

## **Interface annual report 2018**

2018 was another busy year for Interface.

Once again we have continued to **fund training for trainee** surgeons and health care professionals based at CoRSU hospital in Kampala, Uganda.

**We funded trainee surgeons, Cornelius and Naomi, and nurse Florence** to attend a microsurgery course at Ganga hospital, Coimbatore, India. Here is an excerpt from their report: *We (Florence, Dr Naomi and Dr Cornelius) were in Coimbatore India from 12<sup>th</sup> February through 3<sup>rd</sup> March to undertake a microsurgery course. The trip was fully funded by Interface Uganda a charity organization. The purpose of the trip and course was to help upscale and improve the microsurgery done at CoRSU hospital and also improve in the pre-operative, intra-operative and post-operative care of patients undergoing microsurgery procedures (free flaps).*

**We funded a trip to the Spires Cleft centre at the John Radcliff hospital, Oxford**, for one week from 21st April to 28th April 2018 for Bertha, specialist cleft nurse from CoRSU, to observe and witness different methods of feeding and management of cleft babies, with a special interest in babies who have feeding difficulties.

**We have provided regular supplies of equipment for the Therapy Department at CoRSU** Interface has collected and sent boxes of new and used equipment to CoRSU hospital – new splinting material and Velcro, used splints, surgical and anaesthetic equipment that is no longer used at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, blankets knitted by a cleft nurse in Oxford – all packed up and sent out to Uganda, where it will be put into good use.

**We also funded a trip to Kampala, Uganda for specialist Cleft Nurse Jane Sibley**, from Oxford, to work and teach the nutrition team at CoRSU hospital in September 2018. She took out lots more equipment, and is making a great difference to the babies born with clefts and to their families in Uganda. She has sent us a report and photos which can be found on our website.

**We continued to provide equipment for the Nutrition Department at CoRSU** hospital as well – in response to their requests and equipment they know will be needed to support cleft palate babies and mums.

**We also provided funding for** Kagando Hospital therapy department. Interface has been funding an additional physio help in the physiotherapy department since June 2017. Regular reports have been received and can be viewed on our website. **In August** a new physio joined (Justus Muhwezi) to help Gloria in the physiotherapy department at Kagando hospital as James had taken up a new job elsewhere.

**Interface has purchased new equipment for Kagando physiotherapy department** as identified by their team. This included: TENS machines, heat pads, a massager, a variety of therabands, gym balls, goniometers (for measuring joints) and 2 educational physio pocket books.

**Our brilliant supporters have continued to fund raise and put on some fantastic events and activities. A few highlights were:**

***In April***, Out of the Blue Big Band performed in Birmingham and gave funds raised to our charity. They managed to raise a huge      **THANK YOU!**

***In June***, Sue Moger and her son Isaac for organising a big tea party to raise funds for us. It was held in Otterton Village Hall, and it sounds as if lots of people ate lots of cake, as they managed to raise a huge £260! **THANK YOU!**

***In July***, Jackie and Tim Fowler cycled the 'Vatternrundan' (the largest recreational bike ride in the world) to raise funds for us. They joined 20,000 people to ride the 300km (186 miles) around Lake Vattern in Sweden. It took them 13 hours (10.5 hours actual cycling time), and they rode through the night (not much darkness in June in Sweden)! They raised over £300! **THANK YOU!**

We continue to have strong links with both **CoRSU hospital in Kampala**, and **Kagando Hospital in Kagando**. We work closely with Friends of Kagando to provide ongoing support to Kagando Hospital Physio Department.

We want to continue to support patient costs and are in discussion with the management team at CoRSU hospital to ensure we have methods in place to do this as effectively as possible.

We are very lucky to have a supportive trustee board and **committed and hardworking volunteers** based both in Exeter and in Oxford. **We are also incredibly grateful for the donations we receive from many individuals and community groups**. This regular income is an absolutely essential feature of our income and we would like to extend our thanks to all of our brilliant contributors.