Welcome to the summer edition of the ADI (Australasian Section) newsletter and our joint thanks to the editor, John Davies for his time and effort in producing this fine bulletin.

Already 2011 has been a turbulent year, commencing with the massive January floods in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria and fires in the Perth Hills and in beautiful Margaret River in WA. In February there was Queensland cyclone Yasi, earthquakes in Christchurch NZ and in March the cataclysmic tsunami in Japan; the latter leading to the world’s second largest nuclear accident in history. On September of this year we witnessed the 10th Anniversary of the double aeroplane terrorist attacks on New York’s World Trade Centre and another one on the Pentagon shortly after. On the 1st May this year the suspected mastermind of these atrocities, Osama Bin Laden was killed by US Security Forces in Abbottabad, Pakistan. Ironically just a few months before the September 11 terror attacks, Pope John Paul II became the first Pope in history to visit and pray in a mosque on a trip to Syria.

On the financial side in 2011, we have seen a collapse of the global economy with world markets falling, bringing down with them property values, productivity and consumer confidence.

Politically at home we are also living in troubled times, with Federal and many State governments uncertain and too timid to put their hands to the plough, without looking back.

On a much more pleasant note, a world wide record number TV viewing audience witnessed a Royal wedding; that of HRH Prince William, Duke of Cambridge to the lovely Kate Middleton.

And so now with thoughts of a love of summer now firmly in the air with its promise of further warmth, we are reminded of all the joy of Australasia’s outdoor activities but also keeping us mindful of the potential for danger in the beautiful countries in which we live.
Some of you will have attended the American Dental Association meeting and ADI Convocation in Las Vegas USA from the 10th to 13th September. Those who haven’t attended will find other meetings listed on the back page of this newsletter. I will report on the ADI Convocation in the next edition.

To achieve its goals, the Academy needs and welcomes donations of money, books, instruments and equipment. Recently retired and well known prosthodontist and past President of the Australian Prosthodontic Society, Kevin Joyce has donated all his equipment, instruments and books to the Academy for use in Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia. Thank you Kevin and I hope others will follow your lead of humanitarian kindness and generosity.

Now that I find myself at the pointy end of the ship, I have come to realise and am consistently amazed at the vibrancy of the Academy and diversity of its activities. As I look aft, what I see is a well-founded vessel and a crew of high calibre with a wealth of experience derived from those who have gone before it.

Next year I plan to organise an inter-congress Convocation/Dinner for those who were unable to attend the one in Brisbane. This will be conducted in either New Zealand or in Melbourne to coincide with an ADA (Victorian Branch) meeting in conjunction with an industry exhibition.

Finally, if any of you would like to make a trip to any of these underprivileged countries to help out, please contact, Simon Shanahan, John Pearman or myself.

“Who lives sees much, who travels sees more.”

(Arab proverb)

Eddie Street

The Other Lives of Our Fellows

Dr Mark Bowman, Double Bass player and member of The Australian Doctors' Orchestra

From an early age I was fortunate to be encouraged and to enjoy music. For me music provides great pleasure, relaxation and a mental challenge. I believe it is an important art form that is accessible to most people in some form. What attracted me to the Double Bass? Was it the quality of sound; the unlimited musical scope it offers; the physicality of the instrument or just perverseness? I cannot say, but it has truly been a great choice that has given me great enjoyment and certainly has provided a step outside the world of dentistry.

I started playing bass in secondary school where participation in both sport and other extracurricular activities were encouraged. Through playing at National Music Camps and in a wide variety of groups I developed a range of contacts. Playing music provides me with a great sense of teamwork and at the same time the satisfaction of individual achievement.

The Australian Doctors' Orchestra (ADO) was formed in 1983 through the inspiration of Dr Miki Pohl, a plastic surgeon based in Hobart. As I had played with many of the players forming the orchestra, I was fortunate to be asked to join in that first concert in Melbourne. Since then, with the exception of NT, the ADO has played in every state and the ACT.

The ADO meets every year for an intensive 3 days of rehearsal followed by a concert. The members of the orchestra fund the concert and ticket sales are donated to charity. The weekend as always was a mix of hard work, fun, reuniting with old friends and making new ones. In 2011 the concert was held in Sydney, performing works by Brahms, Elgar and Walton and for the benefit of the “Youth of the Streets” and “Children’s Hospital Institute of Sports Medicine, at Westmead”.

