



**Please help us to help those in need.**  
you can donate online or by post



## Char Bhanjyang Tamu Samaj UK

Lord and Lady Swinfen, Patrons of CBTS, attended the Char Bhanjyang Tamu Samaj UK Charity dinner night on 19th January in aid of the area development project. Other distinguished guests included the Ambassador of Nepal His Excellency and Mrs Dr Sureshchandra Chalise, Major and Mrs Thomas (The Cairns Foundation), Hon. Lt and Mrs Chandra Bahadur Gurung.



## A gift of life



In May, 2010, the Swinfen Charitable Trust received a request for a consultation on a tiny four month infant, Yang Fu Bing, suffering from cyanosis and heart failure. Through the efforts of the compassionate and caring nurses of International China Concern, a request for consultation was received. Baby Bing, who weighed only 2.0 kg at birth, weighed only 3.7 kg at four months of age. In partnership with the volunteer cardiologists of the Swinfen Trust, Baby Bing was found to have complex congenital heart disease and situs ambiguous. Referral was made to Shanghai Children's Medical Center where she underwent additional diagnostic studies and was confirmed to have heterotaxy with an absent spleen. In Shanghai, Baby Bing underwent the first of what ultimately would be several surgeries, and her response to treatment was immensely successful. At one year of age, she was adopted by Julie and Danny Mann, and her 'forever family' with whom she is currently residing in the United States. Bing-Bing, now also known as Olivia, is thriving following completion of further stages of surgery for her congenital heart disease at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She is a healthy, active, and beautiful three year old girl!

## Can you help raise funds for SCT????

Below are some ideas that you, or someone that you know, may like to take part in to help us to raise funds so that we can continue our much needed work:-

- Parachute Jumping**
- Bungee Jumping**
- Quiz Nights**
- Aerobics Class**
- Cake Eating Competitions**
- Walking the Great Wall of China**
- Triathlons**
- Climbing Mount Everest**
- London Marathon**
- Boat Races**
- Swimming Events**

## Telemedical links

From the kind donations that we have received from our supporters SCT has managed to set up 9 new Telemedical links since November 2012.

Burma - Chang Nyein Aung Hospital, Myanmar, set up in January 2013

Gambia - Sibanor Clinic, Banjul, set up in November 2012

Liberia - C.B. Dunbar Maternity Hospital, Bong County, November 2012

Phebe Hospital & School of Nursing, Bong County, November 2012

Nepal - Parbat District Hospital, Kusma. November 2012

Nigeria - National Orthopaedic Hospital, Enugu, December 2012

Solomon Islands - Eye Department, National Referral Hospital, January 2013

Uganda - Infectious Diseases Institute, Makerere University College of Health Science, January 2013

Yemen - Al-Thawrah General Hospital, Hodeidah, December 2012

Through these links we have given hope to doctors in very remote areas to help care for the sick, poor and the needy.

Thank you for your support.

At the time of going to press the Trust now has:

Hospital links = 257

Medical Consultants = 544

Referrers = 452

Acknowledgements: The Union Advertising Agency, for its continuing support of this newsletter.



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SWINFEN TELEMEDICINE | SPRING 2013

# newsletter

No 21



Registered Charity  
Number 1077879

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

# “NEWS FLASH”

## New Medical Clinic Khalte, Nepal.



We are pleased to report that the Centre for Health Clinic, Khalte has now been completed with the finishing touches being applied. The Clinic will cater for the needs of more than 15,000 people in Khalte and neighbouring villages. We received most welcome news on 5 January 2013 that the Clinic was sufficiently well advanced to allow limited opening to patients. A 24 minute clip has been posted on [www.youtube.com/tmckhalte](http://www.youtube.com/tmckhalte) acknowledging this tremendous achievement. The official opening of the Centre for Health Clinic by Lord and Lady Swinfen took place on the 3rd April 2013.

A Special Edition of the newsletter to report on this event in more detail will be published in the Summer.

### EDITORIAL

## Medical Clinic Khalte

We pay tribute to the ex Gurkhas who have worked so hard to bring this project to fruition and the villagers who joined in and worked for over a year since November 2011. Also we pay tribute to the generous people in the community who donated the land, both for the clinic and for the proposed helicopter landing pad. An amazing achievement!

The first Swinfen Telemedicine Link in Nepal was set up in 2000 at Patan Hospital in Kathmandu. It is still operating satisfactorily.

We are pleased to report the Trust continues in its growth and we have included some figures which are updated regularly on our website.



### 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



help us to help those in need - **donate online**

# Great South Run 2012



Last year we managed to secure 16 places for runners to take part in The Great South Run 10 mile race held in Portsmouth. The team were raising funds and awareness for the work of SCT, Char Bhanjyang Tamu Samaj UK, and for the equipment to be purchased for the Centre for Health new medical clinic in Khalte, Nepal. The day was bitterly cold with freezing winds but with the much appreciated support from friends and families that braved the weather, all 16 members of the team completed the course and managed to raise a fantastic sum of £6,581.75. Thank you to all of you who made a donation to support the team and of course a BIG thank you to all the 16 runners for taking part - Kate, Jo, Sharon, Alan, Charlie, Bimla, Sarun, Sadip, Sachin, Abviyan, Missan, Surchi, Shubu, Sophiya, Nikita, Namita. If you wish to be a member of The Great South Run 2013 team and help raise funds for SCT please contact Sharon on 01227 721024 or email: Sharon@swinfentrust.com. It's a fun day for all the family with a fantastic atmosphere and the 'feel good factor' that you are doing something for charity. An SCT t-shirt and fundraising material will be provided and all we ask in return is that you try and raise as much as possible.

