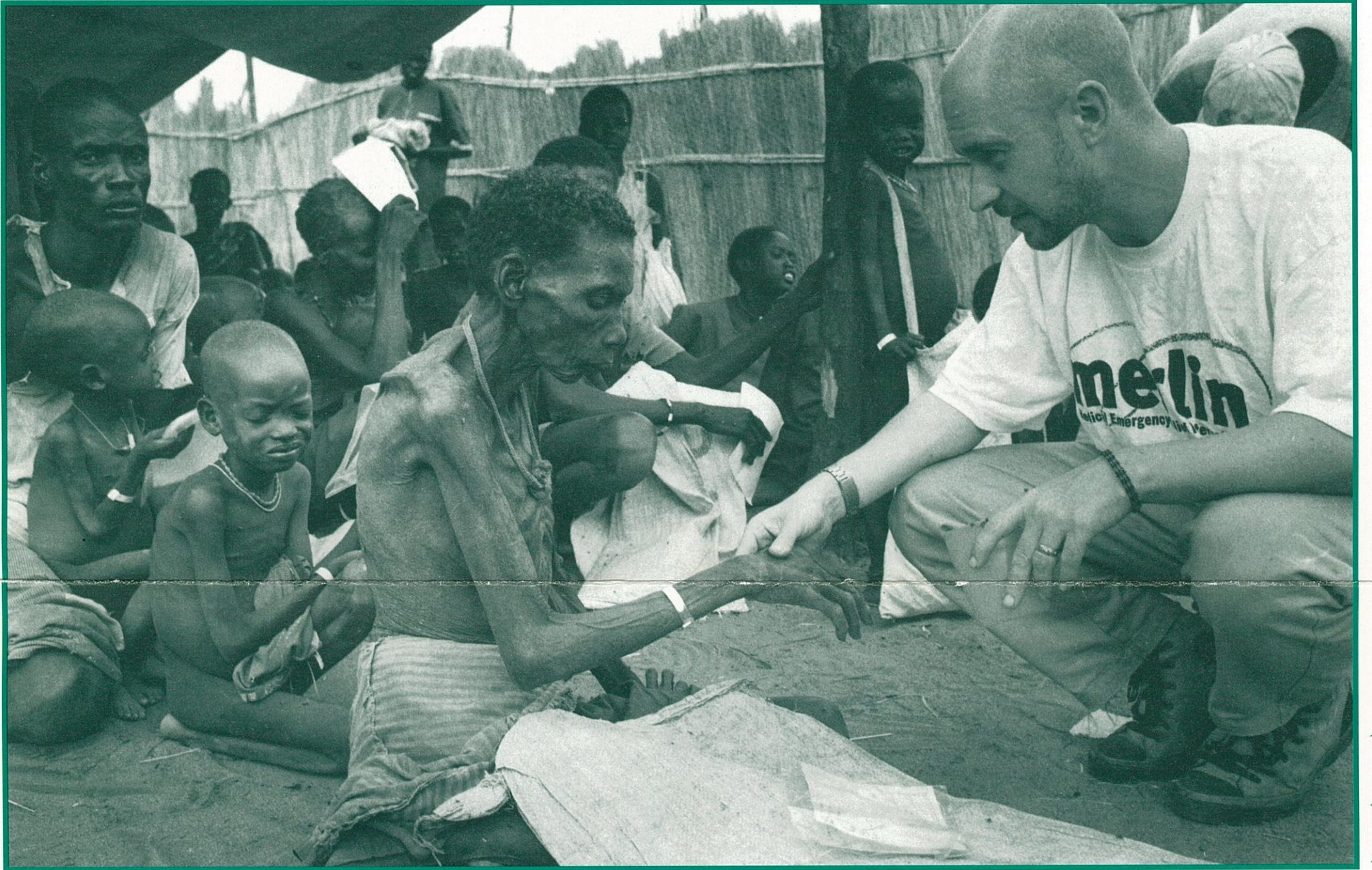


Keeping you in touch with MERLIN around the world

# The touch of hope



(Picture: Jenny Matthews)

## SUDAN

"It is a catastrophe beyond anyone's imagination," said Dr Bennett. "I have never seen anything like this."

Rob Bennett (pictured above) has spent the past two months in the famine lands of Sudan, setting up a feeding centre. He has volunteered with MERLIN in many of the world's troublespots, but what he has encountered here is worse than what he found in the bombed-out ruins of Chechnya or the refugee camps of Sierra Leone.

