Awareness Raising.

Increasingly we are to be found at local events as our volunteers' time and our finances permit.

We are always available to provide illustrated talks to meetings at any level from lay to professional.

As part of Action Against Heartburn, we have worked with the Department of Health to advise on their “Be Clear On Cancer” national awareness campaign and initiated February as Oesophagus (or oesophageal cancer) awareness month in UK.

How do I find out more?

Visit our website: www.BarrettsBournemouth.org.uk
find us on facebook or twitter @BarrettsWessex
Email: enquiries@BarrettsBournemouth.org.uk
Phone or Text: 07771 567009
Write to: Barrett's, 6 Braeside Crescent, Southampton, SO19 7AZ

Meet us at one of our drop-in sessions:

In Ferndown, find us on the first Wednesday of even numbered months from 2:00 – 4:00 in the café at Haskins Garden Centre, Longham, BH22 9DG

For details of other Wessex drop-in sessions, visit www.BarrettsWessex.org.uk
www.BarrettsBath.org.uk
www.BarrettsSalisbury.org.uk
Who are we?

Barrett's Bournemouth is a branch of Barrett’s Wessex, the patient support and education charity for anyone concerned with acid reflux problems and its possible progression to Barrett’s Oesophagus and Oesophageal cancer.

**Oesophageal cancer** is the fifth most prevalent cancer killer in the UK killing on average one person an hour with incidence rates rising rapidly.

**Barrett’s Oesophagus**, a permanent mutation of cells lining the oesophagus, has been identified as the precursor lesion of oesophageal adenocarcinoma (cancer) – but it may be treated to prevent that happening.

**In some people, persistent heartburn can ultimately lead to the development of cancer.**

The principal aim of Barrett's Wessex is to reduce the number of deaths from this particularly aggressive cancer by raising awareness of the condition.

Founded in 2009 as a support group of Barrett’s Oesophagus Campaign (now Barrett’s Oesophagus UK), in 2012 Barrett's Wessex became an independent charity to better concentrate on the needs of local members and leaving that associated charity better able to concentrate on enabling research.

Barrett’s Wessex established the **Barrett’s UK patient support network** with branches throughout Wessex and affiliated groups nationwide. (See www.Barretts.org.uk for more details.)

What do we do?

**Education and Support.**

We hold drop-in sessions for anyone to come and chat and share problems, and other social events when members can often have the opportunity to chat informally with consultant gastroenterologists and specialist nurses.

Our education meetings feature free open lectures and question and answer sessions with top consultant gastroenterologists.

We produce a regular quarterly newsletter and maintain an informative and authoritative website and facebook page.

We provide help via an on-line forum (BarrettsForum.org.uk)

We offer help and advice to others looking to start similar regional support groups.

**Fund Raising.**

We raise funds primarily for local initiatives having purchased potentially life saving equipment for the local hospital.

We have also raised funds to help Barrett’s Oesophagus UK enable research.

We thank the local firms who have donated and the runners, walkers and cyclists who have raised funds through sponsorship of their endeavours.

**Publications.**

We produce a wide range of free printed material from simple fliers to a comprehensive and informative encyclopaedia on acid reflux, complications and management (DownWithAcid.org.uk).