For 2012, two concerts are planned; a regional event planned for April in Ballarat and the 20th anniversary concert planned for Melbourne toward the end of the year. I have played in 15 of the 19 ADO concerts and look forward to continuing in 2012. Hope to see you there!
During 1945, when World War II was beginning to move towards a successful conclusion for the Allies, two very unique young men were to graduate in dentistry from the University of Melbourne, to join others from their final year in entering the Australian Armed Forces for the duration of the war and beyond. At that time the system which prevailed was based upon the premise that "the first one in was to be the first one out" and being late in entering the Service, the Kings' twins found themselves serving some three years in the RAAF as young Flight Lieutenants. Following demobilisation, they set up practice together and excepting for the two successive years in which they spent separately in Toronto (Canada) to obtain their DDS degrees, they were inseparable as brothers, friends and colleagues.

It is indeed extremely difficult to write about Stan, without also referring to Eric. They were not only identical in almost every respect, but their achievements within the profession followed the same paths in their early years, only separating slightly in their middle to later years of activity. It has been oft remarked that throughout their respective careers, Stan and Eric shared most of the senior positions in dentistry which were available to them in Australia.

Stan undertook his secondary education at Melbourne High School, being outstanding in sport (First XI and First XVIII), and he was the School Captain, with Eric being the Vice-Captain of the same year. Following secondary school, the two boys attended the University of Melbourne, each graduating in 1945 (BDSc) and entering the RAAF. Following their discharge and undertaking a period in dental practice with Eric, Stan was accepted to attend the University of Toronto, where he attained the DDS in 1962, being Dux of the class. Not to be out-done by Stan, in the following year Eric followed him to Toronto, achieving the same result, DDS and Dux.

Having each attained additional qualifications, the brothers decided to commence practice in Collins Street Melbourne, where they continued their partnership until retiring in the mid 1980s. Throughout their dental careers they followed the same professional pathways with great success. However, in the administrative roles which they undertook, due to the timing of opportunities as they became available to each, it was inevitable that their paths would diverge.

Following Stan's return to Australia, he was encouraged to enter the portals of organised dentistry through seeking election to the Council of the Victorian Branch of the Australian Dental Association. This he did in 1962 and it was to be the commencement of a most successful career in the ADA at both State and Federal levels, concluding with the Federal Presidency for the years 1982-84. During this time, he undertook many other roles, including international representation at Dental Congresses of the Federation Dentaire International and the Asian Pacific Dental Federation, ultimately as the leader of the Australian Delegation.

For his contributions to the dental profession, in 1985 he was accorded the highest Award to be offered by the Australian Dental Association, that being Honorary Life Membership. Subsequently, this was followed by him being honoured with Membership in the Order of Australia (AM).

In addition to Stan's interest in the governance of his profession and the well-being of its members, he had an abiding interest in dental education. This drew him to the newly formed Australian College of Dental Surgeons, when in 1965 it was established with a nucleus of Inaugural Fellows who had attained additional dental qualifications. Along with other emerging leaders in dental education, Stan accepted Inaugural Fellowship, being then able to use the post-nominals FACDS. As a point of historical interest, prior to this time the founders of the College had been working with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, but without success, in an attempt to establish a Faculty of Dental Surgeons within their structure, parallel to those which pertain in the Royal Colleges of Britain. Since those early days when our founders decided to act unilaterally, the College has embraced within its name our cousins from New Zealand and in 1972 it attained Royal assent. From thence it has been known as the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons.

In 1974 Stan stood successfully for election to the Council of the College, which launched his career at this level. In due course, positions upon the Executive Committee of Council were to become available and in 1978 he was elected to serve as a member of the Executive, initially as Censor-in-Chief and then through to 1984 in successive roles as Honorary Treasurer and Vice-President.

At the end of 1983, he was elected as President of the College for a two year term, during which he distinguished himself by facilitating the formation of the "Section" of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Until then, the College had directed its attentions to the enhancement of the education of generalists in the profession, to the level of what may be termed "super generalists". Stan's action in expanding the education focus beyond general dentistry, not only embraced one single important group of specialist members of the profession, but it heralded the development of other specialty areas within the college structure, which continues to this day.

