

“2009 is a landmark year for Valerie’s work in Bangladesh as CRP celebrates its 30th anniversary. Valerie’s achievements over those 30 years are inspiring – and it is excellent news that the Bangladesh Government has recognised this with the Ahsanullah Gold Medal award.

Valerie’s aim has always been that no-one, however poor, is refused treatment at CRP. Your continued support through VTT helps her to do just that – and thereby give a better life to those in need.”

Bertie Woolnough, Chairman VTT

Congratulations Valerie!

Valerie Taylor has been awarded the prestigious Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah Gold Medal in recognition of her “outstanding contribution and services to society as well as distressed humanity” for her role as founder of the CRP. The Bangladeshi national newspapers, The Daily Star and The Independent reported this good news. In a message to the VTT Trustees, Valerie commented that the award shows how far things have moved in Bangladesh since the very early days of CRP and how wonderful it was that the climate of opinion has changed.

News from the 2009 AGM

The AGM was held on Saturday 9th May 2009 in the Toynee Hall, Commercial Street, London

Bertie Woolnough was re-elected as Chairman of VTT and all retiring Trustees were re-elected. Wendy Best and Dr. Bryan Whitty were co-opted as Trustees.

Chris Hall stood down as VTT Administrator, but retained a support role with responsibility for the Website, IT and design matters. Brian Woodgate took over the reins as VTT Administrator and Christine Coyne was confirmed in the Support Administrative role with a responsibility for developing support groups and fundraising. Brian and Christine both spoke at the AGM to give members a brief insight into their backgrounds.

Philomena Commons and Mokhtar Hussain had visited CRP shortly before the AGM and reported that there was a new mood of optimism at CRP with the appointment of Md Emdad Moslem.

The Chairman thanked all members and supporters for their support and efforts over the previous year and encouraged them to bring more members into VTT.

The celebrations for the 30th Anniversary of CRP began at the AGM with a delicious anniversary birthday cake!



Valerie’s UK Visit

Valerie hopes to visit the UK in April/May 2010 and will join us at the next AGM on Saturday 22nd May. Details of Valerie’s visit and the location of the AGM will be circulated in the new year. Whilst Valerie is in the UK, there will be a series of fund-raising events across the country. We are looking for new venues for Valerie’s tour and welcome anyone who is willing to host an event in their home town.



Emdad Confirmed as Executive Director of CRP

On Thursday 16th September 2009, the appointment of Md. Emdad Moslem was confirmed as Executive Director of CRP following a 6-month probationary period.

For two and half years prior to his assignment at CRP Emdad worked as a short term Consultant with CDMP/UNDP/OXFAM/SCF-UK. He started his career as a volunteer with Service Civil International and later developed as a community and social development activist.

Previous appointments in Emdad’s career have included:

- Partnership Adviser to CARE-Bangladesh;
- NGO Specialist for Agricultural Diversification and Intensification
- Project (ADIP), a project of IFAD and Department of Agriculture Extension; Training Management Specialist with IVS (USA incor);
- Deputy Director (Finance and Administration) with Sampreti
- Asian Field Coordinator (International staff) with SCI,
- Honorary National Secretary for SCI-Bangladesh.

Emdad completed his MSc in Applied Chemistry from the University of Dhaka and obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration from the International Islamic University of Chittagong.

A message from Emdad...

“I strongly want to let you all know my deepest commitment to do my best for our beloved organisation, CRP: For the patients, our colleagues, volunteers, FCRP and well-wishers in and outside the country. I will put my all-out effort to work together for the improvement of our services for the people who really deserve them at CRP.

Thanks once more for the support that you all have been extending in discharging my responsibilities throughout the last 9 months.

Please convey my very best wishes and regards to the Trustees and Chairman of VTT.

With very best wishes.”

FCRP - Canada

Our Canadian sister charity FCRP-Canada has now been formally registered and are applying to become ‘incorporated’. Amongst their objectives, FCRP-Canada aim to provide financial support to students and professionals who wish to work at CRP. We send them our congratulations and best wishes.

