

# NEWSLETTER

## Somerset Bowel Cancer Support Group

Charity Number 1117666

November 2011

### FUTURE EVENTS

**Please bring family and friends – all are welcome. Indeed, the more the merrier!**

**Christmas Lunch Party** this year will be held on Wednesday **21<sup>st</sup> December** at The Merry Monk, Monkton Heathfield, Taunton from 12.30 pm

Christmas menu, two courses for £13.95, or the carvery two courses for £12.25. Pay on the day, but please ring Joan or Annie to say if you are coming.



We will have a raffle and, as usual, donations are always welcome.

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**Theatre outing to the Warehouse Theatre, Ilminster, on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm**

'Blithe Spirit' by Noel Coward. Noel Coward's 1941 comedy centres on novelist Charles Condomine and his second wife, Ruth, who are literally haunted by a past relationship when an eccentric medium manages to conjure up the ghost of Charles' neurotic first wife Elvira at a séance..... Should be fun!

£7.00 per ticket. Bar, tea/coffee, ice-creams before the performance and during the interval.  
Directions (with a map) and parking information will be sent in advance of the evening. Pay on the night.

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**To book a place on an event, or find out further information about the Support Group, please contact either:-**

**Joan MacAllan, Events Organiser & Fundraiser**  
Tel: 01278 456240  
Email: [joan\\_macallan@hotmail.com](mailto:joan_macallan@hotmail.com)

**Annie Lanigan, Group Chair:**  
Tel: 01460 259836  
Email: [lanigan@lanigans.co.uk](mailto:lanigan@lanigans.co.uk)

Bowel cancer (the medical term is 'colorectal' cancer) refers to cancers of the colon or rectum (large bowel). Other organs including the stomach and small intestine may also be involved

### ANNUAL MEETING

Over 80 patients, their friends and family attended our 2011 Annual Meeting, which was held at the Queens College Conference Centre in Taunton.



Annie Lanigan, SBCSG Chair presenting some pressure-relieving cushions and chairs to Mr Christopher Vickery for use by bowel cancer patients at Musgrove Park Hospital. Also pictured are The High Sheriff of Somerset, Mr John Cullum, Jeremy Browne MP,

and Mary Le Coyte, who gave an inspirational talk to the meeting on her recent attempt to take part in the Clipper Sailing. Race to Rio de Janeiro.

Mr Christopher Vickery, Consultant Colorectal Specialist Surgeon chaired the meeting, which was opened by The High Sheriff of Somerset, Mr John Cullum. The High Sheriff donated a copy of his son (Jamie Cullum)'s latest CD, signed by the artist, for auction for Support Group funds. The auction was held over lunch, and the highest bidder was Clare Berry, with fierce (but friendly) competition from several other members!

Jeremy Browne, MP for Taunton, and Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, came and gave his support to the Group and its work.

A team of medical experts from Musgrove Park Hospital gave presentations on various elements of the diagnosis and treatment of bowel cancer, which was followed by a Question and Answer session. There were more questions than could be answered in the time, so the experts continued to be grilled over lunch (excuse the pun). Lunch was a delicious buffet provided by Queens College.

### SUPPORT GROUP CHRISTMAS CARDS

Packs of 8 cards, four of each design, £4.00 per pack (plus postage). Wording inside "With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from....."



Ring Jeremy Leyton on 01823 330887 to place your order. Cheques payable to SBCSG. Cards also on sale at St. Mary's Church, Hammet Street, Taunton

PTO

**The Somerset Bowel Cancer Support Group** is run by patients, for patients.

**The Committee** manages the Group, organises the events and publicises its activities through newsletters, BBC Somerset Sound, and the Somerset County Gazette. We also do some fund-raising, and purchase equipment for Musgrove Park Hospital for the treatment and care of bowel cancer patients.

The Committee is made up of representatives of the Gastro-intestinal medical team at Musgrove Park Hospital (at the present time, founder members Mr Christopher Vickery, Colorectal Specialist Surgeon and Sister Nicola Forsyth, Colorectal Specialist Nurse Lead), patients and family members of patients. We also have a GP on the Committee, Dr Will Chandler, who is our liaison with the GP surgeries in the area..

If you would be interested in serving on the committee please contact Annie Lanigan, Chair, on 01460 259836 or email at [lanigan@lanigans.co.uk](mailto:lanigan@lanigans.co.uk)

We have recently said farewell to Hilary Peters who served on the committee from its inception five years ago. Hilary was our Events Organiser and fundraiser and, with her husband Dennis, did a huge amount to support the Group. Members will have fond memories of the fund-raising BBQs that they held in their house for many years. Thank you, Hilary, for all that you did for the Group

### FUND-RAISING FOR THE GROUP

Do you use the Internet to shop? If so, you could be contributing to Support Group funds just by the click of a button by registering on [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) It takes only a couple of minutes to register and, once you have registered, every time you do any shopping on-line, through a major retail outlet (eg Amazon, Tesco etc) the Somerset Bowel Cancer Support Group will receive a percentage of the price you paid . It couldn't be easier!



### PHOTOS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING



### REFLEXOLOGY, AROMATHERAPY, OSTEOPATHY, HOMEOPATHY etc..... Would you like to take advantage of reduced price treatments?

The Support Group has arranged for our patient members to have reduced price complementary therapy treatments at Marlborough House Complementary Therapy Centre in Taunton. **Phone Marlborough House direct – 01823 272227 – to make an appointment, quoting SBCSG when you book.** Marlborough House, 1 Middle Street, Taunton TA1 1SH. [www.mh-tc.com](http://www.mh-tc.com) or email [contact@mh-tc.com](mailto:contact@mh-tc.com)

**BOWEL CANCER SCREENING PROGRAMME....** Please do everything you can to encourage your friends and family members to take part in the Screening Programme. Early detection saves lives. Further information from Sister Julia Heneker, Bowel Cancer Screening Nurse. on 01823 343345 or email [julia.heneker@tst.nhs.uk](mailto:julia.heneker@tst.nhs.uk)