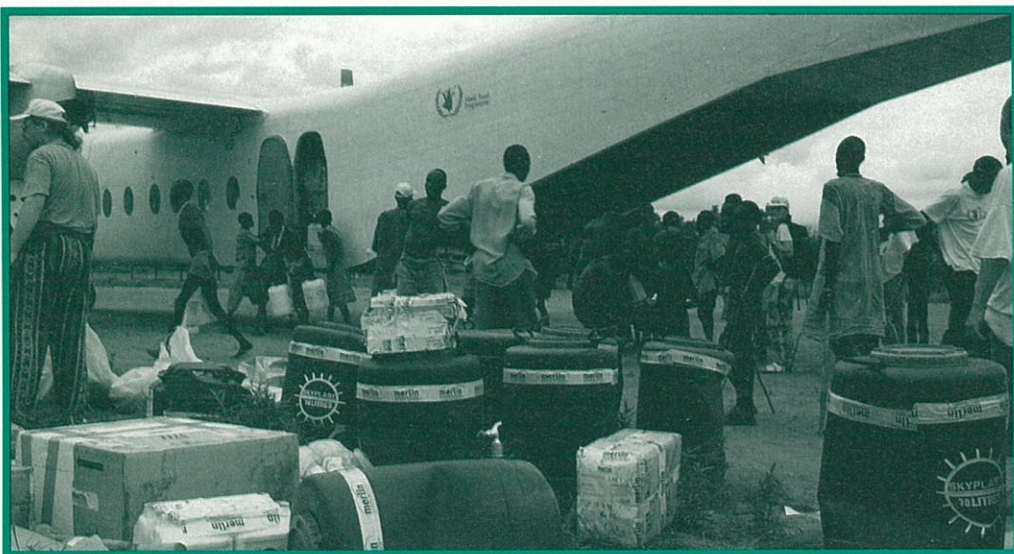
"The children here are in the worst state I've ever seen," he says. "They are living on leaves, roots and berries. If food doesn't reach them, there is no doubt that many will die."

"Some families have left everything and are living in the open under trees, without shelter, clothing or food. Seventy-five per cent of the children I surveyed were malnourished. In this vulnerable condition, they are catching malaria, diarrhoea, respiratory infections – all of which can be major killers if you are weak."

Dr Bennett, with a team of MERLIN's most experienced aid workers, has set up supplementary and therapeutic feeding centres and a tent clinic in the remote area of Adet, in Bahr el Ghazal province. Their aim is to provide emergency nourishment, and to handle the secondary problem of diseases which could kill as many as the hunger itself.

The area is so remote that supplies and personnel must be flown in, using an airstrip of raw earth which is often rained out. Villagers are widely scattered and difficult to reach.

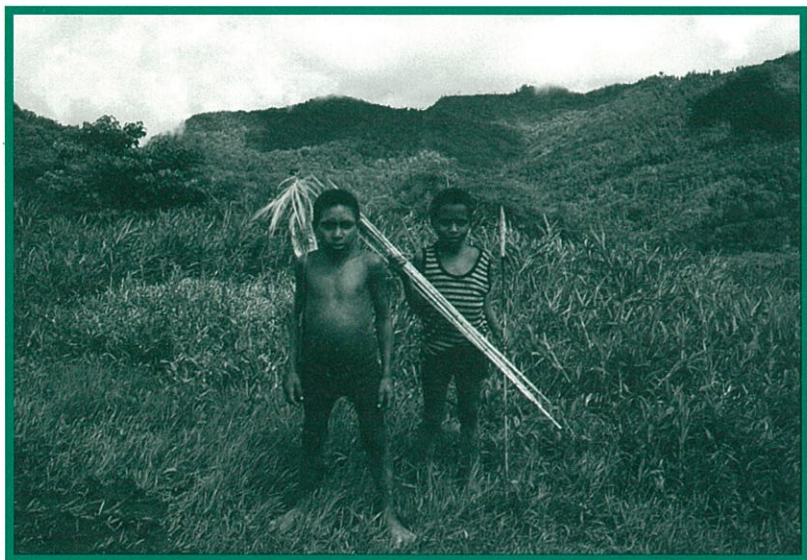
"These people," concludes Dr Bennett, "are entirely dependent on aid to survive."



(Picture: Pete Crawford)



# Letter from the field



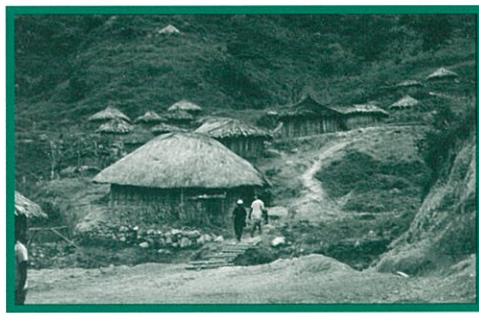
*"A world  
away from  
my daily  
life"*

diarrhoeal disease and respiratory infections like pneumonia are common killers. These people are used to living with hardship, but when disaster strikes, as it did with El Nino, their normal coping mechanisms break down.

MERLIN is working with the Indonesian Ministry of Health to develop their capacity to cope with disasters and to prepare for outbreaks of disease.

When I first arrived here, the weather was almost perfect – warm and sunny days, with cool nights. I say 'almost'

because we were just about to be hit by the rainy season. This brought torrential rainstorms, which led to severe floods and landslides. And now there are fears that La Nina, the "sister" of El Nino, will bring further devastating rains. This, coupled with the real threat of earthquakes, makes the mountain villages highly vulnerable to disease,



as if they haven't got enough problems with widespread malaria and debilitating malnutrition.