VTT Fundraising

Christmas Cards

In the run up to Christmas, Tony Stephens has a large selection of cards reproduced from mouth-paintings by patients at CRP, such as Rooma, Ibrahim and Lovely - who sadly died a couple of years ago. The painters have been able to develop their talents as a result of the donations made to CRP. Sale of the cards will enable CRP to continue the work to help these patients achieve financial independence. The cards are blank inside so that they can be used for a variety of purposes.

For further information, contact: tonystephens24@aol.com
Hunger Hill Farm House, East Stour, Gillingham SP8 5JR

Let There Be Light

News was received that the emergency generator at CRP – Savar was beyond repair and CRP was seriously at risk in the event of a power outage, a regular occurrence in Bangladesh. In response, the VTT chairman, Bertie Woolnough, instigated a project amongst the parishes of the Chalke Valley Benefice in Wiltshire to raise funds to provide one of two new generators. Within six weeks of lent a magnificent total of over £10,000 had been raised and a new generator was installed.

Needless to say, the patients and staff at CRP were overwhelmed and greatly appreciated this generosity.

A long Run For CRP

In August, Iain Whitty and his cousin, Craig, completed the Devil of the Highlands Race - 43 miles from Tyndrum to Fort William, the northern section of the West Highland Way. Craig completed the 43 mile run in 8 hrs 43 minutes and Iain in 9 hrs 1mins. Iain and Craig's efforts can still be sponsored through the following link :-

www.justgiving.com/highlandrace which will remain open until 8th November, 2009.

So far, they have raised in excess of £700.00.

Wedding Bells

Long-term friends of CRP, Bernd and Natalie Deutscher included CRP in their plans for their wedding day on May 30th 2009: They asked for donations to CRP instead of wedding gifts and raised an incredible total of £24, 971 through their JustGiving webpage.

Calling Gap Year Students...

If you are, or know, a young person who is considering a Gap Year before university perhaps you would be interested in volunteering at CRP as Valerie Taylor's PA for a preliminary period of two months, on a voluntary basis? For more details regarding this pilot scheme contact The VTT Administrator.

Fundraising Updates

- Lisa Brady, a physiotherapist from Co Langford, Ireland raised £1,420 before visiting CRP as a volunteer earlier this year
- The Outreach Committee of St. Andrew's Church, Bedford nominated the VTT for one of their grants this year and a donation of £1000.00 was made in July
- As a result of their regular Tuesday morning sales, the members of the United Reformed Church in Daventry have donated £1000.00 this year
- The Associated Students of Stanford University, California donated \$1282 in April
- Katherine Brodie embarked on an unusual adventure by travelling by rickshaw through Bangladesh and raised £639.21 for CRP
- A donation of £570.00 was received from The Orion School, London in July. The funds were raised through a Christmas cake sale, a playground toy sale, a sponsored exercise and fitness event and a Bollywood dance performance
- Carol Bennett from Formby has raised £600.00 so far this year through various fundraising efforts
- Members of the Lydia Fellowship in Aylesbury collected £286.51 in July
- In June, the members of Haddenham Third World Link in Buckinghamshire donated £250.00
- Brian Woodgate, VTT Administrator, raised £210.00 at St. Michael and All Angels Church in Marden, Kent Annual Golf Day in June. An Autumn Golf Day is planned for Friday 16th October
- Iain Whitty has arranged for a VTT collection to take place at a forthcoming game at Ibrox Stadium, Glasgow, home of Rangers F.C.
- 3 other donations of £1000.00 each were received from members as a result of family legacies or trust

Our thanks are extended to all of the above for their generosity

Well Done...

The total funds received for 2008-2009 was
£129,403

£8,000 was Gift Aid repayments

Expenses for VTT were 3.2% of the gross

The fundraising target for the year 2009 – 2010 has been raised to £6,000 per month!

Visit the VTT website for news and updates on future events. If you are planning a fundraising event, please contact the Administrator with details

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