

Last issue we met Aloyce, a Clinical Officer working in Magu District Hospital. Here, in the second part of our article, we find out how Aloyce and his community have benefitted from the training he received on a Bridge2Aid DVP.

**Aloyce Hugo**

Aloyce can't speak highly enough of the difference DVP made to him. "The ten-day training period is a really busy time, and one must be completely devoted to developing the role of CO because there



is so much to take in! The volunteers trained us in how to:

Receive and position a patient on the dental chair, take and record

their history, examine the patient, give anaesthesia for extraction, identify/choose dental forceps from the set tray, observe/extract tooth and give post-extraction instructions, observe/clean used equipment and sterilize instruments."

He added, "The training was an ideal way to improve my skills in providing dental health care, and I now feel I am both confident and competent in performing simple dental extractions."

Whilst making a difference to Aloyce's own life and skill-level, the thinking behind DVP draws on the wider picture. Each rural CO like Aloyce will be responsible for up to 15,000 people, all of whom can now access safe emergency dental care thanks to the volunteers on a B2A DVP. In a country where traditional treatments for toothache have led to

broken jaws and permanent facial deformities, this is a welcome extension to the current health care provision. The DVP has the full support of the Tanzanian Government, and was first rolled out in Magu District, where Samuel Kalongoji is the Dental Officer.

Samuel commented, "Bridge2Aid's Clinical Officer training has provided a remarkable development and advancement as far as bringing oral health services close to a marginalized society. Plus, CO morale has increased because they are now capable of handling basic oral health care procedures (simple extraction) directly at their respective local health facilities. Local communities are comfortable having the CO providing such a variety of services - including oral health care. The number of clients at the District Hospital has gone down as a direct result of DVP and this gives time for the District Dental Officers to provide supervisory visits to rural clinicians trained in EOHC."

To date, Bridge2Aid DVPs have trained over 90 Clinical Officers, allowing between 750,000 and 1 million people to have access to safe emergency dental care. That is quite an achievement.

**The success of future Dental Volunteer Programmes depends on the willingness of professionals like YOU to volunteer your services. Our next 10-day DVPs will run in October 2009, January 2010 and February 2010. Visit our website [www.bridge2aid.org](http://www.bridge2aid.org) to find out more, or email [ruth@bridge2aid.org](mailto:ruth@bridge2aid.org).**

**Group Skydive**

In Ian's own words, here is a run-down of the Group Skydive that took place on 13th June:

**"So there we are...arriving at 8.30 sharp, thinking 'I'll be first to arrive and can gloat...for a little!!!!'**

Well, I was last... the queue being the most challenging obstacle of the day is 7 miles long and everyone else is already there. Do these people have nothing better to do on a warm sunny Saturday in Oxfordshire? Thankfully, no! So they are raising funds for B2A instead! Fabulous people (who deserve a parachute)!

One by one we were given our briefing in comedy Northern style AKA Big Brother 'Seconds 10 yer chute opens, seconds 40 ya pewk all over yer instructor'

3 by 3 we all went up in the plane, where due to wind noise at 13,500 ft, screaming 'No no No' unfortunately sounds like 'Go go go'! Well, that's what Big Brother said...

When it's my turn, the plane journey is like a mine dental clinic trip. The fact that I'm intimately strapped to my instructor (my new best friend) and they then suddenly open the door of the plane - and there is only one way back to the car park, and that's out!

'Don't look down,' my instructor screams [he who has parachuted behind more enemy lines, in cloud, at night, with rapid descent chutes than I've had hot dinners]. 'Where else am I going to look?' I wonder?

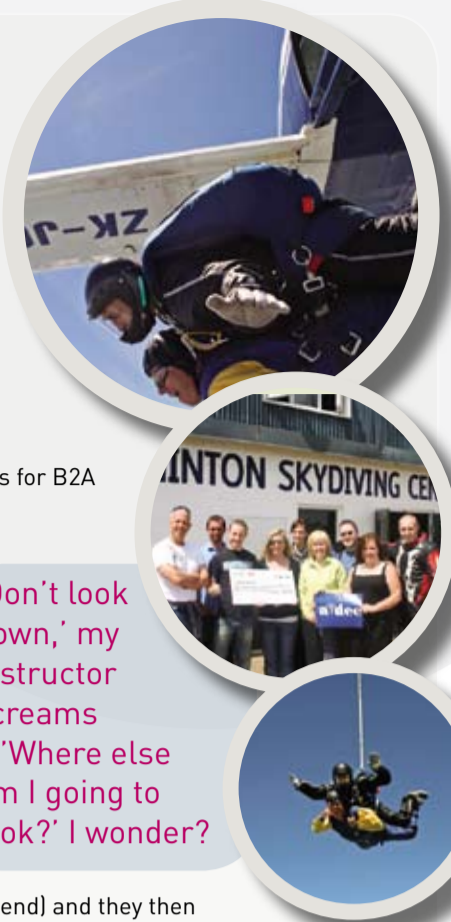
Next thing, we're descending at 128mph, the plane is a distant dot, fear is not an option and you are left with this rush of adrenaline that takes over your senses by screaming and looking really geeky to the cameraman to whom you have paid the GDP of a small nation to make you look cool while you contemplate death at speed.

