



# European Burn Association

## BURN CAMP COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 7

SPRING 2011

### THE COMMITTEE

#### Chairperson:

Mona E. Lunke,

Nurse – Norway

#### Vice Chairperson:

Anita Boekelaar,

aftercare nurse –  
the Netherlands

#### Committee members:

Carolyn Cripps, O.B.E.

Charity advisor -U.K.

Katarina Åkesson,

ICU nurse – Sweden

Marinke Plantinga,

Physiotherapist -

The Netherlands

### News from the BCC

Since the congress in The Hague is coming closer , the BCC is busy with the preparations. We are glad to announce that 3 excellent presentations will be held during the Burn Camp Session, on Friday morning 11.00 am, after the Guest Lecture by Corinne Reynders from Belgium.

The subjects are:

- **The start of a program for burn survivors between 16 and 25 years old: a questionnaire.**
- **Burn camps in the Netherlands**
- **Impact of paediatric burn camps: companionship and body image as important outcome parameters.**



During the business meeting of the BCC we will introduce the new CD, "How to organise burn camps, clubs and other support programmes for burn survivors". As we already announced in the autumn-newsletter, you'll find more information about activities for adults. The CD will be given to all interested people at our session.

**The PAM committee is looking for new members— see page 5.**

More information on the congress can be found on: [www.eba2011.org](http://www.eba2011.org) . We hope to meet many of you during the congress!

In this newsletter you find articles about activities in Germany. First we start with the story of a small boy who got burned, written by his parents. In the period of aftercare he got in touch with Paulinchen, a German organisation for children with burns. We learn more about their yearly weekend. Another organisation, especially for adults is Cicatrix. If you check out their web-site [www.cicatrix.de](http://www.cicatrix.de) they have an



online translator attached at the top which can be used for English , Dutch and other languages.

You also find a letter of the chairman of the IABC, the (big!) sister-organisation in America, and information about the congress.



## The story of Colin (written by his parents)

On the 23rd of May 2010 the life of seven year old Colin Lensing and his family changed dramatically. One afternoon, Colin went to play in the fields near his parents' house in Germany. No one knew however, that he had taken a lighter with him and had hidden it under his t-shirt. In doing so, lighter fluid had leaked out of the lighter and into the fabric of his t-shirt.

When Colin arrived at the field, he tried to light the lighter. When the lighter ignited, flames immediately caught his clothing.

Colin's father heard him screaming and ran up to him. When he saw his son, the top half of his t-shirt was already completely incinerated. His father put out the remainder of the flames on Colin's body with his bare hands and tore the clothes of his skin.

In the meantime, a neighbour who had seen the accident had called for ambulance, which arrived five minutes later at the scene.

When the ambulance doctors saw the state of the injury of the boy, they immediately called for a trauma helicopter. The nearest helicopter base in this region is Nijmegen in the Netherlands. The Dutch doctor on call decided that Colin needed to be taken to the burn unit of the Red Cross Hospital (Rode Kruis Ziekenhuis) in Beverwijk, also in the Netherlands.



The parents attended a seminar of Paulinchen e. V. in Rummsberg near Nürnberg from 17 till 19 September 2010. The manager of the plastic surgeon unit from Aachen and patron of Paulinchen e.V., mr. Prof. Dr. Dr. N. Pallua, was responsible for the medical segment of the seminar. During this seminar, specialists were able to inform the parents, parents could exchange their stories and Colin came into contact with other burn survivors.

During this weekend, the children were taken into day-care, so that the parents could attend the seminar and lectures by themselves.



After numerous operations performed by dr. Vloemans and his staff Colin was released from hospital on July 15 2010. Colin's mother was at the hospital during his entire admittance. She stayed at the Kiwanis home. Both Colin and his parents were taken care of excellently by the staff of the RKZ.

Colin went back to school on August 30<sup>th</sup> 2010. Kitty, the aftercare nurse of RKZ Hospital Beverwijk, accompanied him and explained to his fellow schoolmates what had happened to Colin and how they could best handle Colin and his scars. Nurse Kitty and Colin's parents came into contact with Paulinchen e. V., an initiative created for children with burn injuries in Germany, and were overjoyed with the information they received from this organization.

In Germany people have to put in a lot of effort finding information about care, financial details and other specific needs. No help or pointers are given at all.

Colin's paediatric doctor prescribes physiotherapy three times per week, which does him a lot of good. He also undergoes magnet field therapy.

Colin is now being treated by dr. Rohrbach, plastic and hand surgeon of the Bergmannsheil und Kinderklinik in Gelsenkirchen-Buer, Germany. Colin's first reconstructive plastic surgery to his right shoulder and left armpit has been performed on October 18<sup>th</sup> 2010.

Colin is doing fine now!



### Annual Burn Camps for Children

by Paulinchen – Initiative for Young Burn Victims

Colin was one of 20 children and teenagers who took part in the 17<sup>th</sup> Paulinchen burn camp near Nuremberg, Germany in September 2010. After a five hour drive from his home near Gelsenkirchen, Colin and his parents arrived at the camp. Colin was tired from the journey but looked forward to meeting other children his age who had suffered similar injuries.

