

Extractions



The quarterly newsletter of the oral health charity Dentaid

Spring 2007

DENTAID OVERWHELMED BY DONATIONS FOLLOWING BURGLARY

As you may have read in the dental press we suffered a burglary at our premises in November 2006. 21 crates of new and second hand instruments were stolen, probably for scrap metal, following a spate of similar thefts in the area.

It was especially frustrating for us when the scrap value of these instruments would perhaps yield £100 at most, but for us to replace them would cost well over £50,000. Dentaid sends instrument kits to dozens of charitable projects every year and for a time we thought our future work in this area was in jeopardy. But thanks to some very generous donations from the dental trade and practices we are pleased to tell you we are nearly back up to full capacity!



Henry Schein (crate pictured) and Minerva led the way with huge donations



Instrument coordinator Mike Phillips and volunteer Jim Budden with some of the empty boxes

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of you who made donations to Dentaid - your support means so much to us and of course more importantly to the people you are helping in the developing world. We are still in need of a number of instruments, please visit www.dentaid.org for a list of our current requirements.

Conquer Mount Sinai for Dentaid

We still have a few places left for this years challenge trek, which takes place from the **25 Nov – 1 Dec 2007**. As well as climbing Mount Sinai, where Moses received the Ten Commandments; there will also be the opportunity to visit the Pyramids and trek through the Sahara, camping in Bedouin tents beneath the stars. Those who would like to take part must raise a minimum of £1980, which includes the cost of the trip.



Contact Daf for an application pack on 01794 324249 or email info@dentaid.org. Don't miss out on this adventure of a lifetime!

Dentaid builds partnership with the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board

In December 2006 Dentaid provided ten complete surgeries (including instrument kits, oral health education resources and even uniforms) to Baptist Convention Health Board hospitals and health centres across Cameroon.

As part of the services Dentaid is now able to provide, two Dentaid engineers flew out to Cameroon in February 2007 to oversee the installation of all the new surgeries.

While the engineers were in Cameroon, they also held a comprehensive dental engineer-training course for 14 hospital engineers to maintain and service the dental equipment. This was building upon a similar course held in Uganda in October 2006 for 15 Ugandan, Rwandan and Burundian engineers. During



Picture of Leo with toothbrushing model

their 1500km round-trip the engineers also trained five dentists and 25 dental assistants to use and maintain the equipment, including vital sterilisation processes. Following the provision of the new surgeries, the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board team now believe they have capacity to treat up to 4,000 patients a month across their hospitals and health centres. From next month, they plan to implement a double shift system at the clinics to allow 12 hours of surgery time per day.

The Future

Dentaid's involvement will not stop here. Dentaid passionately believes that the provision of dental surgeries and the establishment of regional referral clinics is just one part of the overall oral health provision needed in countries like



One of the new Dentaid surgeries



Engineers and dentists who received Dentaid training

Cameroon. Dentaid staff have been at the forefront of developing community oral health promotion and care programmes in a number of low-income countries. The charity is desperately trying to raise further funds to be able to send its Director of Oral Health Robert Yee out to Cameroon, to train the Health Board staff how to implement primary health care programmes in the community. These include the teaching of trainers to train rural health workers in ART (Atraumatic Restorative Technique) to provide simple fillings and basic extractions safely and effectively in communities well beyond electricity and conventional dental clinics. Ultimately, due to the scarcity and the relative expense of dentists and establishing and running dental clinics, the majority of the dental treatment needs of vast rural populations which make up countries like Cameroon will never be met through Western style dental clinics. Instead, the majority of care must be provided by rural health workers trained to provide basic treatment using hand instruments, simple techniques and portable sterilising equipment, referring only complex cases to regional referral centres in the main towns.

■ Dentaid needs to raise around £8,000 for the next stage of the partnership with the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board, to help them implement preventive oral health programmes within needy surrounding communities. If any individual or dental practice would like to contribute to this project, donations can be made through the Dentaid website or by cheques (payable to Dentaid) sent to Dentaid, Giles Lane, Landford, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP5 2BG.



Run for Dentaid

We only have a few places left for the Great South Run on 28 October 2007 in Portsmouth, so contact us now for an application pack.

Dentists' Provident Society come up trumps!



Dentaid Chief Executive, Luke Wordley pictured with Ian Passey, Chief Executive, Dentists' Provident Society

Dentaid would like to say a big thank you to Dentist Provident Society who recently made its annual donation of £6,000. DPS have made donations to Dentaid for the past 5 years, making them one of Dentaid's most generous and long-standing supporters. The donation comes at a vital time as Dentaid has dug deep into reserves in order to make vital investments in projects and expand the service skills it can offer.



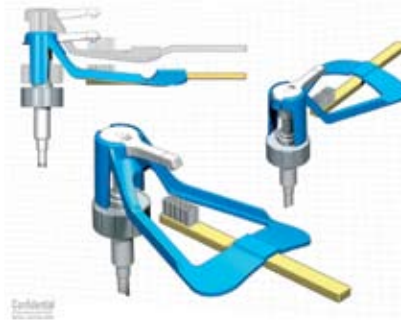
Ugandan school children brush their teeth for the first time ever thanks to the Dentaid toothpaste dispenser



In the UK, children are fortunate enough to receive quality dental treatment and nearly all have the means to brush their teeth twice daily with fluoride toothpaste. In developing countries, such as Uganda, children are not quite so lucky. Only a small proportion of children ever get to see a dentist, most of whom are poorly equipped and only present in the main towns. More seriously, few children can afford toothbrushes and fluoride toothpaste, thus not benefiting from the preventive benefits of fluoride and toothbrushing. As a result, untreated dental disease is commonplace causing pain, low self-esteem and occasionally infections, which can lead to life threatening conditions.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) identifies schools as one of the best environments for implementing oral health programmes. But school brushing programmes around the world have floundered time and time again due to a combination of problems, with the traditional tube of toothpaste a principal culprit. Designed for individual or family use, a tube just does not lend itself to a school or any other mass toothbrushing environment.

