

Walk like an Egyptian



Sinai trek 2007

In November 2007 25 Dentaid supporters took on the challenge of climbing Mount Sinai and then trekking through the Sahara desert to raise money for our work. Over the week the trekkers experienced the awesome spectacle of the sun setting over the Sahara, took an exhilarating jeep ride through sand dunes and immersed themselves in the immense solitude and awe inspiring grandeur of the desert landscape, including trekking through sand dunes, winding dry riverbeds and craggy mountainous outcrops.

The trekkers spent their nights by the campfire

and slept in Bedouin tents underneath the huge desert sky. On the last day of the trip the group had the chance to relax and experience the colourful vibrancy of Cairo with its eccentric roads

crowded with ancient and charismatic cars, donkeys and horses, vivid shops selling Egyptian cotton and fragrant perfumes.



The group celebrating at the end of the trek

Thank you to all of you who took part, you have raised over £28,000!



Trekkers climbing the sand dunes on day 3



A trekker looking out over the landscape

A new dental surgery & training for dentists at Kigeme hospital, Rwanda

Following a generous donation from David Bishop of Rose Lane Dental Practice a full dental surgery has been sent to Kigeme hospital in the Gikongoro region of Rwanda. Dr Chris Barton and his wife Polly, who run Dentaid's school tooth brushing programme in Kabale, Uganda, recently visited the hospital to help install the surgery. The dentist Marie-Claire, who joined the dental team at Kigeme in 2007, was excited to be able to receive the new surgery, although Marie-Claire had only previously been able to do extractions due to limited equipment.

Dr Chris Barton therefore ran through all the equipment with her and showed her how to use anything she was unfamiliar with. She was also taught about hand piece and equipment maintenance.



A note from Marie-Claire: "We are very grateful to Dentaid and especially to the English dentist who gave the money to get the equipment. The new dental equipment has affected my work positively. During dental care, the patients and I are comfortable. The number of patients being treated is increasing. Before, there was one patient for scaling per week, now there are 10 patients per week. Indeed, the equipment helps me to put in practice what I learned, before I had to practice extraction only. Now, I can practice scaling and filling."

Dentaid engineer helps Mercy Ships

In January 2008 Dentaid's head of engineering Richard Grapes spent a week aboard the Mercy Ship's vessel Africa Mercy, the world's largest non-governmental hospital ship, where he helped to service the ship's dental equipment. Due to the equipment being constantly taken on and off the ship, where it is set up in local hospitals to treat patients, it needs servicing regularly. Richard also supplied spares for the surgeries. The Africa Mercy is now docked in Liberia where the volunteer crew will be treating patients until November 2008.



Richard servicing a surgery on Africa Mercy



Africa Mercy ship docked in Lanzarote



The team from Janet Guys dental practice celebrate at the end of the run.

Run for Dentaid in 2008

The Great North Run, the world's biggest half marathon will be taking place on Sunday 5 October 2008 in Newcastle. For an application pack please email felicity@dentaid.org.

Dental surgery to Serbia to treat refugees

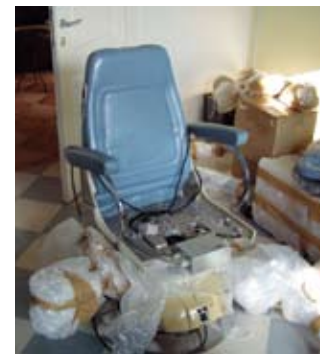
Following the instabilities in the former Yugoslavic regions during the 1990's Serbia has become home to 1000's of internally displaced persons (IDP's) from Croatia, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Kosovo. Former hotels have now been turned into collective centres housing the IDP's in the town of Mataruska Banja in central Serbia. When free health care was stopped in 2005 dental care became a luxury few could afford.

The vulnerable IDP's and refugees, the majority of who are unemployed, certainly can't now afford treatment by the private dental clinics.

Therefore working with UK based charity Blythswood Care, Dentaid has supplied a full dental surgery so the project is now able to work in the collective centres giving them free dental care. The project, which is working along side the Red Cross, will provide long term care for the patients and give them guidance on oral health and hygiene, as well as preventive care including regular scheduled check ups. They will also be developing special educational programmes for children.



One of the dentists with a patient using the old surgery



The new equipment has arrived and is being unpacked for use



A note from Ray Avenell, one of the Blythswood volunteers: "We are most grateful for the support from Dentaid who not only provided all the equipment needed but also covered half of the cost from their own resources - we are confident that this will make a real difference in the lives of hundreds of people."

Ride Coast to Coast for Dentaid

Following the success of the John O'Groats to Land's End bike ride, Dentaid is now organising the Coast to Coast bike ride, which is taking place on 5 - 7 September



2008. The majority of the ride will be on minor roads or dedicated cycle paths. We will follow the official cycle route and a support team will be with you every step of the way. Riders will be asked to raise at least £250 plus a £50 deposit and expenses to take part.

