

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE OVERSEAS SPECIALIST SURGICAL
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.
20th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

13 OCTOBER 2022

I present this brief report to the 20th Annual General Meeting of the Overseas Specialist Surgical Association of Australia (OSSAA).

The waiting is almost over for us to resume surgical team visits. It is planned that Dr Mark Moore will lead a plastics and reconstructive team to Dili in November 2022, three years since our last visit there. In the interim we have maintained close contact with our counterparts at the Timor Leste National Hospital. And the on-line training and exchange of ideas has continued. Of special note was the awarding of the John Hargrave Scholarship to Cornelio Maria Mok Freitas to enable him to complete his Bachelor Degree in Nursing. Mok has worked with OSSAA team members for many years to improve the standards of surgical care in Timor-Leste. Return visits to Cancar in eastern Indonesia remain under consideration.

Since OSSAA's establishment in March 2002 there have been 112 trips, 12,032 consultations and 5,379 surgical procedures carried out by our volunteer teams.

Events

The James Bond Film, *No time to die*, was a winner in November. Our mid-year luncheon was held in July 2022 and we were privileged to have Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson, Governor of South Australia as our guest speaker.

Donations and Finance

OSSAA continues to receive generous support from donors. Amanda Northridge and Lawrie Kennedy have again been most generous in their support. We are most grateful to all who have helped in this way.

Large Donors (\$1000 or more) included:

Amanda Northridge and Lawrie Kennedy	\$30,000
C Browne	\$1,000
Vickery family	\$2,900
C Barnes	\$1,500

The surplus for 2021-22 was \$29,492.46.

Membership:

At 30 June 2022 there were 10 corporate members and 58 ordinary members (including 4 honorary), plus a strong pool of team members. There is an imperative to broaden the support base of OSSAA.

Vale

We were saddened by the deaths:

- Dr Brian Miller AM who led 9 general surgery teams to NTT Indonesia
- Dr Brian Gilmour AM, an orthopaedic surgeon who was an early volunteer with Dr Tim Keenan
- Bob Parr OAM, a cinema whiz with Wallis Cinema, who aided our film fundraisers.

Committee of Management (COM)

OSSAA has been well served by the Committee which at 30 June 2022 included Vice Presidents Dr Mark Moore AM, and Stephen Baker (also Treasurer), Secretary Donna Fitzgerald, and committee members Patrick Markwick-Smith (Past President), Dr Andrew Wallace, Connie Granozio, Vanessa Dittmar, Mary Martinaitis and Dr Zameer Gill. The Committee of Management met on 4 occasions. Two editions of the OSSAA Newsletter were published during the year with the assistance of Joseph Moore. Thanks are again due to the office of Vickie Chapman MP for printing them. Zameer Gill has been working to refresh our website.

We maintain our commitment to providing plastic and reconstructive surgery and training in Timor Leste, and look forward to continuing our valuable work. We look forward to our reengagement in the year ahead and we are grateful for the support provided by RACS who coordinate our team visits and to the hospital administrators and staff.

It has been an honour and pleasure to serve as your President over the past twelve months , I feel very privileged to be supported by such a dynamic and knowledgeable committee; I thank everyone who has contributed to the well-being of OSSAA over this period.

Joy Booth
President



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