

FLYSPEC NEWSLETTER



FLYING
ORTHOPAEDIC

ZAMBIA

OUTREACH

NEW YEAR 2020



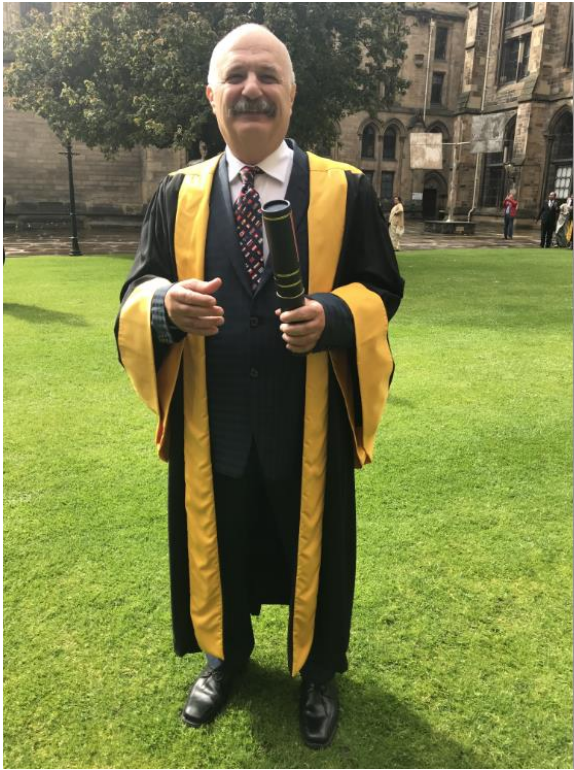
Mr Alberto Gregori, orthopaedic surgeon adjusting an external fixator for a patient with a femoral fracture caused by infection in the bone

Flyspec, Zambia's specialised medical flying doctor service brings dedicated and skilled orthopaedic and reconstructive plastic surgery to individuals in remote and rural communities. Such specialised treatment would otherwise not be possible for the people living in areas outside Lusaka the capital city of Zambia. Flyspec delivered surgery can be both lifesaving and life changing for many people enabling them to live a productive life within their community. The majority of patients treated by the service are children.

At the turn of the year we look back and celebrate a year of FlySpec work, meeting some of the patients whose lives have been changed for the better by specialist surgical intervention. We thank all the staff involved in establishing, maintaining and developing FlySpec, many of whom work invisibly behind the scenes to facilitate continuation of the service despite the background of hardship and austerity

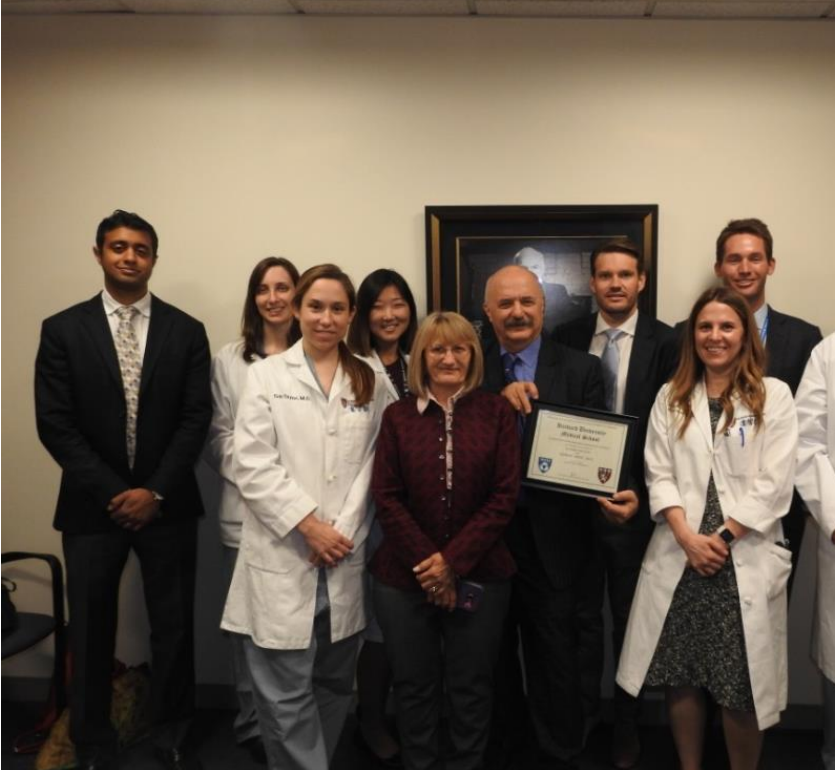
We have therefore included a 2019 gallery of some of the people, the places and the moments that formed part of the FlySpec year.

