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you can donate online or by post



Great South Run

Sharon Checksfield (SCT Fundraiser), Debbie Checksfield and Alan Griggs (supporters/fundraisers for SCT), Charlie Mayo (supporter of SCT) and Karen Everest will all take part in this 10 mile run on 30th October 2011 in Portsmouth to help raise funds for the new medical clinic in Khalte, Nepal and to also raise awareness of SCT's much needed work for the people of the developing world. You can still help by making a donation today, either by visiting our Just Giving page www.justgiving.com/Sharon-Checksfield or you can Text TSCT11 £(amount) to 70070 OR by sending a cheque to Swinfen Charitable Trust. Thank you for your support. (A follow up report on the new clinic will be published in our Spring 2012 newsletter).

Jerusalem Marathon

Consultant Randall Williams ran a marathon in Jerusalem and writes: "Running with other runners for 26.2 miles through Jerusalem, I saw the Caritas Baby Hospital, and the wonderful care it provides reinforced my belief that people can overcome their differences and join together in endeavours that benefit others.



Tell a colleague

As part of our continuing programme of software development, we have recently introduced a facility on our doctors-only website that allows them to notify other doctors about the Swinfen Telemedicine service. By clicking on a link, they can send an email explaining what the service is and how to apply.

STOP PRESS...

Charlie Mayo writes: On the 17 Sept 2011 I participated in the Endurancelife coast 2 coast Lite race. A 50 mile non-stop, unsupported race which follows an un-contrived, linear route from the remote town of Princetown on Dartmoor, to the jagged, wave crushed shore at Prawle Point on the southern extremity of the county. The race started with a 24 mile mountain bike ride across the moor and tracks to Totnes followed by a 7 mile kayak down the river Dart to Dartmouth and then a 19 mile run along the South West coastal path to East Prawle on the SE coast of Devon.

Charlie finished the race 8hrs 40 mins after starting, was the first single person to finish (other participants were in teams of two) and came in 5th overall and has managed to raise enough sponsorship to buy a computer and camera for the clinic in Khalte, Nepal. Well done Charlie!!

FLYING HIGH

Fundraisers Debbie Checksfield and partner Alan Griggs, following their trek to Everest Base Camp raising funds for Swinfen Telemedicine (autumn 2009 newsletter), recently visited Peru for their 10 day holiday trek to Machu Picchu, flying the Swinfen flag on their Tee-shirts and sent us this photo.



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SWINFEN TELEMEDICINE AUTUMN 2011

newsletter



Registered Charity Number 1077879

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

Caritas Baby Hospital Bethlehem



Caritas Baby Hospital has been for the past 60 years the only dedicated Children's Hospital in the South of Palestine. Started in 1952 by the President of the Swiss Catholic Charity Organisation 'Caritas', Pater Schnydrig, with 14 beds in the centre of Bethlehem. The foundation in 1963 of 'Children's Relief Bethlehem' continues to provide support for this young and growing medical institution.

After 25 years the current purpose built hospital was erected on the outskirts of Bethlehem. The in-patient service comprises two paediatric and one neonatal unit, which can take 25-30 patients each.

In recent years a new outpatient department was added, which is hosting weekly specialist clinics for cardiology, neurology, pulmonology, dermatology, ENT and orthopaedics alongside the daily general paediatric clinics.

Up to 30,000 little patients are seen here annually and for some of these the link to specialists abroad via the Swinfen Charitable Trust is an important back-up to the limited diagnostic possibilities available in this region.

EDITORIAL

Twelve years old and growing steadily

The Trust now has over 500 consultants around the world who give their time and advice to the Trust absolutely free to the enormous benefit of the doctors and patients we try to help in the developing world and other inaccessible places.

We now operate in 67 countries and have 229 links to hospitals and individual professionals.

Two stories featured in this newsletter demonstrate the value of Swinfen Telemedicine not only to individuals, but also, to other well-established organisations. There will be a further opportunity to extend this service once the clinic in Khalte (reported on elsewhere) is up and running.

Our 'Swinfen Model' pilot systems in Arabic, English, French, Greek and Spanish are being developed and will be reported on in future newsletters.

In expanding and extending the influence of the Trust, we do rely on the generosity of individuals making donations and these are gratefully received. Thank 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





Khalte Project



Update on the four villages Clinic in Nepal

The monsoon weather has continued in Nepal which has hampered the start of the project. The monsoons bring very dangerous situations to the roads and for walkers as land becomes unstable and liable to landslides. However, when the weather has been clear the local villagers have made a start on clearing the site for the build, and have been very busy collecting stones from the river, each stone has to be cleaned and stored.

Another piece of land close to the clinic has been kindly donated by one of the local farmers so that a helicopter pad can be built. This will be incredibly useful to the clinic during the Monsoon/Landslide season. Sadly, about 6 months ago, a young wife died from obstructed labour because they could not get her to hospital in time due to road conditions. New roads are being built but like everything this takes time and money.

