



A Word from the President:

For the third quarter of 2013, two trips were undertaken.

In July, **Colin Whitewood** led an orthopaedic team to Cancar.

Also in July, **Bob Sillar** led a general surgery team to Halilulik.

Supporter Connie Granzio assisted the Sovereign Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem - Knights of Malta – arrange a ball on 11 August to announce and celebrate special awards. A number of OSSAA committee members attended a very enjoyable event and were delighted to see Connie



Mark Moore and Dame Connie

elevated to the status of **Dame** of the Order for her charitable works. OSSAA was the designated major beneficiary and \$10,000 was a great outcome.

As we go to print *The Butler* at Wallis Cinema Mitcham is hitting the screen with proceeds to OSSAA.

The AGM was held on 17 October. All members of the committee renominated and were duly elected. Anaesthetist Dr Pat Moran was our guest speaker. Pat provided an entertaining insight into why he volunteers and how he manages the challenges. In addition to having the ability to handle older equipment and coping with power outages, the more personal issues relate to management of sometimes hazardous travel and health pressures (diarrhoea and mosquitos are prime suspects).



AGM attendees with Pat Moran middle back row

Our Admin Officer Lorraine Venables is thankfully on the road to recovery

Patrick Markwick-Smith

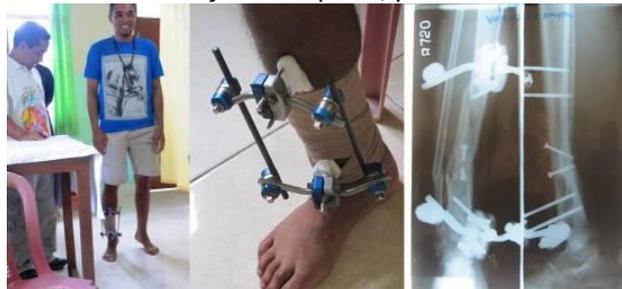
Nusa Tenggara Timur (Flores)

Cancar

Dr Colin Whitewood led his orthopaedic team to Cancar on 12 – 20 July. His team comprised anaesthetist Dr Jerome Wisniewski, theatre nurse Paula Karra and interpreter/coordinator Olivia Santosa.

There were 58 consultations, resulting in 14 operations. Two malunited fractures were addressed: one femoral shaft fracture for leg length discrepancy and one distal radial shaft fracture for ulna impaction.

One patient returned from last year's visit with an external fixator on his tibia having successfully united an open, comminuted fracture. *The picture below shows the frame in place, prior to removal.*



AND



Neat straightening

The most challenging case was a man who presented with a painful mass in his posterior thigh that had been growing in size and tenderness for the last two years. With no imaging available except basic x-rays, intense discussion and consideration ensued. It was successfully excised.



Posterior thigh lesion being excised

Cut surface.

Halilulik

Dr Bob Sillar led his general surgery team to Halilulik on 31 July – 10 August. His team comprised anaesthetist Dr Peter Armstrong, general surgeon and interpreter Dr Shanta Velaiutham, general practitioner and minor surgeon Dr Vijay Velaiutham, and nurse and sterilisation instructor Janelle Skillen.

There were 125 consultations and 62 operations (40 in the Operating Theatre, predominantly head and neck and *inguino* scrotal). On this occasion there were additional referrals from the more distant district hospitals of Soe and Kefamananu, perhaps reflecting a reduction in specialist surgical visits to these areas.

Mentoring of local doctors has been a key component of all visits. There are now at least 4 of these doctors undertaking surgical training elsewhere in Indonesia and it is to be hoped that some may return to Halilulik to enhance surgical capacity in the area. A new hospital is under consideration. As always the nuns and staff were very enthusiastic.

Crossing the border on the return trip from West to East Timor continues to be difficult.



20 year history of a large epidermoid cyst about to be removed



Peter Armstrong instructing local doctors on anaesthetic issues and techniques



A large lymphoma over the right flank prior to surgery

Future trips

The fourth quarter of 2013 is proving to be busy with the following trips programmed:

- Dr Michael Switajewski's ENT team visiting Cancar in October
- Dr Mark Moore's plastic and reconstructive team visiting Halilulik in November
- Dr Mark Moore's plastic and reconstructive team visiting Cancar in November
- Dr Yugesh Caplash's plastic and reconstructive team visiting Baucau in November



Bob Sillar with local school boys – close to rock star status?

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