Following the completion of his term as President of the College, in 1989 he was awarded the highest honour which the College may confer upon its Fellows, Honorary Life Fellowship.

Having enunciated some of Stan’s achievements throughout his professional career, it is fitting that some of his personal traits are recorded. At his Memorial Service which was conducted at Christ Church, Hawthorn on 19 August 2011, these were expressed in one of the eulogies in the most simple of terms: "When memories of him are called to mind, single 'key words' of description seem to tumble into place - words such as family, sport, loyalty, love, professionalism, sincerity, integrity, gentility, humour, leadership. No matter the order, the meanings of these words provide the essence.

One can hardly imagine a more successful life and career than that experienced by Stan. His achievements were great and of more importance, they were never developed at the expense of others. He married well (Heather) and they produced three fine and successful children (David, Kate and Libby) who have in turn continued the line so well ordained by their parents. Stan was both highly regarded and loved by his friends, particularly for his great sense of humour and balanced mind. His Memorial Service overflowed beyond the confines of the church, with those who were proud to be close to him throughout life. Nobody appeared to be sad. On the contrary, there prevailed much joy for the peaceful passing of a man who not only led a good, fruitful and long life, but who left us all a legacy of countless fond memories.

Reg Hession
September 2011
For the past 16 years teams of Australian dental volunteers have been making annual visits to Tonga and more recently, the Cook Islands, with the aim of supporting the local dental services.

An initial visit to the Polynesian Kingdom of Tonga (population ~100,000) in 1996 by a 5 person volunteer team from Ballarat found a dental service badly in need of support. A needs assessment by this team, which included Dentists, a Dental Therapist, a Prosthetist and a Dental Equipment Technician, identified five priority areas in urgent need of support. Since then aid has been directed at these areas by means of multidisciplinary volunteer teams. Rotary has facilitated these visits and helped with the logistics of shipping some six container loads of donations of equipment and supplies and a school dental van to Tonga and two containers to the Cook Islands. The objectives of the various annual projects have as far as possible been specifically aimed at meeting the identified Oral Health needs of the islanders which were ascertained by consulting and liaising with the local dental staff at each preceding visit.

We identified priority areas needing help as:
1. Infection control and general cleanliness.
2. Maintenance and supply of equipment.
3. Preventive dentistry.
4. Staff training and development.
5. Materials shortages and availability.

When we first went to Tonga in 1996 we found the infection control equipment at the main hospital dental clinic consisted solely of a water boiler, Savlon cold sterilisation (seldom replenished!) and a wooden ultraviolet light box. The high incidence of HepB in the Tongan community and dental staff may even have been exacerbated by the outdated infection control procedures (and some dental staff have died from liver disease). Autoclaves have been donated and now a safer program has been put into operation. In 1998 we obtained funding from RMIT University to produce an Infection Control training video. This was professionally scripted and filmed at the Vaiola Hospital in Nuku’alofa Tonga, using their existing staff and it was then edited by the RMIT audiovisual department. Voiceovers were professionally done in English by ABC radio and also in the Tongan language by SBS radio. The video (also as a CDROM) covered history taking, personal hygiene and protection, infectious waste and sharps management, as well as the proper cleaning and sterilisation of instruments. The video was specifically scripted to be appropriate and sustainable for Tongan conditions by the senior lecturer in infection control at the university who travelled to Tonga with us to direct the filming.

The majority of the dental equipment currently in use in Tonga has been shipped and installed by the volunteer teams over the years into all of the dental clinics in Tonga – some 24 chairs in 4 hospitals (Vaiola, Niu’ui, Vava’u and ‘Eua ) and also in rural clinics on Tongatapu. The equipment has been standardised to only Adec and Belmont units and a spare parts workshop has been set up in Tonga. An electrician Mr Uho Sioeli Manu from the main Vaiola Hospital has been trained in equipment maintenance and installation dental equipment from the old Melbourne Dental School.
and installation procedures on the annual visits by Dental Equipment Engineer Peter Copp. This has been done in both Tonga and on training programs here in Australia. I am sure Uho would be the only indigenous trained dental equipment technician in the Pacific Islands, and he is very conscientious and competent in his work. Another 7 dental units, 3 x-ray machines, dental and prosthetic equipment and supplies are on the way to Tonga in a shipping container as I write.

