



Andy Jong

Dear Dentaid supporters

The early morning queue at Nkwen Health Centre in Bamenda, Cameroon is a long one with many in pain and seeking help, some having travelled a long way. It's not possible to run an appointment system here so the staff of the Dental clinic know they have to treat everyone who turns up before the days work is done. Were it not for this Dentaid equipped facility and the excellent work of our partner the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board, even this much needed care would be denied to the poor communities in this region.

I was greatly encouraged by my first chance to witness the outcome of Dentaid's work, humbled by the compassion and dedication of the dental staff and delighted to be discussing the expansion of our work through the setting up of a schools oral health prevention programme (see p2 for more).

I have no doubt that this kind of situation exists in many other needy places where Dentaid has equipped local Dental staff to offer a much better quality of help to their community. Others are engaged in the same task and I was able to meet some at the FDI Congress which brought together many oral health professionals from around the globe. There was a big focus on advances in science and technology as one might expect but despite those, the challenge of inequalities in oral health access/care remains an area where much more needs to be done. For those of you who want to be better informed, I recommend "The Oral Health Atlas" launched by the FDI at the Congress.

In this newsletter you can read about some recent achievements, not least the successful completion of one of Dentaid's biggest projects in Laos, and some of the ideas we have for 2010 to fund our ongoing work. We do need your ongoing support so make sure you join in our 365 Appeal.

Andy Jong

2008/09 Annual Accounts

And thank you too for your support in the past year, which has helped to cushion Dentaid from some of the most serious effects of the economic downturn. Yes, our income is down on last year at £535k (£572K in 2007/08) but the commitment of our "Partners in Action" regular donors and key supporters like Denplan has been invaluable in a challenging time. Staff reorganisations during the year helped to reduce our expenditure and in terms of outcomes, we have concentrated on our equipment and oral health prevention work, and not done as much in the areas of advocacy and capacity building. We are grateful to Ron Hopkins, who retired recently as Hon Treasurer having served as a Trustee for the past 7 years, for all his help with our accounts and finances. A full copy of our Annual Report and Accounts is available on our website.



Meet one of our supporters - Emma Clithero

Q What attracted you to support Dentaid

I love the fact that Dentaid not only allows access to dental treatment for developing countries but also offers preventative measures as well. I like that Dentaid supply refurbished dental surgeries and essential equipment for these countries so that access to dental care is much easier and permanent.

Q - What have you done to raise money

Over the years I have raised money by holding a table top sale, raffles and tombola's. This year I managed to get the local garden centre involved (Gates Garden Centre) who were kind enough to allow us to put a display up and sell raffle tickets. I also mentored my brother and we were able to hand out information leaflets and sell raffle tickets in our local town.

Q - Any Disasters?

I did help with a tombola one year at a local agricultural show which turned out to be a complete wash out due to the heavy rain we got that day! I must say though, we managed to raise a substantial amount still.

Q - What plans do you have for fundraising for 2010

I have a few tricks up my sleeve for next year but will definitely be running another raffle. Many shop owners and pub landlords have offered raffle prizes already for next year. I will also plan to put more displays up in local garden centres and supermarkets. Who knows what 2010 will bring!

Q - Tips for people wanting to get involved?

All I would say to people wanting to get involved with Dentaid fundraising is HAVE FUN! I'm a great believer in that the more fun you have the more money you raise. Enjoy what you decide to do and remember every little helps. NEVER QUIT!

In this edition

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P2 Project updates

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Stop Press..Stop Press..

- Laos project has been completed. 7 chairs repaired, 8 Dentaid surgeries installed, 25 Dentists trained in maintenance and repairs.
- Funding for Vietnam project secured. Work is underway on 2 portable chairs and a portable drill unit.

365 Appeal

What a difference a day makes

- Launch of the new 2010 appeal. The 365 Appeal thinks that one day can make a difference. Please help us
- Top 10 Dentaid fundraisers announced. This year we are proud to celebrate our top fundraisers.

Laos - A Dentaïd project completed

As previously reported, funding was recently secured for the dental project in Laos and Richard and David the Dentaïd engineering team have returned from a very busy three weeks in the dental school in Laos.

After a day's rest to recover from jet lag, they reached the Dental School ready to meet everyone and start work. Unfortunately the container had not arrived and was apparently delayed in Vietnam!

A quick change of plans and work started on the repairs, discovering that the students for the training were in fact dentists, not technicians. In the Laos Dental School the dentist is expected to repair his own equipment! Once work started they also realised how hot it was average daytime temperatures were some 35°C with high humidity!