A few minutes later, after the chute opens and you have descended in peace and harmony... that is, unless you had my instructor, who thought high speed spins that brought my lower bowel up through my throat was a great idea!!!!

It was an amazing day, and my warmest thanks go to all from A-Dec and Schulke, Karen, Mike, Dave and all their friends who came to laugh - I mean cheer - thank you!

And finally, my thanks to Brian who drove me immediately to Heathrow to catch a plane back to Mwanza while I thought I was having a post skydive stroke!!!! Ian.

**'Don't look down,' my instructor screams ...'Where else am I going to look?' I wonder?**



**New team members in the UK**



Ruth Bowyer

Both Rob and Lucy have moved on to pastures new, and we wish them all the very best! Which means we have two new faces at the helm, working alongside Jennie (Communications) and Kerry (Fundraising).

Brian Strotton joins us as our full-time UK Administrator, and Ruth Bowyer will be working part-time as our new Visits Administrator. Both have been long-term supporters of Bridge2Aid, and we are extremely pleased to welcome them on board! Brian can be contacted on 01243 780102, email [brian@bridge2aid.org](mailto:brian@bridge2aid.org), and Ruth on 07748 643006, email [ruth@bridge2aid.org](mailto:ruth@bridge2aid.org)

**New Office**

Our address is changing! We are consolidating our activities in the Chichester area, but don't worry, as all post to the Sheffield address will be forwarded for the next few months. Our main contact telephone number is now 01243 780102.



Brian Strotton



**Success at BDA 2009, Glasgow**

Ian and Mark travelled to Glasgow in June to be a part of the British Dental Association conference. It was a very successful event! The stand was attended by a team of volunteers led by Annie Bradley, and the Bridge2Aid seminar - which focused on the importance and effectiveness of volunteer dentists and dental nurses in the developing world - was very well attended and received. Thank you to everyone who helped out, registered their interest or pledged further support!

**Christmas Cards!!**



It may seem a long way off, but autumn is the time when businesses choose their Christmas cards - and this year, we have once again teamed up with Creation Christmas Cards to produce some stunning cards for you. All ordering is done on-line - visit [www.creationchristmascards.co.uk](http://www.creationchristmascards.co.uk) - and for every personalised set of cards ordered, 50% of the total comes direct to us. Please do have a look and see if this is how you or your Practice could support us this Christmas!



**Running for B2A**

**Volunteers raise vital funds for us each year through sponsorship in running events; here, Margaret Carleton (who volunteered for Bridge2Aid throughout 2008, living in Mwanza and overseeing some of our projects) talks about running the Manchester 10K, and the Reverend Joe Davis gives us an insight into his Flora London Marathon experience!**



Margaret said, "I ran (in a fashion!) the 2009 BUPA Manchester 10k with my two sisters, Sheila and Joan (running runs in the family!!). We had a really lovely day and completed the run in 1hr 25min, which for me was a challenge well met as I've been quite unwell; so it was a very good step to recovery! We met lots of wonderful people and despite the torrential rain that fell half way through the run, we kept smiling and between us we have raised around £400 for B2A! It is an absolute pleasure to be able to help B2A and I will continue to do so in the future. Keep up the good work - and here's to the next challenge!"

Reverend Joe Davis, a long-time friend of our own Ian Wilson, describes the 2009 Flora London Marathon:

"Monday 8.16am 27/4/09. So, it was extremely hot and very crowded. After 3 miles I knew there was not a chance of a pb so just settled back and enjoyed it! (kind of!?) I did it in 4:00:47 which is a pw (personal worst!) in fact! I came in a respectable 8,792nd out of 36,000, which is not bad given how fit some of those runners are. (I beat Gordon Ramsay!).

In summary, God is so very good, and my sponsors are all wonderful and beautiful people! The money given is hugely appreciated and I hope you will get the chance to meet Ian Wilson one day and find out first hand the difference it makes. Now I'm off for a cold bath! Cheers, Joe."

We also had a Bridge2Aid team competing in the Bupa London 10K: Denise Tulip, Chris Waith, Mark Holtham, Rachel Gwilliam, Janet Singleton, Jamie Dallow and Gavin Dutton all completed the event, and raised over £2000!!



Freddie During ran the Asics Reading Half Marathon in March, in place of Gavin Poole who unfortunately contracted a chest infection and couldn't run. Thanks Freddie for stepping in, and well done on raising over £235!

Emily Carter and her friend Lauren are cycling from John O'Groats to Land's End for us this summer! They are hoping to raise £1,000, and are well on their way to reaching that target.

