

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



**Safe  
Anaesthesia  
Worldwide**

# ABOUT US

SAFE ANAESTHESIA WORLDWIDE  
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Safe Anaesthesia Worldwide was founded in 2011 with the aim of improving access to life-saving anaesthesia to those in need in poor areas of the world. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales Registered Charity Number 1148254.

## **Governance and management**

The work of the charity is overseen by a Board of Trustees that meets four times a year.

## **Board of Trustees 2018/19**

Simon Brooks  
Geoffrey Burr  
Michael Cox  
Dr Roger Eltringham, Medical Director  
Emma Freeman  
Jean Hill, Treasurer  
Beverly McGaw  
Dr Julie Morgan  
Colin Whittle

The day to day running of the charity is carried out by volunteers and there are no paid staff. Secretarial support is provided by Carol Newman whose employer, Diamedica (UK) Ltd, generously permits her to assist the charity from her place of work.

The charity's work overseas is made possible by the voluntary contributions of professionals working in or visiting developing countries to deliver anaesthesia and support.

## **Contact:**

Safe Anaesthesia Worldwide  
White Lyon House  
Marden, Kent, TN12 9DR  
United Kingdom

Email: [info@safe4all.org.uk](mailto:info@safe4all.org.uk)  
Tel: +44 07527506969  
Website: [www.safe4all.org.uk](http://www.safe4all.org.uk)

# OBJECTIVES

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The objectives of the charity are to preserve and protect good health by: the provision of suitable anaesthetic equipment to deprived areas of the world; and the support of research, education, and training to ensure its effective use, care and maintenance.

SAWW's objectives focus on the provision of:

- Safe anaesthesia and pain relief to help women in labour and to reduce the unacceptably high number of women who currently die in pregnancy and childbirth.
- Appropriate anaesthesia for remote low resource locations to enable essential surgery to treat life-threatening, painful or disabling conditions, such as trauma, hernias, obstetric fistula, wounds, animal bites, burns, infections and congenital disorders.
- Oxygen therapies for newborns and infants to prevent unnecessary deaths from pneumonia, malaria, sepsis and premature birth.
- Portable anaesthesia equipment for emergency response to save lives of those affected by disasters and conflicts.

To achieve its objectives the charity undertakes the following activities:

- Supply of equipment that is suitable for use in low-resource settings and remote locations
- Training of medical and technical staff in poor countries, to enable them to deliver safe anaesthesia and maintain equipment in good working order.
- Supporting research into ways of improving the safe delivery of anaesthesia in poor countries.

# ACTIVITIES

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During the year SAWW's activities helped to improve anaesthesia services in fourteen countries: Bangladesh, Burundi, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Fiji, The Gambia, Malawi, Mongolia, Rwanda, Nigeria, Somalia, Somaliland, Tanzania and Uganda.

The largest proportion of SAWW's funding was spent on supplying appropriate equipment to deprived areas of the world, in order to ensure that patients can receive the treatment they need, thus preventing suffering and saving lives.

Whenever possible, SAWW partnered with other organisations and individuals to maximise cost-effectiveness, minimise overheads and avoid duplication. Numerous individuals gave generously of their time to help with transport of equipment and training for recipients, at no cost to the charity.

Organisations that SAWW collaborated with during this year included:

- Agora des Techniciens Supérieurs Anesthésistes Réanimateurs pour la Promotion de la Santé (ATSARPS), Burundi
- Benenden Hospital, Kent
- Born on the Edge
- BrithLink UK
- Cameroon Baptist Health Convention
- Diamedica (UK) Ltd
- Global Association of Clinical Officers and Physician Associates (GACOPA)
- Humanity First
- Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiology
- Pacific Society of Anaesthetists
- Passion for People, The Netherlands
- Peace House Medical Missions, Nigeria
- World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists (WFSA)

# EQUIPMENT

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## **Appropriate equipment**

Hospitals in developing countries are poorly resourced and lack basic facilities such as a reliable power and oxygen supplies. Most medical technology is designed for use in resource-rich hospitals and cannot function in such challenging conditions. Sophisticated anaesthesia equipment quickly breaks down or proves too expensive to repair or maintain, and patients' lives are lost.

SAWW provides only appropriate equipment that is suitable for use in resource-limited hospitals. Equipment that is safe, effective and inexpensive to use and maintain is supplied by the charity. Training and support is provided wherever requested. Risks associated with delivering safe anaesthesia in low-resource settings are taken into consideration by the Trustees.

