

# Buzz Bulletin

February 2024  
Edition 2 Vol. 9

Newsletter of the  
North Hampshire Prostate  
Cancer Support Group



## Chairman's Chat



*Keith Jones*

**W**elcome once again to this month's Buzz. We had another great turnout for our group meeting last week despite the rain. We were able to welcome members of the Hampshire Together project team to give us a presentation on the proposals for a new hospital for Hampshire Hospitals Foundation Trust.

You can read Roger Bensaid's report that follows this piece.

### Hampshire Together - Modernising Our Hospitals

The consultation period is now coming to a close and most of the Listening Events have been completed but there is still time to provide feedback.

The consultation documents are available online and can be accessed at [Consultation documents :: Hampshire Together](#)

There are still two listening events to be held if you want to hear more.

#### In Person Listening Events

- **Winchester** - Wednesday 6 March 2024 2pm to 4pm
- **Liphook** - Thursday 7 March 2024 10am to 12pm

To sign up, use the link below

[Get involved :: Hampshire Together](#)

As a reminder, there are three options under consideration:

- Option 1 - New specialist acute hospital on the current Basingstoke hospital site and refurbishment at Winchester hospital
- Option 2 (the preferred option) - New specialist acute hospital near Junction 7 of the M3 and refurbishment at Winchester hospital. Services remaining at the current Basingstoke hospital site: Outpatients, diagnostics and therapies. Planned day-case surgery

### DIARY DATES

Thursday 7th March  
Red Lion Hotel, Basingstoke  
Pub Pint and Chat

Thursday 28th March

**NHPCSG AGM**

Thursday 4th April  
Red Lion Hotel, Basingstoke  
Pub Pint and Chat

Thursday 25th April  
Group meeting  
Speaker: Paul Miller  
The Making of a Civic Mayor  
in the 21st Century

Thursday 2nd May  
Red Lion Hotel, Basingstoke  
Pub Pint and Chat

Sunday 19th May  
Basingstoke  
Festival of Transport

Thursday 30th May  
Group meeting  
Speaker Ashley Jones  
A Life in Removals

- Option 3 – As option 2 plus at current Basingstoke site, Nurse-led step-down reablement and rehabilitation beds

In all options, Winchester will have:

- 24/7 doctor-led urgent treatment centre and same day emergency care
- Step-up and step-down inpatient beds for general medicine and care of the elderly
- Dedicated planned surgery centre
- Freestanding midwife-led birthing unit
- Outpatients, diagnostics and therapies

The deadline for comments is midnight 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024

## AGM

Finally, just another reminder that the March meeting will be our AGM. Two current committee members have advised that they intend to stand down at the AGM and we lost one committee member earlier in the year, so if anyone is interested in joining the committee, please let Allan Roper know on [info@nhpcsg.org.uk](mailto:info@nhpcsg.org.uk). The committee members will be very happy to explain the roles and responsibilities of the committee if you would like to speak to someone before making any decision.

After the serious business of the AGM has been completed, we intend to lighten the mood by holding a quiz for which there will be prizes.

## Social Events

Our first event has now taken place which was a guided tour of the Willis Museum in Basingstoke. Although I did not attend, I have been told that it was a most interesting afternoon.

The next event is in the planning phase and will be a visit to the Bombay Sapphire Gin Distillery on 16<sup>th</sup> July starting at 11:00am. The tour will be a private tour for our group. The cost of the visit is £17.00, a discount £3.00 on the normal price. The price includes the opportunity to sample the product. We need to get the names of all who wish to attend and we need a minimum of 15 for the tour to go ahead, so we would appreciate if you can let us know as soon as possible. Please email Allan Roper at [info@nhpcsg.org](mailto:info@nhpcsg.org).

We are continuing to research the barge trip for the summer, afternoon skittles and walks.

## Prostate Cancer News

We have all read about Artificial Intelligence (AI), sometimes good, sometimes bad. However, the news last week has come from Cancer Research UK. The study was funded by Cancer

Research UK and Prostate Cancer Research, involving researchers from the UK working together as part of an international consortium, called The Pan Prostate Cancer Group. The UK researchers were from the University of Oxford, the University of Manchester, the University of East Anglia and the Institute of Cancer Research, London.