Staff Highlights 2019



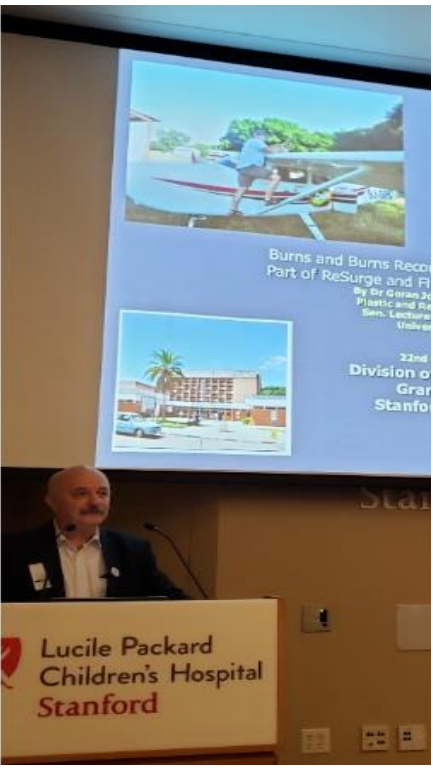
Dr Goran Jovic delighted to receive his fellowship.

Dr Goran Jovic awarded honorary fellowship from the Royal College of Surgeons & Physicians Glasgow Scotland
Dr Goran Jovic Flyspec Plastic surgeon & Pilot was awarded the prestigious Surgical fellowship from the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Glasgow. This award recognises Goran’s outstanding surgical achievements & contribution to plastic surgery over 27 years working in Zambia. Goran originally qualified in Serbia but was forced to leave during the war. It was at this time he moved to Zambia where he continues to change lives for the better as Zambia’s only plastic surgeon.



Dr Goran Jovic with his wife Rada (Centre) receiving an award from Stanford University.

Goran was invited as an honorary guest speaker to lecture at both Harvard & Stanford universities in the USA in October & November of last year. He was able to share his work with FlySpec and talk about techniques and results. His work continues to be a source of great inspiration to plastic surgeons throughout the world. He is currently training young surgeons and clinical officers in Zambia to hopefully continue his work in the future.



Dr Goran Jovic shares his expertise with Stanford Plastic & Reconstructive surgeons

Many of the techniques described are adapted for use in outreach situation and are both “equipment light” and designed to be easily looked after in the postoperative period, which is usually supervised by local staff.

RETIREMENT OF PROFESSOR JOHN JELLIS

July 2019 saw Professor John Jellis officially start phased retirement from his Flyspec roles, hoping to fully hand these roles over before his 80th birthday. Professor Jellis is the original pilot and Orthopaedic surgeon responsible for establishing the Flyspec service, his work spanning an incredible 5 decades. He was awarded an OBE in 1987 for his orthopaedic work in Africa. He continues to be a source of inspiration and provide background support and advice in the running of the Flyspec service



Mission Control

The people behind FlySpec

Flyspec Trustees Meeting December 2019 (Left to Right)

- Adrian Hudson - *Prospective part time secretary Flyspec*
- Dr Yacub Mulla - *Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon - (Vice Chairman)*
- Professor John Jellis - *Founder and Chairman of Flyspec*
- Dr Goran Jovic –*Flyspec Consultant Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeon and Pilot*
- Dr Emanuel Makasa - *Consultant Surgeon and Trustee*
- Dr James Munthali - *Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon and Trustee*

THANKYOU

CHRISTADELPHIAN MEAL A DAY FUND

Flyspec would like to express their sincere gratitude to this organisation for their incredible support over the last few years. Their help has been crucial in keeping FlySpec flying and changing the lives of so many patients over a difficult financial period in the last couple of years. Unfortunately due to reduced income this funding has ceased. This is a tremendous loss to Flyspec and we are now facing the daunting task of seeking out alternative sources of funding and will be launching fund raising appeals to enable Flyspec to continue to operate it’s life changing service. The service has needed in the region of \$160,000 per year to continue to function at the current pace. The current drought and financial situation will also mean that FlySpec will likely need to contribute food for our patients as local budgets cannot meet this demand at present.



Checking and loading the plane at dawn – destination Chitokoloki -a well rehearsed routine.



Flat terrain all the way – thank goodness for the GPS !



