



Press Release

For immediate release

7th September 2018

Lindsay Leg Club Foundation founder receives Award for Excellence

Ellie Lindsay OBE, founder and lifetime president of the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation, received an Award for Excellence at an international gala ceremony held last month by the Scientific Institute of Higher Education (ICES) and Arias Medical Foundation in Xalapa, Mexico, to celebrate achievements in phlebology.

The award was given in recognition of her extensive work and professional career in the field of lower limb care. Also amongst the award winners of the evening were Professor Mark Whiteley, founder of the Whiteley Clinic, London and Professor Sergio Giancesini, University of Ferrara, Italy and founder of the vWing Foundation, both whom Ellie has close working relationships with.

Prior to the awards ceremony Roland Renyi, past Chairman of the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation, explained via video link the context behind the Leg Club model and Ellie's considerable dedication and achievement in making it the internationally recognised organisation it has become.

Unfortunately, Ellie was unable to attend the ceremony, which was held in the city of Veracruz, Mexico. However, she was able to send a video link acceptance speech. During her video, Ellie stressed that winning the award would not have been possible without the belief and support she received from her late husband,

colleagues and her patients from whom she derived the strength to challenge obstacles to change practice at each stage.

She said: "I am delighted and honoured to receive this award, however the recognition truly belongs to all those who have believed in my quest to change practice to meet the psycho-social needs of my patients. Without their unfailing friendship and continuous support throughout the years the Leg Club Model for holistic care would not be where it is and sits internationally today."

ENDS

Notes to editors:

1) Problems of the lower limb, leg ulcers (and other chronic leg problems like lymphoedema) can affect people at any age, but are particularly common in people over 60. At present, over 80 per cent of all leg ulcers are treated in patients' own homes by district nurses or by practice nurses in GP surgeries. However, individuals often find it difficult to adhere to treatment plans, or to maintain the preventive measures needed to avert recurrence of lower limb problems or their leg ulcer. Many leg ulcers consequently reoccur, or remain unhealed for many months or even years.

2) The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation exists to promote the national development of Leg Clubs. The Foundation also provides the necessary support and training for nurses to establish Leg Clubs and follow the Foundation's guidelines, as well as ongoing training in new developments in leg care.

3) The psychosocial Leg Club model for lower limb care is an innovative model that has been shown to improve the health and wellbeing of people with chronic lower limb conditions. By healing chronic leg wounds and keeping them healed, Leg Clubs also have the potential to save commissioners up to 80 per cent of their wound care budget in comparison with conventional lower limb treatment. A Leg Club is a local partnership between practice and community nurses, patients and members of the community. Run by a committee of volunteers, each Leg Club operates according to strict guidelines of care, monitored by the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation. The Leg Club title, the wording and logo are protected by Registered Trade Mark in the UK.

For further information about the Leg Club Foundation and Leg Clubs visit:

www.legclub.org

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