

We are here
F O R
Y O U
And, your Family



**PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT
City of Onkaparinga Group
South Australia**

**An affiliate Member of the Prostate Cancer
Foundation of Australia**

Our Patron

~Councillor Artie Ferguson ~

**We are also a member of
The Association of Prostate Cancer Support Groups (S.A.) Inc.**

OUR GOLDEN RULE: We do not give medical advice, your GP, your Urologist and Allied Health Professionals are the only people who are legally qualified to give you medical advice. We do however give you our wholehearted support.

JUNE 2007 NEWSLETTER

**Meeting held in the boardroom at
NOARLUNGA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
IN THE CITY OF ONKAPARINGA
On Wednesday June 6th, from 6.30pm to 9.00pm.**

Thank you to Noarlunga Community Hospital for allowing us to use the Boardroom for our meetings. Thanks also to our Sponsors: Southern Primary Health Woodcroft, Port Noarlunga-Christies Beach RSL Sub Branch, Thaxted Park Golf Club Inc, The Original Open Market, and to all who support our Group.

Chair: John Shields.

Present: 24

Apologies: (11) Artie Ferguson, Lewis & Ruth Dohnt, Ian Fisk, John & Dawn Hammerl, Wayne & Bobette Henkel, Carl & Erika Maughan, & Dave Williams.

Welcome:

A special welcome to our Guests, Justice Mel and Shirley Smith, and Dolph Young and New Members and Visitors, Bill and Rosie Griffin and Philip Green.

Donation:

Many thanks to Barrie Ritchie for donating \$20.00 to our Group. Barry is unable to attend the meetings but appreciates being kept up to date with what is happening via our Newsletter.

We appreciate your donation Barrie and hope that all is going well for you.

Two special visitors.

After a very interesting "Round Table" that could have continued for the whole meeting, Dolph Young told us about his role as Project Officer for the Cancer Support Network-Onkaparinga, and the work that he is doing to set up Support Groups for all people affected by Cancer, especially Ovarian, Lung and Bowel Cancer, and who live in the Onkaparinga region.

The Cancer Support Network-Onkaparinga is funded until 2009 by a Grant from the Federal Department of Health and Ageing through Healthy Cities Noarlunga. It is implemented by the Southern Adelaide Health Service. (Now, Southern Primary Health Noarlunga)

A Federal Government Grant has also been received to do the same work, and set up Support Groups in the Aldinga area, and it is our earnest desire that the many people who are affected by Cancer, will take advantage of the opportunity that is now there for them, to be part of this wonderful work, and make it really happen.

Congratulations to Dolph, Ann and the team of helpers/volunteers who meet each month at Noarlunga Health Village to give input from their own experience, to this valuable project.

If you would like to give some of your time and VOLUNTEER, to not only help set these Cancer Support Groups up, and bring the concept to reality, but to make sure that they continue to grow for the benefit of so many people who are affected by Cancer in it's many forms, you will be joining in with a very friendly team of Men and Women who have the best interests of Families, Friends, Neighbours and the Community at heart.

Please phone Dolph on 8384 9266, you will be glad that you did-I AM.

*** Our Guest Speaker: Justice Mel Smith.**

Mel educated us tonight about matters relating to the various forms of Power of Attorney and the many pitfalls for the unwary.

It really does pay to know the difference between each P.O.A, and Mel encouraged us to talk with a lot of people about this, as it is too important to find out too late, that the wrong direction has been taken.

This too should be of major interest to Families, Friends, Neighbours and the Community as it can have an impact on each one of us.

Guest Speaker Probus Club Meeting.

Ian Fisk will be Guest Speaker at a meeting of the Port Noarlunga Probus Club, being held at the Port Noarlunga Christies Beach RSL Sub Branch Clubrooms, Corner Castleton Ave and Esplanade, Port Noarlunga on Tuesday August 7th, at 10.00am.

Ian is an experienced Guest Speaker and is now doing a great job in the role of Ambassador, spreading the message about Prostate Cancer and Support.

TAXOTERE: A NATION WIDE PETITION.

The enclosed petition to the Federal Government to include Docetaxel (Taxotere), for the treatment of Prostate Cancer, on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), has been forwarded to me by Jeff Roberts, Chairman of the Prostate Cancer Action Group (SA) Inc.

