



Dear OPA Supporter

I am pleased to advise you that our AGM will be hosted by our Derby Branch this year and equally pleased to invite you to attend, meet the Committee, especially our new Chairman, Professor Robert Mason, and to take part in various question and answer sessions and hear from various experts in oesophageal illness and cancer support. We have a full and interesting programme with speakers including Professor Mason (Bob), Trustees, Maggie's Centre and Cancer 52, along with a donation from the local Scout Group and we have arranged things in the village hall so that we have a full time coffee and breakout area.

This is our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year and I know that the AGM is being held close in time to our Anniversary event. You are welcome to attend both! We have set ourselves ambitious targets for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and this includes a step change in fundraising and in activity. Our target for additional funds is £120000 and we intend to use those funds as follows. I hope that we will be able to have a discussion with you, at the AGM, on the proposed patient centred research project

1. Widening of Branch network – ensure national coverage of patients by the OPA – £50000
2. Confidential database development for communication and future research purposes - £25000
3. Possible wedge (support pillows) distribution for 1000 patients - £30000
4. Patient support videos - £5000
5. Creation of training courses specific to support for oesophageal patients - £10000

It would be very helpful if you could advise us that you are coming and how you will get there. If numbers are sufficient we should be able to organise a shuttle from Derby City Centre to Hilton. We anticipate being able to report that we have turned a corner and that two years of deficits in our finances are behind us. Active support from many of you, super work in the office by Maggie Robinson, our Operations Manager and Jacqui Wood, our Fundraiser, enable us to be confident in the OPA's future.

Regards

Haward

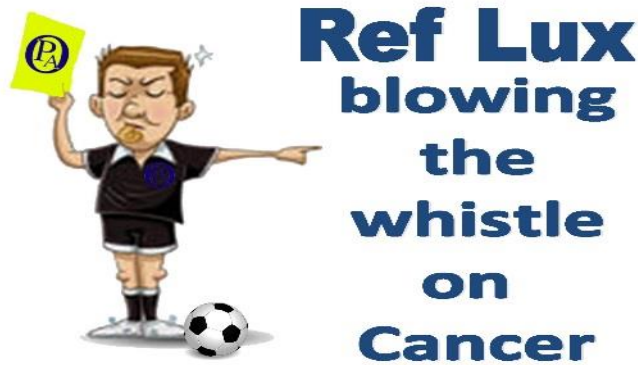
C Haward Soper – Secretary - OPA  
 NOTICE OF THE 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE OESOPHAGEAL PATIENTS  
 ASSOCIATION  
 CHARITY NUMBER 1062461  
 To be held at Hilton Village Hall, Derbyshire  
 See map below  
 On the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 1015

1. 0945 -1015 – arrival , coffee , registration , identifying first timers
2. 1015 – 1030 welcome from Chris Spiller – Chairman Derby OPA Branch
3. 1030 – 1115 - Bob Mason – Chair of the OPA –
  - a. Welcome
  - b. 30 years at the coal face – a surgeon’s journey
4. 1115 – 1130 – tea / coffee break
5. 1130 -1215
  - a. Loraine Ruddle – Ref Lux , the OPA’s awareness campaign and Action Against Heartburn
  - b. David Heyes (ex MP – retired at General Election, patient, and an OPA Trustee)
  - c. Question and answer session – Members and Trustees
6. 1215 -1245 – AGM
  - a. Apologies from Committee– Jane Darnton , Edward Cheong ,
  - b. Haward Soper , Secretary , introduces formal , legal , agenda and asks for approval of the 2014 minutes
  - c. Damien proposes approval of the Examined Accounts
  - d. Damien proposes appointment of Tony Mills as Independent Examiner for 2016
  - e. Trustee appointment and Committee appointments  
 Proposal of Committee – appoint the following Committee Members; Trustees highlighted as such

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>
Robert Mason <b>(Chairman)</b>	17 Kidbrooke Grove London SE3 0LE
Damien Cassidy <b>(Trustee and Treasurer)</b>	Oak House, 18 Cryersoak Close Solihull, West Midlands B90 4UW
Ed Cheong <b>(Trustee)</b>	20 Greenacres Little Melton NORWICH NR9 3QU
David Heyes <b>(Trustee)</b>	17 Partridge Road, Failsworth, Manchester M35 9NW

Haward Soper <b>(Trustee and Secretary)</b>	Flat 4/5 De Montfort Court, 2 Stoneygate Road, Leicester LE2 2AB
Barry Moorefield <b>(Trustee)</b>	2 Baker Road, Weston Point, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 4HU
Lorraine Ruddle <b>(Trustee)</b>	Hill Top, Thorpe Road, Southrepps, Norwich, NR11 8NG
Dr Jane Darnton <b>(Clinical Adviser)</b>	57 Lee Crescent, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2BJ
David Kirby OBE <b>(Life President)</b>	16 Whitefields Crescent, Solihull, West Midlands, B91 3NU

7. 1245 – 1330 – buffet lunch
8. 1330 – 1415 –
  - a. Cancer 52
  - b. Maggie Robinson – a day at HQ
  - c. Derby & District Scout Group – donation from Stamp and Deliver campaign
  - d. Sonja Zadora Chrzastowska - colleague from Maggie's Centre Nottingham talking about the part Maggie's Centres play
9. Bob Mason – closing remarks and thanks to Derby



**Consult your GP if you suffer from**

- persistent (every day for three weeks or more) heartburn or indigestion
- food coming back up
- difficulty in swallowing
- pain or discomfort in the throat or back
- a hoarse voice or a cough that will not go away
- unexplained weight loss
- coughing up blood



The Oesophageal  
Patients Association  
Making cancer easier to swallow