Eventually the container arrived and was manually unloaded and as the training was completed, the students put their newly acquired knowledge into practice by repairing the existing faulty dental units. The main reason for other failures was damage by rodents chewing on the cables

and, once shown how to repair these safely and to replace the water controls, the students quickly had another seven



One of the 8 Dentaïd surgeries installed

dental units fully functioning. Then the work turned to installing the eight chairs shipped over from Dentaïd.

The eight Dentaïd surgeries will become the centre for teaching restoration techniques and the seven repaired units will give the university a valuable increase in the capacity of other sections in the teaching unit.

However, it wasn't all work, as Dave was persuaded to take part in a football match in 30 degree heat whilst sensible Richard took on the official photographer role!



Dave with the local football team

As a thank you/ farewell party Richard and Dave were invited to and took part in a Buddhist ceremony, sitting around a flower and food decorated table, linked to each other with strings. The trip was a huge success and ultimately will result in more people having access to good quality dental treatment.

Some of the key highlights from the trip were:

- 7 existing chairs repaired
- 25 dentists trained in maintenance and repairs
- 8 Dentaïd surgeries installed
- Dave playing football with some of the members of the Laos national team
- Eating grasshoppers!!
- Meeting Miss Laos

Andy Jong visits Cameroon

Dr Leo Achembong and Dr Mike Agbor head up the work of the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board and were my hosts for a thoroughly absorbing and extremely wet visit to see the impact of Dentaïd's support and partnership in their work. Despite a major road being closed



Dr Leo giving advice to one of his team

because a bridge was washed away, I was able to visit a number of the surgeries dotted around the English speaking western side of this fertile country and meet some very hard working and motivated staff. This is modelled by Leo and Mike, both men of vision and action, keen to see oral health care brought to those in Cameroon who otherwise could not afford or even consider receiving such help and care.

That care is of a high standard, given the conditions, the number of patients and their budget. Dentaïd has now provided 10

surgeries and all seem to be lasting well, especially given the high humidity which combined with the use of bleach as the only locally available sterilising fluid, can give rise to corrosion problems. At each surgery I also met one of the new dental assistants who have recently completed a training course aimed at supplementing the staff resources required to keep up with the demand for their services.

As part of my visit we also put in place the arrangements for an expanded oral health prevention programme in schools and I met several Headteachers. All were keen to see their schools involved and to involve the parents in some way. Dr Leo and I were also keen to encourage this as it increases the impact in the community and hopefully will lead on to ways of making the programme self sustaining in the future, which is the biggest challenge.

Vietnam - a chance to see our work

We are thrilled to report that funding for two portable chairs and a portable drill unit for a project in Da Nang, Vietnam has been donated and that work on the equipment is near completion.



The project is run by Dr Hung, a part-time volunteer dentist. The project currently examines, extracts, applies sealant and provides oral health education and toothbrushes to children, all free of charge. The project will now be able to treat over 200 children a month.

We are very lucky to be able to offer a unique opportunity to see Dentaïd equipment being used in this project so if you are interested in an amazing challenge with an opportunity to volunteer in the project and help Dr Hung and his staff, see enclosed flyer for details.



365 Appeal

What a difference a day makes

Can one day really make a difference?

Well here at Dentaid we think so, and we are counting on 365 days to make a huge difference for disadvantaged communities around the world by improving their oral health.

Can one person make a difference?

We hope so. And we hope that one person can be you. The 365 Appeal is very simple. Can you commit to one date in the 2010 calendar to do some fundraising for Dentaid? It could be yourself, your family or your practice, doing anything from a coffee morning to trekking the Great Wall of China. If we can fill the year with 365 events, we will be well on our way to achieving our 2010 targets of being able to support more projects. For example, if you can raise -

£50 - we can send a portable sterilising unit which will ensure clean instruments can be used

£180 - this will pay for a free dental check-up, treatment, oral health education and toothbrushing for a whole year for 32 children.

£500 - will pay for a portable chair which enables a dentist to reach rural areas and treat up to 200 people per week.

£1000 - A portable equipment set including chair, instrument kit, steriliser and shipping to any where in the world.

£3000 - will pay for a full dental surgery with x-ray machine

Help us to fill the 2010 calendar by choosing one day to make a difference

Fundraising update

■ Great wall of China Trek.

