

news@bridge2aid



Welcome to the first edition of our newly styled newsletter!

Summer 2011



dvp

dental volunteer
programme

February DVP

The February Dental Volunteer Programme (DVP) was a roaring success! In total, nearly 1,200 patients were treated and all 12 Clinical Officers passed the training and are now working in rural dispensaries in Geita and Magu Districts.

We were very grateful to Geita Gold Mine (Anglo-Gold Ashanti) for hosting a team. This allowed us to reach populations of people in pain that would have continued to suffer otherwise. An amazing number of people came for treatment and though not all of the patients were able to be seen during the training, there is now a Clinical Officer in the area who can take care of those people now, and in the future.

The other team stayed in Mwanza and travelled to Magu District each day. In Magu, they met a 69 year old man named Francis Makandilo who had been living with pain for 7 months. He had gone to a dispensary close to his home, but had been told that his only option was to go to the District Hospital which he had not done because it is a long, unaffordable, difficult trip. Instead, he heard about B2A's Dental Programme and travelled 10kms on a bicycle to get help. Thanks to the

training, there will now be a trained Clinical Officer in the area so that people like Francis do not have to suffer for so long.

Thank you to the DVPers for all your hard work and ongoing support: Kieran Weil, Sarah Kime, Denise Tulip, Liz Stringer, Rizwana Haq, Robert Dyas, Barry Devonald, Karen Phillipson, Sue Mills, Liz Puzzar, Ruth Bowyer, Paul Brind, Judy Wheble, Mark O'Rorke, Brian Westbury, Diego Jazanovich, Dipesh Thakrar, Samantha Foster, Elisha Smithson, Pru Hilton, Emily Blaney and Kiri Mafaffi-Henderson.

Would you like to be a part of a future DVP? Email ruth@bridge2aid.org or visit our website for more information on how to get involved.

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A dental and development charity working in East Africa
www.bridge2aid.org

Wilsons Back in the UK!

May was a month of mixed emotions as we said goodbye to the Wilson family in Mwanza.

Ian and Andie have worked tirelessly to establish B2A in Tanzania over the past nine years, committed wholeheartedly to making a difference in the lives of so many people here.



To have a vision, and then create an organisation which has grown to this size is both a brave and a courageous achievement. In the early days their dream was to move to Tanzania and serve the community. Through living in the country, really engaging with people and trying to understand what needed to be done, they wanted to build something that would go beyond what they could do alone. That dream has become a reality and indeed it has gone beyond what they originally hoped was possible.

As the Wilsons move back to the UK, we know that they will keep pursuing the dream that we share together. It's not in their nature to settle! We will of course miss them in Mwanza but make no mistake there is more to come as we all work together to continue the work at Bukumbi, develop HDC and bring pain relief to as many people as possible.

Thank you Ian and Andie for blazing the trail – here's to the next part of the journey! ...and welcome back to the UK!



arrival

This month sees an exciting new chapter begin in Mwanza as Paul and Beth Brind arrive to begin work with us.

The Brinds are both qualified dentists and will be working at Hope Dental Centre, helping to develop the clinical team as well as continuing to help us raise standards of delivery, both at the clinic and the mine sites in the area. They will also be involved in supporting DVP, with Paul working as Clinical Advisor.

The Brinds come to Mwanza with Isaac (2) and Hannah (born in mid-May) so will have their hands full settling in to life in Tanzania.

We look forward to having them as part of the team and the contribution they will bring to growing the work in East Africa.



Congratulations and we'll miss you!

Congratulations to Fay and David on the birth of their daughter Elsie Maria. Fay will be returning to Mwanza at the end of June and will be leaving the B2A team and heading back to work at the International School here in Mwanza. We want to say a big thank you to Fay for all her hard work and commitment to the community at Bukumbi and especially for the work she has done developing the Education Programmes. Thank you – you'll be missed!

Unity Partnership Update

Thanks to our great friend and UK Advisory Board member Chris Barrow, we had a huge growth in our Unity Partner membership in April!

Following Chris' blog post of 7th April, we are pleased to announce that 10 new Partners have joined us to train Clinical Officers later this year. New Partners are: The Smile Spa, The Dental Studio, True Dentistry, Crossbank Dental Care, Dulwich Village, Glen Maye Dental Practice, Green Park Dental Practice, Health Dental, Abi Dental and Great Kings Dental.

