

WCAUK Leg Club News August 2010

Molnlycke Health Care Scholarship for Leg Club Lead

The Leg Club Foundation was pleased when Jane Banwell (Llansantffraid Leg Club, Powys) was nominated and won the coveted Molnlycke Health Care Scholarship award.

With support from her Tissue Viability Nurse Jackie Griffin, Jane was encouraged and recognised for her work in the development of community based care for patients suffering from lower leg oedema and Lymphoedema in North Powys.

According to Jane the setting up of a “Leg Club” in North Powys gave her the impetus to look more closely at those patients with chronic oedema of the lower limbs. There appeared to be more members presenting themselves at the Leg Club with this problem and the team always seemed to have someone on the caseload with grossly oedematous, leaking limbs. Jane recognized that her knowledge in chronic oedema and Lymphoedema management was limited and elected to undertake a course at Wolverhampton Hospice on chronic oedema management, which she duly completed successfully.

Jane will utilise the scholarship award to allow her and the team, with the continued support of Jackie Griffin, to take forward further initiatives. This will enable them to continue to advance the management of this condition and so get positive results and improved quality of life for their patients.

Southend Leg Club Summer Ball

The Leg Club model and ethos is only possible with the help of community volunteers, committed individuals whose sterling work keeps the Leg Clubs thriving. Leg Clubs are totally self-funded with members (patients) and the community finding various ways of raising money by holding coffee mornings for the rent, equipment etc.

A fundraising event was undertaken by volunteers under the direction of the Southend Leg Club Chairman Derek Connelly, who organised a Summer Ball held on a warm evening in July at Rayleigh Golf Club. The high profile guest list included the CEO and a non-executive director of NHS South East and South West Essex PCT who were extremely proud of their Leg Club nurses and volunteers. The after-dinner speakers included the PCT Chief Operating Officer and the Mayor – both enthusiastically discussed the future of the model and emphasized its unique spirit of community

'ownership'. The Southend team are to be applauded for their outstanding achievement of raising the profile of their Leg Club within the Trust. In total 118 guests attended the event which was well supported by acute and primary TVNs from some of the Essex PCTs, eminent London TVN consultants and clinicians from as far afield as Bristol. Our Leg Club Industry Partners were also well represented. A very successful evening that was enjoyed by all who attended.

Lindsay Leg Club Foundation highly commended by Health Investor Awards judging panel

The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation was highly commended by judges for the Third Sector Organisation of the Year Award 2010. The Foundation was shortlisted alongside the eventual winner Nuffield Health.

The HealthInvestor Awards promote excellence and innovation in the healthcare sector and were held at the Hilton Park Lane in London at the end of May. The judging panel included:

- Lord Ara Darzi
- Bob Ricketts, the Department of Health's director of system management and new enterprise
- Nick Bosanquet, professor of health policy at Imperial College London
- Martin Green, chief executive, the English Community Care Association
- Susan Anderson, director of public service and skills, CBI
- David Worskett, director, NHS Partners Network

Ellie Lindsay, Leg Club Foundation founder said: "Getting this sort of recognition from a respected panel of judges at a national awards ceremony in front of 900 people is a fantastic endorsement of the work that we are doing."

Foundation Fundraising Events

The Great East Swim took place on **June 19th**. It was a day forecasters said would be typical of March with wind and scattered showers. However, a very brave Julian Tyndale-Biscoe (Trustee) managed to swim the mile in 38 minutes and 14 seconds. Julian and the Foundation Trustees express their sincere thanks to everyone who dug deep to raise money for the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation.

Despite Wimbledon finials and a host of other Suffolk events I'm pleased to report a successful Foundation garden day at Fullers mill, near Bury St Edmunds.

Trustee Julian Tyndale-Biscoe used his media contacts and managed to get our fundraising event into the local press and radio stations. PA Lynn Bullock was rushing around with flyers and kindly volunteered to take everyone's money (including selling

raffle tickets) with a smile. Volunteers kindly supplied refreshments and welcomed visitors to the gardens, while horticultural experts provided guidance on plant identification and compost making.