The research demonstrates that prostate tumours evolve along multiple pathways, leading to two distinct disease types. It is hoped that these findings could revolutionise how prostate cancer is diagnosed and treated in the future. Crucially, the team's collaboration with Cancer Research UK (CRUK) aims to develop a genetic test that, when combined with conventional staging and grading, can provide a more precise prognosis for each patient, allowing tailored treatment decisions.

You can read the full article here.

[Artificial intelligence reveals prostate cancer is not just one disease - Cancer Research UK - Cancer News](#)

And so, as we move into March, we welcome the daffodils blooming, the longer days and hopefully an increase in the temperatures, it will be time to get those gardens straightened out and getting on with all those outside jobs we have been putting off, and before we know it, it will be Easter.



## February Group Meeting

### A Look into the Future

**A** new hospital for Hampshire was the theme of this meeting and the proposed changes to acute hospital services in and around Basingstoke and Hampshire. We were fortunate to have the focus team for the project and they spent time with us to explain the proposals and took our many questions with good grace and all of them answered them.

The team was led by Daniel the Project Senior Integration Manager who introduced the Team to us Katrina Mason, Lisa Young and Dr Dom Kelly and set the scene. An experienced team and Lisa the Lead Cancer Nurse and Dom the heart specialist was of particular interest for some of our members.

They handed out the document laying out options, called 'giving your views and the next steps' this document is available and for further clarification and questions you can email them on [hiowicb-his.mohhs@nhs.net](mailto:hiowicb-his.mohhs@nhs.net) or write to freepost Hampshire together. And you can simply call them 0300 561 0905

In summary they have £700 to £900 million to build a hospital for Basingstoke and refurbish Winchester.

The justification is the growing area population and the need to integrate and focus specialist services; last but not least the old building continued maintenance will become more expensive and is in a poor state as of now.

They explained they wanted to engage with local people and staff about the need to align new clinical models for acute services and the logistics to and from hospital. Simplistically the New Hospital at junction 7 will be for life threatening condition and Winchester for planned surgery. They explained the rational and you should read the booklet or attend one of the public meetings. The old hospital main building would be demolished but some of the building in better repair, it is proposed, could be used for outpatient visits. They have in mind the things that people want easy parking and transport. The floor was given every opportunity to ask as many questions as they wanted. It all depends on the money which is ring-fenced and as ever it will depend on who is in government as time goes on. The process once run and decisions when taken should see the new hospital and facilities in the early 2030s.

## Cancer Nurse Specialists

At the conclusion of the presentation related to the new hospital provision, Lisa Young, the Lead Cancer Nurse gave an update of recent discussions between the hospital and our group. Group members will be aware that in recent times we have been unable to get Cancer Nurse Specialists (CNS) to attend our meetings. Lisa reveals that there is now agreement that a CNS or Urology Nurse Specialist (UNS) will attend our meetings twice a year. Bearing in mind the workload of these nurses and that patients must come first, this should be considered a very positive step forward for us and we look forward to being able to welcome a CNS or UNS to future meetings.

*Roger*



## Some Useful Web Contacts

Prostate Cancer UK advice at <https://prostatecanceruk.org/>  
Macmillan Cancer Support at <https://www.macmillan.org.uk/>

Virtual group for men with Advanced Prostate Cancer called 'Living Well' on Zoom last Monday of the month from 6pm – for more details contact [aidan.atkins@tackleprostate.org](mailto:aidan.atkins@tackleprostate.org)

## Group Meetings

Brighton Hill Community  
Association Hall  
Gershwin Court  
Basingstoke.  
RG22 4NN

Meetings are held on the last Thursday  
of every month except December



Together we are Stronger

## Contact

For more information

call or text: 07377 430242

email : [info@nhpcsg.org.uk](mailto:info@nhpcsg.org.uk)

website: [www.nhpcsg.org.uk](http://www.nhpcsg.org.uk)



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