



Registered Charity No. 249338

A.S.B.A.H. LTD.

ASSOCIATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA AND HYDROCEPHALUS

DEVONSHIRE STREET HOUSE,
30 DEVONSHIRE STREET, LONDON W1N 2EB
Telephone: 01-486-6100

President:

The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King

Vice-Presidents:

Her Grace the Duchess of Norfolk

Baroness Masham, Countess of Swinton

Chairman: R.B. Zachary, FRCS

General Secretary: Miss M.E. Oughtred

Hon. Treasurer: E.S. Gower

Appeals Secretary: Mrs K.M. White

The Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus was founded in 1966 to meet the needs of the increasing number of those with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus who, by virtue of new medical and surgical techniques, are living and growing up to take a place in Society.

Spina Bifida (split spine) is a congenital malformation of the spine and is the commonest abnormality found at birth. In the more severe cases it causes paralysis of the legs, bladder and bowels. Hydrocephalus (water on the brain) is often associated with it but also occurs spontaneously.

FAMILY SUPPORT

Parents of children with such multiple handicaps need skilled support. They need aids for their children and help with holidays, transport and the cost of hospital visiting. ASBAH through its national headquarters and 75 local Associations seeks to ensure that this support is available.

EQUIPMENT AND APPLIANCES

An officer is in charge of this area of the work and both makes known what is available, arranges adaptations to suit the problems of those with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus and encourages or commissions new developments.

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT are areas of concern and the Association seeks to advise in individual cases and also plans with other organisations the development of new schemes.

INFORMATION SERVICE

The Association's publications are widely used by parents and also professional workers. The quarterly magazine "Link" serves to reduce a sense of isolation in families and the Association's films are in great demand.

RESEARCH into improved treatment and into causes, in the hope of achieving methods of prevention, is also a priority. A significant share of local and national fund raising is devoted to aiding or sponsoring research.

The work is expanding fast to meet growing demands and the Association's resources must match this situation if these children and their families, who tackle the task of living with a disability so gallantly, are to get all the