



IN THIS EDITION

Fundraising

- Charlie Allen runs Brighton Marathon
- Mark Worthy fundraising walk

Stories from our Funded specialists

- Dr Visalakshi from Nizamabad
- Dr Mohammed Asif Ali Ansari

Bursary Reports

- Guy Stern
- Ali Cobb
- Dr Emily Nyamu

Highlights

- Opening of the Academy for Reconstructive Craniofacial Surgery

Donations in 2012

Newsletter January 2013

Review of 2012

Fundraising

Charlie Allen runs Brighton Marathon – a BIG thank you :: May 14th, 2012

Former patient of the Dorset Cleft Centre, Charlie ran the Brighton Marathon on 15th April. In between his studies at Nottingham University, he trained hard for this race and raised a little over £1100 for Future Faces.



This a fantastic amount which we will put to good use in supporting professional training for cleft and craniofacial patients and maintaining standards. Our next project is to establish a second training centre in Nairobi this year

Mark Worthy fundraising walk :: June 1st, 2012



Mark Worthy, father of former Dorset Cleft Centre patient, Danielle, raised funds for Future Faces, and writes:

Mark and his parents covered the 100km walk which took place in Ypres, Belgium over a long weekend in May 2012. The number of blisters depends on your shoes and how far you choose to walk! The 100km is

divided between 10, 15, 20 and 50km walks through countryside. Occasionally you'll spot a small memorial or sign marking out a trench or something. You come across a lot of the War Cemeteries as you walk as they are used as markers on the walks.

You can also watch the military parade which runs to the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing in Ypres, dedicated to the British and Commonwealth soldiers who were killed in the Ypres Salient of World War I and whose graves are unknown.

Thank you Mark for raising a substantial sum of money, enough to support one of our trainees at the centre in Hyderabad for one month

Stories from our funded specialists

From Dr MOHAMMED ASIF ALI ANSARI

Problems in Gulbarga, a city in the South Indian state of Karnataka, for one of our former funded trainees.

The story is about a 2 year old girl, who hails from a near by village Jewargi (population 19000 and she is having a Tessier craniofacial cleft.

When her parents saw her for the first time, they were shocked to see their daughter, and the worse was that the mother had to leave that ill fated baby with her mother (grandmother of the baby), as she (mother) was asked by the in-laws to leave her.



The important thing is that the grandmother of the girl is trying hard, but alone what she can do without any help as she herself is a daily wages worker and she is well supporting her granddaughter but she is not the decision maker,

to take her to the hospital for the surgery.

Many such cases go unreported. I want to overcome this problem by establishing the Craniofacial Unit in Gulbarga, but at this stage I would like to appoint an executive who can go deep into the villages to conduct camps, can motivate them, and get them to the hospital. For all these promotional activities I do lack the financial help.

Thanking You

Dr Visalakshi from Nizamabad:

Funds needed to establish proper facilities for cleft centre Nizamabad, being a district headquarters, caters to the health needs of all the surrounding villages. A lot of cleft cases reported from surrounding rural areas are left untreated owing to the extremely low socioeconomic conditions where patients' family cannot afford to pay the nominal charges for anaesthesia even if it is decided to perform the surgery free of cost.



The government district hospital lacks the equipment and manpower to provide safe anaesthetic provision to these cleft babies. The nearest place for getting free surgery is Hyderabad, but this involves travel to a far place and prolonged stay at Hyderabad depriving the families of their source of income for that duration as most of them earn on a daily basis and have a hand to mouth existence. This deters most of them from going ahead to get their wards operated.

Attempts at motivating charitable institutions and social workers for help are on but till date nothing has materialized. I could only operate on the cases who afforded to pay for their basic anaesthetic and hospitalization expenses but could not really help the very poor and needy who required surgeries. The staff at the district hospital were reluctant to help me.

Bursary Reports from funded doctors

Guy Stern, Medical Student, Nottingham

I have wanted to be a facial reconstructive surgeon since before I went to medical school and my five years in Nottingham has only strengthened this dream. I saw my elective as an opportunity to further my ambitions and, with the help of Mr Anthony Markus, a maxillofacial surgeon in Bournemouth and chairman of a charity called Future Faces, I arranged to spend a total of six weeks in two renowned cleft centres in India, eventually seeing well over 100 cases covering the complete spectrum of this condition from an incomplete cleft lip all the way to a complete bilateral intra-ocular cleft.