Since 1996, Paulinchen has been organising annual burn camps for children aged 0-18 and their families. During the three-day event, a team of medical and psychological experts help participants to process and overcome the trauma of their accident. Families have the opportunity to ask questions, exchange experiences and gain confidence for future therapies. Parents can choose to attend various workshops and presentations, such as on compression clothing, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and correctional surgery. Meanwhile the children work on overcoming their trauma in a playful way with the guidance and support of remedial teachers. Participants are also given the opportunity to attend one-on-one sessions with a renowned surgeon, psychologist, pastor, occupational therapist or physiotherapist.

One of the highlights of the camp is a visit to an indoor swimming pool, which is open exclusively to Paulinchen burn camp participants during this time. For many, this is the first time back in their swim suits after the accident, and apart from a lot of fun, it gives the children a great boost of confidence. Unfortunately, Colin could not take part in the swimming event last year as his wounds had not yet fully healed.

At the end of the burn camp, all participants come together to let balloons fly. Most of the children attach a little card to their balloon with messages and wishes for the future.

Through Paulinchen's large network of experts, including specialist surgeons, hospitals, rehabilitation centres, psychologists, and therapists in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, Colin and his family were put in touch with the necessary specialists near his home for his remaining therapies. Colin told us he is already looking forward to next year's burn camp, and particularly to visiting the swimming pool, where he will hopefully be able to enjoy a swim with his new friends.

Paulinchen – Initiative for Young Burn Victims is a German NGO which gives advice to families with burn injured children at any stage after the accident. With a nationwide free hotline every question can be answered very individually. Paulinchen's aim is to find the best possible and most suitable care for each child. In order to reduce the number of accidents nationwide, Paulinchen also runs various prevention campaigns to warn about the risks of hot liquids and the dangers of open fire, such as during a BBQ.

The "Aktion Paulinchen" campaign, a booklet with advice for young families, currently reaches every second family with a newborn child in Germany.

On 7 December 2010, Paulinchen held the first ever nationwide *Day of the Burn Injured Child* with various events across Germany. Activities included seminars on burn injuries in hospitals and the hand out of information leaflets in kindergartens. Paulinchen received overwhelming feedback from medical professionals as well as the general public. Many of the events were covered by local and national media.

For 2011, the *Day of the Burn Injured Child* has been selected as one of the '365 Landmarks in the Land of Ideas 2011', a contest under the patronage of the German President. This Award is presented to the most innovative ideas in Germany for each year. The *Day of the Burn Injured Child* will be recurring annual event.



## LETTER FROM THE IABC

Hello EBA,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you are having great success with each of your burn camp programs. I wanted to explain to you a bit more about the International Association of Burn Camps (IABC) organization. As many of you know the IABC has been involved for many years in supporting burn camps throughout North America. This began over ten years ago with the thought that a burn specific organization for burn camp programs could assist camps with building their programs. With 32 member camps now belonging to the IABC we have found this to be a success. Camps from Peru to Canada, and California to Europe have believed in our organization.

We have been able to establish more growth over the last few years as we share our vision and directions. I would ask each of you to consider what organizations you belong to currently? Many people join different groups because of similar interests, or ideas. You belong to the EBA because of how you unite about burn care similar to our American Burn Association. We need these organization to keep us fresh and innovative! Camps throughout the world have common interests to explore. We have the chance to learn so much about how each of us benefits our burn survivors' community. Together we can make one united front for all camps specializing in the long term care of burn patients worldwide!

Think about joining with us today as we continue to get stronger with each other. The IABC's future is focused on guidelines that will help camps to build their programs. Our new website will assist in helping camps to increase their networking. This is a time of significant growth and change for our organization and we hope you will join us.

Membership offers you networking and a chance to be a leader to the burn camp world. Each country will have special programming that will assist us each to provide the best programming possible.

All camps will benefit from our growth together.

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### DATABASE

We have an ongoing collection of names and email addresses of people in Europe who work with, or are interested in burn camps and clubs. This list is updated after each congress, and will be sent out to all who are listed. If corrections are needed, please send them to :

[monalunke@gmail.com](mailto:monalunke@gmail.com)

TO CONTRIBUTE TO FUTURE NEWSLETTERS, PLEASE CONTACT ANITA BOEKELAAR AT

[aboekelaar@rkz.nl](mailto:aboekelaar@rkz.nl)





# EUROPEAN BURN ASSOCIATION

1<sup>st</sup> June 2011

Dear colleagues,

The European Burn Association is seeking to recruit new members the PAM committee of the EBA (Professions Allied to Medicine)

Voting will take place at the EBA congress in The Hague, 14-17 the of September 2011. Members for the PAM committee will be elected to encourage a broad representation of European countries and professions.

Responsibilities of membership will include:

- Attendance at committee meetings (twice per year). Travel expenses and accommodation expenses (one night), will be funded by the EBA
- Assisting in the progression and representation of non medical burn issues within Europe
- Involvement in the organisation of PAM sessions at EBA congresses

Membership proposal forms for the committee are on page 6 of this newsletter.

Nomination forms should be completed and returned by **1<sup>st</sup> September 2011**, to the chairperson of the committee.