The Unity Partnership (UP) is a community of dental practices and businesses who financially support the dental training of a Clinical Officer. The Partnership has many benefits for the practice or business, not least of which is showing their patients and team that they can make a real, lasting difference to a community in the developing world through their support.

About being a Unity Partner, Robert Dyas of RD Online Dental Education had this to say, "We joined as founding members in the Unity Partnership back in November 2010 to make a difference - to give something back. I attended a DVP in February 2011 and was lucky enough to see the work that is done and where the money goes. It was some of the hardest work I have ever done, but also the most rewarding. Would I do it again? absolutely! Become a Unity Partner. Make a difference!"

We are looking for Partners to join us to help train Clinical Officers in Oral Urgent Treatment this November.

To find out more, please phone Unity Partner Co-ordinator Shaenna on 07733 102 087 or email her on Shaenna@bridge2aid.org



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January DVP Update

With all of the unexpected rain in January, we had six Clinical Officers who had learned all the necessary skills for Oral Urgent Treatment, but who had not had enough supervised practice to be prepared to work on their own.

We set up another training session and spent two days with these Clinical Officers in Kwimba District to make sure all were 100% ready! The District Dental Officer from Kwimba and long time B2A friend, John Nyorobi, the District Dental Officer of Misungwi came to supervise the training and provide any needed teaching. Hope Dental Centre kindly lent head nurse Sophia to help out.

We are proud to say that all six Clinical Officers passed the training and are now working independently in their rural areas.



BDA – back to Manchester

We had a great session again at the British Dental Association (BDA) conference in Manchester talking about DVP, and how short term dental volunteering can make a long term difference.

Close to 200 people turned up for our seminar on the 20th May, which was delivered by Ian Wilson and Mark Topley. We were delighted to see so many young dentists, all keen to start their careers by giving something back.

Ian and Mark started out by talking about what the session was all about – the shocking statistic that over 70% of the world’s population have no access to a dentist, which means that millions live in pain with no hope of treatment.

It’s a stat which ultimately motivated us to start the training programme in emergency dentistry that we run in East Africa, ably and wonderfully resourced by our fantastic team of dental volunteers, many of whom give up 2 weeks every year to travel and train local health workers.

They also discussed the history of Bridge2Aid, before going over typical oral health issues are that people face in the developing world and how traditional volunteering fails to make a lasting difference.

The guys then talked about DVP (Dental Volunteer Programme), the evidence base for its success and some of the nuts and bolts of how it works. We’re proud that the programme has increased access to emergency treatment to almost 1.7 million people in the past 6 years. They shared our vision for the future, why we believe that DVP can make a significant contribution to eradicating dental pain, and how dental professionals can get involved in making a tangible, lasting difference. It was a great session (despite the rogue powerpoint failure!). Thanks to Chris Barrow for chairing, and to everyone who came along.



Education Sponsorship

William, Lameki, Abel and Ashfak or the ‘Kahunda Boys’ as they have become affectionately known, were back at Bukumbi for the Easter holidays. It was great timing as they were able to lend their artistic skills and give a helping hand to the team renovating their old classrooms at Kigongo Primary School.

The confidence and maturity of the four boys is admirable and grows with every visit. The three Form 3 (year 9) boys exam results were testament to the fact that the boys really are making the most of their opportunity. In their Form 2 (year 8) national examinations, William achieved a very respectable 30th place in his year of 89 students and Lameki an outstanding 9th! Abel despite some tough personal circumstances faced throughout his Form 2, achieved a remarkable 9th place out of 147 students - an amazing achievement!

Ashfak, younger than the other three boys and who has recently made the transition from Kigongo primary to Kahunda secondary, has adapted very well and is enjoying his studies and hopes to follow the others in their success.

These boys would not be in secondary education if it were not for sponsorship. A huge thank you to all their sponsors.



Income generation

Income generation at Bukumbi is going from strength to strength. With regular help from Andie Wilson, local tailor Mussa, and friend Leonie van Klinken, the quality of the items being produced by the sewing, weaving and bead groups is amazing. This was proven to us recently by the success of a local craft sale. People were astonished when they found out that items such as the beaded bracelets had been made by a lady at Bukumbi who has no fingers! We are working on sourcing local outlets for the crafts and have already had orders from two large hotels in town – great news!

