



## Cleft Lip & Palate Association of Ireland Newsletter Autumn 2006



### This Edition

Since our last edition, we have had a major event with our Family day in the Curragh, judging by the smiles, chat and questions on when the next event will be; it has been a great success. Our current focus of attention is our forthcoming AGM & Information Evening, final preparations for our new maternity pack and production of our first ever Christmas cards! We hope you enjoy the newsletter and look forward to seeing you on the 28<sup>th</sup> November at the AGM.

### Family Day Update



With 39 families in attendance (approx. 90 children and 70 adults), our second ever family day proved a great success. In beautiful sunshine and high temperatures, a great day was had by children and adults alike, with plenty of activities, including swimming, obstacle course, face painting, bouncing castle, t-shirt painting, soccer, military display, and a wonderful barbeque. Many thanks to the Army for being marvellous hosts, and for allowing us the use of their wonderful facilities. Praise must also go to the committee members who put in a huge effort in organising the day and making sure it was a roaring success. And thanks also to everyone who helped out on the day. People were brilliant! Most of all, a big thanks to all the families who attended, and particularly to the children who we know had a wonderful time. For more photos of the day check out our web site [www.cleft.ie](http://www.cleft.ie)

The Association is looking for volunteers to specifically get involved for our next Family Day.

### Fund Raising - Christmas Cards

A first for the Association, this year we are producing our own Christmas Cards. They will be on sale at our Information Evening later this month. The cards will have the Association logo on the front and Association details on the back. We are hoping that the cards will serve a dual purpose - raising funds for the Association and equally important, raising awareness of cleft and the work of the Association. Details will be posted on web

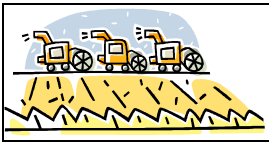
### Fund Raising – Mini Marathon

Many thanks to our volunteers who have once again put in a tremendous effort to raise funds for the Association. The mini-marathon has become the financial mainstay of our Association. This year we had 7 runners on the field, all sporting Association T-Shirts and all carrying full Association Sponsorship cards. Many thanks to Bridget Jones, Gillian McMahon, Patricia Clifford, Majella Myler, Julie Young, Pauline Mason & Amalia Murray. This year a combined amount of Euro 1,600 was raised. Brilliant.

### Fund Raising – Cake Sale

Our esteemed treasurer took a break this year from her usual mini-marathon fund raising efforts to generate funds from a marathon cake sale instead. Fruitcakes, cream cakes, scones, biscuits, tarts and fabulous brown bread were part of a fantastic spread. The Saturday sale raised an incredible 1,300 Euro for the Association. Pictured below R -L are Bridget Gilsean, Mary O Shea, Cathleen McShane, Anne Gilsean & Bernie Gilsean. Of course behind every good woman is a great neighbourhood - well done to all the residents & friends of Woodlands Ave.





## Cleft Lip & Palate Association of Ireland Newsletter Autumn 2006



### **New Equipment – Fundraiser**

Some of you will remember Mr. Eamon McKieran's lecture last year. He outlined the work involved in more advanced orthodontic / maxillofacial surgery. A new piece of equipment has since come on the market that will improve greatly how this work is carried out. The equipment allows much better profiles to be generated before and during treatment. The equipment costs 40K approximately. A number of avenues are being explored for covering the cost. The Association for its part has committed to getting involved. To start a bank account has been allocated for anybody who wishes to make a donation to this specific fund – see below. Updates will be posted to the web.

#### **EQUIPMENT BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS**

**Bank of Ireland, St Stephens Green, Dublin 2  
90-00-84 A/C No. 56191109**

### **Craniofacial Society**

We would like to congratulate Mr. Michael Earley on his presidency of the Craniofacial Society of Great Britain & Ireland. The Society will be holding its 2007 conference in Dublin in April. The event will take place over three days and will feature leaders in all aspects of craniofacial care including treatment of cleft conditions. We trust all concerned will enjoy a great conference (& a great venue!).

### **Operation Smile World Conference**

Operation Smile hosted its 2006 world summit in Limerick on the 22-24th October. Operation smile is a volunteer medical services organisation providing free reconstructive surgery to children around the world including children with cleft lip and / or palate. The conference, held in Adare Manor courtesy of Tom & Judy Kane, brought together 130 leading authorities representing nearly 30 countries. [The conference aims to increase the number of children served each year. Giving partner countries the necessary knowledge, expertise and equipment to treat children in their own countries year round will ensure success]. Congratulations to all

concerned for bringing such a prestigious gathering to Ireland.

### **New Graduate Nursing Programme**

For some years CLAPAI has been invited by Our Ladies Hospital for Sick Children and Children's University Hospital to lecture as part of their postgraduate paediatric nursing programmes. The talks given have concentrated on a parent's experience – medical, emotional, practical. A number of volunteers have shared their experiences – each person with a different story. The feedback from students has always been positive.