## snippets

### Charity Quiz Night

This event was held on the 23rd November 2012 at Chilham (Nr Canterbury) village hall. To Sharon's great relief we had a marvellous turnout of 11 teams. All of whom had a fantastic time and helped to raise a sum of £600 profit. Thank you to all who helped make the evening a great success. We look forward to the next one.

### Congratulations

Many congratulations to Professor Karen Rheuban, Swinfen Trustee and medical consultant, who has been appointed to the board of MEDICAID in the U.S.A by the Governor of Virginia



### Legacies

Have you or a relation thought of leaving a legacy in your will? Leaving a legacy to The Swinfen Charitable Trust will help our work continue in the years to come and earn the gratitude of those we aim to help.

### Our Website

This has been upgraded recently and there is already much information about the Trust and its work. However we are always looking for more and if any of our hospitals have photos or information not already on the site, we would be pleased to hear from them.

### Medical Elective

We are pleased to have been able to help a medical student from New Zealand with an elective placement starting in September 2013 in China thanks to our good friend Dr Ray Pinniger.

We hope to feature a report from the student after placement in our 2014 Spring Newsletter.

## Please help!

Remember in the last newsletter we told you about our latest project to raise funds for one of our very remote Telemedical Links in Zambales, Luzon in the Philippines? The Burns Unit for Zambales was initially set up for children but will give help to all ages. This Unit operates from a Nurse's 2 roomed house.

There is no burns specialist in this province which makes the need for this small clinic even more paramount.

**What the clinic needs:** 2 hospital beds with guard rails, baby cots, Ventilator, Incubator, suction machine, swabs and dressings. Please let us know if you or anyone you know may be able to help with money to fund these needs. Donations please to :- Swinfen Charitable Trust, Dene House, Wingham, Nr Canterbury Kent CT3 1NU.W



email: **swinfencharitabletrust@btinternet.com**



# System Operators

Most readers will be aware that Swinfen Telemedicine operates 24/7 throughout the year. In order to facilitate this we now have system operators covering the 24 hours: one in The UK, one in The USA and one in New Zealand. This enables a shift system equating roughly to daylight hours covering all time zones. A short introduction of our Operators in the USA and NZ:



**Mrs Anne Pontuso. SCT System Operator USA.**

I have 40 years of experience as a registered nurse. I recently retired from University of Virginia Medical Centre, Charlottesville, where I worked as a nurse for 33 years. Most of my career was spent in critical care with

a specialty in cardiology. I teach and lecture on EKG interpretation. I spent 6 weeks with Project Hope in Kazakhstan teaching cardiac monitoring. I am a member of the Preventative Cardiovascular Nurses Association. I am now working part time doing Anaesthesia Screening and working for SCT as a systems operator.



**Mrs Robyn Carr. SCT Systems Operator New Zealand.**

Robyn Carr, in New Zealand, a retired nurse with many years working in Nurse Informatics – Past World President of the International Informatics Association – is one of our three Systems Operators on duty 8

hours a day, 7 days a week. One referral she handled from a remote part of Papua New Guinea provided the referring medic with specialist advice in just 9 minutes.

## Inspirational?

Rajani Gurung is 17 years old. She was recently awarded The Char Bhanjyang Tamu Samaj UK Academic Award which was introduced to encourage their children to do well in the educational field.



The trophy and cheque for £150 was presented by Trust Director, Pat Swinfen.

Rather than accept the cheque, she immediately donated it to the Trust – what a gesture!

Currently in full time education where she has already achieved 5A\*s and 6 As at GCSE, she hopes to pursue a career in medicine. She attends a medical society club at college, works some hours at the local KFC and then volunteers at a local community centre where she teaches elderly Nepalese citizens basic English. Not sure that she has any other time to herself!

Personal quote: *I have been living in the UK for almost 13 years now and I have grown accustomed to become a British citizen which I am very proud of. However, my home country is still of great importance to myself, and although I do not visit often, being Nepalese is my true identity. Just as the Swinfen Trust has given generous charitable help to the less fortunate, I wish to accomplish the same whether it be physically or financially.*

Most people these days shop online for something, be it the weekly/monthly food shop, presents for family and friends, presents/medications for your pets or simply something for yourself.

Why not join The Giving Machine for FREE and support The Swinfen Charitable Trust with FREE donations every time you shop. There are over 400 shops that are connected to the Giving Machine, so there is something for everyone.

It is so simple to do but also gives you the ‘feel good factor’ that you are supporting our charity while you are shopping.

Go to [www.thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk) for more information”. Thank you.

