

## **Interface annual report 2014**

### **Funding for a community project based at CoRSU hospital**

The mobiliser project (an individual working within CoRSU's community based rehabilitation team) continued to be funded by Interface until August 2014. He would find patients around the country and assess on their need for reconstructive surgery. The value of the mobiliser has been recognised and appreciated by CoRSU and he is now taken on as a member of CoRSU staff and is now part of their team and funded by the hospital.

### **Interface volunteer visit to Uganda – 1 Physiotherapists, 1 Occupational Therapist and 1 Dietician**

One physiotherapist and one Occupational Therapist (OT) from the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital (Dom Hazell and Jamie Currie) along with a dietician from Torbay Hospital (Charlotte McGrath) were funded by Interface to visit Uganda. They spent time in CoRSU working with the therapists and nutritionists as well as working in Kagando Mission Hospital for one week.

### **Patient fees**

Assisting poor patients remains a very important activity for Interface and enables patients to have essential reconstructive surgery that they could not otherwise afford. On average we help around 30 patients per year at an average cost of £150 - £200 per patient

### **Equipment purchased by Interface**

Interface has continued to send equipment to CoRSU. We now only send equipment requested by hospital workers – in particular physio splints and thermoplastic material. Interface has funded a large monitor which has been fitted in the main operating theatre at CoRSU hospital. This will enable the students and all the theatre staff to observe microsurgery procedures and it will also be used for teaching videos and other learning resources.

At the request of the Surgeon in Charge (George Galliwango) Interface funded an air powered dermatome (skin grafting equipment for burns patients) which has been well used over the last year and has made the harvesting of large grafts much easier and has helped in taking very accurate grafts for example for burns to the face.

### **Support for trainee surgeons in CoRSU**

Interface continues to support the trainee Plastic Surgeons based in CoRSU. They have visited other Units (Burns Unit in India and Trauma Centre in Canada). Interface has supported with cost of flights and subsistence. All of the training they have undertaken is to help them build up their knowledge so that they can be successful when they take their Plastic Surgery exams.

### **Sponsorship for Mohamed Abdelraiman from Sudan (trainee Plastic Surgeon)**

Interface has supported Dr Abdelraiman during his Plastic Surgery traineeship in Taiwan during 2014. He has now finished his training and is undertaking a fellowship in UK before returning to establish the department of Plastic Surgery in Khartoum in Sudan in 2016. We hope to be able to help with the setting up of a Plastic Surgery Unit in Sudan (there isn't one at the moment).

### **Support for the physio department at Kagando Hospital**

During 2014 Interface Uganda funded the transport and accommodation costs for a newly qualified Ugandan physiotherapist to work with Ken (the only physio at Kagando hospital). In January we supported newly qualified physio, Isaac. After his placement at Kagando Isaac moved on to a permanent job in a rehabilitation centre in Jinja, Uganda. We then supported Dennis (another newly qualified physio) to work with Ken during Sept to December 2014.

## **Fundraising activities**

2014 has been a good year of fundraising for Interface, and as our expenditure on patients increases, our fundraising needs to try to match this.

In January, Karen Devaraj and Jackie Fowler went to Sidmouth to talk to the 'Inner Wheel' (part of the Rotary Club) about Interface's projects. They have generously been donating money to us since.

February saw Sue Moger organising another fundraising concert for us – this time it was the 'True Tones' at Otterton Village Hall - £479 was raised for Interface. Thank you so much to Sue who has supported us and worked so hard to organise these events over the past few years.

The physiotherapy department at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital (RD&E) were also very active in February, with a highly competitive netball tournament held at Exeter University, which raised £200. Thank you to Dom Hazell and Charlotte McGrath for organising this (hopefully) yearly fun event!

Tim and Martin (relatives of Jo James, trustee) cycled 200 miles of the West Coast of Ireland in May and raised £1,140. Much Guinness was needed after, according to their report! See their story and photos in the 'news' section on the website [www.interfaceuganda.org](http://www.interfaceuganda.org)

At the beginning of June, 9 cyclists – staff from the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, and family / friends cycled the 190 miles from the RD&E to Buckingham Palace in just 2 days. They managed to raise a huge £3,977.75 through donations and sponsorship. Well done to all of them – especially for the first day with all those gruelling hills!! Thanks to Tim and Jackie Fowler, and Dom Hazell for organising.

Another big event happened in June with the first 'Dartmoor challenge', organised by Jackie and Tim Fowler – they managed to get over 50 people to walk either 5 mile or 20 mile routes with them over Dartmoor in stormy conditions!! Through generous sponsorship and donations, they raised £1994.85. They are hoping that this may also become an annual event, as everyone said they enjoyed it! We'll see.....

In October, there was an apple sale by Olivia (age 10) and Gemma (age 8), raising £50. Never too young, as Isaac shows in December.

In October Jackie and Karen spoke at a Rotary Club of Tiverton lunchtime meeting and gave an overview of the work of the charity. They have kindly given us a large donation of £500, so a huge thank you to them.

In December, Isaac Moger donated his 7th birthday money to Interface – what a fundraising hero! Thank you so much Isaac!

Primley Churc, Sidbury, Devon rounded off the year with their Christmas Carol Service and gave the fund raising proceeds to Interface. Thank you Primley!

We also now have 47 people signed up to easyfundraising, which has raised £442.77 since Interface registered in November 2011. It has taken a few years to get going, but now showing the benefits of advertising it on facebook and through word-of-mouth.

During 2014 we have submitted outstanding gift aid claims for the last few years and generated a payment from the HMRC of over £2,000. Thank you!!