

# tackle talk

Q2 2017

Welcome to the latest edition of 'tackle talk', a short briefing note designed to keep our support groups up to date on Federation developments and plans. Topics in this edition include a report on our recent AGM and Conference, election of a new Trustee, feedback from the Board, a European perspective and fund raising. On the last page you will also find a summary of our income and expenditure, a regular feature for each edition.

## 2017 AGM and Conference

Our AGM and Conference was held in mid June at Edgbaston. Some 85 members attended, with representation from thirty-one support groups. The AGM reviewed progress during the past year and noted that we had made considerable progress with growing the Federation, now up to 87 support groups, and in our campaigning efforts, where the Tackle presence is more noticeable than ever before. Erik Friis-Scheel, our Finance Director was re-elected as a Trustee, along with a new Trustee, John Coleman (see below).

The conference itself had the theme of "Trials and Tribulations" and was very well received, with good feedback on the sessions. The highlight for many was the informative and humorous session given by Julian Shah and Victoria Muir on some of the more intimate side effects many men with prostate cancer endure! Generously supported by Prostate Cancer UK (PCUK), many felt it was one of the best events in recent years. A full report will be published in the next edition of Prostate Matters. The speaker sessions were videoed and you can find a record of the proceedings [here](#)

## Election of a new Trustee

We are very pleased to have John Coleman join the Board, having been unanimously elected at the AGM. John has been looking after our helpline for the past 8 years and brings a wealth of experience of patient issues to the Board, along with experience from his role as Trustee of Prostate Cancer Support (North West). John's working life included some 30 years working for an American company in a senior role, managing large and complex projects across the world. John has formed a close working relationship with PCUK and will be a real asset to the Board.

## Board Meeting Feedback

At our quarterly Board meeting held in June we reviewed our membership situation and decided to approach those support groups who have not yet joined Tackle, with a view to leveraging what Tackle has to offer to the widest possible number of prostate cancer sufferers. On the funding side, we will be reporting back to PCUK how we have spent the funds they provided during 2016, and the Board agreed to undertake a major cycling event in early 2018, subject to signing off a feasible project plan (see below). On the awareness side we are planning to write to relevant politicians to seek support for having prostate cancer included in the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) National Curriculum, where breast cancer is already included.

We also reviewed progress on the “Tackle Bus” project, which is likely to proceed to a pilot phase in conjunction with Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham, making use of their existing health awareness truck/trailer. We will report on developments once the facility is in place.

### The European Perspective

Tackle is a member representative of Europa Uomo, the European patient consortium. At their General Assembly in Vienna in June we heard about progress across Europe, projects currently underway and their plans for the future. More detail can be found by clicking on their [annual report](#) where you can read about what is going on across Europe.

### A new Fund Raising Initiative



Just

The Board endorsed a proposal to try and raise funds to keep the Federation going for at least the next three years – a national cycling event in early 2018 called “Cycle to The Moon and Save a Dad” with the aim of raising £252,000 – one pound for every mile from here to the moon. Look out for more details as the proposal develops. The plan is to involve every one of our support groups in this event. Our thanks to Gary Steele for allowing use of the “Save a Dad” logo.

### Staying in touch

Just a final word – I have really enjoyed visiting our Devon, South Warwickshire and York support groups since the last edition of tackle talk. I have several more requests in the wings – let me know at [roger.wotton@tackleprostate.org](mailto:roger.wotton@tackleprostate.org) if you would like me or others to speak at one of your meetings.

Best wishes for now,



**Roger Wotton**

**Chairman, Tackle Prostate Cancer**