

Annual Britain-Nepal Academic Council lecture

Power, Placebos and Participation: The Struggle for Health in Rural Nepal

Anthony Costello

4.30 p.m. Wednesday November 16th 2005

Examination Schools, University of Oxford

(at the bottom of the High Street: see <http://www.ox.ac.uk/aboutoxford/maps/colls.shtml>, for a map: it is opposite and little further down from number 26, Queen's College)

Anthony Costello is Professor of International Child Health at the Institute of Child Health and Great Ormond Street Hospital. After clinical training as a paediatrician and research in neonatology at University College Hospital, London, he spent three years in western Nepal with Save the Children Fund where he gained extensive experience in the management of primary health care programmes. He now runs the International Perinatal Care Unit at the Institute of Child Health. For the past ten years he has collaborated closely with MIRA, a research organisation in Nepal, and currently runs a large epidemiological field site in Makwanpur district Nepal, monitoring pregnancies and neonatal outcomes in a rural population of 180,000, a project involving 375 Nepali staff, as well as a new project starting up in Dhanusha district in the Tarai. He also collaborates with projects in Malawi and Zambia, and in Bangladesh. He has been a consultant to the World Bank, USAID, UNDP and SCF on management of primary health services in Nepal, Bangladesh and Iran, and is a WHO consultant on perinatal health and nutrition. He is the author of *Improving Newborn Infant Health in Developing Countries* published by Imperial College Press in 2000, and of the *State of the World's Newborn* report released by Save the Children and Women and Children First (UK) in September 2001. He is the founder and executive director of Women and Children First, an NGO set up to promote the health of mothers and infants.