Chipping Manor – Renovation of the Clinic and Admin block at Bukumbi Care Centre

12 volunteers from Chipping Manor Dental Practice – our close friends and long time supporters, spent a week covered in emulsion and gloss to complete the renovation of Clinical Officer Dr. Julius' clinic and the admin block. We are proud to say that this was the final renovation project at the centre!

Funds raised by Chipping Manor allowed for the removal and replacement of the asbestos roof, installation of new ceiling boards, gas store, ramp and steps, secure medicine and file cupboards and replacement furnishings for the offices. We were also delighted to present DVP – trained Dr. Julius with a collapsible dental chair donated by Dr. Kathy Wilson.

Thank you to Shaenna and Phil Loughnane, Alison Chomette, Matt Waddington, Tim Rodger, Ali Wilks, Amy-Jade Gazzard, Natalie Adams, Melanie Hill, Kate Langtree, Tina Barton and Erica Woody for taking time to come to Bukumbi and a huge thanks to the rest of the team at Chipping Manor for their hard work in supporting the work team to raise funds.



The clinic serves not only the Bukumbi community but also the surrounding villagers. The renovation has provided the wider community with a bright, clean environment in which to have their ailments attended to.

Henry Schein and Friends – renovation at Kigongo School.

In April a team of 12 volunteers connected to our long-standing Corporate Friend, Henry Schein, completed work on the refurbishment of 8 classrooms at Kigongo Primary School.

Around 100 children connected to Bukumbi Care Centre go to school at Kigongo. The renovation work complemented our on-going support at the school, with a principal aim of improving the learning environment for the children. Many of the classrooms had fallen into a serious state of disrepair with floors and walls having been reduced to a crumbly, dusty, unsafe condition – definitely not a conducive learning environment.



With funds raised by Henry Schein and friends, floors in three of the classrooms and outside areas were re-laid, window bars, mesh and frames were replaced and previously crumbling walls were patched up. The team spent two weeks cleaning and painting eight classrooms putting their artistic talents to good use painting murals in six of the classrooms.

Thank you to Patrick Allen, Kate Ballam, Ken Chow, Kirsty Chapman, Tom Cross, Nadene Curley, Lucy Moscrop, Stuart Mullan, Sarah Slee, Vicky Goodall, Ian Stuart and Nicky Bell for all of their fundraising and for giving up their time to come and work at Kigongo.



B2A Bash

Are you planning to attend the BDTA Showcase in October? Why not party the night away with us on Friday 21st October 2011 at our annual B2A Bash. This year, we will have a live band, DJ, buffet AND gambling in our Vegas style Casino. Thanks to our Corporate Friends for organizing the event. We'll see you there! For tickets and information contact Brian - info@bridge2aid.org or 01243 780102

A new patron for B2A

Ian and Mark were fortunate to meet **Lord and Lady McColl** in October on a trip to London. Lord McColl is the chairman of Mercy Ships and a peer in the House of Lords. He was very interested in DVP and was keen to see it in action so they joined us in February to view the programme. Both Lord and Lady McColl are distinguished physicians and travellers. It was a privilege to host them and learn from their vast experience as they viewed our work. They were impressed with what they saw and Lord McColl has agreed to be B2A's Patron!

Also visiting was **Alan Frampton**, our Chairman of Trustees and **Caroline Havers**, the newest member of our Board of Trustees, and a lawyer who has been very helpful in advising us on legal matters over the past few months. Caroline has been a good friend of B2A for some time now.



Golf Day

The Bridge2Aid 2011 Golf Tournament is on – and there are just a few spaces left for what will be a fantastic day out! This year's event will be held at Hankley Common Golf Course, in Farnham, Surrey on August 30th, 2011.

Voted the 50th best golf course to play in the UK by Golf World Magazine and host of the Open Championship prequalifying competition, Hankley Common provides the perfect setting for the tournament this summer.

Start the day with a light breakfast, followed by 18 holes and topped off with a delicious three course lunch, prize giving and a special auction with a round of golf at the prestigious Loch Lomond up for grabs – this year's tournament is set to be the best yet!

A team of four can be booked now for just £488. For more information or to book your team contact Stuart Thompson on 01483 304944.