The coast to coast cycle route runs through the northern Lake District, climbing up to the Pennines, from where sweeping vistas and remote countryside can be viewed. The route continues into the once industrial heartland of the country with its monuments to former times.

Day 1: Friday 5 September 2008

Whitehaven - Penrith (approximately 40 miles)

Day 2: Saturday 6 September 2008

Penrith to Stanhope (approximately 39 miles)

Day 3: Sunday 7 September 2008

Stanhope to Tynemouth (approximately 35 miles)

For a registration pack please contact jenni@dentaid.org.

Robert's Diary



At the end of 2007 Robert Yee visited a school oral health programme in the Philippines

Robert returned to Yunnan in China working with Smiles for Life training 16 village doctors, who were originally farmers, in how to perform extractions. Previously the group had been trained in oral health promotion and examinations in schools. ■



A little boy with poor oral health



Practising an extraction



Some of the pupils brushing their teeth as part of the programme



Celebration as the group passes the course

TFL (Teeth for Life) INDIA

There is a need for dentists to help at a clinic in rural Rajasthan. Volunteers may help for any period they wish, perhaps combining their work with the opportunity to visit the spectacular cities of the Golden Triangle.

For further details please contact david. price@ruralmail.net or visit www.dentaid.org.

We are looking for supporters from across the UK to make presentations on our behalf. We get so many presentation requests and due to time, location and money we can not always take up every offer. Therefore we are looking to set up a network of volunteers who we can call upon to make presentations for us raise the profile of Dentaid with in their area whilst providing information on the oral health issues overseas and explaining Dentaid's work.

If you are a practised public speaker we would very much like to hear from you. We will be able to provide you with a script, presentation and Dentaid information packs to prepare you for your talk. We can also arrange for you to visit us for the day to meet the team and hear first hand about Dentaid's work.

To sign up or for further information please email jenni@dentaid.org.

Cordent Trust donation boosts Dentaid's overseas kits

At the end of 2007 The Cordent Trust disbanded and generously donated £17,500 to Dentaid and Bridge2Aid. To keep the Cordent name alive Dentaid has decided to offer specialist kits to overseas projects and volunteers. These kits will either be given to projects via subsidy or paid for by supporters who are volunteering overseas.



The Cordent instrument kit

There are four main Cordent kits currently available. These are:-

Full instrument Kit - Designed for extensively trained dental professionals (dentists, dental therapist equivalent) operating in areas without access to

neither clinical facilities nor electricity. Principally an extensive extraction kit, it also includes instruments and materials for oral surgery.

Sponsorship cost: £309.00

Packed in to a Rucksack + £25.00

Packed into an Aluminium case + £27.00



Oral Health Promotion kit



Demonstrating toothbrushing technique

Oral Health Promotion Kit - Designed for health workers to provide oral health promotion, particularly in low-income community settings like schools and health posts. It also includes a starter kit of toothbrushes and fluoride toothpaste.

Sponsorship cost: £55.00



The Cordent ART kit

ART Kit - Atraumatic Restorative Treatment (ART) is a WHO endorsed method of providing simple fillings using hand instruments and Glass Ionomer (FUJI 1X). Not requiring electricity or sophisticated equipment or training, ART can be implemented by dentists or general health workers and is particularly appropriate to low income community environments.

Sponsorship cost: ART Kit - £131.00

Packed in to a plastic toolbox + £8.00



The kits are available in a rucksack or an aluminum case.

ART and OUT Kit - This kit combines the main elements of all the above kits, to enable a single practitioner to provide a holistic oral health service to the community he/she serves. This is likely to be appropriate for resident health workers in rural communities.

Sponsorship cost: £450.00

Non-Electric Steriliser - £75.00

Consumables: Anaesthetics and needles - 50 2.2ml doses and 40 27g L needles - £16.00

Pack of 6 Sutures Black silk - £7.00

Fuji ix 10 mg Universal Kit (glass ionomer cement) - £18.50

The Cordent Trust was a small charitable grant making organisation set up in 1970 to make grants to individuals and small charitable projects both in the UK and overseas. We would like to say a big thank you to all of the Cordent Trust board for supporting Dentaid and therefore making these vital kits available to an increasing number of disadvantaged communities around the world.

For further information about the kits please contact louise@dentaid.org.

Diary

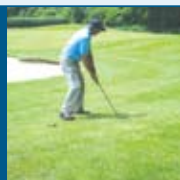
Dates to remember:

Dentaid golf day - 20 June 2008

Dress up for Dentaid Day - 11 July 2008

Mount Toubkal Trek, Morocco - 17 - 23 September 2008

See our website (www.dentaid.org) for various abseil and zip sliding events throughout the UK.



RBS
The Royal Bank of Scotland

RBS are pleased to have sponsored this newsletter.

RBS provide a national network of specialist Healthcare Managers, experienced in the dental sector. They understand the different requirements of dental practices and build tailored packages to suit, with up to 100% finance. Our healthcare managers can also offer a wide range of other products, such as interest rate management, health and safety advice, and private banking.

For further information call Nikky Williams on 07880 785781

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