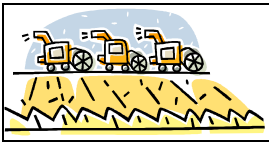
This year, a new combined programme comes into affect. The programme is being run from UCD. The Association are delighted that CLAPAI is very much a part of the programme going forward even though the course duration has been reduced from 18months to 12 months. The first lecture of the new programme will be given in January.

### **Restraints - Your Opinion**

For the want of a better description, a restraint when used in cleft treatment is like a soft bracelet with a length of cotton cord attached. When the bracelet is worn the cotton cord is fastened to cot rails in a way that ensures a baby's hand cannot reach their face after surgery. If you are a parent that has first hand experience of restraints Maria Brenner, Lecturer in the School Of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems, UCD, would like to hear from you. Maria is conducting research in this area and wants to hear parents' views. Whether the use of restraints was an issue or not for your family your input will be valuable for other families. Maria can be contacted through the Association

### **TV Programme**

Mint Productions is researching for a proposed television programme about adults who were born with a cleft. As part of this research, Mint Productions would very much like to speak with adults born with a cleft about their own experiences. This would be purely for research purposes and all conversations would remain confidential. If



**Cleft Lip & Palate Association of Ireland**  
**Newsletter Autumn 2006**



you feel you could help us, please contact  
Ailbhe Maher on 01 4913333 or email  
her on at ailbe@mint.ie

**Waiting Room Humour**

- Q. What has four legs but can't walk?  
A. A table!
- Q. What did the ground say to the earthquake?  
A. You crack me up!
- Q. What do you get when you cross a cow and a duck?  
A. Milk and quackers!
- Q. Why did the elephant eat the candle?  
A. He wanted a light snack!
- Q. Why is the letter "G" scary?  
A. It turns a host into a ghost
- Q. What has 4 eyes but no face?  
A. Mississippi!
- Q. What did the spider do on the computer?  
A. Made a website!
- Q. Why was 6 afraid of 7?  
A. Because 789!
- Q. Why did the cookie go to the hospital?  
A. Because it felt crummy.
- Q. What do you call a pony with a sore throat?  
A. A little horse
- Q. Why did the sheep say "moo"?  
A. It was learning a new language!
- Q. What streets do ghosts haunt?  
A. Dead ends!
- Q. What is an astronaut's favorite place on a computer?  
A. The Space bar!
- Q. Why did the boy eat his homework?  
A. Because his teacher said it was a piece of cake!
- Q. What bow can't be tied?  
A. A rainbow

**AGM Notice**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Cleft Lip and Palate Association of Ireland will be held on 28th November 2006 at 8pm in the Graduate Centre, St. James' Hospital, Dublin 8

**AGM**

The Cleft Lip & Palate Association is a limited company and as such must have a company AGM every year. While this part of the evening is very much a formality it is also a time for the Association to review our work plan for the coming year. Your input is welcome.

**Information Evening**

The Association is pleased that Anne McGillivray, Laura Duggan and Patrick Sheahan will be our guest speakers this year. Anne & Laura will be familiar to anybody attending the Dublin cleft clinics. Their role as co-ordinators has greatly improved the service that families receive. Anne & Laura are very much on the front line and have a lot of experience to share. We have asked them to talk about how cleft treatment is organised. We think it would be of great benefit for families to get a feel for the full programme of treatment and also for the extent of the service offered. Mr. Patrick Sheahan gave an excellent talk in Spring 2003 on ENT. Given the level of interest in this topic, particularly at the family day, we have asked Patrick to make a return visit. We encourage anybody who can make it to the Graduate Centre on the 28<sup>th</sup> November to attend.

**Contact Editor**

For more information on any of our articles please contact the Editor. Similarly to be added or removed from our mailing list please contact editor.

Georgina Wade, 4 Wolverton Glen, Dalkey,  
Co. Dublin. Phone 01 2848227  
Email: georginawade@cleft.ie

# AGM & Information Evening 2006

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2006  
8pm**



**Guest Speakers**

**Ms Anne McGillivary & Ms Laura Duggan**  
Cleft Co-ordinators for  
Children's University Hospital, Temple Street &  
Our Ladies Hospital for Sick Children

**Mr. Patrick Sheahan**  
Ear Nose & Throat Consultant with a special interest in Cleft  
Children's University Hospital, Temple Street & St. James Hospital

Tea & Coffee available from 7:30pm

**Venue**  
William Stokes Building  
(Graduate Centre– Red brick building beside the James Street Entrance)  
**St. James Hospital**

Directions to the Graduate Centre - Enter the hospital via James Street entrance, pass by the security hut, on your right hand side you will see a red brick building. This is the Graduate centre. If travelling by car continue following the road until you see the signs for the underground car park. Retrace your steps to get back to the Graduate centre. Any problems on the night phone 087 8047540. The Association would like to St. James' Hospital for the use of the facilities in the William Stokes Building.