

The Rotary Jaipur Limb Project

Registered UK Charity 1037735

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2007

We're on the Web
www.rotaryjaipurlimb.co.uk

With the Blessing of His Holiness The Dalai Lama



Jaipur Limb Project Trustee PDG Ganesh (D1150) with His Holiness in Dharmasala. The visit was the occasion of the official opening, on Dec 3rd 2006, of a new **Permanent Limb Centre** there. This new Centre was built following on from the earlier Limb Camp, funded by the RC Llantwit Major (D1150), carried out late in 2004. Funds for this new Centre were provided by the RC's Antrim, Bombay Seaface (D3140), D1160 and the Jaipur Limb Project. RC Antrim and D1160 funds were donated in memory of their late member David McConnell. The event was attended by the DG of D3140 and members and wives of clubs in Dharmasala and Bombay together with members of the Tibetan Government in Exile.

How it all Began - A typical Jaipur Limb Story

In 2004 Mahendra Mehta from the Mahaveer Society for the Physically Handicapped met Ganesh in Bombay (Mumbai) and expressed concern about the numbers of disabled people in the foothills of the Himalayas. It is an area where many refugees from Tibet have made their home. This would be the largest ever Limb Camp held in this high area of Himachal Pradesh in Northern India. Agreement was reached that each would search for support and as told alongside the picture above, through the auspices of the Jaipur Limb Project, funding was arranged. Local Rotarians travelled the countryside to identify people who could benefit from treatment and in the event some 837 individuals were treated from the funds which

included a grant from the Rotary Foundation. The Dalai Lama gave his appreciation and expressed the hope that something permanent could be provided. Mahendra agreed that the Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust would run such a centre for 2 years with technicians from Jaipur to train local staff, subject to funding of £20,000 to build and equip the centre. Local Rotarians would then take over the centre with help from local administration. The Trustees of the Jaipur Limb took that information to Rotary clubs in RIBI. The generous donation of £10000 from D1160 and RC Antrim matched with funds from Bombay Seaface set the project in train and as a result the David Mc Connell Memorial Centre has now begun its work to give a new life to the proud but handicapped people who live and work in surrounding high foothills. Money well spent and not a penny wasted

and a Mobile Orthopaedic Clinic too!

The area around Dharmasala is rugged countryside at levels above 5,500 ft. With the valued availability of Technicians from Jaipur there was an opportunity to take the service to the patient. Through the very generous donation of £10,000 from a Sheffield business man Mr. Ken Gambles, a non-Rotarian, and with additional JPL donation funds, the fully equipped vehicle shown was also blessed by His Holiness.

In due course the vehicle will travel down to the City of Mumbai where there is an estimated 60,000 amputees. The vehicle will operate under the control of RC Bombay Seaface with trained technicians and frequent voluntary attendance of qualified Orthopaedic Surgeons.



Trustees and Managers of the Trust are all members of Rotary Clubs in RIBI and have DVD's and other Presentation information, including their personal experience of projects. Contact the Trust Secretary for a **Speaker at your Club, at an Event or at a District Conference**. There is a good story to tell. **See P4 for contact details**



Fund raising with a difference.

Kilimanjaro Climb

Duncan McCosh is member of the RC Galashiels and to celebrate the Rotary Centenary he decided to climb Mt Kilimanjaro. He also elected to donate all the sponsorship received to the Jaipur Limb project. And enhanced the significant sponsorship raised by providing Gift Aid information too.



Proof on the Roof of Africa!

Not surprisingly the sponsors were happy to pay up when Duncan was able to confirm the completion of his climb and he was able to pass to the project the magnificent sum of £1878 before the Gift Aid addition. Duncan tells how he was able to visit the St Francis Hospital in Uganda, near Lake Victoria, before starting his climb and saw at first hand the valuable work being done there. The Trustees have a video of the climb for future display.

To add to this generous gesture of Duncan, who says what a pleasure it was to raise funds for such a good cause, the Galashiels club also made a significant donation from their fund raising car boot sale and from money given for this project by local businesses

WHAT'S NEXT?

This newsletter has stories of completed projects and stories of projects underway. Sadly the never ending demand requires the Trustees to have current plans covering 47 projects in 10 countries - in various stages of planning, development and building. The total cost of all these projects is an estimated **£486,398**.