- this year 6 amazing ladies took the challenge to walk this wonder of the world, and between them raised over £15,000. An amazing feat in itself, then came the actual challenge. Thank you so much to **Sue Reece, Frances Baker, Maureen Leather, Helen Barlow, Elaine Paice and Lianne Silcox**



■ **The National 3 Peaks Challenge** is not for the faint hearted and you may remember that in the last newsletter we talked about our youngest competitor, **Matthew Styles**. Well the whole team made it safely and on time with only a few blisters as war wounds. Well done to all who managed this 24 hour endurance task.

■ **Dentaid Snow Ball** - there was a fantastic response to our very first ball and it was with mixed emotions we had to actually turn people away as we sold out. So to make sure you don't miss out on next years event, the Date is Friday December 10th 2010. We are taking bookings now!! And I will even hold this years price of £490 to anyone who books a table of ten before the end of January.

Events 2010

March 1st
Spring clean for Dentaid.

May 15th & 16th
National 3 peaks challenge

June 25th
Dress up for Dentaid Day - Wizard of Oz extravaganza

July 9th
Dentaid Golf Day

July 30th & 31st
Coast to coast bike ride (North) in association with Denplan

August - 28th, 29th & 30th
Devon Coast to Coast Bike ride (South) In association with Denplan

September 18th & 19th

National 3 Peaks open challenge

September 19th
Great North Run

October 9th - 22nd
Vietnam challenge and Volunteering project

October 23rd
Great South Run

December 10th
Christmas Ball

December 17th
Red Letter day - wear red for Dentaid

Operation Smile Morocco

The Country

Located in North Africa, with an area of just 447,000km², Morocco has a population of 38 million people. Casablanca is Morocco's largest city with a population of almost 5 million. However, according to the WHO, there are only 0.74 dentists for every 10,000 people in Morocco.

1 in every 600 people in Casablanca suffers from cleft lips or cleft palates. In Morocco 1,300 babies are born with clefts every year. Cleft lips and cleft palates bring social isolation and affect the breathing, speech and feeding of the baby.

Operation Smile Morocco

Operation Smile Morocco provides orthodontic care for 75 children with cleft lips or cleft palates each year and free basic dental care to between 30 and 45 young Moroccans each day. They currently have one full time dentist; Dr Fassu Fehry Said and a further 40 volunteer dentists. Operation Smile Morocco established the first cleft lip and cleft palate care centre in Northern Africa. The Casablanca based facility enables Operation Smile Morocco to provide comprehensive treatment and post-operative care (on going dentistry, speech and orthodontic work) to hundreds of children suffering from facial deformities each year.

The Project

Operation Smile Morocco hopes that Dentaaid can provide them with 4 portable dental surgeries, which would enable them to travel to remote areas and offer orthodontic care for people who have no access to dental health care. With

the new portable dental surgeries, they hope to be able to perform an additional 3000 dental treatments per year. As well as extractions and fillings, the volunteer dentists at Operation Smile Morocco will operate on more children suffering from cleft lips and cleft palates.



Can you help?

Dentaaid urgently needs to find a group, society or individual willing to sponsor this project and thus revolutionise the oral health care available to 5 million people in Casablanca.

Can you make a contribution?

Full refurbishment and supply 4 portable dental surgeries is £4,642 (new value over £25,000) Crating and shipping to Morocco is £805 approx Total £5447

Donations of equipment and goods Can you help us to save money?

Our work relies on your donations of equipment as physical resources are at the heart of what we do. However this year we have had to pay over £6000 to dispose of items which we can not either use or send overseas.

For example any out of date items can't be sent overseas as customs will not let them through.

As our core supporters, we would like to ask for your help. If you know of anyone who is sending Dentaaid items which will cost money to dispose of, please can you explain the affect this has on us as a small charity. The £6,000 spent on disposal costs last year could have paid for our Smile Morocco appeal above which could help as many as 3000 children in a single year.

Thank you in advance for your help

We couldn't do it without you

As always we have so many thanks it's hard to fit them all in and so this year we are very pleased to announce our Top Ten Fundraisers of 2009 .

Neil Harris, Jacky Hatton, Mike Stedman, Sue Reece, Francis baker, Maureen Leather, Helen Barlow, Elaine Paice, Lianne Silcox and Emma Clithroe.

We will be awarding a small token of our appreciation to those who will be attending the Snow Ball and will report back on the night in the new year.

Thanks also go to our corporate partners, the Lions Clubs and Rotary Clubs, who have worked with us towards our goals this year

The whole Dentaaid team would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to all of our supporters and Volunteers who have helped us though 2009 and with your help, we are set for an amazing 2010.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all and we will see you in 2010.



Dentaaid would like to say a big thank you to Admor who throughout 2009 have printed all of our stationary and newsletters free of charge. Please contact them for a quote on 01243 553078