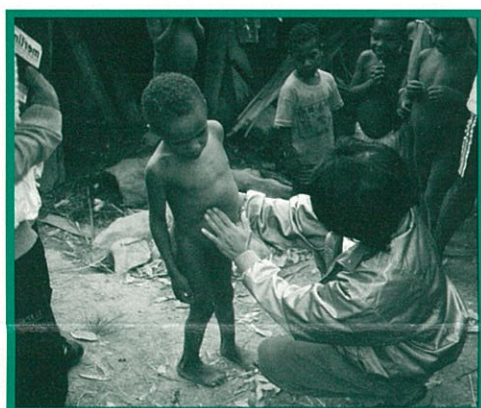
My job here is to set up the programme headquarters and base-house, and meet local and national authorities about our programmes. I have to fly back and forth to Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, to do this and to purchase necessities for the office which I can't get locally. That means everything from power generators and A4 paper to bicycles and mopeds – our main mode of transport. I'm hoping to get a water boiler for our "bathroom" – a squat hole in the ground and a bucket shower – so we can have the occasional hot water treat! But as this too will have to be flown in from the capital, we'll have to suffer the freezing bucket shower for a while longer.

But our little problems are nothing compared to the problems of tribal peoples here, for whom life has always been difficult. Their traditional way of life is being challenged again and again by changing weather patterns, by economic hardship and by encroaching disease. But they are determined to make Irian Jaya better able to cope with the future. I'm lucky to have the opportunity to work with these people and, with MERLIN, to be the support they need to help them find their feet.

## INDONESIA

**Michelle Ingham travelled to the remote highlands of Irian Jaya to set up MERLIN's first programme in Indonesia. In the past year, Irian Jaya has been ravaged by the weather phenomenon El Nino, bringing devastating drought, famine and disease. MERLIN is helping the people of Irian Jaya to prepare for future natural disasters, by reinforcing the capacity of local health services.**

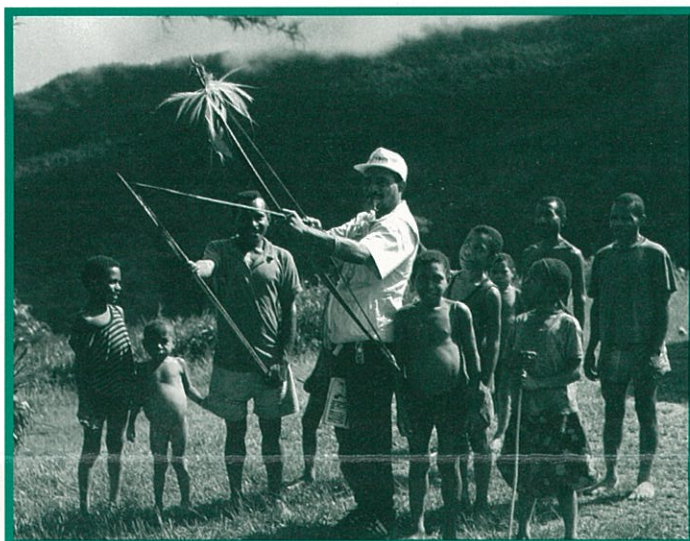
*(Pictures by Tim Healing)*



Irian Jaya, the most easterly province of Indonesia, is a world away from my daily life in London. It's also very difficult to get to: 17 hours' flight to Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, followed by 9 hours to the Irian Jayan capital of Jayapura; finally, 1 hour in a tiny four-seater Cessna flying over dense jungle to Wamena, the mountain valley town where MERLIN is based. That makes 27 hours of flying end to end – or rather, 3 days travelling if all connections are made, without added delays brought by bad weather, cancellations, fuel shortages...

The journey is well worth the effort. Wamena is stunning. Surrounded by huge mountains, it's an idyllic, if remote, base for MERLIN to access people who are even more isolated further into the highlands. The population is made up of local Irianese and a mix of peoples from other islands. Many locals wear traditional clothes and adornments. For women, this is a grass skirt. For men, it's a penis gourd – which I can't say I've seen in London.

Irian Jaya is rich in precious minerals and metals, and provides a large proportion of Indonesia's wealth. But the majority of people are poor and have little access to healthcare, mainly due to the difficult terrain. Malaria,



## Emergency relief worldwide

### June

**London:** MERLIN holds an exhibition at the House of Commons to publicise the importance of emergency aid. Sponsored by Dennis Turner MP, the exhibition is visited by Rt Hon Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development, and Rosie Boycott, Editor of the Express newspaper, among others.

**Sierra Leone:** MERLIN conducts a large-scale nutritional survey in Kenema district. Over 80 local people receive training to assist MERLIN staff in surveying the nutritional status of local families and displaced people. As a result, MERLIN expands support to health centres in the most severely war-affected areas, and sets up a massive emergency feeding centre with the capacity to care for 400 severely malnourished children. Meanwhile, over 1,000 children are benefiting from supplementary feeding.

