

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE OVERSEAS SPECIALIST SURGICAL
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.
17th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

10 OCTOBER 2019

Ladies and gentlemen, it is with pleasure that I present this report to the 17th Annual General Meeting of the Overseas Specialist Surgical Association of Australia.

Locales and Team Visits

Timor Leste During 2018/19 there were two visits:

- On 17 November 2018 Dr Yugesh Caplash led a plastic and reconstructive team comprising anaesthetists Dr David McLeod and Dr Brigid Brown, theatre nurses Sr Elizabeth Mazzei and Jacqueline Price, and accompanied by medical student Gayatri Caplash to **Baucau Hospital**. They were joined by local plastic surgical trainee Dr Joao Ximenes. The team accomplished 52 consultations and 33 surgical procedures, comprising 26 cleft lips/palates, 5 burns contractures and 2 other.
- On 25 May 2019 Dr Mark Moore led a plastic and reconstructive team comprising anaesthetist Dr Brian Spain, nurses Sr Joy Booth and Sr Sandy Grixti, speech pathologist Celina Lai [inaugural Doug and Terri Omond scholar], and accompanied by surgical registrar Dr Zameer Gill, to **Dili Hospital**. They were again joined by local plastic surgical trainee Dr Joao Ximenes. The team accomplished 78 consultations and 41 surgical procedures, comprising 27 cleft lips/palates, 7 burns contractures and 7 other. This marked the 20th anniversary of Mark's first surgical team visit, then with Asea Rehab, to Dili Hospital.

Indonesia During 2018/19 there were two trips to St Damian and St Rafael Hospital in Cancar, Flores:

- On 4 August 2018, Dr Mark Moore led a plastic and reconstructive team comprising surgeon Dr Vani Prasad Atluri, anaesthetists Dr Andrew Wallace and Dr Todd Maddock, nurses Sr Vanessa Dittmar and Sr Lisa Alvino, interpreter Anastasia Stain and accompanied by surgical registrar Jake Nowicki. The team accomplished 106 consultations and 58 surgical procedures, comprising 24 cleft lips/palates, and a range of burn contracture releases and tumour/cyst removals.
- On 8 March 2019, Dr Mark Moore led a plastic and reconstructive team comprising surgeon Dr Vani Prasad Atluri, anaesthetists Dr Andrew Wallace and Dr Matthew Grill, nurses Sr Vanessa Dittmar and Sr Amanda McFall, interpreter Anastasia Stain and accompanied by surgical registrar Dr Steve Cook. The team accomplished 68 consultations and 39 surgical procedures comprising 16 clefts/palates, 6 burn contracture releases, 9 tumours/lesions and 8 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 110 trips, 11,929 consultations and 5,309 surgical procedures carried out.

Events and Fundraising:

Another successful film fundraising event in the shape of Mama Mia 2 was held in July 2018. The 2019 mid-year June luncheon was, for practical reasons, delayed until 25 August 2019.

Large Donors (\$1000 or more) included:

AJ & LG Kennedy (FSJS Jubilee Charitable Foundation)	\$25,000
Sovereign Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem Knights of Malta	\$2,400
Mr AK Vickery	\$1,800

Ms C Barnes	\$2,000
S Lee	\$1,000
N Mossop	\$1,000
Lions Club of McLaren Districts	\$1,000

Others who have provided assistance to OSSAA include:

Air North
 Royal Adelaide 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

We incurred a deficit of \$12,300 this year with the extra trips. While still in a solid financial position due to the support of members and generous donors, more attention will need to be paid to fundraising and membership enhancement. A working group has been set up for that purpose.

Membership:

At 30 June 2019 there were 25 financial corporate members, 67 ordinary members, and 50 team members.

Committee of Management (COM)

OSSAA has been well served by the Committee which at 30 June 2019 included Past President Stephen Baker, Vice President Dr Mark Moore AM, Secretary Donna Fitzgerald, Treasurer Alex Jonson, and committee members Dr Andrew Wallace, Joy Booth, Sandy Gixti, Connie Granozio, Anthony Rologas and Julie Harris. The Committee of Management met on 6 occasions. My thanks to Connie Granozio and Julie Harris, who are retiring from the Committee, for their contributions. Connie wishes to continue helping with fundraising events. Acting upon a request from a Year 11 Business and Enterprising Group at Scotch College, a review was undertaken of OSSAA's marketing techniques.....helpful suggestions were provided.

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 assistance.

Where to Now

The year has been one of consolidation following our return to Indonesia, thanks to the efforts of RACS. In response to requests for further assistance, we are currently examining potential for orthopaedic and ENT team visits to Indonesia.

I thank everyone who has contributed to OSSAA. I also take the opportunity provided by this report to recognise and acknowledge the tireless efforts of past president, Stephen Baker. Stephen is indefatigable in his commitment to OSSAA and in his support of the management committee. His untiring efforts make our work all the more effective through allowing us to focus on matters in hand, confident in the knowledge that Stephen has done so much of the background and support work.

Patrick Markwick-Smith
 President

10 October 2019