

Bendigo Cancer Support Group

Our Aim & Purpose

To facilitate open communication and personal experience to enable participants to create the environment to be able to share cancer experiences together as a patient or carer.

We do not give advice & we do not make judgments.

Cancer is hard enough, but to do it alone with no personal support is most undesirable.

The focus of each group meeting is for participants to voice their needs, concerns, breakthroughs and experiences.

Please Note: we are not professionals or experts in any field. We are ordinary people sharing experiences and knowledge. The Bendigo Cancer Support Group (BCSG) has been going since December 2004 and is a non-profit organisation run by a small group of volunteers.

Please feel free to contact the Victorian Cancer Council on the Cancer help Line -- 13 1120 for more information regarding Cancer services in Victoria.

Come and hear others
Everyone is Most Welcome!

Why Cancer Support?

Cancer knows no boundaries. It covers all segments of our community.

There are many people in Bendigo and the surrounding regions living with cancer, caring for people with cancer or know a loved one that has cancer.

The BCSG was set up to provide a safe, understanding & positive environment for people experiencing cancer to share their experiences, strategies and personal wisdom.

We have found through experience running the group that confidence, hope, enlightenment and inner strength gradually return to some degree for each person as we come together to share what has happened on everyone's personal journey since the last meeting.

Come and hear others
share their experiences!

Benefits

There is always someone else who understands what you are going through. There is always someone that wants to hear YOU because they were heard at the group as they have walked the walk and talked the talk as a patient or carer.

People meet others that have the same type of cancer. Both they and their carers can compare experiences and share what has worked for them.

Presently, we have a Resource Office who gathers information from different Government Departments on assistance of many different kinds to share with the group.

Apart from what the support group can offer you, you will bring your experience to the group. This helps others for no matter how big or small your contribution, every bit of information is valuable to the group.,

A Free
Service!

How to Participate

Be informed that we are here.

Tell those who have cancer or are caring for others with cancer that we are here.

Encourage people to share their experiences.

Come to our monthly meetings

The Bendigo Cancer Support Group is not a fund raising organisation. We do not have 'elected' position holders. We have been fortunate to receive community funding for pamphlets, posters and our quarterly newsletter through Region One Credit Union and the Victorian State Government. The BCSG is also grateful to individuals and like minded community groups for donations to assist us to continue supporting patients, carers and families of the Bendigo region who are living with cancer. Building a Stronger Community!

**Building
a Stronger Community!**

Where do we Meet

Where

The Bendigo Club

When

3rd. Tuesday of each month

Time

1.00pm to 3.30pm

Who

You, your family and friends are all most welcome

This support group was started by people that said "There have got to be others out there that are experiencing this!" They were right. This group pools the collective knowledge, contacts and experience so that everyone in the group can make progress in dealing with the cancer or caring for those we love.

Join

in Fellowship with others!

Information for Carers

As a carer, we ask you to look closely at this group as having benefit for your loved one with cancer and for YOU.

We know that living with cancer is very personal and changes your world forever.

We know that cancer also changes priorities in life.

We understand that for many people living with cancer can be isolating. Sometimes family's and friends find difficulty dealing with the cancer treatments, changes to the cancer patient and they don't know how to help. This can lead to patients becoming isolated, and left to deal with cancer alone.

As a carer, we ask you to be courageous. Strength comes from courage and courage flows through the Bendigo Cancer Support Group. We ask you to encourage and inform those you love of the benefits of this group, the benefits of companionship and meeting with others.

**Break out of Isolation
and start Connecting!**

For more information please contact: Cath & Bob Harwood
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or Gwen Baskett
Phone 54549234