**London:** The National Lottery Charities Board awards MERLIN £433,000 from 1999 to train doctors, nurses and other volunteers for overseas aid missions. MERLIN Chief Executive Alastair Troup says: "This grant will help save lives directly. The more training we can give our volunteers in advance, the more lives they can save when disaster strikes."

**Indonesia:** MERLIN's medical team reaches the remote highlands of Irian Jaya, where people have suffered months of famine and floods. Tribal people living deep in the mountains and forests are at risk from epidemics of diseases such as malaria and cholera, following the havoc wreaked by the El Nino weather phenomenon.

**London:** MERLIN runs its first project support course for non-medical field staff including administrators and logisticians. Designed to guarantee the quality of emergency

medical relief work, these residential courses will cover issues such as programme security and equipment maintenance. They are funded by Glaxo Wellcome plc and run jointly with RedR. The courses will run throughout 1999.

### July

**Sudan:** The international aid community ask for MERLIN's help in responding to the famine in southern Sudan.



MERLIN receives £826,000 from the British Government to set up feeding centres in the isolated region of Adet in northern Bahr el Ghazal, where an estimated 75% of children under five are suffering from malnutrition.

### August

**London:** A TV documentary series "Medicine Women" on BBC1 follows MERLIN nurse Ailsa Denney to war-torn Congo Brazzaville, where she joins a campaign to vaccinate 200,000 children against measles. The programme highlights the challenges Ailsa faces

before she returns home to marry fellow aid worker Peter Sinclair. (Videos available on loan.)

**Siberia:** The British Government announces funding of £573,000 for MERLIN's pioneering tuberculosis control programme in Siberia. The funds will support the programme for two years, and pay to promote its findings as a pilot for TB control throughout Russia.

**Afghanistan:** Following the second earthquake this year, MERLIN volunteers co-ordinated the international medical relief operation in June and July. Survivors were at risk from dysentery, malnutrition and disease in the freezing, barren mountains. (Photo: Tony Taylor)

**Afghanistan:** The United States launches four missile attacks on Afghanistan in response to the US Embassy bombings in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, and aid workers throughout the country are evacuated. Local staff continue to run MERLIN's three programmes.

**Russia:** At an international tuberculosis conference in Moscow, MERLIN and partner organisations warn of the global threat from multidrug resistant TB. MERLIN's TB expert Dr Nick Banatvala tells the conference that this strain

of TB – "Ebola with wings" – is flourishing in Russia's cash-starved health system.

**Sudan:** MERLIN completes the first stage of its ground-breaking programme to combat sleeping sickness in south west Sudan. The next stage is to introduce similar high-tech traps to catch tsetse flies – which spread the deadly disease – into other areas of this war-torn country, and over the border into neighbouring countries affected by the epidemic.

### September

**Democratic Republic of Congo:** A bitter and bloody war involving many surrounding countries erupts along the Rwandan border. As the fighting intensifies, international agencies are forced to pull out of the country. MERLIN continues to monitor the situation and will return as soon as the security situation allows.

**Tajikistan:** Five epidemics of deadly typhoid fever hit Khatlon region in the south. MERLIN combats these and further epidemics of malaria by distributing drugs and laboratory equipment to affected areas. An outbreak of anthrax in and around the border with Afghanistan causes international concern. MERLIN's team investigates.

**Kenya:** MERLIN's malaria campaign is successfully completed, with over 20,000 bednets distributed throughout Wajir district in the north. A mass measles vaccination of over 30,000 children under 12 is also completed. MERLIN continues to provide primary health care to nomadic tribes by using mobile clinics.

**Liberia:** In response to a Yellow fever outbreak in Nimba county, MERLIN joins UNICEF and the Liberian Government in a mass vaccination programme to protect 35,000 people against the deadly disease.



# Letter from the field

## A drive on the wild side

Words by Paul Foreman  
Pictures by Rob Bennett

### LIBERIA

Early August and the rainy season has arrived at last. It rains all the time. Sometimes just a little, sometimes in floods, but it is always wet. The trees are constantly dripping and the red earth road has turned to tomato soup.

The rain water has nowhere to go; it pours off the corrugated tin roofs and forms small rivers which join to gush down the roads. This makes travelling a constant challenge. Our most important travel accessory is the winch, to haul MERLIN jeeps out of the deepest mud holes. This is a much hated job. The mud hides parasites and

Leonian refugees. The concentration of people in such a wet tropical climate causes major health problems. At various times, this area has been called the malaria belt, the cholera belt or, more simply, the White Man's Grave. Most illness – dysentery, diarrhoea, malnutrition, measles, cholera – is associated with poor nutrition, sanitation and health care. But one of our biggest problems is the battle against malaria.

One of the deadliest complications of malaria – cerebral malaria – is common here. In this condition, blood vessels in the brain become blocked by parasites carried by female mosquitoes. The long-term effect of constant exposure to this parasite can be organ failure and death. Many children die before their first birthday.

