

## Seniors Cricket Club Over 60s/70s walk to support Ron's March for Prostate Cancer

Devon, along with other counties involved in the National Over 60s and 70s Championships, has been invited to join Ron Hedley's Prostate Cancer campaign to raise awareness and money for The Bob Willis Fund and Prostate Cancer UK.

Ron Hedley, who is involved closely with Buckinghamshire Over 60s and Over 70s cricket was diagnosed with prostate and bone cancer in November 2018. He spread the message that this disease would affect 1 in 8 men and encouraged them to be alerted to PSA testing. With the help of many teammates, friends and celebrities Ron organised a cricket match, lunch and auction and then followed up with a series of walks to raise vital funds. After successfully raising £19,000, Ron met with the CEO of Prostate Cancer UK and the wife of Bob Willis, Lauren Clark. This generated the idea that every County playing Over 60s cricket organise a walk in their County, encouraging their members to join Ron in donating to the cause. Ron has set 15 September 2024, his 75th birthday, for the final walk to take place. To date over £30,000 has been raised – a fantastic effort.

I have taken on responsibility for organising the charity walk on behalf of Devon County Seniors and am inviting you to participate. The details that are confirmed to date are as follows:

- Date of the walk is **SATURDAY 20 APRIL**
- Walk from South Devon Cricket Club Newton Abbot to Bovey Tracey Cricket Club, starting with a short loop through Newton Abbot town centre before walking up the cycle track from Jetty Marsh via Teigngrace and Stover. It's a pleasant flat walk and approx 5 and a half miles taking about 2 hours. (The charity suggests approx. 5 miles, so this is about right.)
- Start time 10:30am from South Devon CC for a photo call and press interviews. Ron Hedley and some others from the charity will be there to distribute T-shirts etc to participants.
- Arrive at Bovey Tracey CC around 12:30-1:00pm - further photo opportunities.
- At Bovey Tracey walkers to have lunch. The plan is to serve pasties to participants and the bar will be open to purchase drinks. Hopefully the pasties will be provided by a sponsor or donor. Hopefully refreshments will also be available for non- participants in the walk.
- Bovey are playing a pre-season friendly against a touring side, Blackheath, so participants can stay to watch some cricket along with other guests and supporters. This could also raise further funds. (I am grateful to Bovey Tracey CC for responding so positively to my approach.)
- As it is a linear walk, participants will need to plan with others to arrange for a car to be parked at both ends so they can return to cars afterwards. This is a 15-minute drive. Or there is a public service bus from almost outside Bovey's ground to Newton Abbot, about 25 – 30 mins – bus passes will be useful for a free ride!

### **YOUR NEXT STEP**

- ✓ If you wish to take part contact me as soon as possible by email to register your interest [devonseniorstreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:devonseniorstreasurer@gmail.com) . I will then send further details as available.
- ✓ Each participant is required to donate a sum of £25 to the charity, which is how the charity raises money initially. There is a crowdfunding email address which I will send out nearer the time after you have registered.
- ✓ To cover the £25 cost or to simply increase the donation, previous participants have sought sponsors from families and friends. I will make sponsorship forms available once you have registered your interest.

This is a great cause, relevant to so many of us. Please join in what should prove to be an enjoyable and profitable occasion.

Andy Rose  
Treasurer