

A Word from the President:

Much has been happening in the last few months. Effort is continuing to develop a smooth approval process for trips to Indonesia with national health authorities in Jakarta. St Raphael Hospital in Cancar, Flores is pursuing accreditation as a Level C hospital which will allow it to host surgical teams from overseas. Marianum Hospital at Hailulik in West Timor has achieved accreditation and recently hosted an OSSAA team.

Dr Mark Moore AM led two plastic and reconstructive surgical teams, firstly to Halilulik in May and then in June to Dili, Timor Leste. While the Federal Government's ATCLASS (specialist surgery) program has ended in East Timor, there remains a large unmet demand for these surgical interventions. Strategies to continue OSSAA assistance are being considered.

Fundraising events organised by Doug Omond OAM attracted enthusiastic participation. On June 15 we were privileged to have Dr Brian Miller AM as guest speaker at the annual luncheon at the Glenelg Golf Club. Brian provided an entertaining and thought provoking address on volunteering in developing countries. A further highlight of the luncheon was the presentation of Honorary Life Membership to Brian and his compatriot Dr Bob Sillar OAM for their service to the people of West Timor under the OSSAA banner.

On August 17, Wallis Cinemas Mitcham hosted the showing of "The 100 Foot Journey" and saw the use of two theatres for the 320 attendees. Thanks are again due for the generosity of Wallis and the Romeo Family.

Lorraine Venables, who managed the organisation of team visits with great care and dedication, has resigned due to other work commitments. We thank Lorraine for her contribution and we wish her all the very best.



President Patrick & Brian Miller



President Patrick & Bob Sillar

Ibu Nunuk was also awarded an Honorary Life Membership for her service to OSSAA and the peoples of Indonesia.

The new website is due to take off shortly.

Patrick Markwick-Smith

Upcoming Events

Quiz Night Extraordinaire

1 November 2014

Colonel Light Gardens RSL Club

Film Afternoon at Wallis Cinemas Mitcham

February 2015

The Second Best Marigold Hotel

TRIPS

Timor Leste

Dili

Dr Mark Moore led a plastic and reconstructive surgical team to Dili Hospital from 20 – 27 June. The team comprised anaesthetist Dr Andrew Fenton, theatre sister Joy Booth and speech pathologist Celina Lai. The trip was sponsored by DFAT in support of the recently developed Family Medicine Program for new Timorese doctors. Local staff included plastic surgeon trainee Dr Joao Ximenes and speech pathologist Alotu da Costa Sarmento.

There were 52 patient consultations and 28 operations, comprising mainly cleft lip/palate (20) and burns/contractures (5).

Prevailing dietary and environmental conditions will continue to cause about 50 cleft/palate affected births each year. Training of Dr Joao by the OSSAA team will pay handsome dividends for the Timorese into the future; he has already successfully performed 70 cleft repairs. Perhaps more assistance can also be provided in the area of burn management which remains problematic.

West Timor

Halilulik

Dr Mark Moore led a plastic and reconstructive surgical team to Halilulik Hospital from 23 May – 1 June. The team comprised anaesthetist Dr Andrew Wallace, theatre sister Margaret Maloney and interpreter Anastasia Stain. The trip was facilitated by Ibu Nunuk in Jakarta and her continued

assistance is vital to meeting the Indonesian health authority requirements.

There were 32 patient consultations and 25 operations, comprising mainly cleft lip/palate (15) and burns/contractures (5).

At the end of surgery, the local Bupati hosted the team at a dinner in Atambua – positive messages of support for our trips were conveyed.

The return of the team to Australia was delayed for two days by the volcano eruption on Sumba Island.

Photos below demonstrate the skill of OSSAA teams and the value of long term engagement



A burn contracture sustained at age 2 months arriving age 8 for surgery. Earlier intervention would have helped

Dr Joao doing pre-surgery mark-ups for cleft repair



Bilateral cleft operated on in 2013

Returning 2014 for cleft palate repair



2yo in 2008 with huge pigmented lesion

Now at age 8 after early excision and skin grafts



Dr Andrew Fenton with local nurse anaesthetist intubating a child for surgery



Dr Joao Ximenes (left), Sister Joy Booth and operating theatre nursing staff

Future Trips

The following trips are being planned for later this year:

1. Dr Mark Moore's plastics team to Halilulik in November
2. Dr Yugesh Caplash's plastics team to Timor Leste in October/November

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