

Interface annual report 2016

2016 was a busy year for the CoRSU Hospital and for the Plastic Surgery Department. The training programme continues to expand and as of the end of 2016 we had 3 students who had finished the training course though the last one is waiting to graduate later in 2017. At the end of 2016 we had 10 students in training. There are now 7 on the training course - Linda in her third year, Naomi and Cornelius in their second year, and Richard, Joseph, Obady and Irene in their first year.

Interface Activities in Uganda

Funding to attend a burns fellowship

Dr Naomi Kekisa and Dr Cornelius Masambu, students in their 2nd year spent 6 weeks in Indore, India on a burns fellowship which was funded by Interface. They found this an extremely valuable experience.

Funding to attend a microsurgery course in India

Interface Uganda funded Linda to go on a microsurgical training course at Coimbatore, India in April and May this year. Linda has written us a great report about her experience there – she states: ‘An amazing, relevant and much needed training opportunity for any plastic surgeon or trainee and I am grateful that I got this chance.’

Physiotherapy equipment

Interface has continued to support the physio department with donated splints and purchased thermoplastic material to enable construction of splints at CoRSU. Boxes were sent out in February, June and October.

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.

Nutrition unit

Jane Sibley made a very successful visit to CoRSU to assist the nutrition unit with the challenge of feeding our cleft babies. Her travel was supported by Interface. She was able to donate equipment and teach our staff how to use the equipment.

Nurse from RD&E spent time teaching at CoRSU

Tess Pearce (ITU nurse at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital) worked and taught the nurses at CoRSU hospital for 6 weeks. Interface did not fund this, but more good links were made.

New administrator post funded by Interface at CoRSU

With all the new trainee reconstructive surgeons now in CoRSU, Andrew Hodges (consultant plastic and reconstructive surgeon at CoRSU and founder of Interface Uganda) and George Galliwango (head of plastic and reconstructive surgery at CoRSU hospital) needed help with the administration, so Linna was appointed.

Kagando physiotherapy department

March – June 2016 – Interface funded Pius to help Ken in the therapy department at kagando hospital.

June – September – Interface funded Amon to help Ken.

Interface also purchased equipment for Kagando - 2 TENS machines, an exercise ball and a variety of therabands.

Kagando hospital now has a new physio – Gloria Ndekezi. Ken (the previous physio) has left to work at a different hospital in Kasese. Some of the equipment Interface sent out in November to CoRSU physiotherapy department has been given to Gloria in Kagando.

Trustees

After many years as a trustee and friend of Interface, Colin McCormack has now moved on to work in Nairobi.

Annual Information Evening

We had another extremely successful information evening this year, with three great speakers who have been out to CoRSU hospital recently:

Marc Swan, consultant plastic and reconstructive surgeon (specialising in cleft lip and palate surgery) from Oxford;

Jane Sibley, specialist cleft lip and palate specialist nurse from Oxford;

Vikram Devaraj, consultant plastic and reconstructive surgeon at The Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

Fundraising Activity 2016

2016 has been another good year for fundraising. Lots of people have donated and sponsored for a variety of events. In total we have raised £4,717.88 through our Justgiving page – so that you to all of you who have fundraised this way. At the end of 2016 we decided to stop using Justgiving and have now registered with Virgin Giving – see our website page for more details.

Rebecca Cook did the Reading half marathon on 03/04/16, raising £1,500. Rebecca's son George was born with a cleft lip and gum. George has been fortunate because the outstanding care and expert treatment he has received from an amazing team in Oxford. She found out about Interface through Marc Swan, one of our trustees who works as a consultant reconstructive surgeon in Oxford.

Jackie and Tim Fowler organised another Exe Estuary bike ride on 16/04/16. From 2 years to 70 years old, they had a great group of 49 people cycling on bikes, handbikes, tandems, tag-alongs and in child seats! Amazing children – some as young as 6 years old cycling the whole 20 miles. They raised £1,032.

Bridlington Lions Club in East Yorkshire donated a huge £500. This was through Jane Sibley, a cleft lip nurse specialist from Oxford, who has recently visited CoRSU hospital.

Jackie and Tim Fowler organised The Dartmoor Challenge on 23/05/16. 61 people turned up to walk in the worst weather imaginable! Total raised was £1,245.

Kerry Clifford-Taylor and **Cameron's baptism** - Cameron was born with a cleft lip and palate, and had surgery to repair it by Marc Swan (one of our trustees) at the John Radcliffe hospital in Oxford. She was also cared for by Jane Sibley, the cleft lip and palate specialist nurse, who went out to Uganda with Marc Swam earlier this year to help with feeding babies and support their mothers.

Olivia and Gemma Fowler raised £51.45 for donations for apples from their garden.

Easyfundraising

We have raised £212.46 this year as a result of purchases made by our supporters on Easyfund raising. If you are not registered and would like to do so on behalf of Interface, it is very easy go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/panel/> for more details.

