**PRESIDENT’S REPORT TO THE OVERSEAS SPECIALIST SURGICAL**

**ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.**

**16th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**11 OCTOBER 2018**

Ladies and gentlemen, it is with pleasure that I present this report to the 16th Annual General Meeting of the Overseas Specialist Surgical Association of Australia.

**Locales and Team Visits**

***Timor Leste*** During 2017/18 there were three visits:

* On 5 August 2017 Dr Mark Moore led a plastic and reconstructive team comprising anaesthetist Dr Andrew Wallace and theatre nurse Sr Joy Booth to Dili Hospital. They were joined by local plastic surgical trainee Dr Joao Ximenes. The team accomplished 74 consultations and 43 surgical procedures, comprising 35 cleft lips/palates, 2 burns contractures and 6 other.
* On 17 November 2017 Dr Yugesh Caplash led a plastic and reconstructive team comprising anaesthetist Dr David McLeod, theatre nurse Sr Margaret Maloney and plastic surgery trainee Dr Michael Rooke to Baucau Hospital. They were also joined by local plastic surgical trainee Dr Joao Ximenes. The team accomplished 40 consultations and 31 surgical procedures, comprising 28 cleft lips/palates and 3 burns contractures.
* On 3 February 2018 Dr Mark Moore led a plastic and reconstructive team comprising surgeon Vani Prasad Atluri, anaesthetist Dr Ruth Barbour, nurses Sr Joy Booth and Sr Amy Elgar, and speech pathologist Celina Lai to Dili Hospital. They were again joined by local plastic surgical trainee Dr Joao Ximenes. The team accomplished 135 consultations and 43 surgical procedures, comprising 35 cleft lips/palates, 4 burns contractures and 4 other. The team was also accompanied by Dr Zameer Gill, surgical resident from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Adelaide and Professor Craig Dreyer from the University of Adelaide Dental School. Professor Dreyer spent 3-4 days with the team in the assessment clinic and at surgery and was joined later in the week by three of his final year orthodontic students.

***Indonesia*** With the assistance of the Royal Australian College of Surgeons (RACS), and particularly Daliah Moss, visits resumed to Rumah Sakit Katolik Marianum, Halilulik (NTT) in West Timor after an absence of nearly 4 years. On 3 February 2018 Dr Mark Moore led a plastic and reconstructive team comprising anaesthetist Dr Andrew Wallace, nurses Sr Vanessa Dittmar and Sr Josie Luke, interpreter Anastasia Stain and fitness instructor Jason Wagner to this hospital….and were warmly welcomed. The team accomplished 54 consultations and 33 surgical procedures, comprising 23 cleft lips/palates, 5 burns contractures and 5 other.

An important component of each trip is capacity building of medical and hospital staff. We continue to be grateful for the support provided by RACS who coordinate our team visits and to the hospital administrators and staff.

*Since OSSAA’s establishment in March 2002 there have been 106 trips, 11,625 consultations and 5,138 surgical procedures carried out.*

**Events and Fundraising:**

A film event featuring *Hampstead* was held at Mitcham Wallis Cinema on 13 August 2017. The annual luncheon was held on 17 June 2018 with Dr Andrew Wallace as guest speaker.

Large Donors ($1000 or more) included:

Johnson & Johnson (sutures) $10,007

Carthew Foundation $10,000

AK Vickery $1,800

C Barnes $1,000

M Hill $1,000

Lions Club of Burnside $1,000

Lions Club of McLaren Districts $1,000

Rotary Club of Unley $1,000

Others who have provided assistance to OSSAA include:

Air North

Calvary Hospital

Version (Simon Perrin)

Office of Vickie Chapman MP

Romeo Retail Group – Foodland

Royal Australian College of Surgeons (RACS)

The Box Factory (and Adelaide City Council)

QANTAS

Wallis Theatre

Financially we are in a healthy position due to the support of members and generous donors. We have sufficient buffer, if needed, to enable up to 8 trips per annum over two years which was the target set some 6 years ago. With the return to Indonesia more effort will need to be applied to fundraising to maintain that reserve.

**Membership:**

At 30 June 2018 there were 22 financial corporate members, 86 ordinary members, and 50 team members (of which 5 were also ordinary members).

**Committee of Management (COM)**

OSSAA has again been well served by the Committee which at 30 June 2018 included Vice President Dr Mark Moore AM, Secretary Donna Fitzgerald, PP Patrick Markwick-Smith, Treasurer Alex Jonson, Helen van der Jeugd (who will not be continuing due to work pressures), Joy Booth, Sandy Grixti, Connie Granozio, and Dr Andrew Wallace. The Committee of Management met on 5 occasions.

Two editions of the OSSAA Newsletter were published. Thanks are again due to the office of Vickie Chapman MP for printing them. Simon Perrin from Version also deserves our thanks for his website management.

**Where to Now**

The year has been one of achievement with the resumption of surgical team visits into Indonesia. While these are currently restricted to plastic and reconstructive surgery, the demand for other disciplines are being discussed with hospital administrators. We are indebted to RACS for their planning and coordination.

It has been an honour and pleasure to serve as your President over the past three years. I thank everyone who has contributed to the well-being of OSSAA over this period. I will continue to assist OSSAA and the new President.

Stephen Baker

President 11 October 2018