My first three weeks were at the Charles Pinto Centre (CPC) for Cleft Lip and Palate based in the Jubilee Mission Hospital in Thrissur, Kerala. For the last 50 years, this centre has been run by Dr Hijri Adenwalla, now aged 81, who during this time has operated for free on more than 15,000 cleft patients and still works six days a week including three days in theatre!

At the end of each day I would join the team on the ward round where we would see all the pre and post-op patients on the main ward, the ICU and HDU. Although I spent most days in theatre, observing or assisting an average of three operations a day, I would try to attend at least one OP clinic each week. The locals all spoke Malayalam, so I couldn't directly communicate with them, but the doctors would translate for me and I managed to follow what was happening. Every new patient would see at least one of the surgeons and a trained counsellor who would teach them how to feed their babies and show them a slideshow of before and after pictures of past patients as well as recordings of speech. It was wonderful to see the parents' mood change dramatically from despairing to hopeful over the course of their consultation. At first, the complexity of the operations was overwhelming and I found it very hard to follow what was going on in theatre. Fortunately, Dr Adenwalla and his team were great teachers, and by the end of the three weeks I felt much more familiar with the procedures.

The second half of my elective was spent at the GSR Institute of Craniofacial Surgery in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. There are two consultant maxillofacial surgeons who perform the vast majority of operations, Professor Gosla Reddy, the Director and Founder and Rajgopal Reddy (simply known as Gosla and Raj), both of whom are dual qualified in dentistry and medicine. As well as Gosla and Raj, there is a constantly changing team of post-graduates on 4-week attachments, and clinical fellows on one-year contracts, who are all learning the art of cleft surgery while. Most of my time was spent in theatre. On one of the outpatient days, I went with them to a local village to meet a family with a cleft child and to find out more about how this condition had affected their home life. This day trip was one of the most valuable things I did whilst in Hyderabad. As well as being a hospital, the GSR institute also houses 30 school-age children who

were all born with clefts but whose families can't afford to support them or have abandoned them. These children are all sent to good schools and get speech therapy several times a week. One of them, a 16-year-old boy called Dinakar, was particularly inspiring. He is extremely intelligent but was born with a bilateral cleft lip and palate to a very poor family. He was initially operated on by someone without the appropriate expertise which left him even more disfigured but has since had several revision operations at the GSR Institute and is being sent to the best school in Hyderabad with the hope of one day becoming a surgeon himself

I was pleasantly surprised at the quality of care and the level of expertise at the two centres and I found the whole experience extremely rewarding. It was also fascinating to see the differences in attitudes of both the doctors and the patients, as well as learning about the enormous public health issues that we in the UK don't have to deal with. These incredible surgeons are bringing back the smiles of thousands of Indian children and it was both an honour and a privilege to work with them.

Ali Cobb - Future Faces Bursary Report.

A single handclap in the gateway of the Golkonda Fort in Hyderabad city can be heard 450 feet above in the Royal Palace thanks to ingenious acoustic panels cut in the corners of the arches way before their time in the 1500s. But the call of cleft surgery is even more reaching. Two surgeons separated by 4 decades in age who met the day before can spend an extended lunch deep in conversation about the nuances of approaches to the reconstruction of the infant face. Engrossed in the commonality of task and committed to its exploration and improvement, barriers are non-existent and time flies.



I had the career changing opportunity of visiting Dr Hirji Adenwalla in Thrisur and Drs Gosla Reddy and Raj Reddy in Hyderabad. Both visits as awe-inspiring in what they offered. This was all through the personal connections and advice of Tony Markus, British Cleft surgeon, and the generosity of the Future Faces charitable trust to whom I am eternally so grateful.

The Charles Pinto unit for cleft lip and palate in Thrisur resides in the Jubilee Mission Hospital. This was a small affair when Dr Adenwalla started his career

there: grown out of a dispensary, the hospital had just 20 beds in 1952. The hospital has now grown to approximately 1800 beds. Dr Adenwalla has surely the largest experience of primary cleft repair in the world: over 10,000 primary operations.

