



Bowel Cancer West The Launch!

Mark Coleman, BCW Director updates:

The launch of Bowel Cancer West took place on 11th March 2010 in Plymouth, and it has been a busy first year of activity for the charity.

Over 100 people attended the launch with excellent support from medical colleagues, former patients, and the local business community. It was an ideal platform to promote our aims and objectives to 'Promote Research and Training into Bowel Cancer in the West Country', and we raised £1,000 at this event which kick started our fund raising ambitions. Our web site also formally went 'live' which can be viewed at www.bowelcancerwest.org.uk.

Over the last 12 months, we have established Charity Company status for BCW with an appointed Board of Directors to lead on the long term governance. We have now been issued our charity registration number from the Charity Commission which will allow us to manage ourselves independently as a stand alone entity.

In our first year, we have raised in total nearly £15,000 which has been achieved through individual donations and fund raising events and we take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us in reaching this stage.



Bowel Cancer West Committee

David Darke,
Patron



Mark Coleman,
Director



Colorectal
Consultant

Andy Latchford,
Director



Gastroenterology
Consultant

Gary Minto,
Director



Anaesthetic
Consultant

Francis Daniel,
Director



Oncologist
Consultant

Jonathan Mills,
Director



Managing
Director,
Formedia

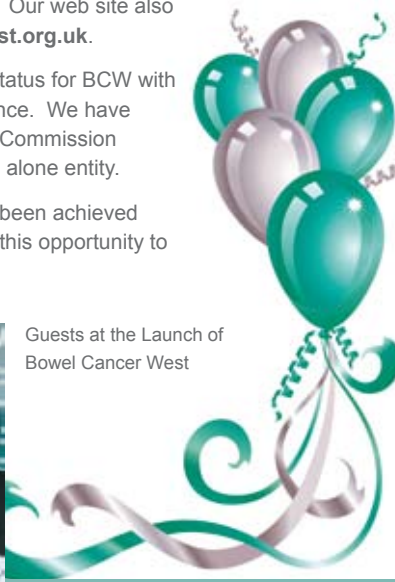
Laura Stapleton,
Director



National
Programme
Manager, Lapco



Guests at the Launch of
Bowel Cancer West



Our first research project commissioned

Bowel Cancer West commissioned their first research project in September 2010, which was lead by Consultant Anaesthetists Richard Struthers and Gary Minto at Derriford Hospital.

The project was entitled 'Picopex' and it investigated the different ways of preparing patients for major bowel operations and how this might affect their ability to recover from the effects of surgery.

A group of willing volunteers which included several Derriford specialists took part in the project over a number of weekends over 3 months. Each participant had to cycle a stationary bike to the point of exhaustion on three separate occasions, most memorably after taking Picolax, a medication which cleans out the bowels

by inducing diarrhoea. The results of the study will shortly be available on the web site.



The Picopex Team: Left to Right: Tom Edwards, Richard Struthers, Chee Lai, Mark Coleman, Gary Minto

Other Funding Goals

Bowel Cancer West have identified their funding goals for other projects which include:

£5,000

A proposed project into finding a simple 'bedside' test which could accurately identify those patients at highest risk of becoming unwell immediately after their operation.

£10,000

Establish a registry of those at risk of bowel cancer due to inherited mutations. This will enable us to improve our identification and management of patients at risk with these problems.

£25,000

Will allow a clinical trial to measure the time taken for individuals to regain their fitness following their operation which may have profound impact on planning strategies, further surgery or chemotherapy treatments.

£50,000 and above...

Investment into dedicated surgical skill research and training facilities for bowel cancer.



Raising Awareness

Over the last 12 months **Mark Coleman**, BCW Director and Colorectal Surgeon at Derriford Hospital, has taken part in a range of local radio and television broadcasts to promote bowel cancer awareness and the role which Bowel Cancer West has to play in supporting this.

Mark has been interviewed on a number of occasions on Radio Plymouth, Radio Devon, and has undertaken two television interviews with ITV for local news features. With this increased profile Bowel Cancer West received a number of patient related questions, and as a result we have created a '**Frequently Asked Questions**' page on the web site which is a useful resource for initial enquiries.

What is Your Challenge in 2011?

Laura Stapleton, BCW Director comments:



We will be focusing our fund raising challenge this year to raise £100,000 in 2011, which we will seek to achieve through our increasing coverage of Bowel Cancer West within the community.

We hope that will be achieved through encouraging individuals to participate in sponsorship events, or setting their own personal challenge for a good cause.

We have identified a number of possible events through the region that will be

taking place that would present some sporting or other fund raising opportunities. A range of prizes has kindly been donated by local businesses which will be awarded at the end of the year to the highest individual fund raiser, the youngest and oldest fund raiser, and the most novel fund raising event, along with the most challenging.

Our Supporters

On behalf of BCW we take this opportunity to thank all our supporters who have fund raised for the Charity, and no matter how small the donation or sponsorship raised it is all very much appreciated.

October 2011 – Plymouth Nuffield Ball

The Plymouth Nuffield Hospital Masked Ball will be taking place on Friday 7th October at the New Continental Hotel, Plymouth at 7.00pm. This is a fund raising evening for Bowel Cancer West, with raffle and auction prizes, tickets are £35.00 per person. If you are interested in attending, or would like to make a donation/auction raffle prize please contact:
laura.stapleton@phnt.swest.nhs.uk



July/August 2011

An international bike ride of **363 miles (584KM)** will be taking place between Santander and Roscoff on 31st July, returning on 7th August. A team of up to 9 riders will be leaving Plymouth to take on this challenge, there are a few spaces left so if you are interested in taking part, please contact: nicola.mellor@phnt.swest.nhs.uk



Supported by Nuffield Health.

Corporate and personal sponsorship support is still sought for this event.



October 2010

A total of £770 was raised for Bowel Cancer West by Tracey Turner who ran a 'festive fair' at Boringdon Golf and Country Club, Plympton. This was the second fair that Tracey had run, and we look forward to supporting her further in 2011 with her next event. Full details will be put on the web site, and circulated to our Bowel Cancer West supporters.



September 2010

A total of £3,132 was raised for Bowel Cancer West by the team lead by Craig Chapman, at Craig Chapman Hair Salon in Launceston. This was an exceptional fund raising sum that was raised from an evening of music and raffles at The Lion Hotel at Launceston.



April 2010

Colleen Harrington raised a total of £670 for Bowel Cancer West through her organisation of a musical performance event by 'Joey and the Lips'. A donation was kindly given from ticket sales which was a real fund raising success.



Our thanks go to all those that have taken part in fund raising events including Tavistock Rugby Club, Kelly College Preparatory School, Kait Burn (Plymouth ½ marathon), Lucy Eggerton (Great North Run), Laura Stapleton (Duchy Marathon). We would also like to thank all those individuals that kindly made donations to Bowel Cancer West during the year.

Donations

To make a donation to Bowel Cancer West, please make cheques payable to 'Bowel Cancer West' and send to the Bowel Cancer West Office, Unit S7, Scott Building, Tamar Science Park, 18 Davy Road, Derriford, PL6 8BY.