



INTERPLAST (UK)
ANNUAL MEETING OF TRUSTEES
FRIDAY 19 JULY 2013

ANNUAL REPORT

Our last Annual Meeting was held in December 2012, for the year ended 30 April 2012 but in order to keep Trustees up-to-date with our activities, I also gave details in the Annual Report of the missions in May and October 2012 to Kashmir and Uganda. It is therefore unnecessary for me to repeat those. In January 2013 Mr Viva accompanied a team from Interplast Germany to the Phillipines and no doubt he will give us a verbal report in our meeting. In May 2013 Mr Viva took another team to Kashmir and Christine will cover this in her Chairman's Report.

There is still a problem finding willing and available Surgeons to join Mr Viva. We are having more success with Anaesthetists and Nurses through personal contacts of team members.

Donations continue to trickle in from various sources but mainly from Trustees, team members and friends, churches and organisations where we are asked to give talks on Interplast. Mrs Bernie O'Donnell who attends the same church as Mr Viva very kindly initiated a mammoth fundraising event in January at Marton Country Club raising £4,132 including £724 matched funding from Barclays. You will remember that in August 2012 Helen and John Jefferson also raised almost £3,00 including £750 matched funding from Barclays Bank. We are very grateful for all donations and I always respond with a personal letter of thanks including up-to-date information of the charity's activities. I also encourage Gift Aid, a means of increasing personal gifts for which we can claim

tax refunds. Kashmir International Relief Fund(KIRF) recently held a fundraising dinner at Middlesbrough Town Hall and we understand 50% of the money raised will be donated to Interplast.

In February I had the pleasure of attending a Ugandan Networking Meeting in Macclesfield with Elspeth Robinson. This was a representation of the many groups and organisations working in Uganda giving the opportunity to share and explore ways of helping each other. One of particular interest was that of Ugandan UK Health Alliance endeavouring to persuade the Ugandan Government to waive the visa charges (\$50 per person single entry) for NGO's. Some charities make several visits each year so this would be very helpful. Uganda Development Services may also be able to help with transport from Kampala.

As costs seem to be escalating year after year any help in reducing them are welcome. The air fares to Uganda have risen from £600 in 2011 to our present quote of £970 for charity fares although we are looking at alternatives.

We seek to promote the work of Interplast through presentations whenever the invitation is given. I have spoken at Stockton Tabernacle and Hebron Church recently and Mr Viva will be speaking to the Hospital Retirement Fellowship, Hartlepool, in September. Ghalib has also spoken at a local Rotary Club. Unfortunately, the website is still "under construction" but will be a great asset once it's up and running. The Interplast pamphlets are also useful tools to use in promoting the work we undertake.

Thank you to all our Trustees for your support and especially to Mr David Otter, our Treasurer, who manages to provide us with the annual accounts despite his constant struggles with health problems. When engaging with patients and their families I am always careful to inform them of the rest of our team in the UK, that is yourselves and all who support and care in practical ways which are vital. Mr Viva is highly respected wherever we go and he continues to inspire us with his never flagging zeal and compassion for vulnerable and needy patients in the developing world. To Mr Viva goes our sincere thanks and appreciation.

Marjorie Wheatley, Secretary

19 July 2013

