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AN INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ORTHOPAEDIC EDUCATION AND CARE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

W.O.C. NEWS LETTER No. 1

JANUARY 1978

From:  
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Dear Colleagues,

I gather that the idea of a regular News Letter has been discussed among members of World Orthopaedic Concern since its conception. However it was at the September 1977 Lagos, Nigeria Meeting that I was volunteered by our President to initiate a regular letter which will be prepared here, and printed in and distributed from Singapore. I apologize for the delay in preparing the first letter but with the support of Messrs. John Lindseys Surgical Appliances Ltd. who have made a generous donation toward the cost of the necessary secretarial equipment, the first letter is now under way.

As members of W.O.C. are well aware the President, Dr. Allan McKelvie wrote to you all in December 1977 about the Oxford, Singapore and Lagos Meetings, urging action along the lines discussed in Lagos. However, as the News Letters will have a wider circulation, I hope that members will not mind if I reiterate some of the important news items and suggestions made by Allan McKelvie.

It is important that you are all aware of the Executive Committee members, as these colleagues also act as regional representatives. I therefore list their names and addresses:

1. Prof. Balu Sankaran  
Central Institute of Orthopaedics  
Safdarjung Hospital  
New Delhi  
INDIA.
2. Prof. Bunichiro I Kawamura  
Sapporo Medical College Hospital  
S1W 16, Chuwo-Ku, Sapporo 060,  
JAPAN.
3. Dr. W. R. Beetham  
St. John of God Hospital  
Ballarat, Victoria 3350  
AUSTRALIA.
4. Prof. Jose Paulo Marcondes  
Faculdade de Medicina de Rebeirao Preto  
Universidade de Sao Paulo  
14100 Ribeirao Preto  
Estado de Sao Paulo  
BRAZIL.
5. Prof. Ahmas Kamel Elhamamsy  
Faculty of Medicine  
Cairo University  
15 Shiry Pastra St.  
Cairo  
EGYPT.
6. Dr. Francis Honnart  
Hospital Raymond Poincare  
92380 Garches  
Paris  
FRANCE.
7. Dr. K. G. Korsah  
P. O. Box 30  
Korle Bu  
Accra  
GHANA.
8. Prof. Z. K. Kazi  
Jinnah Post-graduate Medical Centre  
Karachi 35  
PAKISTAN.
9. Dr. P. M. Sarungi  
University of Dar Es Salaam  
P. O. Box 20693  
Dar Es Salaam  
TANZANIA.
10. Mr. J. N. Wilson  
Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital  
Brockley Hill  
Stanmore  
MIDDLESEX, U. K.

In addition there are five officers:—

President:

Dr. Allan M. McKelvie MD.  
3301 New Mexico Avenue, NW.  
Washington DC 20016  
U.S.A.

1st Vice-President:

Professor Millar Jaja  
Department of Surgery  
Lagos University Teaching Hospital  
P. M. B. 12003 Lagos  
NIGERIA.

2nd Vice-President:

Professor Knud Jansen  
P. O. Box 42  
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Copenhagen  
DENMARK.

Secretary General:

Professor J. S. R. Golding  
University of the West Indies  
Kingston 7  
Jamaica  
WEST INDIES.

Treasurer:

Dr. V. Kanda Pillay  
810 Specialists' Centre  
Orchard Road  
Singapore 9  
REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE.

and three Honorary Members:

Professor A. L. Eyre-Brook  
8 Lodge Drive  
Long Ashton  
BRISTOL BS18 9JF  
U. K.

Professor R. L. Huckstep  
Dept. of Traumatic & Orthopaedic Surgery  
Prince of Wales Hospital  
High Street  
Randwick  
Sydney N. S. W. 2031  
AUSTRALIA.

Professor K. T. Dholakia  
University of Bombay  
14 Pedder Road  
Bombay 26, W. B.  
INDIA.

In addition five of these Executive Committee Members have specific responsibilities as Chairmen of sub-committees, and these responsibilities are listed:—

1979 Meeting, Cairo, September 30 . . . . . Professor Elhamamsy, EGYPT.  
WHO, United Nations, SICOT, Liaison . . . . . Professor Jansen, DENMARK.  
Finance; Solicitation of Funds . . . . . Professor Huckstep, AUSTRALIA.  
Contact with Orthopaedic Societies . . . . . Professor Kazi, PAKISTAN.  
Education Programs;  
Registration of Consultants. . . . . Mr. Beetham, AUSTRALIA.

I hope to receive regular reports from these Committee Chairmen for inclusion in future News Letters.

Before touching on Orthopaedic training projects in which W. O. C. is presently interested, there are a few points of general interest in relation to the production of this News Letter, and also possibly of importance in the administration of W. O. C.

As I stressed in Lagos, as Editor of your News Letter I can only distribute news, information, requests or announcements if they are sent to me. Our President in his circular letter asked you to send copies of all correspondence to John Golding, our Secretary General, and also a copy to the Committee Chairman concerned with the subject. May I suggest that when relevant a copy is also sent to me.

As far as correspondence is concerned, I have two points to raise, firstly, it seems wiser to use Air Letter Cards when writing to colleagues in some parts of the world, as foreign stamps prove sufficiently attractive to prevent the letters in ordinary envelopes from reaching their destinations. Secondly, and from personal experience since taking on the editorship of your News Letter, may I say how helpful it is when letters and requests are answered promptly.

This first W. O. C. News Letter is being sent to all Members, together with as many Orthopaedic Associations and other interested persons as I have been able to think of, but please do let me know the names and addresses of anyone else, or any other organisations which you believe should receive future editions.

Now after all these administrative and introductory remarks, what is W. O. C. actually doing at the present time? In a recent letter from our President, Allan McKelvie tells me that at present W. O. C. is negotiating three new "programmes"; one to start in Tanzania perhaps in June 1978, secondly, an invitation has been received from the Minister of Health in Iraq to start a training programme there, and thirdly, that recently the President's attention has been drawn to 100,000 refugees in Thailand. The President has written to Dr. Thamrongrat Keokarn and Suprija Mokkhavesa of Thailand to enquire of their needs.

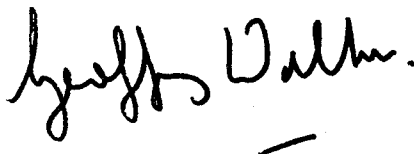
In addition W. O. C. continues to take an interest in Dr. Garst's training scheme in Bangladesh and schemes in Tunisia and Afghanistan.

I very much hope that those actively involved in these specific areas will write to me soon with information for dissemination in our News Letters.

You will gather from reading this letter that I am feeling my way with its format. Its future success, as with that of W. O. C. itself, must depend on your efforts. Please write to me here.

I send you all good wishes for 1978.

Yours sincerely,



Geoff Walker.