In my week with him I attended Dr Adenwalla's clinics and theatres sessions as an observer and surgical assistant. We talked a great deal about the milestones of the development of cleft surgery and the characters of the influential cleft surgeons who built this road.

Dr Adenwalla had met many of these people but also has a personal interest in the history of the subject and was a fascinating insight into the process of the progression of the field. These lessons were perhaps most useful in approaching different problems on the operating table and adapting one's approach to the individual case at hand. Every case is different is the message, but by understanding WHY Millard changed his lip repair and WHY Cutting reversed the backcut one can choose to borrow such manipulations when the case calls for it – if not all the time.

Dr Adenwalla's advice was key: think about which approach is the right one in your mind – find a philosophy. Then practice it and evaluate it. Don't try to compromise and keep trying several different techniques. Ideally practise it 10,000 times! But adapt it to each case in front of you. It is still the same philosophy. Indeed we talked about classical philosophy, history, surgical development and inter-specialty differences too, over plates of curds, dal (my favourite!) and chapatti, and how the lessons inform one's time in surgery and life.

Dr Adenwalla's team includes the marvellous Dr Narayanan who demonstrated his modifications of the techniques and a beautiful cleft rhinoplasty technique. Dr Rhadhakrishnan and Dr Pasupathy have brought new ideas into the camp and have great hands and patience in explaining their surgical actions. Their results are all stunning.

I was sad to leave Thrisur and wished it had been longer, obviously. Whilst the time went quickly I felt that I had gained the experience of months elsewhere – we covered the workload of a UK unit for a couple of months in that week.

So on to Hyderabad.

Gosla and Raj have set up an amazing unit in Hyderabad. From bottom up it is a terrific achievement. What is most impressive is the step by step assessment of what they need to do and thorough research, implementation and re-evaluation of their work from the beginning. This is evident in Gosla's PhD thesis on cleft lip repair – chapter by chapter builds on the findings of the previous, each chapter published separately on the way. Now Raj is doing the same with the repair of cleft palates.

The same attention to detail is evident in the running of the unit. It is no surprise that KPMG found little to suggest to improve their efficiency. I was able to learn the basis of the GSR unit's lip and palate repairs and discuss this at length with the two surgeons. After this period I was able to take on cases myself using my preferred Fisher technique of lip closure. I was also able to do a few bilateral cleft lip repairs, which was a rare treat.

I have set up a small project with the institute where we will look at the presentation features of bilateral cleft lips. I hope this will be something we can present in the future.

I left India able to start work as a UK cleft surgery consultant in the knowledge that I was competent enough to undertake the work on my own. I am immensely grateful to Future Faces and the surgeons at the two centres.

Alistair R.M.Cobb FDSRCS FRCS
Cleft Fellow, South Thames Cleft Service
Now, Consultant Cleft and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Bristol

Dr Emily Nyamu

Dr Emily Nyamu, from Kenya, arrived in Hyderabad to take up a 12 month training programme in cleft and craniofacial surgery at the GSR Hospital, funded by Future Faces.



She is a Part Time Lecturer in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Kampala International University and Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon at Nyeri Provincial General Hospital. She arrived in time for a course on ear reconstruction by eminent Japanese plastic surgeon, Dr Akira Yamada before traveling to Bangalore for the meeting of the Indian Society for Cleft Lip and Palate and Craniofacial Anomalies. And after the conference, she participated in three more courses, two craniofacial, with distinguished surgeons from the USA, Dr Tony Wolfe from Florida and David Staffenberg from New York, and Dr Hade Vuyk, a renowned paediatric nasal reconstructive surgeon from Amsterdam.

Supported by Future Faces, I arrived at the GSR Institute of Craniofacial Surgery on the 24th of January, 2012, just at the time they were hosting world famous craniofacial surgeons and I was treated to a host of surgeries that I had only read about.

I got a chance to scrub in with Prof Akira Yamada for ear reconstructions, Dr Hade Vuyk and Dr Anthony Wolfe for nose reconstructions and Prof Likith Reddy for Le Fort osteotomies and Tessier cleft repairs. This was followed by the Indocleft Conference, 2012 in Bangalore.