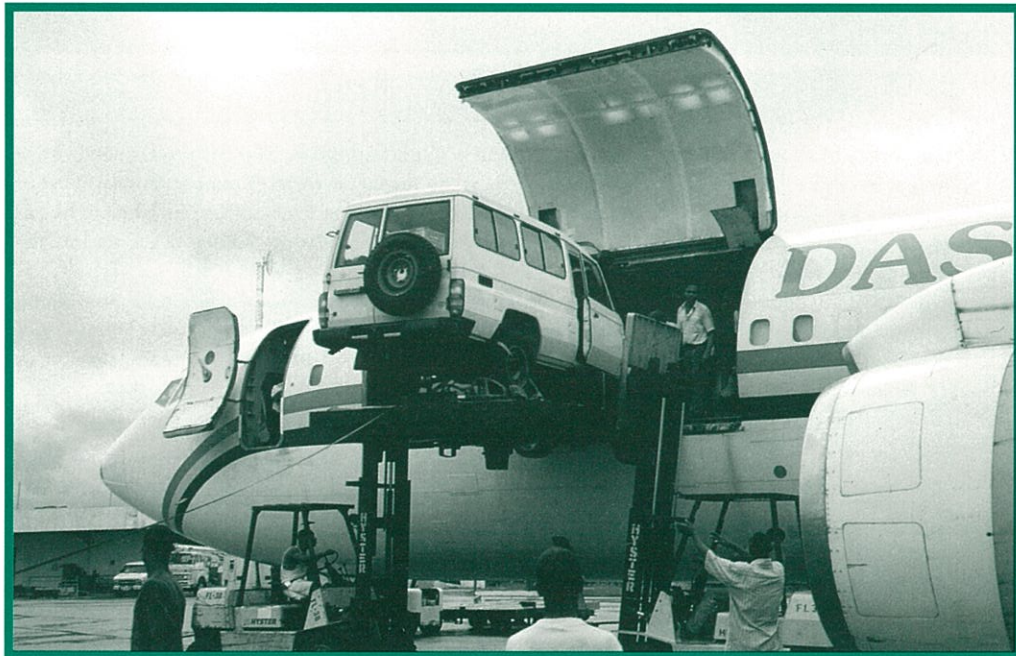
Back to transport problems. Every puddle, dip, bend and mudhole is a potential trap, and large trucks and jeeps alike get stuck with alarming frequency. A good mud

hole is a great asset to a small village. Children patrol the stuck vehicles selling bananas, peanuts and roasted corn. The women sell cooked food and do washing and mending for the truck drivers. Boys and men sit by and wait for vehicles to get stuck, so they can negotiate a price for assistance. Negotiations can take hours, while women and children sell their wares. In order to achieve some cost recovery, the commercial vehicles, stuck up to their door sills in mud, open their cargoes and set up shop. Among all this chaos, it is my job to get teams of

diseases which can turn legs into biological battlefields. You hope that disturbed snakes and scorpions run away from you, not towards you. And that as you pass the winch hook round the trunk of the tree, the creatures you disturb are more frightened of you than vice versa. You hope that when two and a half tonnes of stranded vehicle takes the strain the tree stands firm, that the cable stays fixed to the tree, that the cable doesn't break, that the mud doesn't let go of the car too suddenly, sending you backwards into the mud or through a loop of winding steel.

Transport is always a difficult issue. One of my main jobs is to ensure the MERLIN vehicles remain in a fit condition to travel these roads on a daily basis. Kolahun district has the only remaining road which connects Liberia and Sierra Leone, and is the main route for refugees fleeing the war over the border in Sierra Leone. All the other roads have had their bridges destroyed, and until the war ends in Sierra Leone there will be no incentive to repair them. The MERLIN clinics along this route serve the local and refugee populations together, providing the only health care for many towns and villages as well as for the refugee camps. The dividing line between good health and sickness, between life and death, is much finer here in Africa.

Our compound is on the edge of town, next to the district hospital. On the other side of the valley is a camp which is home to 10,000 Sierra



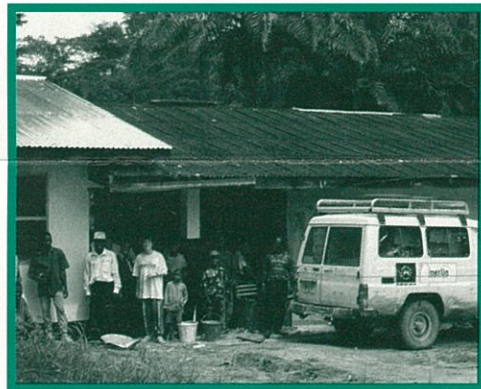
medics to and from our clinics and hospitals.

Cars are not a common sight in Liberia these days. In some remote villages, ours may be the only vehicle that people see from one month to the next. It's impossible to enter a village without drawing a crowd. To ride in a car is an unattainable luxury for the vast majority of Liberians. This was not always so. In the 1980s, before the economic collapse that led to the war years, car ownership was common among the professional classes. Nowadays, only the international agencies and one or two exalted individuals own cars. Everyone else has to walk.

One Liberian doctor lives six hours walk from the MERLIN clinic where he works. He "commutes" to work every Friday and Monday on foot. One MERLIN security watchman lives two hours walk from his post. He works six 12-hour shifts per week. He walks to and from work in the dark in both directions, and is always on time.