**PLEASE COULD YOU ENSURE THIS INFORMATION IS PASSED TO ALL NON MEDICAL PERSONNEL IN YOUR BURNS CENTRE**

Yours sincerely,

André Magnette, Chairperson of the Pam Committee of the EBA



## PROPOSAL FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE PAM COMMITTEE OF THE EBA

The PAM group (Professions Allied to Medicine) is made up of nurses, Physiotherapist, Occupational therapist, Dietitians, Psychologists, Teachers, Play Specialists, and other members of non medical professions involved in the treatment of burn injuries.

The PAM committee of the EBA will be seeking to recruit new members to the committee to commence in **September 2011**. Members will be elected to encourage a broad representation of European countries and professions.

Name of proposed person:

Profession:

Burns Centre:

Contact address:

Telephone: Fax:

E mail:

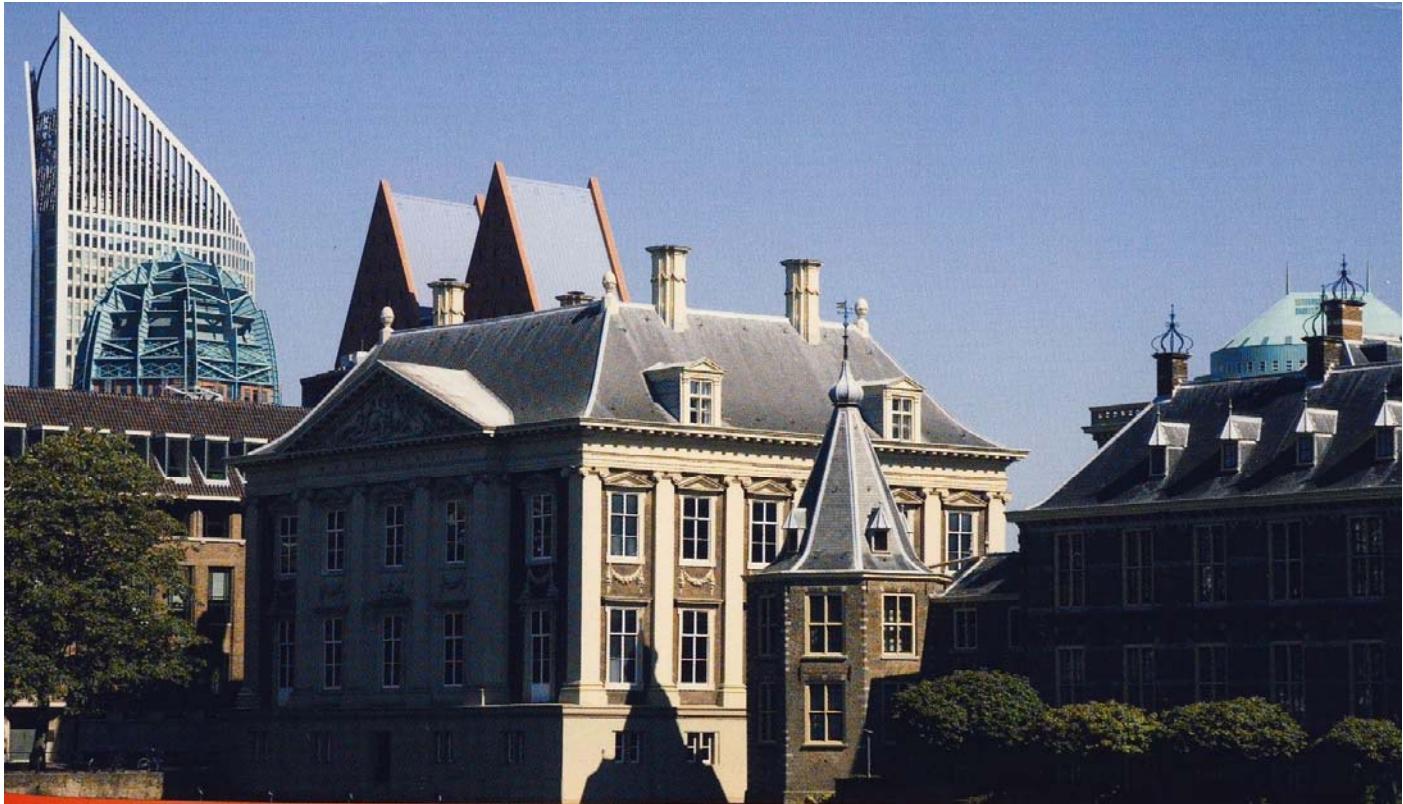
Brief summary of burns experience

Special interests:

Name of proposer: Name of seconder:

Profession: Profession:

Please return nominations by 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER to:  
André Magnette, Chairperson of the PAM committee of the EBA,  
Head Nurse Centre de Brûles 2C, C.H.U. Sart-Timan, 4000 Liège



## *Second Announcement*



### **14<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN BURNS ASSOCIATION CONGRESS**

**14-17 September 2011**

**World Forum Congress Center  
The Hague, The Netherlands**

**[WWW.EBA2011.ORG](http://WWW.EBA2011.ORG)**