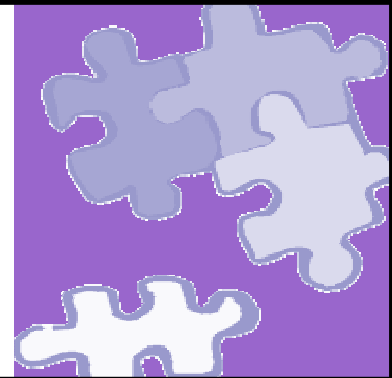


Harrogate Cancer Action Partnership Newsletter October 2007



Cancer Voices Conference 2007

Macmillan Cancer Support have organised a series of Cancer Voices Conferences this autumn entitled *Together We make a Difference* and there is one in Manchester on 14 November. The conference is free and is intended for people affected by cancer and their families, carers and health care professionals. It will feature workshops, activities and opportunities to meet people. It is a chance to be heard, share your experiences and make steps to improve cancer care in the UK. Funding support is available, including funding for accommodation for anyone needing to stay the night. If you are interested in attending contact Kate or Clare at Harrogate CVS tel 01423 504074 or email kate@harrogate.org. You can also find more information on the Macmillan website at www.macmillan.org.uk/together

Members present at the meeting on 5 September

Kate Helme Chair
(Harrogate CVS)

Helen Flynn Ripon
CVS

Dorothy Groome
Yorkshire Cancer
Help Centre

John Hancock

North Yorkshire &
York PCT

Carmel Hopkins
Carers Resource

Paula Middlebrook
Associate Chief
Nurse - Med Serv

Harrogate Hospital

Clare Newton

Harrogate CVS

Alan Rawson

Encore

Aline Nowell YCN

User Partnership

Keith Nowell YCN

User Partnership

Jackie Veal Carers
Resource

Liz Vickerstaff

North Yorkshire &
York PCT

Pink Ball

A local cancer patient is organising a fund raising event with the aim of raising over £20,000 for Cancer Research UK. The **Pink Ball** will be held on 23 November at the Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate. There will be a 3 course dinner, dance, auction and live music and tickets cost £80 each. For more information contact Sara Benson, Area Volunteer Manager, Cancer Research UK on tel 0191 493 4680 (office) or 07918054954 (mobile).

Harrogate Hospital News

The post of Lead Cancer Nurse will be re-advertised at the end of the year. Meanwhile Sue Ebbage is undertaking the role on an 'acting' basis and Chris Smith has taken over from Sue as Macmillan Palliative Care Nurse Specialist. Dr Kim Last has been appointed as Consultant Oncologist and Dr Angela Derby will be taking up a consultant appointment in November.

Harrogate Cancer Action Partnership Meetings 2007/8

Wednesday 5 December 2007 2.30 - 4.30 pm

Tuesday 5 February 2008 10.30 am - 12.30 pm

Wednesday 9 April 2008 2.30 - 4.30 pm

Tuesday 10 June 2008 6.30 - 8.30 pm

Wednesday 24 September 2008 2.30 - 4.30 pm

Wednesday 3 December 2008 2.30 - 4.30 pm

All at Community House, Harrogate



Harrogate Cancer Action Partnership Work Plan

An update on some of the key outstanding issues we identified in the last newsletter:

- **Cancer Steering Group** The North Yorkshire and York Primary Care Trust catchment area includes five of the former Cancer Steering Groups, of which Harrogate/Craven is only one. The PCT is considering the possibility of merging the Harrogate and York Steering Groups. HCAP members felt that this might work better than the Harrogate/Craven Group, because many services are shared by York and Harrogate. However, whatever form it takes, there needs to be clarity about the role of the local Steering Group and local people must have the opportunity to have a say in how services are provided.
- **Psychological Support** Kate has written to the PCT on behalf of the group pointing out that the lack of psychological support for Harrogate cancer patients was raised at the 2005 Peer Review but that no action has been taken, despite the PCT's undertaking to set up a sub group to consider the matter. It has been pointed out that there is an inequity of service across the PCT area since York has dedicated psychological support as part of its cancer services.
- **Palliative Care Services** PCTs are required to undertake a baseline review of end of life care services in preparation for the establishment of an End of Life Strategy. This has implications for the way in which Palliative Care Services will be provided in the future. Further information will be provided by the PCT for consideration at the next HCAP meeting.

Attracting New Members

There was little response to the questionnaire seeking members' views on a possible event early in 2008 aimed at attracting new members. This will be looked at again at the next meeting. The leaflets about the Partnership have been widely circulated but so far only one or two people have responded. It was agreed that members would take leaflets to the forthcoming Macmillan coffee mornings. It was acknowledged that attracting new members to the Partnership was not easy. It was pointed out that there were already some potentially useful lists in existence (for example, lists of those who attended previous cancer events or the lists drawn up by the Hospital Foundation Trust when it asked people to indicate areas in which they were interested). The possibility of accessing and using these lists (issues of confidentiality permitting) would be explored.

Chemotherapy Services

The Hospital has been looking at the possibility of some chemotherapy services being delivered in the community and a questionnaire is being designed seeking views on this. A draft will be circulated in due course.

Harrogate Cancer Steering Group

A meeting of the North Yorkshire & York PCT's Cancer Steering Group for the Harrogate District will be held on Thursday 18 October at 9.30 am at the Hamlet, Hornbeam Park, Harrogate. This meeting will cover Harrogate services only - there will be separate discussions on future steering group arrangements for Craven. If any service users/carers from the Partnership would like to attend would they please contact Kate on 01423 504074 or email kate@harrogate.org.

The next meeting of the Harrogate Cancer Action Partnership will be on Wednesday 5 December 2007 at 2.30 pm at Community House, 46-50 East Parade, Harrogate.

This Newsletter has been produced by Harrogate & Area Council for Voluntary Service, Community House, 46-50 East Parade, Harrogate HG1 5RR Tel (01423) 504074 Fax 01423 502126 Email cvs@harrogate.org Website www.harrogate.org Registered Charity No 701266

