

## FENTON LEG CLUB

### Comments from Cllr. Derek Capey Fenton Ward

I first came in contact with Fenton Leg Club at a P.C.T Voice Meeting where we were given a presentation by Sally Sturge and Kelly Mellor Community Nurses, as a Local Councillor for the Fenton Ward I was obviously very interested in this new venture to come Stoke on Trent, my ward of Fenton is not always the first receive a new ideas.

I introduced the Community Nurses to the Fenton Community Hall where they gave them a presentation and also the Heron Cross Residents Association where they also gave a presentation.

I also helped them to find a venue in Fenton where the Leg Club could be held this was in the Temple Street Methodist Church Hall; this takes place every Thursday afternoon.

We first of all had to get a committee organised of which I am a member, then the fund raising commenced we held our first event on Saturday 11 November 2006 that was very successful. This allowed us to open our bank account; we now hold our committee meetings once every month.

Fenton Leg Club had its Grand Opening on Friday 24 November 2006 by the Lord Mayor of The City of Stoke on Trent Councillor Jean Edwards.

Also present were the Local Ward Councillor Derek Capey and the Stoke Central M.P. Robert Ffello.

It seems to building quite a good following of patients considering that it opened during the winter months.

### Comments from Heron Cross R.A. Chair

As Chair of the Heron Cross Residents Association I invited Community Nurses Sally Sturge and Kelly Mellor to explain what a leg club was all about. They also had 4 volunteers for the committee from out of our association members.

I am on the Leg Club register and have had my legs checked and Kelly informed me that they were lovely but unfortunately I had to correct her by saying that they may be healthy but certainly not lovely but they suggested that I wear support stocking so I have taken their advice and do so. I am lucky in that I do not need treatment but I regularly pop in to have a chat with those who do attend for treatment. I feel that the patients who attend the Leg Club know that they are not suffering alone but there are others who have the same difficulties as themselves, sometimes this may be the only contact with other people. The fact that you can visit even if there is nothing wrong with your legs is an encouragement to get out of the house and meet other people and have a chat and a cup of tea.

This message is from Joyce Capey.

Patient Comments from John Coady.

I think the Fenton Leg Club is an excellent facility for the area and should be given every support and encouragement possible.

My own ulcerated leg started in August 2006 and after been seen by the consultant and nurses of the Tissue Viability Clinic (out patients). I was put into a regime of “4 layer compression bandages” these were changed twice a week by my own District nurse.

This carried on until the end of December 2006; by which time the ulcerations had healed and the swelling reduced. I was discharged and fitted with a below knee elastic stocking.

Since Christmas I have visited the Leg club twice. On the first occasion I was assessed: my blood pressure was taken: my blood sugar levels checked and I was weighed.

On the second visit the “Doppler Test” was done on my legs to check the functioning of my arteries.

I will continue to visit the Leg Club on a regular basis so that the nurses can check that the legs remain as good as possible.

I feel I have established a rapport with the dedicated nurses staffing the facility. I know them by name and I am very appreciative of the work they do, not only on my behalf, but also for the local residents.

I hope the venture continues permanently and wish the staff every encouragement.  
Regards John Coady