

Leg Club News February 2008

Leg Club® News

The Leg Club Forum's annual conference and charity gala dinner were held last September. Amongst our eminent presenters we were delighted to have Rebecca Billingham, Lymphoedema Nurse Specialist who spoke about the management of chronic oedema & Lymphoedema. Rebecca stressed the importance of correct diagnosis and described pathways for care delivery – citing her local Fenton Leg Club (Stoke on Trent) as an excellent example.

Over the years Leg Clubs have been able to identify people living with chronic lower limb oedema and to refer or treat appropriately. Stemmer signs are incorporated into the Leg Club assessment documentation to assist diagnosis. In this context, we are delighted that Carol Brailsford, a Leg Club lead nurse for Mablethorpe and Sutton on Sea, has been accepted to undertake a specialist course in Lymphoedema.

It is always pleasing to see nurses receive awards in recognition for their clinical excellence in nursing. However, last summer we were delighted that it was the turn of a volunteer group, who were acknowledged for their outstanding contribution towards patient support. The volunteers at Mablethorpe & Sutton on Sea Leg Club were nominated by their community for their voluntary commitment, achievements and fundraising for their local Leg Club. The team were winners of The Lincolnshire Community Council Initiative Award for their hard work and dedication to their Club. The volunteers' award and certificate were proudly displayed at the Leg Club Foundation stand at the Wounds UK national conference in November.

During the conference, Director Edward Rusling (Wounds UK) formally launched the Leg Club Foundation book, '*Leg Ulcers and Problems of the Lower Limb: An holistic approach*'. As a charity we were privileged to have our eminent patrons and authors (from the UK, Spain & Australia) dedicate their time and expertise to this project. We are extremely grateful for their invaluable contribution to the publication which has been extremely well received. They have provided the reader with informative chapters that will help all healthcare professionals in their day-to-day work with patients suffering from leg ulcers and problems of the lower limb.