

Lindsay Leg Club Foundation



Another GP practice adopts the social Leg Club model

Once again, the Foundation has had the pleasure of working with another GP practice to transfer lower-limb care into the community. Frome practice is one of the largest GP centres in the UK, and the Foundation was delighted to support the clinical team to open a Leg Club in their community. The official opening by the Mayor took place at Frome Town football stadium, where the weekly Leg Club is held. Justin Cole (Foundation Trustee) gave a welcome address on behalf of the Foundation. The clinical team, management and volunteers were extremely enthusiastic and are delighted to work alongside their community.

Powys opens its eighth Leg Club

The eighth Leg Club at Crickhowell opened its doors in October 2014 as a result of the successful work of Jackie Griffin, Tissue Viability Clinical Nurse Specialist and Leg Club lead for Powys Teaching Health Board. Jackie and her team, responsible for seven Powys Leg Clubs, were announced earlier this year as overall winners of the NHS Wales Award for 'Improving Quality through Better Use of Resources'.

It is estimated that there are 3000 patients with leg ulcers in Powys, of which 2300 are now members of a Leg Club. Some patients have had leg ulcers for many years and many felt socially isolated due to the immobilising effect of the condition. Powys Leg Clubs impressed the judges by reducing the number of repeated hospital admissions for leg ulcers, saving more than £700 000 in district nursing costs. The Leg Club has also improved patients' quality of life, which judges saw for themselves at first-hand when they visited Llandrindod Wells to witness a Leg Club in action.



Angela Rippon (centre) with members of the Foundation, left to right: Lynn Bullock, Ellie Lindsay, Mary James and Dr Rob Bawden

Wounds UK Conference

This year the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation (LLCF) was given a 10-minute opening address as Wounds UK's chosen charity, to present its work just before the gala dinner commenced. It gave chairman Roland Renyi the opportunity to communicate the Foundation's key messages to the delegates. The conference was also the occasion for the launch of a new LLCF web site (www.legclub.org), enhanced branding on LLCF posters and banners, and a new promotional video. The Leg Club also produced and distributed postcards containing key messages.

Prevention: raising profiles for healthy legs

Angela Rippon, television presenter and vice-president of the Patients' Association, is an Ambassador for Activa, promoting good leg care. Angela is totally committed to raising public awareness regarding the importance of prevention and wearing of hosiery. We were therefore delighted to welcome Angela to our exhibition stand (see above). We

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President, Lindsay Leg Club Foundation

informed Angela about our commitment to the preventative aspects of our Foundation work and about the Leg Club health promotion initiatives that have seeded the Leg Club community. This is achieved by ensuring that widely differing social groups have been given access to Well Leg information leaflets and management—from leather-clad motorbike riders to pregnant mums. This raises the profile of 'Healthy Legs for Life', making it glamorous as well as necessary for continued mobility and good health.

Collaboration with Department of Health

Partnership working is about developing inclusive, mutually beneficial relationships that improve the quality and experience of patient care. It is also about relationships within and between organisations and services involved in planning and delivering health and social care in the statutory, voluntary, community and third sectors. The LLCF's collaboration with the Department of Health was formed when the 'Compassion in Practice' policy was introduced by the Government. The policy is based around six values: care, compassion, courage, communication, competence and commitment. These values, known as the 'Six Cs', are embraced by the Foundation and embedded within the Leg Club social model of care framework. The Foundation exhibition stand at Wounds UK demonstrated this joint partnership with the Department of Health. The Foundation was delighted to work alongside Helen Thirkle (Compassion in Practice Programme Manager, Department of Health). There was a large amount of interest in the policy and delegates appreciated Helen discussing the core values. She also provided delegates with a simple brochure outlining the Six Cs.

Consultants

Project manager John Hannah is, with the LLCF board's support, taking a strategic approach to connecting the Leg Club model with local and regional commissioning groups. Fundraiser Amanda Bailey is very experienced in this field and is taking a highly proactive approach. She has been successful in obtaining small grants to enable the Foundation to support Leg Clubs. Sylvie Hampton has been working on training individual Leg Clubs in how the LLCF's new data capture system works and the importance of correct data entry.

Australian Leg Club visit

Chairman Roland Renyi visited Daylesford Leg Club in Victoria, Australia, at the end of October 2014 (see photo above). This was a new Leg Club, only 6 months old. As with the LLCF's UK clubs, Roland noted that 'it was a privilege



Roland Renyi, Chairman of the Foundation (centre) with Patty McKibbin and the clinical team at Daylesford Leg Club

to experience the sheer enthusiasm and commitment coming from clinical staff, volunteers and members'. **CWC**

2015 annual Leg Club Conference: save the date

The 15th annual Leg Club Conference, 'Handle with Care: Head to Toe Aspects of Wound Healing' will be held at Worcester Rugby Club, 23-24 September 2015

Speakers will include:

Gary Bain
Maureen Benbow
Timothy Cutler
Caroline Dowsett (TBC)
Lynfa Edwards
Fahmy Fahmy
Jacqui Fletcher
Lt Col Steven Jeffery
Anita Kilroy-Findley
Christine Moffatt CBE (TBC)
Douglas Queen
Abdul Seckham
Leslie Street

'The Leg Club Conference is one of the UK's most prestigious annual wound care meetings focused on the lower limb.' **Professor Michael Clark**