Pelvic Radiation Disease Association Annual Conference

Saturday 24th April 2021

Introducing our speakers...



John Webber | Chair of Trustees

John is an experienced leader, Director and Non-Executive Director who has operated across a range of industries. He is Managing Director of five domiciliary care businesses in Lincolnshire and North Yorkshire. He lives in Lincolnshire with his wife of 36 years and enjoys an occasional day fishing and spending time with his 3 grandsons. John became a Trustee in June 2020.



Sue Boyes | PRDA Trustee

After a successful military career in the Army, Sue moved to work in the charity sector. Having worked for several well known national charities, she is an experienced volunteer manager, with extensive knowledge and skills in developing peer/patient led services. Sue previously worked for Prostate Cancer UK as the charity's national lead on peer support services. Sue recently became General Manager for Remap and is married with 2 grown up daughters. She likes to spend her free time taking her two dogs on nice long walks.



Rebecca Shoosmith | Chief Executive (Acting) Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust

Since joining Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust in 2009, Rebecca has been responsible for growing and developing its support services exponentially. Her work includes identifying ways in which to better support women and their loved ones affected by cervical cancer and cervical abnormalities and investing in volunteers to enable the charity to reach even more women than ever before. With a specialist focus in the cancer patient experience, she ran the largest ever survey to identify the long term needs of women affected by cervical cancer which as helped Jo's to campaign for better patient outcomes.



Rhea Crighton MSc Clinical Management of Pain | Pain Clinical Nurse Specialist | Non-Medical Prescriber | Member of PRDA Medical Advisory Panel

Rhea has worked within the specialty of pain for 10 years, having completed a masters at University of Edinburgh and prescribing module at University West of England. Rhea has worked with patients experiencing acute pain after surgery or due to illness or injury as well as with patients with persistent pain.

Rhea developed a keen interest in the management of pain after cancer treatment since having chemotherapy, radiotherapy and brachytherapy for cervical cancer in 2017 and consequently developing Pelvic Radiation Disease (PRD). It was during this time that Rhea developed a relationship with PRDA UK as well as working closely with members of Action Radiotherapy to look at ways to improve awareness of PRD. Rhea's future doctorate will focus on the lived experience of those with radiation induced lumbar plexopathy, a painful and often debilitating condition, which can occur after radiotherapy for pelvic cancers.



Dr Lisa Durrant PhD BSc | Macmillan Consultant Therapeutic Radiographer for radiation late effects at Beacon Radiotherapy, Somerset NHS Foundation Trust, Taunton | Member of PRDA Medical Advisory Panel

Lisa qualified as a therapeutic radiographer in 2006, training at the University of Hertfordshire and Oxford NHS Trust. In a previous life she was a research scientist, gaining a PhD from Cardiff University in cell biology, and then working as a post doc at the University of Oxford in immunology.

As a radiographer she was privileged to work on a Macmillan funded project looking at the late effects of radiotherapy on pelvic cancer patients. An ongoing interest in late effects attracted Lisa to Taunton, with the Beacon Centre having the first Consultant Late Effects Radiographer post in the UK.

Lisa is passionate about helping people who have had radiotherapy to understand their treatment and to promote the role of radiographers in helping people with cancer thrive into the future.



Dr Isabel White DipLScNurs RGN P/GDip Psychosexual Therapy MSc PhD Acc COSRT (sen) | Psychosexual Therapist | Cancer Nurse

Isabel is an experienced cancer nurse and a senior accredited member of the College of Sexual & Relationship Therapists (COSRT). She established the first psychosexual service at the Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust, London, in 2010 and led that service from 2010-2019 before relocating to Edinburgh.

She seeks to raise awareness and to improve how clinicians identify and manage the sexual consequences of cancer through local, national and international links. This has included work to develop clinical management guidelines and pathways for sexual consequences of pelvic and breast malignancies and development of staff training on this specialist aspect of cancer rehabilitation.

Isabel continues to work clinically as a psychosexual therapist with individuals and couples experiencing sexual difficulties, including those that arise following cancer and its treatment.

She also contributes to patient information development, events, podcasts and video clips for Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust, Macmillan Cancer Support, Breast Cancer Now, Bridges Self-Management social enterprise, Shine and of course PRDA.



Dr Ben Sacks MBBS iBSc | PRDA Trustee

Ben is a junior doctor who trained at UCL, graduating with an MBBS and iBSc in Neuroscience. Ben is currently working full time at University College Hospital. He has personal experience with PRD and pelvic malignancies. His father received pelvic radiotherapy for metastatic prostate cancer in 2007. Ben has an interest in NHS service improvement, especially in regards to cancer care and the long term impacts of cancer treatment. Ben became a PRDA Trustee in May 2020.



