

## **SALCET Trustees' Report for Charities Commission, 2010**

The profile of the work has been maintained by giving talks and organising fundraising activities in UK. The website has been re-designed and is updated periodically. A donation of £10,000 was received in September 2009 which enabled Dr Chris Jagger to respond to the disaster in Samoa caused by a tsunami. He took medical supplies and financial aid and spent 2 weeks working as medical officer in the cottage hospital in the disaster zone. SALCET funds were used to provide disaster therapy for 800 children, as well as a home for a destitute family. Work continued with local builders in San Carlos village in El Salvador to complete the construction of an earthquake-resistant community building for the local residents. SALCET has contributed £4,200 this year, to complete the internal work. The building was finished in February 2010 and the SALCET team attended the official opening ceremony on 13<sup>th</sup> February, during their annual trip to El Salvador. SALCET continued to finance eye surgery for poor people in El Salvador throughout the year. Financial support was sent to 31 'Compassion' projects in El Salvador to help with re-building work, after flooding and mudslides caused by Hurricane Ida in October 2009. SALCET purchased a video-endoscope from Pentax to deliver to Hospital Rosales in San Salvador. Pentax donated 2 other endoscopes to SALCET for doctors in El Salvador.

In February 2010 a 2 week visit to El Salvador was undertaken by the SALCET team, in conjunction with a team of 4 endoscopy specialists from the gastroenterology department at The Royal County Hospital, Guildford, Surrey. The work accomplished included:

1. A 4 day teaching and training course by the British endoscopists for Salvadorian doctors at 2 hospitals in San Salvador, and 2 satellite endoscopy clinics performed in remote areas. 80% of patients at the clinics tested positive for *Helicobacter Pylori*, a bacterium which can be eradicated using strong antibiotics for one week.
2. 3 day visit to Caipes clinic in Estancia, NE El Salvador run by CDH (Asociacion Campesina para el Desarrollo Humano) to work alongside 2 young American doctors from Doctors for Global Health. General medical, physiotherapy and endoscopy clinics were held, and 42 pairs of reading glasses dispensed. Children in the community with congenital conditions were medically examined, with a view to providing more support for these families in the future. The ophthalmology service at the clinic, run by ASAPROSAR charity and financed by SALCET, continues to flourish. SALCET donated 3 large boxes of medicines to the clinic and left money for CDH to use for medical purposes. Contacts were made with a consultant gastroenterologist and a consultant cardiologist from San Miguel Hospital. The former was given one of the endoscopes for use in her department.
3. 4 days at San Carlos, firstly to attend the Opening Ceremony of the Community House financed by SALCET, and a celebratory lunch on 13<sup>th</sup> February, exactly nine years to the day from the earthquake that devastated the village. The second day included watching a village football match and holding meetings about future developments within the village, including purchase of games and musical equipment for use in the Community House by the young people. The SALCET team held a general clinic on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day in the new consulting rooms (49 patients seen), and on the 4<sup>th</sup> day an endoscopy clinic was run, as well as a clinic for the children from the 'Compassion' project attached to San Carlos, (48 patients seen).

4. 3 days working with 'Compassion' (a children's charity), holding medical clinics at 3 of their projects. 264 patients were treated; 31 adults were referred for eye surgery.

5. Meetings were held with

a) The Department of Health

b) a consultant at Hospital Bloom, San Salvador

to discuss the possibility of SALCET helping children with disabilities in the future.

Reports were made to our sponsors and supporters in UK. E-mail contact with the projects in El Salvador for progress updates continued throughout the year. Dr Jagger continued to liaise with Dr Eklund over future help for Samoa.