Lusaka to Chitokoloki 2.5hrs flying or 14+hrs of bone jarring road travel



Landing at Chitokoloki...the welcoming Committee



Dr David Macadam Consultant Surgeon Chitokoloki about to see clinic patients

- - - - and the Funny Moments

**OOPS Scrub Trousers Down!
It can happen to the best of us!**

Dr Goran Jovic operating in Chitokoloki – scrub trousers slipped down but a true professional is never deterred even if the anaesthetist is amused !





A split skin graft being prepared to apply to a deep burn. The skin mesher used to prepare these grafts was donated and has helped numerous patients with deep burns in Zambia where severe burns are very common (all donations make a difference !)



AND THE PATIENTS

Skin grafting and contracture release after burns restoring hand and wrist function



One day post Op cleft lip Surgery
by Dr Jovic



Cuddles before cleft lip surgery for his little boy. The whole process of surgery and being in hospital can be distressing wherever you are in the world



This 12 year old girl suffered contractures of the skin around her face and neck after falling into a fire. She presented late after the burn had healed with intense scarring reducing head movement, eating and interfering with normal activities of daily living.



1 year after release of the scars and contracture
A very happy girl with a lovely smile – a life changed

TEACHING

Whilst FlySpec brings orthopaedic and plastic and reconstructive surgery to the people of rural Zambia, one important aspect of the FlySpec legacy is the teaching that has enabled surgical trainees in Zambia to gain supervised experience enabling a greater number of surgeons to be able to provide this specialized care. Trainees from the University Teaching Hospital often accompany the surgeons to see first hand how this care is delivered in the field. Over the years many surgical trainees from other parts of the world have also benefitted from this teaching and have become lifelong proponents of the program. Elective and teaching opportunities exist within the service and enquiries are welcome from interested parties.

Volunteers

We are always happy to hear from anyone able in any way to contribute to maintaining the FlySpec legacy.

REMEMBER

100% of your donations are used to continue FlySpec’s work. \$130 provides a life changing operation such as a Club Foot Repair for a child.



Time for a new Plaster !



Drs Colin West and Alberto Gregori repairing a patient’s knee Ligaments after a fall



Theatre prep before surgery....getting rid of the flies!

FLYSPEC
VISITS 2019
HOSPITALS VISITED

	Visits	Ma- jor	Minor	Total	In-pats	Out-pats	New	F'up	Total
MONZE ORTHOPAEDIC	3		41	70	21	248		106	269
PLAST & REC	1	29	4	13	11	32	163	15	43
KATETE ORTH	14	9	52	255	259	932	28	245	1,193
PLAST & REC	4	203	13	43	58	75	950	66	138
CHITOKOLOKI ORTH	6	30	44	115	106	477	77	301	583
PLAST & REC	3	71	6	44	41	28	282	19	69
CHILONGA PLASTIC & REC	1	38	4	17	17	23	50	4	40
MONGU ORTH	3	13	52	75	47	185	36	81	259
MONGU PLAST/RECON	2	23	3	28	34	19	204	19	53
KASAMA ORTHOPAEDIC	1	25	14	37	21	50	34	16	71
KASAMA PLASTIC	2	23	7	26	31	29	55	10	60
KABWE PLASTIC	3	19	1	12	29	16	50	17	45
MACHA ORTHOPAED	3	11	8	33	29	70	28	13	99
MACHA PLASTIC		25		-			86		-
MUKINGE HILL ORTH	12		83	163	250	517		299	758
PLAST & REC	2	80	12	68	52	28	450	26	80
MANSA PLAST & REC	2	21	13	36	39	17	54	11	56
LIVINGSTONE PLAST	2	23	12	38	41	23	45	18	68
MBALA ORTH	1	26	6	12	14	48	53	11	62
NDOLA PLASTIC	3	6	16	62	69	41	51	27	110
TOTALS	68	46	391	1,112	1,169	2,858	83	1,304	4,055
		721				2,779			

PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGRY	OPS	343	PATIENTS SEEN	877
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY	OPS	769	PATIENTS SEEN	3,178

GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS VISITED : 8MISSION HOSPITALS VISITED5

FLYING VISITS44

TOTAL FLYING TIME:10645
DISTANCE FLOWN:13,343.75 nm
VISITS BY ROAD:2418,900 km

THESE FIGURES REPRESENT A TOTAL OF 1112
OPERATIONS AND 4055 PATIENTS SEEN IN THE YEAR 2019
YOU CAN NOW DONATE DIRECTLY TO FLYSPEC AND
INCLUDE GIFT AID ON WWW.WOCUK.ORG
And leave Comment to be given to FlySpec
WE NEED YOUR HELP EVERY DONATION MAKES A
DIFFERENCE