A huge thank you to all our fundraisers; and if these stories have inspired you, why not sign up for an event yourself?

**Contact [kerry@bridge2aid.org](mailto:kerry@bridge2aid.org) for more ideas and support!**

## News from Mwanza

### Income Generation Scheme

Kibibi Kengia, our Community Development Worker, has experience from previous work in small business and income generation – her skills have been put to good use at Bukumbi where she has mobilised the community to get creative and there is now a small group of people overcoming their physical limitations to produce colourful embroidery, hand bags, sweeping brushes and table bowls, to be sold at a small profit.

Kibibi is involved in educating the group, assisting with managing money, training and sourcing outlets. Working alongside the local Community Development Officer for the area, she is discussing some youth income generation projects as well.

It is not so long back that the community sat passively watching the world go by waiting for the next handout, so to see them busy and industrious with their small businesses is such a wonderful contrast!

People get an initial loan from us of around £5 depending on the craft they choose, (making jewelry, baskets, brooms, bags, mats, embroidery). They then make their items, and we find outlets to sell them. So far it has been mainly to Bridge2Aid visitors/ volunteers actually coming to Bukumbi but our aim is to be able to fine tune the crafts and sell them in Mwanza town.

Of the 100,000TSh (£50) loaned so far, 83,000TSh (£40) has already been paid back! Once the loans are repaid people are able to buy the next lot of materials with their own funds. It's a simple but effective way

of empowering the community and it is making a real, tangible difference.

**"It's a simple but effective way of empowering the community and it is making a real, tangible difference."**



## Henry Schein team renovate Mpupua Dormitory

Two years ago we started renovating the large residential dormitories at Bukumbi, and on 16th April 2009 we finally handed over the last of these, Mpupua, back to the residents.

The team of eleven enthusiastic volunteers from Henry Schein (UK), who have raised over £17,000 to fund the renovation AND paid their own expenses for the trip, have been enthusiastic and energetic as together with Bridge2Aid staff they cleaned, scrubbed and painted the dormitory.

The final result was wonderful - a weather proof, safe and clean building with electricity, and beds made up with new mattresses, sheets and brightly coloured blankets.

When the community went into their new home for the first time, you could hear gasps of amazement and shrieks of

joy as each of them entered their rooms. It was an amazing transformation, and will impact on the lives of the community at Bukumbi for a long time to come.

**"you could hear gasps of amazement and shrieks of joy as each of them entered their rooms"**

Thank you to Kenneth Chow, Kate Ballam, Marie Brown, Diane Cann, Siobhan Cleary, John Dinsdale, Hima Joshi, Shirley Peet, Patrick Allen, James Salter, Arwel Thomas and everyone at Henry Schein for all your support; you have made a real difference to the lives of many.



## DVP 14



In May 2009 our 14th Dental Volunteer Programme successfully took place. We were pleased to welcome dentists Katherine Opie-Smith (SCL), Neil Marshall (SCL), Barry Devonald, Martin Chow, Paul Grugan, Arif Essaji, Roma Amabile, Joanna Niescejeweska, Maysoun Abdelmajeed, Ian Brodie, Penny Holmes and Neil Patel alongside nurses Annette Kelleher, Rachael Shaw, Carolyn Macfarlane, Rebecca Harman and Sarah Davis.

What a busy DVP it was! One team, led by Neil Marshall and Roma Amabile, travelled out to Misungwi district each day, working at Ukiriguru and Miasi. The second team, led by Katherine Opie-Smith and Barry Devonald, was at the Kahama mine site, and were based at Bulyanhulu. This was made possible by our partnership with Barrick Mines.

**Together, they saw 1048 patients, pulled 1240 teeth, and successfully trained 9 more Clinical Officers!**

The team also enjoyed a visit to Bukumbi Care Centre, where they were able to purchase items that had been made by the community.

400 tickets already sold!!

YOU ARE INVITED TO

## The Bridge2Aid Charity Ball

We would love for you to join us at this wonderful event on **Friday 13th November 2009 at The Hilton Birmingham Metropole**. It's designed to co-incide with the BDTA Dental Showcase; treat yourself (and your team?) to an amazing night out!!

Tickets are £42, including dinner, a drinks reception and entertainment from your host - comedian Tim Vine!

400 tickets already sold!! Get yours now - call **Elisa Allen on 01923 851734**, email her at [elisa.allen@fmc.co.uk](mailto:elisa.allen@fmc.co.uk), or visit [www.dentistry.co.uk/charityball](http://www.dentistry.co.uk/charityball)

Summer 2009



A Dental and Community Development Charity working in Tanzania  
[www.bridge2aid.org](http://www.bridge2aid.org)



## Bridge2Aid news

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Are You Going to the Ball?

The Bridge2Aid  
Charity Ball

Friday 13th November 2009 at the BDTA Showcase



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