

**St James LTSG  
North West Get together  
Saturday 7th March 2015**

Beesley Green Community Centre Greenleach Lane Worsley M28 2QW



It was a lovely bright day to have a North West get together of the St James LTSG at Beesley Green Community Centre. It was lovely to welcome new attendee's Chris Sproston and Bob Goodall to the Group and to see Jackie Sharples looking very well following her transplant in September 2014. Jackie reported she is making good steady progress and thanked members of the group for support pre & post transplant.

Following light refreshments, introductions were made followed by group discussion.

Bernard McGrath shared with the group that on a visit to his practice nurse he was encouraged to have the shingles vaccination. After some deliberation Bernard declined and said he needed to check with St James first. He contacted St James and was assured NOT to have this vaccination. Group discussion followed on varying GP/community experience. The message loud and clear if in doubt contact St James for reassurance. It was also agreed how useful it is to be able to share experience with the group via email Facebook and the website. A newsletter is also due to be published later this year.

This discussion led onto the idea from a support group patient of the production of a small pocket/sized handbook with tips and advice and do's and don'ts. This was enthusiastically received. Before printing this will be approved by the transplant team at St James. There was also group discussion regarding the production of badges with offers of help. Updates to follow on the progress of this.

Following suggestion from group members it was agreed that the next North West meeting will be a family meeting. We are planning to have the indoor bouncy castle that belongs to the centre and there will be opportunity for patients/families to have tables to sell craft or homemade items. Several members of the group also kindly offered to bring along refreshments such as sandwiches & cakes to keep costs to a minimum. If you would like to contribute please let Janet Corinne or Mandy know. There is no obligation. If you have any ideas or suggestions for future meetings please do not hesitate to share your ideas.

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Diary Dates.

**North West meetings for 2015.**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May & Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October. Both from 1pm – 3pm.

**Leeds meetings for 2015.**

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March, Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June and Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September in the conference centre Level 7 Bexley Wing from 11am – 1pm and the Christmas Lunch at Cedar Court Huddersfield on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November. (more details from Leena soon)

Janet distributed some good quality personalised pens that had been kindly done for the group. Members were asked to sell to family and friends. The resources from the pens can then be used for group badges and towards to pocket sized handbook. Thanks to all who kindly agreed to sell these.

A fun raffle raised £90.00 for group funds.

And finally one of the groups' popular members David Fielding has kindly made a donation to cover costs for the North West meetings. On behalf of the group a huge thank you David for this very thoughtful and very kind gesture.

If I have missed anything of importance I do apologise I have just made these notes from memory having not had the opportunity to make notes.

Thank you to all who contributed to a positive and very friendly meeting. Photographs courtesy of Peter to follow shortly.

Kind regards.

Janet

Dave & Leena

[www.stjamesltsg.org](http://www.stjamesltsg.org)