

NEWSLETTER CRANIOFACIAL CENTER 2021





Building Faces Building Futures

The Craniofacial Centre Nepal was established in August 2017. It was the vision of Sunil Sah, Consultant Maxillofacial Surgeon at Pinderfields Hospital in Wakefield, originally from Janakpur 24 years ago and who did his medical and surgical training in the UK. Seeing the devastation after the earthquake in 2015, he decided to return to Kathmandu with a group of UK maxillofacial surgeons to help manage the craniomaxillofacial trauma. However, as time went on, he realised there was a great need to help in and around Janakpur, identified as one of the two poorest parts of the country.



Janakpur is the capital of Province 2, in the plains of Nepal, roughly south east of Kathmandu, bordering the Indian states of Bihar and West Bengal with the local Madheshi people straddling the border. It is the birthplace of Sita, one of the central figures of the Hindu epic, the Ramayana. She married Lord Rama. In her honour, there is a massive and hugely impressive temple, one of many in Janakpur, decorated with many paintings in the local Maithili tradition

The Craniofacial Centre was built in the summer of 2017 by Sunil Sah and a group of local doctors and dentists, who like so many from Janakpur, had left to build their lives elsewhere in Nepal due to the very poor economic conditions in the region. It was built on land and attached to the Janakpur Trauma and Orthopaedic Hospital, a small well-developed hospital owned by Sunil's brother-in-law, Prof Ram Kewal Sah, established some 20 years previously.



Despite, or in perhaps in spite of, a difficult year in the face of COVID 19, we have continued to achieve our aims. Our focus remains on training and support of cleft and craniomaxillofacial professionals. In order to achieve best surgical outcomes and providing best care for patients, we have continued to provide training grants for individuals. However, our main focus this year has been towards developing a major new facility in Nepal. Great progress has and continues to be made

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New appointments to the Craniofacial Centre

At the end of 2019, due to concerns about management and levels of activity, we said goodbye to all our staff with the exception of the ever faithful and dedicated Dr Rishi and our inpatient nursing staff.

At the beginning of 2020, we made several new appointments:

Dr Rishi, having been an unpaid employee since the centre started in 2017, has now become a fully paid up member of staff and has taken on the role of Centre Manager and Senior Surgeon

We welcomed Dr Zaid Kahn, a surgeon trained in Hyderabad, India, who was appointed as Chief Surgeon We also welcomed Dr Tarannum Bano as our Dental Officer.

We have a new Liaison Officer, Outpatient nurse and Accountant.

All in all, we have a smaller but more outstanding team.



Third International Conference

In March, we held another Conference, a truly international affair with speakers from

New Zealand - Les Snape and Dr Ruth Spearing, India - Dr Jayanth Kesave,

UK - Drs Sunil Sah, Abdul Ahmed, Abdul Delagous and Sami Farouk and Mark Shaw, a former RAMC Medic now working with UK-MED, Darren Netherwood, Sunil's friend and construction advisor. Thanks to all for their wonderful input.

International Trauma Symposium and Workshop on Craniomaxillofacial Injury

" Improving trauma care through local capacity building "





Over two days, the first purely craniomaxillofacial and the second, jointly with the orthopaedic centre, there many great lectures and demonstrations, including life support training for the local police force and paramedics. During this period, apart from lecturing, Dr Jayanth carried out a number of cleft procedures and Abdul Ahmed some tumour resections.

One Day Basic Implantology Course

Our Craniofacial Center not only emphasises on the patients suffering from the various craniofacial deformities but also focus on training the local surgeons as well as dentists so that they are competent enough to deliver the quality of treatment the patients deserve.

On 8th March, 2020 a basic implantology course was conducted at our Centre led by Dr. Abdul Dalghous from UK, who has an extensive exprience in Dental Implants. The clinicians from all over all over the Nepal participated in the programme, who were exposed to hands on training on the models as well the live patients.

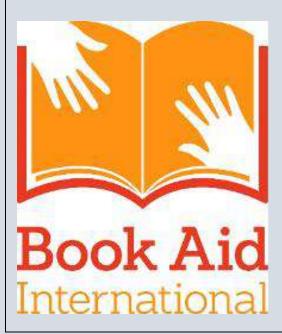






Medical Library

Thanks to magnificent donation from Book Aid International, we have continued to build a major resource not only for the Craniofacial Centre but also for the medical community in Janakpur. We are most grateful to them and to Kevin Bailey of Intouch Global who not only introduced us to the organisation but has continued to fund transport of several heavy consignments from London to Nepal





Lockdown due to COVID 19



Lockdown came very abruptly. Thanks to another generous donation for Intouch Global Foundation, we were able to provide food parcels and essential PPE, as well as advice on how to stay safe during the pandemic to local patients who came to the centre. The programme continued for a week and through

this we were able to help more than 700-750 patients in need.

