



SWINFEN CHARITABLE TRUST NEWSLETTER

Saving lives with telemedicine

Linking the remotest regions of the earth with the world's finest medical minds

Issue No. 4

Registered Charity Number 1077879

Spring 2005

Making a Difference

The Charity is now in its 6th year.

- Nearly 1000 referrals
- Over 160 consultants
- Nearly 50 hospital links

How much suffering relieved and lives saved in the same period?

Tsunami Assistance

The Doctor at the Navajeevana Health Care Centre, Deliwala, Sri Lanka where we have a link, was deployed to lead an Emergency Medical Team following the recent Tsunami and able to rely on SCT equipment in his work.

Recent Visitors to SCT

These have included 15 Gynaecologists from Iraq.
2 from Australia. Professor Peter Brooks, The Dean of Health Sciences, University of Queensland, and Prof. Richard Wootton, Director of the Centre for Online Health, Univ. of Queensland.
From Belgium, Frank Lievens, Secretary of the International Society for Telemedicine.
From USA Professor Philip Ozuah, Prof. Of Paediatrics, Albert Einstein Hospital for Children, the Bronx, New York.
Dr Hannah Parks from Bolivia.
From Canada, Professor Richard Scott, President of the Canadian Society of Telemedicine.
Sri Lankan doctor working with SCT Iraqi doctors in London.

Presentation of equipment to Dr



Joanne Meran for Halabja Hospital, N.Iraq Also present is Dr Attia Al Salihi of Erbil, N. Iraq.

Recent Publicity/Press coverage

Article in Glasgow's Weekly News.
BBC World Service programme 'Outlook'.
Interviews in December and January to worldwide 45 million audience.
Article on Telemedicine and the work of The Swinfen Charitable Trust appeared in the Journal of the Royal College of Physicians.
Chapter in TELEPEDIATRICS: Telemedicine and Child Health, edited by Richard Wootton and Jenny Batch, published by the Royal Society of Medicine Press Ltd.
Report on the International Society for Telemedicine (ISFT) website following the Tsunami.
Three articles since December on BBC ONLINE NEWS, HEALTH, including one on "snake bite boy with amputation".

News from Hospitals

Rebecca Sinha, Campus Chief at Lalitpur Nursing Campus in Nepal wrote thanking for the donation of the computer and telling us that the top two basic graduating students from the seven Nursing Campuses came from Lalitpur Nursing Campus. It enjoys a high reputation for the quality of its nurses. From Nepal, the use of the NERA Satellite phone at Tansen Hospital at a critical time was invaluable.

Testimonial

Doctor from Iraq 'I would like to thank you for all the help you are providing to me and my colleagues. A great job. I have learnt from you that one can call for help and you will find somebody who is listening and willing to help me at the same time ...'.

...Doctor from Iraq 'Thank you for your rapid response and support regarding my patient. (very ill indeed and SCT obtained the top Gynaecological Oncology advice available in UK) She is doing well and I shall be in touch with the kind people who responded to me about the progress of her disease. Your help for this patient regarding the rapid response and rapid communication with the best consultant in this field is really great and very helpful. Thanks again and I hope we will see you ...'

Aims of the Trust

To assist poor, sick and disabled people in the developing world by establishing Telemedicine links between hospitals in remote places and medical specialists around the globe

Visits

Training visits carried out in Kuwait while Roger and Pat were attending a joint Kuwait Ministry of Health and Baby Lifeline (UK) Conference in Kuwait. March 11 --16th 2005

The Royal School of Medicine Telemed Conference attended in November 2004. Roger and Pat invited to submit an abstract for the Successes and Failures in Telemedicine Conference in Brisbane, August 2005.

SCT invited to submit an abstract for the 6th International Scientific Conference of the Royal College of Gynaecologists in Cairo, Sept. 2005



Visit to Kuwait

Pat and Roger's most recent visit in March was to attend the Baby Lifeline (UK) Conference where they were invited to make two presentations; one on the work of SCT in general and then one specifically on its work in Iraq.

There was an opportunity to meet up again with many doctors from hospitals supported in Iraq and during informal conversations to hear of past and continuing suffering and grief over past acts, being experienced by the people of Iraq.

Doctors from Egypt and Kuwait were also present.

During the visit there was a meeting with the President of the RCOG in Kuwait, a Reception at the British Embassy and a dinner given by the Kuwait RCOG where the Swinfens were presented with a model of a traditional Arab Dhow.

A busy but rewarding visit.



Dr Priest at Rumginae Rural Hospital, Kiunga, Western Province, Papua New Guinea.

Rumginae is in the Fly River district of PNG, about as remote as you could get in the area. We are calling it the O'Grady Link, as the day before the request came in, Mr Michael O'Grady and his family had presented SCT with £ 170 , which enabled SCT to purchase a camera and tripod.

Dr Parks packs her Bags

Hannah Parks, who was in La Paz, Bolivia is off to Mozambique to join her husband on posting. Hope to hear more of her once she has found her job as a Paediatrician.



Statistics

- Referrals January – April 2005, [92] Total referrals to-date Over 900
- Consultants now number over 160
- Specialties covered - 72
- Links. In 1999 there was one. In 2005 there are 50 with a further 7 in the pipeline.
- SCT is now in its 6th year



Door sign at the Al- Zahraa Hospital, in Al-Kut

THANK – YOU!

SCT would like to thank Andrew and Rose Chapman, Michael and Catherine Bernard, David and Bronwyn Foxon for their splendid effort in raising £2632 for the Navajeevana Health Care Centre in Sri Lanka Tsunami relief fund. Thanks are also due to Katherine Davies for her generous donation of a painting which was auctioned at this event.

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