Therefore in 2002 Dentaid set about designing a toothpaste dispenser, which: Dispensed an accurate and consistent dose of toothpaste, was quick to use and administer to many children, had improved cross contamination control, made theft of toothpaste less likely/easy, similar or cheaper (scaled up) packaging costs to conventional tubes and simple to use in community-based programmes. Over the next 3 years the Dentaid team worked with a string of prototypes, until the final dispenser design (pictured) was arrived at and the toothpaste itself was formulated.



Dentaid - Toothbrush adapter - IBS-3



A huge thank you to The Lion's Club, who very generously sponsored the development of the toothpaste dispenser and the school oral health programme.

The dispenser is being trialled at Cardiff University, where it is undergoing robust scientific analysis in the laboratory and also in some nursery schools in Wales. However the main pilot is taking place in Kabale, South West Uganda as part of a holistic oral health programme, where children in six schools are not only able to brush their teeth daily using the Dentaid toothpaste dispenser, but they also receive free dental screening and treatment and oral health education using culturally appropriate education materials Dentaid also helped to develop. Long term Dentaid partners Chris and Polly Barton based at Rugarama Health Centre in Kabale are managing the pilot.

100 toothpaste dispensers arrived in Kabale in May 2006 and the toothbrushing got underway. Finally, almost four years after its first conception, thousands of school children in Uganda are now brushing their teeth for the very first time, thanks to the Dentaid toothpaste dispenser. While final evaluation won't take place until the dispensers have been in use for a year, early findings indicate that it will achieve success in all its six target criteria, and many observers believe the dispensing system has the potential to revolutionise the success of supervised school brushing programmes around the world.

The holistic school oral health programme in Uganda has become a runaway success. In fact, the oral health programme has proved so popular in the Kabale region that the schools currently taking part have actually found their enrolment of pupils increasing – as parents have been choosing the schools for their children over others because of this programme! While this is an incredible endorsement of the value of the programme to the local community, inequality between schools is not something Dentaid wanted to achieve and so has expanded the programme to include 15 schools in the Kabale area for 2007. However, Dentaid desperately needs sponsors for these schools please contact Dentaid if you can help. To sponsor an entire school for a year costs just £1,500.

There will be an in depth report about the toothpaste dispenser and the school oral health programme in the next Extractions Extra.



Robert's diary

Dentaïd's Director of oral health Robert Yee has once again been overseas, running workshops on tackling dental decay in Myanmar, helping to implement an oral health policy for the Philippines and attending a fluoride toothpaste workshop in Cambodia, where he and other oral health professionals advocated ways to make fluoride toothpaste more affordable.

In our next issue of 'Extractions' Robert will be reporting the outcome of his community health training programme in Chang Mai, Thailand.

Tee off with Dentaïd!

We are once again inviting golfers from practices, the dental trade and the general public around the UK to compete for the famous 'Golden Molar' trophy in our fourth annual Golf Day at Hamptworth Golf Club, near Salisbury, Wiltshire on Friday 22 June 2007.

The day will begin with coffee and a bacon role on arrival before a shotgun start at 0900 hrs. Refreshments will be served during the game and players will meet at the bar on completion of the course for a delicious buffet lunch. The Golden Molar will then be presented to the winning team, with awards



If you'd like to sponsor a hole for £99 or donate a raffle prize please contact jenni@dentaïd.org

for runners up, 'nearest the pin' and 'longest drive'. Places are available for teams of four (although smaller groups and individuals are welcome and will be allocated to teams) with maximum handicaps of 28. The cost of booking a place is £49 per person, which includes 18 holes of golf, breakfast and the buffet lunch. For a booking form or more information please contact Daf on 01794 324249 or email info@dentaïd.org. Book now to avoid disappointment!

Sponsor a surgery in Rwanda

Dentaïd is currently looking for funding to supply a much-needed dental surgery to Kigeme Hospital in Rwanda. The hospital is situated in south-west Rwanda in a town called Gikongoro. It serves a population of 190,000 people in south-west Rwanda, an area of poor soils and no industries apart from



tea production. The great majority of the population scrape a living by subsistence farming and live below the poverty level. The oral health status of the population is bad at every age level, from children to adults. Through lack of knowledge

and affordability, people do not brush their teeth with flouride toothpaste. From the age of 14 there is a high prevalence of tooth decay and periodontal problems. Tooth loss is common in many over-30 year olds. But for this whole community, their only current treatment options are do-it-yourself dentistry, or visiting a blacksmith or local witchdoctor to treat without anaesthetic or cross infection control. By supplying a fully equipped dental surgery, this will establish safe and effective treatment for this community, and will undoubtedly save lives. The hospital also plans to implement a proper programme of oral health promotion and education within the catchment community.

The total cost of this project is £3630 for further information please contact esther@dentaïd.org

..and don't forget this years dress up for Dentaïd day -

6 July 2007!



Dentaïd would like to say a very big thank you to Admor who print all Dentaïd's newsletters and stationary free of charge. Please contact them for a quote! 01243 553078

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