Tonga provides a largely free dental service to its people but scarce funding means that comprehensive dentistry can only be provided to a few. A volunteer team has conducted Oral Health surveys to current WHO criteria and peer reviewed by Melbourne University and we identified a caries rate almost 5 times that of Australia’s level (7.1 vs 1.51) in 6 year old children. In addition the natural water fluoride levels are low (<0.3 ppm) and most drinking water comes from rainwater tanks, so preventive dentistry needs to be an essential component of their health system. To help with this we shipped a redundant DHSV school van with two chairs to the main hospital in Tonga and set it up as a purely Preventive Dentistry unit. No extractions or fillings are done in this unit – just oral hygiene instruction and fissure sealants in first permanent molar teeth. This service is offered free to all 7 year old school children on the main island. In addition a Japanese University now funds an excellent fluoride mouthrinse program in some primary schools in Tonga. Our longitudinal DMFT survey, which will finalise in 2013, and will have used the same recorders throughout its 20 years of study, will give an indication on the effectiveness or otherwise of these initiatives.

Most dental staff in Tonga and the Pacific Islands are trained at the Fiji National University Oral Health Department. In Suva the Oral Health course they offer gives several different options to qualify, ranging from Dental Therapist to Prosthetist to a 5 year trained Dentist. In addition there are options to leave the course early and continue on to higher education later. However, continuing dental education, whilst being mandatory in Australia, is expensive and difficult for most Pacific Island dental staff. The geographic remoteness and cost of travel precludes this. We have conducted exchange projects for staff in dental prosthetics, dental equipment maintenance and dental nursing here in Australia. However more needs to be done in this area and I would like to see more funding made available for hands-on staff exchange projects (both ways) in the future.
Providing a National Health Service is an expensive exercise and most independent Pacific island nations really struggle to fund anything like a comprehensive program. In addition income levels are low and there is an increasingly high demand for treatment. For instance, at the Vaiaola hospital in Tonga it is not uncommon for over 100 patients to arrive on a Monday morning wanting toothache relief from a staff of about 7 dentists and dental therapists. A static (or even decreasing) budget and a depreciating local currency makes it difficult to make ends meet and the dental departments are dependent on welcome donations to provide more than just very basic care. Fortunately some dental supply companies and dentists have been generous in their support. With Rotary Australia World Community Service’s help we have been able to send over several shipping containers of goods in addition to the small amount of supplies we can take with us by air. These shipments really do make a difference for the recipient nations to be able to provide more comprehensive dental care. Rotary’s resources can often add other useful items such as computers, school books and medical equipment to fill the containers to capacity. Airlines no longer give the generous weight allowances for volunteers that they once did but it is possible to pack a massive amount of supplies into a shipping container. On one visit we actually purchased our shipping container and set it up as a permanent store room outside the main dental clinic in the Cook Islands!

Visits to the Cook Islands have assisted by assembling new custom fitted stone topped dental cabinetry for the 6 surgeries, installing new dental surgery equipment (dental chair/units, SDI curing lights & amalgamators), providing new Prosthetic facilities on Rarotonga and Aitutaki as well as providing Adec Field Unit operating equipment for the Flying Dentist and providing dental materials supplies and also toothpaste and toothbrushes for all Cook Islands’ children, together with posters, pamphlets, DVDs, leaflets, disclosing tablets etc, to help with promoting Oral Health in their schools’ system.

In the main our visits focus is on setting up sustainable projects that enable the local dental staff to provide a higher standard of care to the local population. On these visits we do not focus particularly on providing clinical dentistry ourselves but rather to concentrate on trying to find ways that we can help the local dental staff themselves to provide a better and more comprehensive service for their people. Our philosophy is that what we leave behind after we have left is far more important than what we do whilst we are there. On our visits we always try to assist, train and support wherever and however possible. For instance apart from general dentistry, volunteers have provided specialist training and operations in Oral Surgery, Endodontics, Orthodontics, simple Implants and Dental Prosthetics.
These programs are still ongoing, eg. in the future we are looking to take this excellent fully equipped mobile dental clinic to Fiji or Samoa.