Bhumi Shah | PRDA Trustee

Bhumi is an MD candidate at Cambridge University with an interest in innovation, policy, and digital healthcare start-ups with the potential to have a positive impact on healthcare. She is co-founder of The Medicine Access Project, Cambridge Nutritank society, and business development analyst at digital healthcare start-up SolveMed Group. She is currently exploring her interests in healthcare venture capital to improve patient outcomes.

Bhumi is one of 6 section council members at the Royal Society of Medicine, and has held innovation and research roles with Columbia University, Harvard University, Imperial College London, and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).. Bhumi became a PRDA trustee in June 2020.



Professor Jervoise Andreyev MBBS MA PhD FRCP | Hon Professor, Consultant Gastroenterologist at United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust | Member of PRDA Medical Advisory Panel

Jervoise's first degree was in Arabic Studies. He qualified in medicine in 1987. He completed a PhD in molecular biology in 1997. In 2000, he was appointed Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant Gastroenterologist at Imperial College. In 2006, he moved to the Royal Marsden Hospital, London. He was the first gastroenterologist appointed worldwide specifically to treat GI side effects of cancer treatments. In 2017, he moved his clinical practice and research base to Lincoln County Hospital and is developing exciting links with Lincoln University. Over 17 years, the multidisciplinary clinical and research teams he has led have produced significant amounts of clinically focused evidence to redefine the scale of the problems caused by GI consequences of cancer therapies, why they happen and the way these patients are best looked after to prevent these problems and treat them when they cannot be prevented.



Willie Auld | PRDA Trustee

Willie is a retired Chartered Civil Engineer, after 40 years spent working in the UK construction industry. Following a diagnosis of aggressive prostate cancer he had radiotherapy treatment in 2016 and, as a consequence, has suffered from the symptoms of PRD ever since. Willie became a Trustee in September 2018 and hopes to help raise awareness of PRD and the profile of the PRDA, particularly in Scotland where he lives.



Dr Lisa Punt DCRT MSc | Centre Head at Maggie's Centre at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge | Member of PRDA Medical Advisory Panel | PRDA Trustee

Lisa graduated in 1992 and began working as a therapy radiographer at Addenbrooke's hospital, Cambridge. With a keen interest in Gynaecological cancer, she went on to develop a consultant radiographer led pathway which included engaging with local gastroenterologists to pilot a late effects referral pathway. In 2011 she completed her Master of science degree at Sheffield University with a research focus on vaginal consequences following pelvic radiotherapy. She then went on to contribute to national guidance on vaginal dilator use and late consequences of pelvic radiotherapy for gynaecological patients. In 2014 Lisa took up the position of centre head at Maggie's, Cambridge where she continues to support people affected by cancer. Lisa became a Trustee in May 2020

Professor Sara Faithfull PhD MSc BSc (Hons) RN | Visiting Professor



Sara trained as a cancer nurse in 1986 at the Royal Marsden Hospital (UK) and has worked in many oncology-related fields including neuro-oncology, radiotherapy and urology. She undertook her BSc after qualifying as a nurse and has always been passionate about combining the role of the nurse with that of a researcher. Sara was the recipient of the Smith and Nephew Nursing fellowship in 1991 and a CR-UK Nursing Research Fellowship in 1994. She obtained her PhD from the Institute of Cancer Research in 2000. She was President of the European Oncology Nursing Society 2008-2010 and continues to work with the European Society for Radiation Oncology (ESTRO). She is a nominated member of the European Academy of Cancer Scientists.

Sara has a strong interest in men's health and is a trustee of Prostate Cancer UK charity championing the support for men with prostate cancer. Working with clinical teams and patient groups to provide better care for survivors, Sara is concerned with improving the evidence base for healthcare interventions, for those experiencing late consequences of treatment. Although recently retired Sara continues to support research and clinical projects



Dr Anthony Cunliffe MB ChB | GP | Joint National Lead Macmillan GP Adviser | Joint Clinical Chair , South East London Cancer alliance

Dr Anthony Cunliffe has been a GP for 13 years and currently practises part time in South London. Anthony started working for Macmillan Cancer Support in 2012 as a Macmillan GP Facilitator. He subsequently became the lead GP Advisor for London and, more recently, the joint National GP Advisor Lead. Anthony is also the joint clinical director for the South East London Cancer Alliance.



THE CONFERENCE IS FREE TO ATTEND, BUT IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO PRDA, YOU CAN ADD ANY AMOUNT BY SELECTING 'GENERAL ADMISSION - WITH DONATION' AS YOUR TICKET TYPE