On Sunday 18th September Nepal was hit by three Earthquakes – one at 4.6, second at 4.8 and a third at 6.9. Three people were killed in Kathmandu and some damage was caused in Eastern Nepal. Thankfully Khalte was untouched.

We hope to provide all that is necessary for the clinic to give people the best medical care that is needed to help these poor people in very difficult situations. Once again, thank you for your support.

Season's Greetings

As we approach our Christmas time we would like to wish all our readers the very best now and in the New Year.



The Children's Sanctuary

Andrew Clift is a medical practitioner with a background in paediatrics, critical care and international medicine. He was introduced to Swinfen Telemedicine by a colleague and has since become a paediatric consultant for the Trust. He writes from Cambodia....

The Children's Sanctuary Incorporated (CSI) is a non-religious charitable organisation dedicated to Cambodia's children & youth, single mothers & vulnerable families. CSI was initially established as a home for orphaned & abandoned children by Australians Dawn Cornish & Andrew Clift in 2007 and has been expanding ever since. Projects now include primary school & university support schemes, microfinance for single mothers, maternal child healthcare and continuing medical education for Cambodian health professionals. All children cared for at the Sanctuary receive first world healthcare and attend private school, with the aim of providing them the best opportunity to support themselves and assist the future development of their country.

Andrew believes there are many similarities between Swinfen Telemedicine and CSI and is keen to continue supporting the Trust in whatever capacity he is able and expanding access to the programme in places such as Cambodia.

snippets

Katherine Swinfen Eady, SCT Trustee held a joint Exhibition of work on 2 June in London with Captain Harry Parker to raise awareness and the need for funds for Swinfen Telemedicine and Walking With The Wounded. A large number of people attended and many of the paintings by both artists were sold. The money Katherine raised (over £2700 will go towards the build of the new medical clinic in Khalte, Nepal. Very many thanks to Katherine.

Elizabeth Mayo (14 yr old daughter of Trustee Arabella) raised £800 with her classmates at Warminster School in a 10 mile run for Swinfen Telemedicine. This amount was gratefully received by Roger and Pat Swinfen during a visit. Well done Elizabeth!



Professor Jacinta Tobin (Consultant in Paediatric Gastro-enterology) of the University of Melbourne, presented a Poster and distributed information about Swinfen Telemedicine at a meeting of the Commonwealth Association for Paediatric Gastro-enterology and Nutrition in London on 22nd July.

Roger Swinfen attended the Annual Board Meeting of the American Telemedicine Association (ATA) as a Director of the Association. During his visit he was told that USA Tax efficient donations to SCT may now be made through the American Telemedicine Association, 1100 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 540, Washington DC.

Sarawak Tribal Centre

From a doctor, on foot, in Long Lamai, Malaysia. "This village is very remote having no roads, no proper sewage facilities, no postal service, no medical clinic.....but they do have high speed internet facilities powered by solar power that enables Swinfen Telemedicine to provide medical help through our web system. The nearest doctor is in Miri which is a 9 hour drive away or the villagers can travel by boat which will only take an hour but is very expensive, there are flights twice a week which again are very expensive and which the poor cannot afford to pay. There is no emergency procedure in place to elevate patients to Miri. Recently a young girl from a very poor family dislocated her hip and it took 6 months to raise the funds to get her to Miri so that she was able to see a doctor". Dr Rachel Wyatt.

Cameras to Zanzibar

The Trust provided 8 cameras for Zanzibar and Pemba islands from donations raised. It is hoped that by giving these cameras to the doctors and nurses on Zanzibar and Pemba Islands, they will be able to save more lives and alleviate suffering.

Equipment to Gambia

Martin Tanner (ADM Computing) raised £1000 from a Record/CD sale in June 2011 to provide much needed camera equipment for Gambia. Many thanks, Martin.

Mobile Clinic in Iraq

Dr Hisam's Travelling Trauma Clinic started sending cases to Swinfen Telemedicine on 23rd June this year, following a warm recommendation from our dear friend and respected colleague Professor Thamer Hamdan, Dean of Basra Medical College. She sends cases from Baghdad, Diyala, Basra, Baquba and Kut amongst other places in Iraq. At the time of writing, Dr Hisam had sent more than 75 cases for expert medical consultation. The median response time for answering continues to be 1.8 days for all our requests.

Welcome

A warm welcome to new Trustee, consultant Mr Charles Cox pictured here with his earlier award of the OBE. Congratulations to him also.



Congratulations

Congratulations to our consultant, Surgeon Commodore Peter Buxton OBE, on his recent promotion and appointment as Commander, Defence Medical Group, which is responsible for the medical care of service personnel in the UK at the Royal Centre of Defence Medicine in Birmingham and Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre Headley Court, including those injured on military operations. They also look after all hospital based personnel in the UK and ensure they are properly trained for their operational role. And to Trustee Prof James Ryan on his award of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)