Recipients of equipment donations during this year were as follows:

### **Bangladesh, Lamb Hospital**

A Baby CPAP and Penguin suction device donated to improve neonatal care and save the lives of premature and small babies, at the request of Dr Rebecca Jones, anaesthetist at the Bristol Royal Infirmary, who visits Lamb Hospital annually to provide support and training.

### **Burundi, ATSARPS**

A portable anaesthesia machine and Lifebox pulse oximeter donated to Gillies Eloi Rwibuka, Chair of ATSARPS, the Burundi National Association of Non-Physician Anaesthesia Providers. The equipment will enable surgery in rural areas of Burundi and will be used for training.

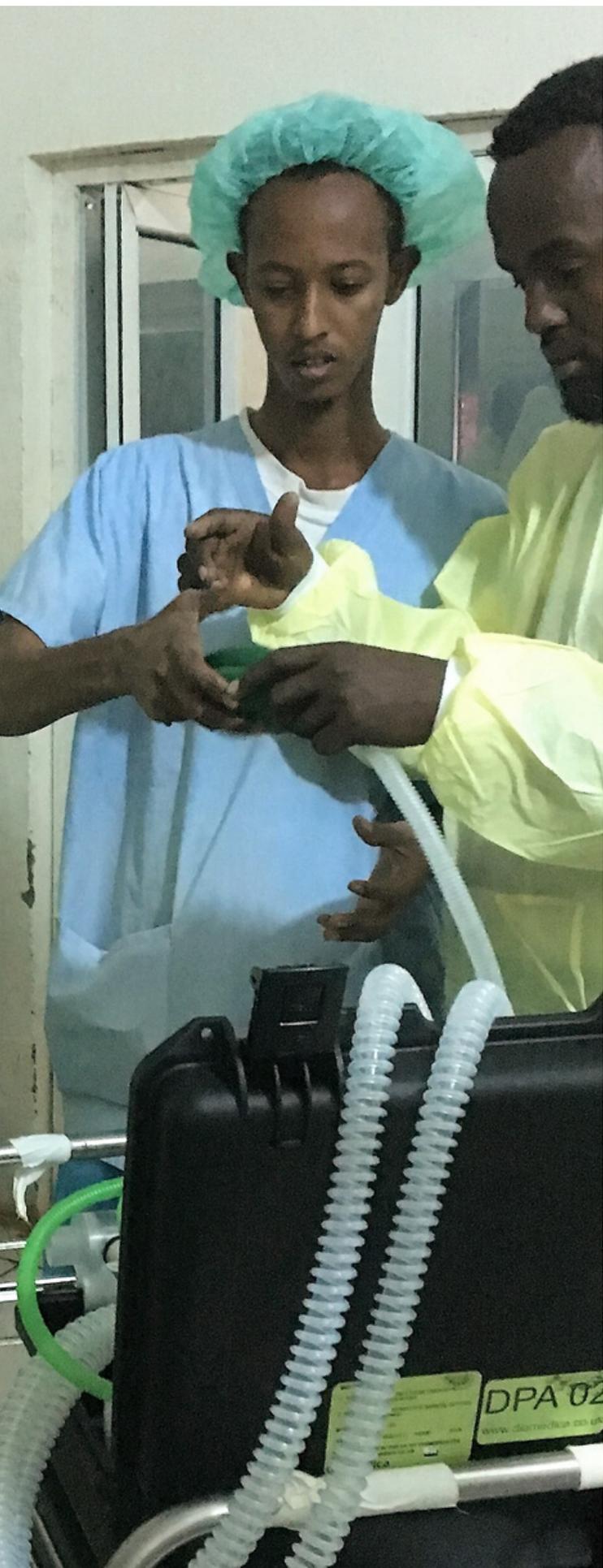
### **Cameroon, Bafoussam Baptist Health Centre**

A portable anaesthesia machine, oxygen concentrator and Lifebox pulse oximeter and textbooks donated to the Cameroon Baptist Health Convention, a non-profit organisation that provides health services and training across the country.

# EQUIPMENT

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## **Cameroon, Kumba Baptist Health Centre**

A portable anaesthesia machine donated in response to an urgent request from surgeon Dr Henry Ndasi. An attack and fire had devastated the hospital, preventing surgical services. Local doctors arranged an emergency surgical facility within a matter of days to treat urgent cases, thanks to the donated portable anaesthesia machine.

## **Democratic Republic of Congo, Goma**

A Baby CPAP and newborn suction device donated to DOC-La Grace Hospital, Goma at the request of Birthlink UK. The equipment was delivered by nurse practitioner Kathy Mellor, who regularly visits eastern DRC to provide training on CPAP to save the lives of the smallest and sickest babies.