It is important for me as the official representative of MERLIN in the area to meet with all the local dignitaries. The Paramount Chief of Kolahun district describes to me the plight of his people as a result of seven years of war. As well as brutal killings and mutilations by the various militias which plagued the area, Kolahun was repeatedly looted. As each successive army marched through, they took with them all they could carry. Kolahun town was electrified before the war, but every piece of copper wire, every switch and socket, every light fitting, has been looted. There were telephones before the war, but the only evidence left is one or two telegraph poles which have escaped the attentions of people searching for wood.

The Chief described how most of his people fled through the bush into Guinea to escape the slaughter. There was no option but to leave – every man, woman and child was a target. Children were used as porters and servants. Boys and young men were forced to become soldiers, or murdered. Girls and young women were enslaved and then murdered. Only the very old were left unharmed: but without their families to care for them, they starved to death. So entire communities became refugees, fleeing back and forth between Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia to avoid the warring factions, who only seemed to attack the civilians and rarely actually fought each



other. Throughout these seven years of flight, the only possessions the Chief's people were able to keep hold of were those which the women were able to carry on their heads.

Back on the roads, a MERLIN jeep pushes through the floods to a clinic about 60 kilometers from Kolahun town. Water cascades down from the hills, cutting deep gullies at the side of the roads. Huge lakes of mud form in the hollows. The journey would normally only take seven or eight hours. But now it could take two days or even longer. Soon the rainy season will give way to the eight-month dry season. Roll on winter.

## Global appeal on tuberculosis

### SIBERIA

As Russia faces its bleakest winter in decades, medical agencies are warning that the crisis may cause an explosion of drug-resistant tuberculosis which could spread worldwide.

Speaking from Moscow, MERLIN's Dr Nicholas Banatvala said: "Current levels of drug-resistant tuberculosis in Russia are alarming and the economic crisis will exacerbate this problem many times over. It is only a matter of time before this spreads to become a daily reality in other countries worldwide.

"In our view," he added, "this local disaster has reached the proportions of a public health threat on a global scale."

Dr Banatvala was speaking at the launch of a global appeal for \$100 million to control TB in Russia. The appeal was issued jointly by the three

Left: A TB patient at MERLIN's project in Tomsk, Siberia

international agencies leading the fight against TB in Russia: MERLIN, MSF and New York's Public Health Research Institute.

Dr Banatvala explained: "The minimum cost for a Russia-wide programme against multidrug-resistant TB is \$100 million. This cost is small in comparison with the loss of life and economic damage on a global scale that can happen if drug-resistant TB in Russia is not addressed today. Already, TB is the leading cause of death among adults in the world.

"The current Russian crisis will deplete already strained resources for public medicine. The resulting shortage of anti-TB drugs will inevitably lead to a massive practice of substandard treatment of TB patients, allowing the TB bacterium to develop resistance to drugs."

MERLIN has pioneered the use of modern TB treatments in Russia, in a project which has been accepted by Moscow as a nationwide pilot.

### News Flash

Calling all internet surfers... We have just launched our website full of the latest news and views from MERLIN – our programmes, our volunteers, medical articles, and lots more. Why not catch MERLIN at <http://www.merlin.org.uk> and see for yourself what's happening worldwide.

Congrats – to volunteers Megan Thomas and Daniel Koltzof, who married on 16 October, a year after meeting on MERLIN missions in the Former Soviet Union. Salad days for the Kiwi...

RESPONSE is published quarterly by MERLIN, a British medical charity which provides emergency medical care in disasters worldwide.  
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<http://www.merlin.org.uk> Reg charity 1016607.





# Supporters' News

## Get sponsored!

MERLIN supporters have done some pretty spectacular things to raise money for our work, but you don't have to be a daredevil to join in.

A huge variety of sponsored events have taken place in support of MERLIN – and the proceeds have been warmly welcomed. Sponsored events can be one of the most fun ways of raising money for your favourite charity, as well as one of the most successful. Events can range from coffee mornings to black-tie dinners, and from sports events to world-record attempts. Wackier ideas for sponsored events include making a mile of 10ps and holding chocolate-eating competitions!

We know that some people are looking for that daredevil experience, the chance to do something really challenging or crazy in the name of charity. A number of people run in the London Marathon in support of MERLIN each year – we are hoping for more than 20 in 1999. Recently, Hugh Crossley ran across the Sahara, while Paul Handley and Jon Lees have just finished a 2,000 mile bike ride across Asia.