Left: This fully equipped mobile dental clinic (truck travelled only 12,500 kms) just needs a little more funding before shipping to Fiji or Samoa.

The Other Lives of Our Fellows ..... from page 3

Dr Ross Bastiaan AM RFD immortalises Australia’s wartime past with the placement of over 220 bronze plaques in over 20 different countries where Australians fought.

One of our ADI Fellows, Dr Ross Bastiaan AM RFD, a periodontist in Melbourne, has had a lifelong interest in Australians at war. From an early age, his ‘adopted grandfather’, Lt Laurie McCarthy VC (“Mac”) introduced and encouraged an interest in Australia’s military history.

Over the last 23 years, Ross has conceived, sculpted, funded and arranged installation of over 220 one metre by one metre bronze commemorative plaques in over 20 different countries where Australians have fought in war. Ross’s passion is based on his strong sense of patriotism, as he says his “sense of country”. Most of Ross’s plaques on the many of Australia’s world battlefields immortalise those who served us in war. By marking the actual place and leaving a story to be read by current and future generations, all people are able to view the multi-lingual, commemorative sculptural plaques and immediately capture the history and the story of our fallen war heroes. The story is told using text and a major bas-relief sculpture which is linked with 3 dimensional maps. All work, including the sculpture, is personally completed by Ross. The Gallipoli and Kokoda series prompted Ross to write two guide books for travelers; one of which won a State award.

Ross’s interest also extends to Australian explorers Burke and Wills, and their journey will soon be commemorated with 6 plaques from Moonee Ponds to Cloncurry. The story of the Great Ocean Road in Victoria is another project completed by Ross with 14 plaques along the length of the road.

Individuals who have influenced Ross have been Lt Laurie McCarthy VC, Sir Edward “Weary” Dunlop, Sculptor Ray Ewers, and in Dentistry, Dr Vin Amerena and Professor Peter Reade.

See Australian Bronze Commemorative Plaques at www.plaques.satlink.com.au

This Year’s Honours for our Fellows

James Robertson AM For service to dentistry, and to international humanitarian aid through the delivery of dental health programs in Asia.

John Lockwood AM For service to dentistry through executive roles at state and national level, to professional organisations, and to the sport of yachting.
Editor's Notes

How fortunate are you?

I have just returned from Vietnam and Cambodia with the realisation, once again, that I have had a very fortunate life. For so many of our South-east Asian neighbours, life is a struggle, with disease, flood and famine still being part of their daily lives. Please be part of overseas aid projects. Your local Service Organisations such as Rotary and Lions, support our Fellows. This Newsletter shows the long standing commitment, time and effort given by others. Please look into this New Year 2012 and ask yourself “what could I do this year to make a difference to those less fortunate?”

Wishing everyone of all faiths and beliefs, a good year ahead, with peace, joy and love to all.

For Fellows of ADI, please send your stories about being a volunteer. This is an opportunity to inspire others with your stories. Your short stories as well as your sagas would be gratefully received; any photos would be a bonus. Send to John Davies adi.news@yahoo.com.au.

John Davies, Editor

Across the Tasman

The New Zealand Fellows would like to congratulate our immediate past Regent, Mark Goodhew, on becoming Chair of the Dental Council. We would also like to congratulate Robert Love who recently finished as Chair of Dental Council and also completed his term on Dental Council, and John Bell who completed his term as President of the New Zealand Dental Association.

On another pleasing note, it is a real pleasure to be writing this report from the home of the Rugby World Cup champions, the All Blacks, who gave up the Tri Nations trophy to another team to focus their efforts on this event. The event was very well supported, and Dunedin, with its new covered stand, was, in my unbiased opinion, a particular standout.

On behalf of the New Zealand Section, I would like to wish you all the best for a very Merry Christmas and great 2012.

Karl Lyons

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For Your Diary

FDI World Dental Federation Annual World Congress 2012
29th August - 1st September 2012
Hong Kong, China
Web: www.fdiworldental.org

American Dental Association Annual Session
18th - 21st October 2012
San Francisco
Web: www.ada.org/session

It would be appreciated if letters/articles could be supplied as WORD documents and photos as high resolution JPEG files where possible. We look forward to hearing from you.
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