On return from Bangalore, we immediately settled down to the daily routine of the institution. The GSR Institute is one of a few highly specialized cleft units in India that does approximately 1,500 surgeries a year. The institute was established through the efforts of the Hyderabad Cleft Society and the Cleft Children International (CCI), a Zurich based organization. It started functioning from its own premises in May 2005.



Prof. Dr. Srinivas Gosla Reddy is the director and Dr. Dr. R. Rajgopal Reddy, is the deputy director. Together, they oversee and run 2 theatres, 6 days a week. The Institute also hosts underprivileged cleft children on whom surgery is done as scheduled, while they take them through school.

They not only give them a face they are confident about but they also give them hope for the future, to become whatever they want to be - even cleft and craniofacial surgeons! During my stay at the Institute, these children won many academic and extracurricular activity awards.



The surgeries I was exposed to while at the Institute included primary cheiloplasty and palatoplasty, secondary alveolar bone grafting, secondary lip and palate repairs, fistulae repair, rhinoplasties, orthognathic surgery, TMJ ankylosis release, Tessier cleft repairs, vascular malformation management and a few cases of routine maxillofacial surgeries.

I assisted and actively participated in a total of 307 cases under the mentorship of Prof Gosla in the cleft lip surgeries, rhinoplasties, orthognathic and other craniofacial surgeries and of Dr Rajgopal Reddy mainly in the cleft palate surgeries. His skills and finesse in palate repairs are remarkable and earned him the "king of palates" nickname among the fellows. However, because of the high number of surgeries done at the institute, it sometimes felt like there was no time to catch a breath and the atmosphere was sometimes quite intense. But the immense surgical exposure in such a short time was the other side of that coin.

It is indeed commendable to see the amount of work that this centre manages and it serves as an example and encouragement that a centre like this can be set up and sustained in other developing countries like in Africa.

I did get some time to sample the famous Hyderabad Biryani and tour Charminar market, Golconda Fort, Salar Jung Museum, Budha Lake and the Banjara Hills Coco's for quiet evenings after a long week of surgeries. I also made good friends, both international residents that were visiting at the same time and the local Indian residents and fellows with whom we still maintain contact.

I am grateful to the institute for making a huge impact in my journey as I start off as a cleft surgeon and to all the friends who went out to explain the 'Indian way of life' and to make my stay comfortable and enjoyable. I hope I made a positive impact and left a small pleasant piece of Africa in their lives too.

I also wish to thank the Trustees of Future Faces for making it all possible.

Opening of the Academy for Reconstructive Craniofacial Surgery

On the 25th January, 2012, Chairman of the Trustees, Tony Markus, formally opened the centre, known as ARC, standing for Academy for Reconstructive Craniofacial Surgery. This centre will bring together all the training activities of the GSR Hospital, including training fellowships, national and international courses and support of former trainees.



Chairman of the Trustees received award on behalf of the charity

Chairman of the Trustees, Tony Markus, received an award on behalf of the charity from the Indian Society of Cleft Lip Palate and Craniofacial Anomalies, from its President, Professor Gosla Reddy in recognition of the work supported by the charity in India over very many years. This award was given during the opening ceremony of the society's conference in Bangalore. We are most grateful for this recognition.



Donations in 2012

Mike Hirons
Bernard Moran
Mark Worthy

Charlie Allen
Dalmain Grain
Other unmamed via just giving
Ali Cobb
Helen & Paul Allen
Maira Pierce

Thank you to all those above that donated.

Make a Donation



Text Donation

Simply text

FOFF22
£(amount)
to
7007

We have added lots of ways for you to make a donation. Follow the donate link to our JustGiving page or you can now text your donation. Simply text FOFF22 £10 to 7007 in order to donate a tenner - simple!

Don't forget to follow us



[Like us on Facebook](#)



[Follow us on Twitter](#)

Forward to a Friend

Enjoyed the read - please help us to promote Future Faces by [forwarding this email to a friend](#)

[Edit your subscription](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Eenquiries@futurefaces.org.uk
PO Box 7201, Poole,
BH12 9FU
Registered Charity No: 1115391