During lockdown, Dr Bano (on the right) was interviewed on a national radio station about our work by a local journalist who had recently brought a patient with a cleft to the centre. Normal service resumed at the end of September





Weekly Camp in Province 2

The camps are now on a regular and firm footing, covering the entire province. On each, a surgeon, a dentist, a nurse and our liaison officer /social worker spend a day, or if they are at a greater distance form Janakpur, two days, working. We have developed a simple database, which collects demographic data, records activities carried out and identifies people who need more specialised treatment at the centre. We ideally need a mobile dental clinic to simplify the travels and travails.



School screening program

With the outreach programmes we are also conduction the school screening program twice a week in the schools in and nearby Jankapurdham. Through this we aim to screen the children with any craniofacial anomalies at the very young age so that they get the much needed attention at the earliest.



Plans for new hospital



Thanks to the vision and cooperation of Professor Ram Shah, the current services are provided from the Janakpur Trauma and Orthopaedic hospital with whom we are very fortunate to be able to

share facilities, significantly upgraded by ourselves. However, it is slightly out of town and in an area difficult to find for patients to find. A new house to accommodate visiting staff has been under construction in a more convenient and easier to find location. With some modification, we decided this

house could become a new purpose built hospital. Over the last three months, we have added to the original three storey building, a two floor operating theatre blocks and a fourth floor on to the main building.



Thanks to another very large funding from Intouch Global Foundation, all is proceeding well and we are hopeful that the building will be operational at the beginning of March 2021. Most of the equipment at the current hospital will be transferred but some additional items will need to be sourced.







Surgical week December, 2020

The second week of December, 2020 was observed as the surgical week at our centre where the numerous cases of Cleft lip & Palate were operated for free of cost thereby giving an all new life to the babies after the life changing surgeries. We would like to thank the team from B & B Kathmandu, Nepal for operating on them and helping our local surgeons at the centre get trained as well.



Ongoing training and support activity

Keeping up with the Zoom culture of lockdown, we have had monthly webinars on diverse subjects ranging from head and neck oncology, temporomandibular joint problems and orthognathic surgery. So far, we have been very fortunate to have had distinguished speakers from the UK, Spain, Germany, New Zealand and India and audiences from almost every corner of the world as well as our trainees in Janakpur

Whilst our main efforts have been concentrated this year in Nepal, we have continued to make grants to international trainees in support further specialist craniomaxillofacial training. We have been fortunate to secure funding from the **European Association of Craniofacial Surgeons f**or trainees from Nepal to spend time in Europe, at three centres – Madrid,



East Grinstead and Wakefield. Surgeons from the European centres will continue to visit Janakpur to train local staff

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to **Lex Breitenbach**, **NSK United Kingdom Ltd &** John Lee - Managing Director General Medical for their constant support to our centre.

It is with deep sadness that we record the deaths of two wonderful people

Dr Hirji Adenwalla, one of the worlds most recognised and respected cleft surgeons.

Dr Adenwalla was a well-known and much-loved surgeon, distinguished for his expertise as a cleft surgeon. He died on the 27th May 2020, a few days before his 90th birthday. He worked from 1959 till shortly before his death, at the Jubilee Mission Hospital, Trichur, Kerala, South India.

Mr Richard Morris, British Ambassador to Nepal till 2019 was found dead near his home in Hampshire in June 2020.

We had the pleasure of meeting this distinguished diplomat on several occasions. On one such visit to the Embassy with our Spanish colleagues they were astonished when he suddenly started to speak with them in Spanish. A great diplomatic masterstroke.



Our Visitors & Supporters to Craniofacial Center

We would also like to thank and mention the names of the people who visited our centre in Janakpurdham as well as who supported us and helped us improve and prosper with each passing day. Here are their names- In 2020 Dr Abdul Ahmed, Dr Shahme Farook, Dr Abdul Dalghous, & Darren Netherwood from UK and Dr Jayanth Kesave, INDIA, In 2019 Dr Heiner Winker & Dr Klaus Lowka from Germany, Dr AliEkerMoustafa & Dr Mark Shaw, England, Dr Jayanth Kesave, INDIA and Dr Leslie Snape, New Zealand, In 2018 Dr (Prof) Anthony F. Markus, Dr David Price, Dr Abdul Ahmed, Dr Anna Bailey from UK, Dr Benito Ramos, Dr (Prof) Fernando Garcia Marin, Spain and Dr Leslie Snape, New Zealand, In 2017 Dr (Prof) Tony Markus, UK, Dr. Gosla Reddy, Dr D Mehrotra from India visited our center.

Thanks to magnificent donation from NSK UK (Alex Breitenbach, Lawrence Saint), Generalmedical (John Lee, David Stopford) and VS Dent (Harshit Shah). We are most grateful to them and to Dr Amita Shahi, Dr Dirk Schuth, Dr Mark Willings and Dr Abdul Dalghous.



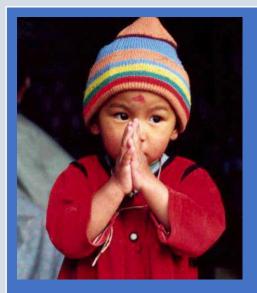




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We are really grateful for all the support we have received this year And wish everybody a happy and healthy 2021

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