The projects are varied, some are limb camps, some mobile units to reach isolated and rural communities. Continuing support is critical and we gratefully acknowledge all donations received through RIBI clubs and contacts. This newsletter indicates how carefully money is spent. There is not space to list every donation but we especially acknowledge the other larger donations made in 2005/6

Frances Lawance	2000
Mr & Mrs Sully	4000
Duncan Mc Cosh	3268
Dr N. Mehta	1000
RC Godalming	1000
RC Billingshurst	2089
RC Donaghadee	2000
RC Wolverhampton	1000
RC Omagh	1900
RC Dunoon	1897
D1290	1900
RC Newport Pagnell	2400
RC Hamble Valley	1500
RC Minehead	2500
RC Peterhead	3550
RC Ilkley	1000

A Grand Total of 117 Rotary & Inner Wheel clubs made donations in the year



A Golden Wedding

Rotary Club of Londonderry Past President Frank Lawrence and his wife Bridie celebrated their Golden Wedding with 150 family members and guests recently. Rather than receive gifts they asked for donations to the Project. This generous gesture resulted in a donation of £2,250.

The picture shows Project Officer PDG Gussie Hynes presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Frank and Bridie for their outstanding support.

The sum donated was matched by a Rotary Foundation grant to help improve the lives of a number of disadvantaged people

A donation from RC Laurencekirk was added to by a personal gift from a member, David Nelson. For his 84 year old grandmother's birthday the party invitation sent out said " *To buy a limb for some poor soul, we wish to share this day with family and friends and would prefer you not to bring a present but to make a charitable donation to the Rotary Jaipur Limb Project. This to help improve the quality of life for amputees and land mine victims in many parts of the world.* The amount raised included a donation of £115 given on behalf their 1 year old grandchild.

Notelets for Sale The late Gerry Powell was a noted artist and allowed use of his drawings in our Notelet Pack. Packs on sale at Rotary & Inner Wheel Events & Conferences or through Secretary Margaret Webb or JPL Trustees



The Feather's Hotel, Ludlow

Price £2.50 per 10 with 5 drawings/pack
Contact :- Secretary for more details

Dinner Parties help too ...

RC's Newport Pagnell and Penkridge are just two very good examples of clubs who organise Fund Raising Dinners, at which both Rotarians and friends can identify with the charity work being done through Rotary's network. It is a classic example of how, with just a small profit on each meal, when shared with the pleasant company of many others, such an idea can bring such benefit to the life of so many who are desperately in need of help.

Not only can it be a good night, out at no extra cost than a 'dine out' alone, but a great opportunity to share with others in your community. It is likely that many of your guests may have little idea of what can be done through the membership of your Rotary Club.

A benefit to both sides no doubt.

A First visit to India

My first sight of the Taj Mahal fulfilled both a long ambition and my expectations. On this first trip we visited acres of fantastic monuments, but without doubt the most inspiring (and by far the highlight) were the Rotary projects, even for my non-Rotarian husband who expresses a certain cynicism as to what we get up to from time to time!

On the Friday we visited Jaipur and the Limb Factory which was incredibly moving as well as being totally fascinating. Located in a back street behind Jaipur's hospital, surrounded by the usual mix of people, assorted animals, bikes, cars and piles of rubbish. It really is amazing how much is being done in a building which would have British H & S people screaming for the rulebook.

We were totally overwhelmed by the massive contribution to someone's life one limb could make. It was an eye opener and a real privilege to see what the £25 limb could do for someone and their family. One man we met was having a replacement limb fitted, his previous one having worn out after 4 years hard use. Smiling broadly as his wife and two children looked on, he proudly walked up and down showing us his new leg. Whilst proclaiming "Life is good". Call me a sentimental old fool but my bottom lip was trembling I can tell you.

Before we left we made a donation and marveled at how many limbs that would buy and, even more so, at the sheer determination the amputees showed.

*Lesley Shorrocks - Past President
RC Plymouth Mayflower*



First Visit to a Limb Camp - Bangalore 2007

For seven years I had seen photographs from Bangalore, but wondered what really happened at the Club's Annual Mega Limb Camp held in January each year. To find out I was able to be at the launch of the 2007 Camp organised by RC Bangalore Peenya with Civic dignitaries, the press and with radio coverage to try to reach the far off places that were too distant for the distribution of posters. On the platform was a Senior Executive of local commercial sponsors Philips Software Co, Virchand Nahar, President R C Bangalore Peenya, Srikanth Chatrapathy DG 3190 and Malathi Solla, a female Paralympic athlete. A recipient of a Jaipur limb from a previous camp treated us to a demonstration by jumping from the platform, running down the aisle and back and jumping on to the stage.



We toured the Jaipur limb workshop where 16 technicians from Jaipur made the limbs according to the measurements of the individual, a calliper manufacturing workshop, the massive marquee where the attendees would sleep overnight on just a carpeted floor with a blanket whilst their limb was being made and fitted and the kitchen which catered for every meal of anyone visiting the camp. (1200 meals each day served by volunteers including local Inner Wheel members manning the reception areas).

People were arriving in their masses using any means they could for mobility.

