

INTERPLAST UK

Registered Charity No 328688

Chairperson's report 2019

This year has been a relatively quiet year with much work going on behind the scenes to try and arrange future missions. Mr Viva took part in a mission to Gambia with Interplast Germany and then he and a small team of six medical staff went to Kumi, Uganda in December 2018, arriving back home just before Christmas.

After the successful mission to South Sudan last year, another mission was planned to North Sudan. Unfortunately, this had to be postponed due to political unrest. Mr Viva also visited Sri Lanka but unfortunately permission has not been granted from the Medical Council there to carry out a mission.

In January 2019, we were very pleased to be informed that St Mary's Cathedral has again chosen Interplast UK as one of three charities to benefit from the Ten Pence Bowl collection for 2019. Outstandingly, to date, by the end of June 2019, this has amounted to £937.50 including Gift Aid. We are very appreciative of this generous contribution and their ongoing support. Thanks also to Saltburn Methodist Church which has donated £201.15 in the year 2018/9 and have donated £275 in this new financial year (proceeds of Lenten 'soup and bun lunches' this year). We are very grateful for these and the many generous anonymous donations which have been received this year.

Looking forward, there is a mission planned to Islamabad, Pakistan from 31st August to 13th September 2019 and also a mission to Kumi, Uganda from 17th October to 28th October 2019.

Sadly, as you will know, Lynn Fletcher has decided to step down as Secretary as of this AGM. She has done an excellent job for the last 5 years, setting up the website, producing the Safeguarding Policy and making many other contributions to the success of Interplast UK.

Thanks to Lynn Fletcher and Guan Lim for all their hard work and also to Louise Newman for her excellent reports, including the last one from Kumi. I wish also, to thank all our trustees and volunteers for their generosity, giving their valuable time, skills, commitment and ongoing support to Interplast UK in so many different ways.

We are very pleased to welcome Sandy Whiteland as a trustee of Interplast UK. She has kindly volunteered to take on the role of Secretary.

Finally, with deep gratitude, I wish to thank Mr Charles Viva, as the Founder of Interplast UK for his vision and his relentless commitment, enthusiasm and hard work. His vision has allowed so many patients to experience life-transforming surgery to which they would not normally have access. He is a source of inspiration and encouragement to us all.

Thank you.

Celine Alexander-Brown

Chairperson

28th June 2019