particularly important as Bunnings gives us the day before Fathers’ Day to maximise both awareness and fundraising. Should you have an hour or two to spare please let me know and I am sure that you will find, as the majority of our members if not all have found, that it is a very enjoyable experience.

In finishing I must advise that at least two of our Committee this year will not be re-nominating and so we are looking for some new faces on the Committee. This is not an onerous task and we meet for two hours at the Gaels Club the first Monday of each even month (ie 2,4,6,8,10 and 12) and some of the committee stay for lunch (at their own cost) and some wives/spouses join in for lunch as well. Please give a nomination your serious consideration to ensure that our Support Group continues to lead the way.

I will speak about these at our monthly meeting on Monday 21 August 2017 and will have a roster for the BBQ and nomination forms for the Committee available at that time. Should you not be able to attend the next meeting but are willing to help at the BBQ or nominate for the Board please let me know.

Please contact me anytime if you have any queries and my phone number is 1300 13 38 78.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Wilkinson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Wilkinson
PRESIDENT