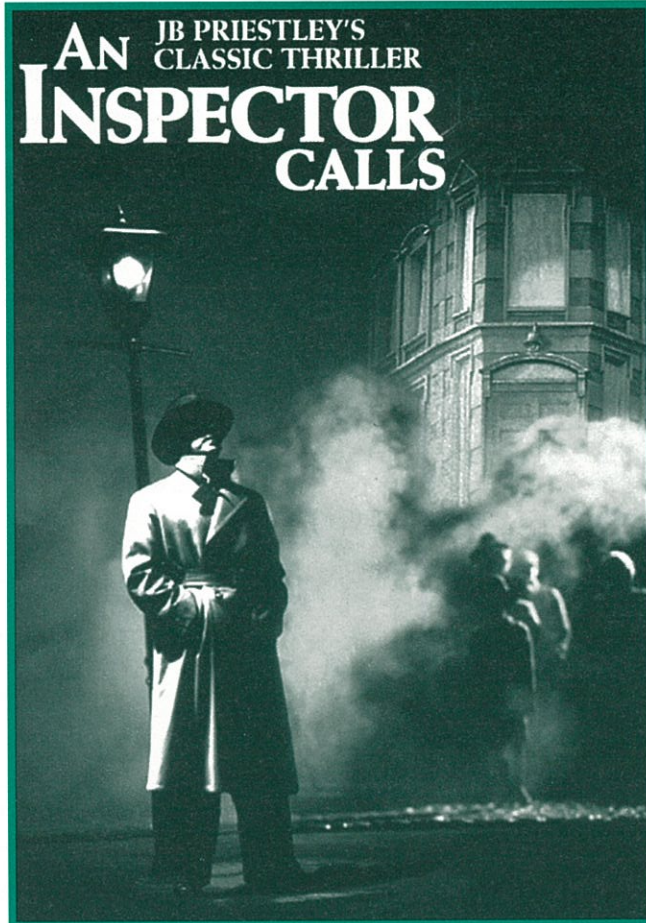
You now have the opportunity of a free jump from a plane in support of MERLIN. We'll even supply a parachute. If you can guarantee to raise £300 for our work, we will arrange the jump for you.

For further details on these ideas – or your own – please contact Marcel Berenblut on 0171 487 2505.

## Christmas is coming...

Enclosed with this copy of RESPONSE is an order form giving details of MERLIN's Christmas cards. This is a chance to buy quality Christmas cards, from as little as 35p per card, while supporting MERLIN's work. Every card you buy means valuable funds for our work overseas. For extra copies of the order form, please contact Marcel Berenblut on 0171 487 2505, or return the coupon below.

(Pictured left: "Colombe Bleue" Christmas card by Pablo Picasso)



## ROLL UP, ROLL UP

MERLIN teams up with the bright lights of theatreland for a special performance of 'An Inspector Calls' by JB Priestley on 12 November. PW Productions and Stoll Moss Theatres have kindly promised to give us half the price of every ticket for this evening that is bought from MERLIN.

Why not join the thousands of people who have been gripped by the twists and turns of this classic thriller over the five years that it has been running in London's West End? Watch a well-known cast rip uneasy truths from the passions of wartime. The play's inventive set and dramatic music only add to its intriguing appeal. It has been acclaimed as 'stunning', 'intoxicating' and 'theatrically imaginative' by reviewers.

To enjoy a night out at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday 12 November, and help MERLIN at the same time, call our special box office number on 0171 494 5085, quoting 'PDM'. A wide range of seat prices are available.

MERLIN would like to thank the following supporters: Corporates and Trusts: Alchemy Trust, Ashden Trust, Ashworth Trust, Capital International Group, De La Rue Charitable Trust, Economist Newspaper Ltd, John Ellerman Foundation, JAR Charitable Trust, Ian Karten Charitable Trust, Keymed Ltd, Lonely Planet, James M McNab Trust, E M MacAndrew Trust, News International plc, Thomas Sivewright Catto Charitable Trust, Verdon Smith Charitable Trust. Individuals: Sam Alpass, Malcolm Arthur, Ann-Marie Bach, David Barran, Diana Barran, Alastair Bingham, Jim F Crawford, Farouk Eshpari, David Ford, Maisie Freeman, Paul Gazzard, Barbara Handley, Paul Jackson, Mohammed Khan, Jean Lees, GN Martel, Rita Medway, Eric Newby, Angus Pelham Burn, G Perry, Elizabeth Passey, Mark Piggott, W Qureshi, K Roberts, Andree Wilson. Organisations: Sessay Church of England Primary School, The Queen's College. In addition, we have received much-needed computer equipment from IBI International Plc, C Hoare & Co, Cavendish Computers.

# When is an ill octopus worth £7?

Sounds like a bad joke? It may be, but to MERLIN, it's very serious. For if you choose to give MERLIN £6 (sick squid... geddit?) it can actually be worth £7.79 to us – thanks to the generosity of the taxman.

If you are a British taxpayer, you can give donations to charity which the taxman will then top up. How much the taxman adds will depend on what tax rate you normally pay. Have a look at the table below.

It costs you	MERLIN receives
£6.00	£7.79
£12.00	£15.58
£20.00	£25.97
£50.00	£64.93
£77.00	£100.00
£100.00	£129.83
£250.00	£324.58

\*(These figures apply if you pay Basic Rate taxes of 23%. If you pay tax at the higher rate of 40%, your donation could be worth even more.)

There are three ways of giving money to MERLIN which allow you to benefit from this scheme: Give As You Earn, Covenants, and Gift Aid.

