



SWINFEN CHARITABLE TRUST NEWSLETTER

Saving lives with telemedicine

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

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The Trust continues to grow with links now standing at 72 and a number of links that have the equipment but who have yet to send their first referral. There are also an increasing number of referrals on a monthly basis.

The contents of this Newsletter reflects the diversity of cases as well as the geographic spread of the Trust from the most remote point in mid Atlantic to the Hindu Kush in Afghanistan.

Pat and Roger Swinfen also found time to visit the Annual Tele-Health Conference in Brisbane. Visits to the University of Hong Kong Medical School and the National University of Singapore were also made, and on return, the University of Nottingham. An exciting development for the Trust is the partnership that is being established with a group of Universities, principally involved in research, the grouping referred to as U21.

RECEPTION

A successful Reception was again held at Ambassadors' Court, The Palace of St James, courtesy of The Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, Sir Anthony Figgis, for one hundred guests. On this occasion, the guests included a number of Consultants, Diplomats and friends of the Trust. Professor Jim Ryan was again on hand to update those present, as he put it, on the exceptional growth of the Trust and its impact on those most in need in the developing world, with the exhortation to support generously the vital work being performed.



Anandaban Hospital, Nepal

The Running Bug



Following Heather Payton's success in the London Marathon, where she has to-date raised in excess of £3,000 for the Trust, Steve Savage, a TA officer, has now run in the Bristol Half-Marathon for the Trust in a personal best time of 2 hours 11 minutes, running in exceptionally hot weather. Steve is also bringing in much needed funds for the Trust.

Thanks again to both.

THANKS

Doctor in Iraq

Thanking the Trust for the Newsletter and noting that the Doctors in Iraq receive great benefit from the Telemedicine links with the Trust in managing patients, especially those whose conditions are complex and in need of advice from expert medical consultants. Doctors in Iraq are pleased to have the opportunity of discussing these cases with medical professionals who are leaders in their particular field. The Trust is fortunate in having such senior consultants of world renown, and are deeply grateful for their outstanding contribution.

Badakhshan, Hindu Kush, Afghanistan - Equipment supplied in London for the hospital in Faizabad on 13 June 2006. First referral received from Faizabad on 13 July 2006. This is the Trust's 3rd Telemedicine Link in Afghanistan.

Due to SCT's contact with the Imran Khan Foundation in Lahore, Pakistan, the doctors with whom the Trust works in Afghanistan have now been put in touch with the oncology experts there, with a view to treating a number of patients.

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

INITIATIVE?

Martin Tanner, Projects Manager at ADM Computing, Canterbury, who supports the Trust by maintaining its IT equipment, has, together with his wife and colleagues raised funds themselves to purchase the SCT equipment necessary to install one, if not two SCT Telemedicine links at a hospital in Banjul, Gambia and another up country. Martin and his wife, who is from Gambia, have now been trained in the use of the equipment by Pat and Roger Swinfen and are off there at the beginning of December and will be installing the equipment and teaching the staff in Gambia to use the Links.

Congratulations to Martin and all involved.

U21

Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Trust and U21 at the Reception on 29th June, the Administrators made initial liaison visits to the Universities in Singapore and Hong Kong. It is planned that TeleMedical Links will eventually be set up with the hospitals in the developing world to which U21 Medical students go on their electives. The first telemedicine Link is already in operation in the mining town of Tabubil Hospital in Papua New Guinea (shown below). This makes two links in Papua New Guinea.



Solomon Islands - News from Helena Goldie Hospital indicates that the Ministry of Health has set up a telemedicine referral system with contact to the National Referral Hospital in Honiara. This system, which we think is based on the Trust's model, is a further indication of the development and value of telemedicine to those most in need and least able to obtain treatment and the Trust continues willingly, to deal with those referrals that cannot be dealt with locally.

QUINCENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF TRISTAN DA CUNHA

Pat and Roger Swinfen attended the Dinner recently held in the presence of HRH Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh at the Royal Geographical Society to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the discovery of the island. They were presented to His Royal Highness and had a chat about SCT's telemedicine link with the island.

Speedy Response to Tristan da Cunha

Bulgarian seaman falls 30ft into ship's hold and sustains life threatening injuries, including fractured skull, smashed jaw, compound fractures to leg and internal injuries.

Dehydrated and in severe pain on landing at Tristan da Cunha. Urgent attention was sought from SCT by the lone doctor, Dr Joerg Jaschinski from trauma surgeons with orthopaedic expertise.

A senior Trauma surgeon working in his spare time, provided daily advice on email, allowing surgery, treatment and relief of pain for a period of three weeks, until next ship arrived to transfer patient to Cape Town. Dr Jaschinski at Camogli Hospital, Tristan da Cunha thanked the Trust for its invaluable online help with the management of the patient and his injuries.



Dr Jaschinski and Hospital Staff

CONGRATULATIONS

The Swinfens won first prize for their presentation on 'A Virtual Hospital' at the Sixth Annual Conference on Tele Health in Brisbane.

FACTS

Number of hospitals:	72
Number of consultants:	227
Number of referrals:	68
Speed of replies to referrals:	1.8 days

Contact Details

**The Swinfen Charitable Trust. Dene House, Wingham, Canterbury. CT3 1NU
Tel. 01227 721024 E-mail. swinfencharitabletrust@btinternet.com**