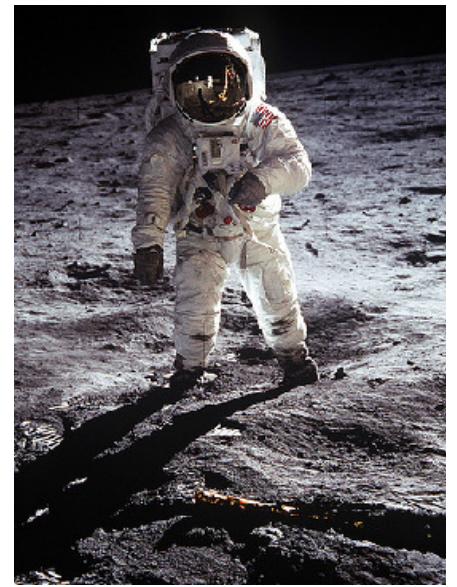




**1953
Conquest of Everest**

**1969
Conquest of the Moon**

**2013
Conquest of
Prostate Cancer?**



ATTENTION ALL MEN 45 AND OVER! (their partners too!)

FREE PROSTATE CANCER (PSA) TESTING JUNE 29 2013

60 years ago, in May 1953, a team of British and Nepalese mountaineers achieved a remarkable feat. Mount Everest, one of Earth's last and most daunting challenges had been conquered. July 2014 will be the 45th Anniversary of *the* most outstanding advance in human exploration; namely, the moon landing. "**One small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.**" was Neil Armstrong's momentous statement as he stepped on the lunar landscape.

That quote is highly relevant to the rapid progress being made in raising awareness, identifying and treating prostate cancer in the 21st century. This year particularly, there have been some significant statements made regarding the importance of PSA testing for men aged 45 and over.

Recent data from the Institute of Cancer Research in London and The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust has revealed that prostate cancers spread more quickly and are often fatal in men who inherit a faulty BRCA2 gene than in men without this gene. Swedish researchers say checking every man aged 45 – 49 would predict nearly half of all prostate cancer deaths. This surely provides a convincing case for prostate cancer screening and in the absence of anything better, the current PSA test should be introduced. Three significant facts stand out: 1) Without screening, around 42,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer each year. 2) Almost 11,000 men die of this disease annually. 3) Caught in the early stages, despite any lack of symptoms, cure rates are dramatically improved with over 80% success.

A giant leap for mankind is about to happen in Dorset. Dorset PCaSO (Prostate Cancer Support Organisation) believes overwhelmingly in giving men the right to decision-making about their own health choices that it is going ahead with its commitment to a PSA testing programme. PCaSO and other enlightened charities and agencies, should now claim the moral high ground as the NHS and the UK National Screening Committee have advised against introducing a population screening programme based on weak and unconvincing evidence. Fortunately, Dorset PCaSO is *not* bound by official red tape procrastination that puts men without symptoms at an unnecessary risk of remaining undiagnosed.

Despite the persistent reluctance by the NHS and local health officials to actively support free PSA testing for all men in the appropriate age range, PCaSO is offering this service at:

St. Marks Church Lounge, New Road, West Parley on Saturday, June 29 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The testing will be conducted by a group of trained personnel using the hand-held Mediwatch Bioscan equipment requiring only a finger prick (in contrast to the hypodermic needle) and having the advantage of giving a result within 10 minutes. These tests have been carried out throughout the country by local support organisations including Hampshire and Sussex branches of PCaSO (at Chichester and Brighton respectively).

To avoid unnecessary waiting, it is recommended that an appointment be made by telephoning:

Jim on 01202 580436 or Allan on 01202 691710