



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Local women raise awareness of prostate cancer

Five local women will be hosting a lunch to raise awareness of prostate cancer at 10am on Saturday 19 March at the Grassington village hall.

The event, organised after the husband one of the women was diagnosed with prostate cancer, will raise funds for the Prostate Cancer Research Charity.

Local GP, Dr Williams, will be speaking at the event on the importance of early diagnosis and offering advice for women in how to talk about prostate cancer to the men in their lives.

Mary Barker, who's husband's diagnosis promoted the awareness raising effort, said, *"I wish I had known how to talk about to my husband about prostate cancer. They caught it early but it might have been even earlier if we had discussed it."*

Each year, over 30,000 cases of prostate cancer are diagnosed in men in the UK. Generally prostate cancer affects men aged over 50, although it has been diagnosed in younger men.

If prostate cancer is left untreated it may eventually spread to other parts of the body. If the cancer is found at a late stage it is likely that treatment will only slow it down rather than cure it.

Dr Williams said, "Early diagnosis is the key to effective treatment. It isn't a pleasant diagnostic process but it is an essential one. We are a community and we must look after each other."

**-ENDS-**

### Notes to editors

1. To speak to Mary Barker further on the issue of prostate cancer or to arrange a photo opportunity at the coffee morning, please contact Mary Barker on 01111 111222
2. For more information on the Prostate Cancer Research Charity, please contact 020 7679 936
3. The Prostate Cancer Research Centre carries out research into the causes of and treatment for the UK's most frequently diagnosed male cancer. The Centre is based at the University College London and is under the leadership of Professor John Masters. It now employs a team of scientists and support staff who need over £1 million every year to fund its highly respected research programme. This site sets out what we do, how prostate cancer patients and their families benefit from our work and how you can help to support it.

