

NOREEN'S STORY



I am a long term adult carer to 3 young men all 3 have additional needs.

I have lymphoedema in both my legs right to the top. I started with it after my treatment for a recurrence from my hysterectomy for womb cancer. I have had both external radiotherapy and internal brachytherapy. I have full garment now they are made to measure through my nurse at St Ann's Hospice. She really is lovely.

AFTER CANCER I WASN'T TOLD I HAD LYMPHOEDEMA

I didn't find out at the hospital that I had lymphoedema I had and appointment at my GPs because of the pain I was having in my legs. When I went I was greeted with, I have made your appointment at the hospice and I took a step back and thought why I need to go the hospice.

AM I GOING TO DIE

The Doctor asked me why I thought I was going to die. I told her well this is where I would be going if I was. She just said no you are going for treatment on your legs and that's when she told me what I had. I eventually went to see the nurse and she really put my mind at rest. At first it was just at the bottom of my legs and my feet but gradually it has got worse my skin gets so dry, even though I put my cream on them.

I had to have my legs bandaged for 3 weeks from top to bottom. I found this so uncomfortable but it really needed to be done. I was having so much pain in my legs, the new garments I have are good but I find uncomfortable. I also have problems with my back and find it hard to get them on even though I have a metal frame to help me.

ST ANN'S ARE LOVELY, I JUST WISH I COULD WALK WITHOUT PAIN

I just wish I could walk without pain and take my boys for long walks but the walks are getting shorter due to the pain I am in and I cannot have pain killers that make me drowsy because my boys have fits and I need to be aware in the night.