



*A message from the Chairman of SVJC
Trust*

At the first visit to Walawalkar Charity Hospital Dervan India in 2006 the team carried out Ophthalmic and General surgery under general and regional anaesthesia, the team returned highlighting their experience was so rewarding providing treatment to patients who could not afford it enabling them to get work and to provide for their family.

So when I was invited to go in 2007 I was very pleased and although the team had been the previous year I was still a bit apprehensive as to what would ensue. I had been to India as a tourist previously so I had some inclination of the structure of the country; however, as I am sure with most tourists I never looked at the medical infrastructure available for the population who could ill afford any treatment.

These visits have continued every year with increasing numbers including specialists for Orthopaedic, Gynaecology, Midwifery, Pain Specialist, ITU, Radiology and Dental treatments.

During my visits in 2007 and 2009 I found the enthusiasm towards change overwhelming from all grades of staff to Hospital Director but more importantly the eagerness of nursing staff to prove how they retained the knowledge learned from our previous visits. I have especially enjoyed building a working relationship with Mr. Prafulla Godbole the Chief Administration Officer who has a solid foundation strategy and is a driving force for the total complex. Mr. Godbole's response to our comments for structural or organisational change is undefeatable.

Initially I felt a need to continue to be involved with the charity hospital when I returned to the UK primarily collecting equipment to try and improve theirs. However since August 2008 my involvement has gone a step further where a few of us were successful forming a registered UK charity as trustees to raise enough funds to keep this project ongoing.

I feel very privileged to be able to work with our dedicated trustees and undertake the role as Chairman to develop the Charity further to include supporting a medical centre in Africa

I look forward to another visit in 2010 and offer my very best wishes to all involved in our cause.

Dave Wales
Chairman SVJC Trust