## **Democratic Republic of Congo, Nebobongo**

A Baby CPAP device and newborn suction device donated to Nebobongo Hospital, to improve neonatal care. Training in CPAP will be provided by doctors at DOC-La Grace Hospital in Goma.

## **Fiji, Pacific Society of Anaesthetists**

A portable anaesthesia machine and Lifebox pulse oximeter to Dr Jocelyn Christopher, President of The Pacific Society of Anaesthetists, to enable anaesthesia services in the remote 300 islands that constitute Fiji. Training was provided at the Society's Annual Meeting in Suva, Fiji.

## **The Gambia, Edward Small Teaching Hospital**

Spare parts and accessories for a previously donated CPAP device, provided at the request of the charity Humanity First, whose doctors regularly visit the hospital to provide training and support, to improve patient care.

## **Malawi, Trinity Hospital**

Funds to refurbish a 13-year old Glostavent anaesthesia machine and restore it to full functionality, at the request of Passion for People, a Dutch foundation. Hospital staff were familiar with the machine and delighted to have it restored.

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## **Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiology**

Two portable anaesthesia machines donated to the Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiology to enable anaesthesia for surgery in remote, rural areas of the country. Professor Ganbold Lundeg provided training in use and maintenance.

## **Nigeria, Peace House Medical Missions**

A portable anaesthesia machine and Lifebox pulse oximeter donated to Dr Peter Abba for outreach surgical missions that reach people who would not otherwise receive treatment in rural Nigeria and the republic of Togo.

## **Somalia, Mogadishu**

Portable anaesthesia equipment donated to Dr Richard Mwase for surgical missions to areas surrounding Mogadishu. His team treat children from poor communities with cleft lip and palate. Around 50 patients receive life-transforming surgery on each mission, some are as young as 3 and 6 months old. Poor transport and outbreaks of violence prevent many reaching hospitals in the capital for treatment.

## **Tanzania, Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre**

Laryngoscopes and peripheral nerve stimulators delivered by Trustee, Simon Brooks, to KCMC. Simon and colleagues from Benenden Hospital in Kent, in collaboration with KCMC anaesthesia department, provided training for 31 anaesthesia staff, covering topics such as difficult airway procedures. The Benenden team also found time to climb Mount Kilimanjaro and raised £5000 for SAWW.

## **Uganda, Mbale Regional Referral Hospital**

An oxygen concentrator, flow splitter, regulator and associated equipment donated to Mbale Hospital for use in a new High Dependency Unit for mothers who experience problematic births. The equipment was requested by Drs Adam and Kathy Hewitt-Smith who work at the hospital and have dedicated the past five years to improving the facilities and training staff.

# TRAINING

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SAWW recognises that education and training of anaesthesia staff is crucial to ensure the safety of patients. There is a severe shortage of medically trained personnel in low-income countries and so anaesthesia is usually delivered by a non-physician anaesthesia officer or nurse. There is also a shortage of technical staff to maintain and service hospital equipment.

SAWW supports training of clinical and technical staff and whenever we donate anaesthesia equipment, every effort is made to ensure that local staff are trained in its safe use, servicing and maintenance.

## **Sponsorship**

During this year, SAWW sponsored training of anaesthesia professionals in Malawi, Rwanda and Tanzania. Sponsorship helps to empower African healthcare professionals and grow sustainable healthcare systems.

## **Text books**

Anaesthesia textbooks that were distributed to recipients in Cameroon, Rwanda and Somaliland. Medical text books provide a crucial resource for students working to improve their knowledge and skills.

## **Lectures**

Medical Director, Dr Roger Eltringham gave numerous lectures and talks throughout the year.

## **Workshops**

At the Pacific Society of Anaesthetists Annual Meeting and Refresher Course in Fiji in September 2018, Dr Eltringham gave two presentations and ran workshops to demonstrate draw-over anaesthesia. The meeting was attended by more than 80 anaesthetists from 14 countries in the region.

# FINANCES

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**£56,247**

## INCOME

The charity's principal sources of funding have been donations from individuals, groups and charitable trusts. We gratefully acknowledge the generous donations were received this year from the Kathleen Beryl Sleigh Charitable Trust, The Hillier Trust, and Marden Village Club, and numerous Rotary Clubs.

The mainstay of the charity's fundraising has been talks given by our Medical Director and Trustees to schools, Rotary clubs, church groups and similar fundraising organisations.

**£61,073**

## EXPENDITURE

- 86% anaesthesia equipment
- 6% training
- 6% travel
- > 1% fundraising
- > 1% governance costs

**£13,738**

## FUNDS AT START OF YEAR

**£8,912**

## FUNDS AT END OF YEAR



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Registered Charity Number 1148254

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