

## Leg Club® News

Worcester Leg Club played host to the Duke of Gloucester when he recently visited the Worcester Tolly Community Centre. The venue had been chosen because it accommodates a variety of activities including a breakfast club, children's activities, a help group for the unemployed, a Church and, not least, the Leg Club! Everyone involved with the centre was requested to give a small demonstration of their activity within the community centre. DN Mary James and her dedicated team of nurses, Leg Club members and volunteers set up a mini Leg Club with Leg Club members seated at two treatment stations. The Duke listened very intently to the team's explanation of the purpose of Leg Clubs, and met the members, volunteers and nurses, apparently spending more time with them, than any other group.

Following the success of Jane Banwell and her team at their recently opened Club in Llanfyllin, Powys, Leg Clubs are set to continue to expand within the Powys region. This is being pro-actively achieved through the commitment and dedicated support of Tissue Viability Nurse Jackie Griffin. Jackie is currently working with a team of community nurses in the north part of Powys aiming to open what will be the fourth Leg Club in Wales.

There certainly is conference activity involving the Leg Club throughout 2008. The European Wound Management Association (EWMA) conference, widely recognised as the largest international event within wound management and wound healing in Europe, was held in May in Lisbon. The programme comprised 600 scientific presentations delivered either as posters, free papers or key lectures to an international audience of 2000 healthcare delegates. The overall theme of the conference addressed issues relating to wound management, wound healing and the placement of responsibility in order to secure the optimal treatment for patients.

The Leg Club Foundation is delighted to be an official Associated Organisation of EWMA, alongside the Lymphoedema Framework and The Lymphoedema Support Network. The Foundation will participate in EWMA activities including conferences, through an exhibitor stand, distribution of material, reciprocal website links etc.

The Leg Club Foundation has recently forged educational links with another charity – The Knee Foundation based at Droitwich, Worcestershire. This partnership is based around public health promotion and education for patients and healthcare professionals. Already both charities are being profiled through attending public awareness days, and co-chairing and presenting at professional conference / study day events.

Numerous Leg Club health promotion initiatives have seeded the community with excellence in practice and ensured that widely differing groups have been given access to Well Leg management, most recently the motorcycling fraternity. Over a bitterly cold weekend in March, Foundation Trustees Pam Kirby & Ellie Lindsay raised awareness of general leg health at the Metropolitan Police London BikeSafe weekend (15,000 attendees) and more recently at the British Motorcycle Federation event, Peterborough Showground (75,000 attendees). Through public events, public presentations and the distribution of educational 'Healthy Legs for Life' materials, these initiatives have raised the profile of leg management, in relation to both outward appearance and its importance in maintaining continued mobility and good health.



The 8th annual Leg Club conference takes place on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> October at the Worcester Rugby Club. This event for nurses at the frontline of patient care covers a full day of practical workshops and the second day of presentations by world class speakers.

More details will be placed in relevant journals and on the Foundation website [www.legclub.org](http://www.legclub.org)