Successful surgical repair of a ruptured sinus of Valsalva aneurysm was performed in a 30-year-old man, presenting with acute onset dyspnoea. Transoesophageal echocardiography demonstrated the characteristic 'windsock' appearance of the aneurysm described in textbooks and the continuous flow between the aorta and the right atrium corresponding to a continuous murmur. During surgery an 8 mm opening was identified in the right coronary sinus leading into the right atrium, the aneurysm tissue in the right atrium was excised and the base oversewn, whilst a patch of pericardium was used to close the defect from the aortic end (Figs. 1 and 2).

Appendix. Supplementary material

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.ejcts.2005.04.042