

V-mail

Send your views to
vitaeditorial@nature.com

LETTER

Appeal for Uganda

I am employed as a dental hygiene therapist at Fergus and Glover dental practice in Aberdeen. I have recently visited St Anthony's Hospital in Tororo, Uganda.

The nearest dental practice I could locate was in the capital city, Kampala, some

150 km away, making dental treatment unobtainable and much needed.

We hope to establish a dental surgery within St Anthony's Hospital in Tororo to improve the oral health of people in the surrounding areas. Equipment and resources are extremely limited, therefore I would like to appeal to *Vital* readers to help us achieve our goal.

I would love to hear from anyone who may have unwanted materials or equipment which would benefit our cause, from anyone who may be interested in helping us raise funds, or anyone who would like to help create oral health promotion information packs to distribute to local schools in Tororo.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to help or if you require any further information.

Many thanks.

Rachel Duddin
duddin@hotmail.com
07518 328893

Rachel wins Colgate products worth £100.



Rachel (right) with staff at St Anthony's Hospital in Uganda

Mouth prop supplier

I have just been reading the summer issue of *Vital* and was interested to see the picture of a mouth prop on page 24 (*Special care dentistry and the dental team*; Fig. 3). These are very useful products but the supplier we used to order them from no longer supplies them. Do you know any suppliers?

Angela Gillies
Dental Nurse

June Nunn, one of the article's authors, responds: We get our mouth props from the Mun-H-Center website: www.mun-h-center.se.

HAVE YOU MOVED HOUSE?

Please send your new address to vitaeditorial@nature.com or write to Vital Editorial, NPG, 4-6 Crinan Street, London, N1 9XW.

Make sure the next issue of Vital makes its way to you!



Snail mail: Vital Editorial, NPG, 4-6 Crinan Street, London N1 9XW

Next issue's star letter writer will win Beverly Hills Formula goodies worth £100.

Letters may be edited for space. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial team or publishers.

HOTSPOT



Name: Susan Mills
Age: 57
Town: Matlock, Derbyshire
Hates: Bullies, bananas and braggarts
Hobbies: Teaching swimming, reading, cycling, gardening
Job? Dental Nurse, Lab Technician, Oral Health Educator, Practice Manager, NVQ Assessor and Trainer/Tutor.

How did you get your job? It was 1970 and it was easy, I went for the interview on Thursday and started on the Monday as a trainee dental nurse.

How did you end up working in dentistry? My mother made me go for the interview in 1970 when I was 17 because she thought I would make a good dental nurse and I could not make up my mind what I wanted to do and I just progressed over the years.

What do you enjoy most about your job? Working with people and being part of a team, I loved working with the children in the PDU and orthodontics.

What is the most challenging part of your job? Retiring on July 31st this year.

Would you recommend a career in dentistry? Yes, but I do think that accountability and responsibility has increased dramatically over the years and this should be recognised and rewarded accordingly.

If you weren't working in dentistry, what would you be doing? A nurse working as a midwife or in a Paediatric Unit.

What three things could you not live without? My husband and children, holidays and my garden.