UK Volunteers

As well as the many volunteers who come to Tanzania each year to work with Bridge2Aid, we are served by a great team of people who give their time regularly in the UK.

A quick look at our 'Meet the Team' section of the new website will give you an idea of who these wonderful people are. They help us stay efficient, effective and help keep administrative costs down. They also bring a great deal of skill and enthusiasm!

Annie Bradley, our Event Co-ordinator is a regular at trade shows and exhibitions, giving her time freely to talk to supporters and volunteers. She is often accompanied by **Shaenna Loughnane** who also works part time as out volunteer Unity Partnership Co-ordinator.

Jackie Stone volunteers one day each week in the UK office to help Brian keep materials flowing out of the door. So many enquiries about fundraising and how to get involved come in each week that Brian would struggle to keep on top of things without a volunteer - Jackie helps enormously in keeping us responding effectively to enquiries.

Graham Stokes volunteers his time to speak on our behalf, as well as talking about his experiences as a DVP Site Clinical Lead during the many talks he does each year to young dentists.

Karen Paterson helps us distribute and keep track of the small army of collection boxes dotted around the country on reception counters from Lands End to John O'Groats!

We simply would be able to have the impact that we do without the hard work that they put in, and the enthusiasm with which they approach the task. **Thank you all!**



A-Dec goes Coast2Coast

Earlier in the summer, a team of 13 from A-dec cycled from Whitehaven on the west coast to Tynemouth on the east coast, across the very hilly Lake District, the Pennines and the Northumberland moors - all to support B2A and four other UK charities. All riders successfully completed the 151 mile course. Thank you so much for all your hard work!



Amazing Photography

Practice Plan continues to support us in a multitude of ways. We are so grateful to them for sponsoring their Creative Director, and professional photographer, Les Jones, to come to Tanzania to photograph our work.

The photographs Les has taken are amazing and we look forward to using them in upcoming publicity material and on the website to promote our work more effectively. The insight he has given on upcoming plans for publicity and promotion are also very much appreciated. We all know that a photo is worth a thousand words and we are excited to use Les' photos to tell our story and that of the people here.

Thank you so much to Les Jones for taking time out to help us. And thank you to Practice Plan for sponsoring him to come.



London Marathon

Congratulations to Chris Barrow, Stephen Price, Ian Redfearn and Sally Rayment for completing the London Marathon to raise money for us!

For Sally and Stephen, the London Marathon was a goal finally achieved. Completing this marathon meant that Chris has now completed 15! And for Ian Redfearn, finishing the London Marathon means that he must forever give up his dedicated non-athlete status. Thank you so much for all your hard work, training and fundraising.



If you have always wanted to run the London Marathon, why not consider running for Bridge2Aid in 2012. We will be offering our places once the ballot results are announced later in the year. To register your interest, contact Kerry.



Corporate friends

We were really pleased to catch up with our Corporate Friends during the BDA Conference in Manchester, and present each of them with a token of thanks.

Corporate Friends are companies who have been significant donors or contributors to Bridge2Aid and sign an annual charter commitment to us. All our Corporate Friends are dedicated to raising funds, providing access to manpower, expertise or other resources, direct financial sponsorship and raising awareness of our work and aims.

We appreciate the help that our Corporate Friends provide. Thank you to A-Dec, Dentistry, Dentsply, Henry Schein, Practice Plan and Schulke.

It's a Long Way Down

This autumn we have two options for going a Long Way Down to help provide dental training in East Africa!

Abseil

There are three abseil events in various areas for you to participate in! Imagine hanging 50 metres above the ground while controlling your own descent at some of the most impressive sites around the UK.

New for this year - Zip Slide!!

There are five brilliant chances across the country to launch yourself 50m up and zip slide over 200 meters down while raising money for us!

Participation for either requires £25 registration and £100 minimum sponsorship. Fees include the cost of qualified and professional instructors and all equipment.

See the website for details of the events, which take place in late September and October.



Fantastic fundraising everywhere

Thank you to all of our supporters who have organised or completed independent events; balls, dinners, running, cycling, and swimming events and so many others.

If you have a great idea to raise money to support our work, we'd love to hear about it! Also visit our Calendar of Events on our website for pre organised ways to get involved.

For more information about any fundraising event, please contact Kerry on fundraising@bridge2aid.org or 07881 912060.



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