



# Somerset Freemasonry



**PROSTATE CANCER KILLS MORE THAN 12,000 MEN EVERY YEAR IN THE UK AND 1 IN 8 WILL GET PROSTATE CANCER IN THEIR LIFETIME!**

## **HAVE YOU HAD A PSA TEST?**

I suppose that it is only natural that, as you get older, you keep a closer eye on your health so that you can keep going a bit longer. When the Province of Somerset together with the Graham Fulford Charitable Trust started offering PSA tests, it seemed to me to be a sensible thing to do, so one Saturday morning

in November 2024 saw me at Taunton MH, having a blood sample taken. I was really impressed that I got the result the next day, which turned out to be a slightly raised reading. However, my GP informed me that it wasn't at the threshold for NHS intervention. November 2025 saw me at Nailsea MH this time, giving another sample. However, this time the reading was 448% higher than the previous year!

A quick trip to my GP resulted in another PSA test through the Surgery and an even higher reading. I was immediately put on the path of MRI scan, biopsy, CT scan. The result was a diagnosis of Prostate Cancer with a Gleason score of 8, which means that it is aggressive. The good news, however, was that it hadn't metastasised beyond the immediate environs of the Prostate, so hormone therapy and ultimately radiotherapy was recommended. The Uro-Oncology nurse had a big grin on her face when she told me that one of the side effects of the hormone medication was hot flushes. "Now you'll know what it's like" she chuckled! She was not wrong.

So far so good, then. The main issue is that I had no obvious symptoms and that the last PSA test may well have saved my life. Catching it early is also key, so if you are still undecided about whether to get a test done, do not hesitate – **JUST DO IT!**

W Bro Ben White (Marine Lodge No 232)



## Somerset PSA Testing

PSA testing will again take place in 2026 for all Somerset Freemasons, Family and Friends. The testing will be in the capable hands of the Graham Fulford Charitable Trust (GFCT) team.

The cost of a test is **£26.00**.

How to book a Test:

Go to [www.mypsatests.org.uk](http://www.mypsatests.org.uk) or use the QR Readers below for each event and follow the links to book into one of the venues. Please note that there can be no cash payments taken on the day, you will need to pre-book your test and pay via PayPal, or alternatively if you wish to pay by credit card, you will need to ring the GFCT office on **01926 419959** and they will assist you in booking and paying for your test.

**There are no walk-in appointments!**

Keynham Masonic Hall  
99 Bath Road  
Keynsham  
Bristol  
BS31 1SR

Taunton Masonic Hall  
20 The Crescent  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA1 4EB

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2026  
10:00am-1:00pm

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2026  
10:00am-1:00pm

<https://ssfm.mypsatests.org.uk/>

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