It would be a wonderful gesture if Families, Friends, Neighbours and the whole Community were to get behind us and present a very strong voice on behalf of those of us who NEED Taxotere as an essential part of their treatment for Prostate Cancer.

Taxotere IS on the PBS for Breast, Lung and Ovarian Cancer, and quite rightly so.

Taxotere IS NOT on the PBS for Prostate Cancer, and this is quite wrong.

WHY?

We know that the same number of Men (approximately 2700) die each year from Prostate Cancer as there are Women who die from Breast Cancer, so why have two previous submissions been rejected?

We are entitled to know why, instead of being kept in the dark.

Moreover, Australian men-and their families-are entitled to have Taxotere on the PBS

The PBAC committee meets in July to once again consider listing Taxotere on the PBS, please let them know that we are very serious in our desire to change that word consider-to APPROVE.

I have included an addressed envelope, to speed up the process at our end, and hope that you will also encourage others to give us their support, and let us see what PEOPLE POWER can achieve.

Congratulations to Jeff Roberts for the work that he is doing on behalf of South Australian Men and their Families.

Who said that?

Do you realise that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids? If your less than ten years old, you're so excited about aging that you think in fractions.

How old are you? I'm four and a half and so on until you BECOME 21, then you TURN 30, PUSH 40, REACH 50, MAKE it to 60, HIT 70, get into your 80's and 90's and from then on you were just 92 etc until you are a PROUD 100.

(George Carlin said that)

Next month I am going to say that I am just over 70!!!

Things you see in the newspaper:

Subject: Singles Ad seeking male companion

SINGLE BLACK FEMALE seeks male companionship, ethnicity unimportant. I'm a very good girl who LOVES to play. I love long bushwalks, riding in your car (whatever make or model, not fussy about that), picnics, camping and fishing trips, or just relaxing by the fire on these cold winter nights.

Candlelight dinners will have me eating out of your hand, and I'll be watching and eagerly waiting for you to get home from work each night, wearing only what nature gave me.

Call 0402898342 and ask for Daisy.

Over 15,000 men found themselves talking to the RSPCA about an 8 week old black Labrador retriever.

Thanks Geoff-and also for the following Newspaper reports.

New, more accurate tests for Prostate Cancer.

Hot on the heels of a new test (EPCA-2) that is more accurate than the current PSA test, comes another test (PCA3)

*** The EPCA-2 test.**

The new test which measures blood levels of early prostate cancer antigen-2 (EPCA-2), is described in the current issue of Urology.

Researchers measured EPCA-2 levels in the blood of 330 patients in several different groups, including healthy men with normal PSA, healthy men with high PSA and men with prostate cancer but with normal PSA levels.

The EPCA-2 correctly identified 94% of the men with prostate cancer, and was negative in 97% of the patients who did not have prostate cancer.

In addition, the new test was able to identify men whose cancer had spread from the prostate to other parts of the body. Urology.

*** Gene tool, the new Prostate test frontier.**

Testing for gene PCA3 is the newest tool for diagnosing prostate cancer, says Doctor Thomas Stuttaford.

Professor Jack Schalken, and Dr Marion Bussemakers from the University of Nijmegen in the Netherlands, together with Dr William Isaacs at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, were the geniuses who discovered the PCA3 gene that is produced by prostate cancer cells. It is a discovery that may well revolutionise the diagnosis and treatment of the disease. Space does not permit me to re-print the full report, however, Dr Phillip Stricker director of the Prostate Cancer Centre at Sydney's St Vincent's Hospital, where he is chairman of Urology, said the results of the PCA3 test were "a major finding" and predicted it would come into clinical practice fairly quickly-and would complement, not replace the PSA test because the PCA3 test itself could still give false positives and false negatives, at lower rates.

INFORMATION DAY:

**THE INFORMATION DAY AT COLONNADES IS ON FRIDAY, 17TH AUGUST 2007.
MORE INFO LATER. THANKS ARTIE.**

OUR NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 4TH JULY 2007.

OUR GUEST SPEAKER

DOUG RANSON-NUTRITIONIST-SOUTHERN PRIMARY HEALTH-NOARLUNGA

NUTRITION AND PROSTATE CANCER