### Give As You Earn

You can give MERLIN up to £100 a month on this scheme, whereby money is taken straight from your salary. You can change or stop your giving at any time, by giving a month's notice. For more details, please tick the box on the form below.

### Covenants

These are very simple, despite the Victorian name! There are two types:

#### 1. Ordinary covenant

Minimum amount: £12 per year for at least four years.

Details: You can pay annually, quarterly or monthly.

#### 2. Deposit covenant

Minimum amount: £50.

Details: Paid as a single gift.

If you would like more information about covenants, please tick the box on the form below.

### Gift Aid

If you make a single donation in excess of £250,

you can "Gift Aid" it. The advantage of this scheme is that it makes it easier for the giver – the form can be completed after the donation has been processed by MERLIN. Your £250 can be worth as much as £325.

If you would like more information about Gift Aid, please tick the box on the form below.

### Other options

As well as these three options, another way to beat the taxman is to make a legacy to MERLIN. None of us like to think about it too much, but the two certainties in life are death and taxes. By remembering MERLIN in your will, you can make donations that are exempt from tax and duties, and continue helping people after you have passed away.

If you would like more information about legacies, please tick the box in the form below.

All these methods of donating are well worth considering, for they make your generous contributions worth even more.

If you'd like to ask any questions about these schemes, call Marcel Berenblut on 0171 487 2505.

## Where in the world?

### VOLUNTEERS IN THE FIELD (as at 22.9.98)

**Afghanistan** Simon Richards, Alistair Ward, Matthew Youngs **Indonesia** Michelle Ingham, Debra Hartley, Lotte Hogberg **Kenya** Annette Alcock, Pippa Alston, Peter Crawford, Kamar Goddard, Yves Horent, Susan Lillicrap **Liberia** Marianne Boillat, Frances Bourne, Isabelle Claes, Sue Cutter, Paul Foreman, Lisa Hardy, Mary Houldsworth, Joseph Inganji, Jane Shenton, Stuart Shepherd, Sue Smith, Alex Swain, Ella Truscott **Russia** Jerry Cooper **Sierra Leone** Francoise Briant, Rupert Gill, Vicky Lack, Louise Moore, Nzengi Mutota, Monica Nolan, Glyn Taylor **Sudan** Rob Bennett, John Cobley, Katie Cuming, Richard Corbett, Vince Diamond, Susan Hofman, Nick Ireland, Esther Kurz, Marie McGrath, Margaret McSherry, Geraldine McWeeney, Miranda Odam, Christophe Petit, Annie Sewell **Tajikistan** Osman Osman, Tessa van den Akker, Tim O'Shea, Samantha Perkins **JUST RETURNED FROM THE FIELD** **Afghanistan** Jim Campbell, Alison Day, Ian Dowling, Jane Drapkin, Panna Erasmus, Noreen Gilhespie, Sean Keogh, Maria Kirwan, Heather Lomas, Pat Phipps, Catherine Plumridge, Valerie Powell, Teresa McCreery, Kathleen Skinner, Philip Upson, Caroline Ward **Albania** Vince Diamond, Catherine Eldridge, Teresa Keefe, Peter Spink **Democratic Republic of Congo** Francoise Briant, Rebecca Brown, Jonathan Campbell, Francois Declerck, Christiane Steinert, Olivier Wszolek **Indonesia** Jean-Bernard Bouvier, Sarah Hall **Kenya** Rob Bennett, Niall O'Keefe, Sarah Smith **Liberia** Simon Arthy, Katie Attfield, Shaun Bickley, Joe Bourne, Rachel Lavy, Pete Medway **Russia** Paul Kitchener **Sierra Leone** Andy Featherstone, Brian Ingle **Sudan** Edith Milham, Enok Mpanga, Sara Nam, Uzo Okoli, Alistair Shields, Yvonne Westerman **Tajikistan** Bob Kinnear, Paula Nawrocki, Barbara Pearcy, Jamie Richardson, Rob Stevens, Simon Taylor

To volunteer with MERLIN  
call 0171 487 2505

### I want to help MERLIN by enclosing a donation for –

☐ £20 ☐ £50 ☐ £100 ☐ £250\* ☐ Other £ \_\_\_\_\_

\*(Donations of £250 or more could be worth 30% extra – see the article above)

☐ I enclose a cheque to 'MERLIN' for £ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please debit my Visa/Mastercard for £ \_\_\_\_\_  
Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_\_\_\_

### I want to make my donations go further –

- ☐ Please send me information about Gift Aid.  
☐ Please send me information about covenants.  
☐ Please send me information about making a legacy pledge.

### I want to receive information on sponsored events –

- ☐ Please send me information about organising fundraising events.  
☐ Please send me information about running marathons.  
☐ Please send me information about parachute jumps.

I want to receive \_\_\_\_\_ corporate information packs to give to my employer.

I want to receive \_\_\_\_\_ copies of MERLIN's Christmas cards order form.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this coupon to: MERLIN, 14 David Mews, Porter Street, London W1M 1HW, UK. Registered charity number 1016607.

NL/A98