These included crutches (many home made), being carried by family and/or friends and literally crawling from the auto-rickshaws that had brought them from the bus or railway stations. **400 attended on the first day alone.** I had the opportunity to meet a goodly number of the attendees and, in particular, two young girls (aged around 4 & 5) with their mother. Both children had contracted polio when very young and had to be carried everywhere but here they were being measured for callipers that would enable them to walk unassisted. I also had the opportunity to see at first hand the various stages of preparation from start to finish, including the technical manufacture of the limbs and calipers. Thanks to prior newspaper and radio

advertising a total **2402** people attended, and benefited from, the Camp. It is likely that this would result in approximately **1500** Jaipur limbs, **500** calipers, **200** wheelchairs and **200** referred for corrective surgery. This is an enormous success for the RC Bangalore Peenya and a huge planning exercise to ensure that they are all treated, accommodated and fed.

All fantastic memories of my trip but the most stunning by far was the sheer joy of the man that came, literally, 'running' over to me to shake my hand profusely. He had arrived with a pair of battered old crutches and was leaving with his new Jaipur Limb.

D1130 has consistently supported RC Bangalore Peenya and over the last 7 years it is estimated that over 10,000 people have benefited from The Jaipur Limb Project. Long may that support continue.

The funding of US\$30,000 this year provided by:

D 1130 inc RC Barnet	4300
RC of York Vikings	4675
RC Munster (Germany)	5000
Ken Gambles	4675
RC Bangalore Peenya	10,000
RJLP general funds	1350

Just US\$ 12.48 per person treated!!!

*Report from RC St. Albans member
Rotarian Arthur Chapman*

.....and further development in Africa too - Nigeria, Uganda, Ghana & Cote D'Ivoire

The ongoing story so far

Geography and Population spread makes it essential in West Africa to concentrate on Permanent Centres rather than Limb Camps. These Centres, closed to existing Orthopaedic Centres require the blessing of Health Ministries to validate their long term future. The Trustees and Managers need contact and real patience in order to make it happen as indicated below. The Project team is fortunate to have Rotarians Hedley Hunter, David Kaye, Don Short, PDG and Brian Stoyal PPRIBI, all with real experience of living and/or working in the projected areas of concern

There is a huge number of people young and old needing simple, low cost orthopaedic help with limbs or equipment capable of withstanding local conditions. The Jaipur Limb Project is making certain it can play a big part in that work

Sekondi Takaradi, Western Region, Ghana. Beginning in 2003 when David Kaye was also involved in a community link project with Plymouth. Funded by D1290 and a Foundation Matching Grant the building is now complete. Funding for local technicians training and materials is in place and the centre will be in full operation during early 2007. There is effective ex-pat contact in the area.

Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire Visited first in 2003 and 2004 and through Rotarian contact and a significant contribution from the local Rotary club, the building has been completed for several months. Civil strife meant our team overseeing the



This little girl lives in a remote village in **Benin**, just one of many victims of the flesh-eating 'Buruli Ulcer', prevalent in swampy areas of W. Africa. Most victims are children, infected while playing in water and commonly it is the legs which are affected. Often the disease has spread so far that amputation is the only way to save life. RJLP are planning to extend the tiny Orthopaedic workshop at the Mission Hospital in Lokossa, and train local technicians in Jaipur technology. The budget is \$50,000.00 and, when operational, local technicians will be capable of making and fitting new legs in a few hours at an average cost of £25.00. **A new life for many in need**

The 'Ade Majiyagbe' Memorial Centre, Kano, Nigeria. Following a Trustee visit in 2004, RJLP agreed to fund the refurbishment of an abandoned building at the National Orthopaedic Centre in Kano, at a cost of \$15,000.00 and provide equipment, materials for 500 limbs and training of staff in Jaipur technology, budgeted at \$36,000.00. The building is now completed and the main consignment of equipment and materials is being 'negotiated' through Nigerian Customs. A trainer, from Uganda, is expected on site in April. Past RI President Jonathan has both helped and visited the site, named in memory of his wife, who did so much to help others in her lifetime. Another completed success story with much valued work to do in the community.

Orthopaedic Centre, Ekwendeni, N. Malawi.

This new building totally funded by RC Jersey with a further \$28,000, for equipment, materials and staff training, mainly funded by RC Enniskillen and five other clubs and a Rotary Foundation grant. The creation of a new club in Malawi, RCMzuzu much closer to the centre helped ensure the opening in December 2006.

A steady flow of patients are now arriving from villages in this remote area of N. Malawi.



Gift Aid Forms are available from the Treasurer to augment any donations made

Donations: Treasurer: - Ron Marshall PDG, - 2, Gorsty Hill Close, Balterley, Crewe. Cheshire CW32 5QS - 01270 829004
Speaker or other requests: Secretary: - Margaret Webb - 3, The Chase, Bishop's Stortford, Herts. CM23 3HT - 01279 503225