

# Newsletter



## Issue 3 includes

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- SocketMaster - Revolutionary socket technology research with LPC and the Horizon 2020 EU Project

# A message from the LPC team,

Welcome to the latest newsletter, the autumn edition for 2016, which we hope helps to keep you updated on some amazing stories and events that we have been privileged to attend.

In this issue, we feature Mark's tale on surviving septicaemia, how meningitis has shaped a young student's life, the events we have been privileged to be part of including all the highlights from Parallel London and an exclusive interview with Abdo on the future of prosthetic socket design.

Best Wishes,  
The LPC Team

## Your feedback matters:

- What do you think of our latest issue?
- What stories or content would you like to see covered in the next issues?
- Let us know by sending an email to: [lpnews@thelondonprosthetics.com](mailto:lpnews@thelondonprosthetics.com)

## Mark Camamile - Surviving septicaemia, amputation and receiving a bebionic hand

Septicaemia is a deadly virus that can cause utter devastation to unknowing victims and loved ones as Mark Camamile found out. Sharing his story he says, "It's all really surreal. Last year, I was a perfectly fine, fit man - I went from that to it being all taken away."

In September 2015, Mark came home from work early after feeling ill. When his mouth began to turn blue and he was struggling to breathe, Mark and his wife rushed to hospital. Before reaching the hospital his ears and nose began to turn black and Mark passed out upon arriving at Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham. He was quickly put into a medically-induced coma after he was diagnosed with pneumonia - which developed into a rare form of blood poisoning, known medically as septicaemia. As a result of contracting septicaemia both his feet and his right hand were amputated to give him the best chance at survival.

One year later, Mark and his family are slowly learning to adjust to the dramatic change in their lives, however Mark wanted to be able to support his family again and the need to live as independently as possible. Mark and his family explored the industry of bionics and decided the bebionic hand from Steeper was the hand for him.

Friends and family set up a fundraising campaign that resulted in more than 1,200 people donating to the appeal and reaching the targeted amount within just five days. Mark stated "It will be the difference between how I am now and getting my independence back. I can't put a price on that. I am just so grateful to everyone who has helped me."

Last month, Mark, mum Joy and wife, Wendy travelled from Nottingham to the London Prosthetic Centre to have his custom made socket and bebionic hand fitted. bebionic utilises leading-edge technology and unique, ergonomic features that make it unlike any other hand available. These innovations combine to give the hand unrivalled versatility, functionality and performance. With 14 different grip patterns and hand positions, the bebionic hand is designed to handle almost anything that Mark needs to do in an average day and help him get back on track with his life.

He said: "It's truly amazing how wonderful people are. It's just going to let me have my independence back, it's still really surreal and it's not really sunk in yet. I've been playing around with the hand and can't believe how well I've taken to it."

As Mark learns to adapt and gain confidence in the use of his bebionic, LPC will continue to measure his progress and to share his achievements and goals.



Pictured: Mark Camamile and his family with Abdo Haidar

To follow Mark's story, visit the LPC Facebook and Twitter pages.

## Parallel London - The event highlights

On 4th September, Parallel London hosted the world's first fully inclusive and accessible mass participation push/run event, and we are only just recovering!

LPC were privileged to have specialists at our stand from the Boyes Turner legal claims and compensation team, Limbcare Charity, Clarke Willmott Personal Injury team, Limbless Association Charity and our own resident occupational therapist and physiotherapist to offer their support, advice and share their expert knowledge to participants and family members who visited our stand. A huge congratulations to Victoria Milligan who took part in the race and finished in leaps and bounds.



Pictured: LPC and Partners

The day was a great success and LPC asked our partners to share their experience first-hand;

"There was a real buzz to the day and it was great to be part of this event, creating opportunities for people of all ages with disabilities and encouraging athletes to find ways of engaging with sport."

Clarke Willmott

"My team and I were honoured to be invited to attend this event and look forward to many more. As a proactive charity we were very busy chatting with health professionals, the general public and fellow amputees along with their families, informing them of our services offering help and support to create a better quality of life for all amputees and limb impaired."

Ray Edwards MBE, founder and chairman of Limbcare

"It was incredibly inspirational to watch participants of all ages and abilities defy any challenges they face to take part in this "Everyone In" event. It was an unforgettable experience for us and for many others who were able to take part in their first race."

Sita Soni from Boyes Turner

"The Limbless Association team were delighted to partner LPC at Parallel London and contribute to its 'Ask the Expert' programme. It was a great initiative and a really wonderfully inclusive day! The multi-disciplinary team of experts that had been enrolled ensured that this was a day of learning and information sharing for all concerned. A truly inspirational event with LPC and its partners making a significant contribution to the celebration of inclusivity that was intended. Thank you LPC!"

The Limbless Association

"It was a fun and inspirational day seeing so many people engaging in the fun. I enjoyed meeting fellow partners supporting the event. I look forward to more of these events."

Joy Rendell, our resident occupational therapist



# Clarke Willmott - Life after limb loss



Clarke Willmott invited us to their fourth annual training day that took place on 5th October. The event, “Life Beyond Limb Loss” was organised in conjunction with the Meningitis Research Foundation and all the tickets sales and sponsorship of the event was donated to MRF to raise money for their next “Pushing the Boundaries – Life beyond Limb Loss” family day. A total of £6,600 was raised for their family day.

The event was outstanding as we met so many new people who work within the industry of rehabilitation, limb transplant surgery, diabetes, legal litigations and prosthetic technology. One particular guest speaker that stood out for us was Charlotte Hannibal. Charlotte is also the inspirational ambassador for MRF and she presented a very poignant talk on amputation as a result of meningitis and how it has shaped her life. LPC’s consultant prosthetist Abdo Haidar contributed to the agenda by presenting on the importance of a prosthetic socket, as well as the future of prosthetic technology and what products are taking the industry by storm.

The event was informative, inspiring and rich in expert knowledge and the LPC team were thrilled to have been part of a such a significant day.

## SocketMaster - A revolutionary socket technology research project



Abdo Haidar, together with 6 leading European organisations called The Horizon 2020 EU project have been working on a 3 year project called The “SocketMaster”. Their aim is to develop a new medical tool and a procedure to achieve fast and optimised design of a prosthetic socket for an above knee amputee. The result will be a well-fitted prosthetic socket completed within a few hours in the same day.

In September, LPC joined the research company, TWI in Cambridge to record and view one of the many tests phases taking place in the engineering of the design. It was a fascinating day out and we are very excited with the ever growing research. Abdo states, “This is one of the most innovative scientific project ever attempted to improve amputee comfort”. The final stage will be the clinical trials of 50 lower limb amputees carried out at LPC in 2017.

