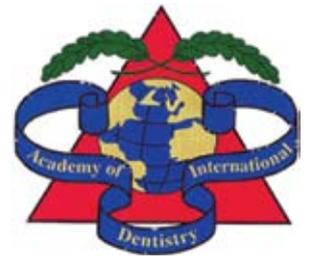
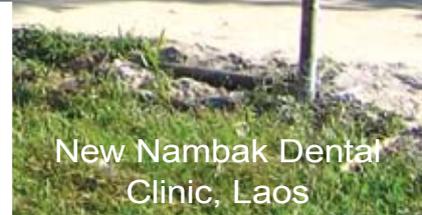


Newsletter

Academy of Dentistry International Australasian Section



AUGUST 2007



New Nambak Dental
Clinic, Laos



WORLD
understanding through
EDUCATION



From the pen of the Regent

by Mark Goodhew



It is a distinct honour for me to write this, my first article as Regent of the Australasian section of the ADI, and

I think it would be fitting to begin by thanking our immediate past Regent, Reg Hession, for his distinguished and energetic term at the helm. Over the course of his career, Reg has made significant contributions to his chosen profession in many ways, and continues to do so for ADI in particular as a Vice President of the ADI Board and Executive. I believe this section of ADI has benefited immensely from the leadership that Reg has provided. My only reservation is that I now have a very hard act to follow!

I am sure you will also be aware of the wonderful resource that this newsletter represents to our Fellows, and it will

come as no surprise to learn that it is now being held up as a model for ADI sections around the globe. There is an old Australasian expression "we don't know how lucky we are" which is very applicable to this newsletter; Editor Eddie Street deserves our gratitude. Of course, this newsletter is only possible because there is so much of interest that is happening within this section, so I urge you to let Eddie and myself know of the many beneficial projects and activities that our Fellows have initiated and are involved with. I know that some recognition of the tremendous work of one of our Fellows is not far away, but more details on that will follow at a later date.

There will be an ADI convocation held in conjunction with the FDI World Dental Congress in Dubai, which is being held between 22 and 26 October this year. As part of the development

of the new European sections (British Isles, Nordic, Southern, Eastern and Northern Europe) that Reg has previously mentioned, it is planned to admit a number of new Fellows from these parts of the world. This promises to be a great opportunity to meet with distinguished colleagues and Fellows, set in an exotic location, but the benefits of this strengthening and growth of the Academy within Europe will surely be felt by the recipients of the type of humanitarian work with which our members are involved.

In closing, I can assure you that I will be doing my best to ensure that the momentum generated in this section over the last few years is maintained, for the benefit of our profession and our patients.

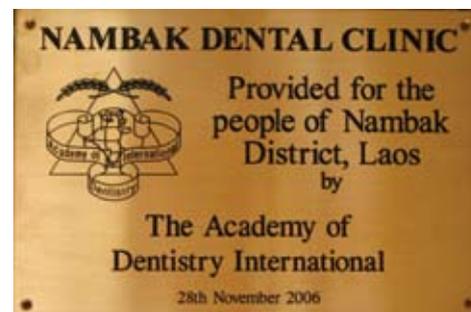
Mark Goodhew

In the field

New Nambak Dental Clinic – Laos

The New Dental Clinic at Nambak, Laos, is now functional through the great efforts by Paul Kotala who has been instrumental in setting up the whole project. The photos below show the transformation from a shack (which Paul found) to a well refurbished and equipped facility. The funds for this facility were provided by the ADI through the auspices of the Australasian Section and the International Board of Regents. The

clinic will be staffed by a permanent dental team with Paul acting in both a teaching role and supervisory capacity. A full time Laotian dentist, funded by Hawaiian friends of Dr Terry Tanaka (Past President of the Academy) will manage the clinic. The international family of the ADI congratulates Paul on this fine achievement of humanitarianism and thanks him for his selfless enthusiasm, energy and goodwill.



- Ed

Before...



After...





Dr Tepirou Chher's visit to Adelaide

The Academy of Dentistry International (ADI, ANZ Division) has donated a Fluoride Electrode and pH meter to the Oral Health Office, Ministry of Health, Cambodia. A short training program (from 9 October to 17 November 2006) was arranged for Cambodian dentist, Dr Tepirou Chher to come to Adelaide University to learn how to use this electrode in an effective way. The program was sponsored by the ADI (Australasian Section) in conjunction with the University of Adelaide.

The objectives of the visit were:

- (i) to help Tepirou learn to measure fluoride concentrations in water, urine and toothpastes/ mouth rinses,
- (ii) to assist her in the development of survey forms to enable a National Oral Health Survey to be carried out,
- (iii) to learn how to conduct a survey of fluoride concentrations in ground waters around Cambodia, and
- (iv) in general to provide opportunity for her to gather information which will help her to improve oral health in Cambodia.

The reasons for the focus on fluoride assays was that there are pockets of

high fluoride levels in ground waters in Cambodia, as with most of SE Asia. The Government Health Ministry is keen to use fluoride to reduce the very high caries prevalence in the country, though must proceed with caution. For this reason it is hoped to be able to prepare a map of fluoride content in ground waters for the whole country, as is being done for Vietnam, so that the Ministry of Health has the information necessary to know where to introduce dietary fluoride supplements, etc.

Tepirou very quickly learnt how to measure fluoride levels in water, in urine (to enable her to determine what levels of fluoride children were already ingesting), and in a variety of toothpastes currently available in Cambodia. Cambodia has up to 20 types of toothpaste available, some counterfeit as in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, and one can never be sure whether they contain the concentrations of fluoride ion they are claimed to have on the label. This involved the preparation of standard fluoride concentration solutions and of two Total Ionic Strength Adjustment Buffers (TISAB 2 and 4). The latter are needed to enable fluoride concentrations to be more accurately measured in these materials

and to ensure the electrode is not contaminated by excess metal cations in the process. She was able to take back to Cambodia enough of these measuring solutions to keep her going for a year and we will provide extra as necessary.

Her time with Professor John Spencer's group was very productive. They have offered to assist Dr Tepirou to carry out the NOHS once some funding has been obtained. This group have recently completed one in Vietnam, are conducting the NOHS in Australia at present, and are helping with one in Papua New Guinea next year. Dr Loc Do carried out a fluorosis survey in Vietnam and was able to provide a lot of help and documentation.

Dr Tepirou was tireless in hunting down information. She spent many hours in the university library, copying information not available to her in Cambodia. She was particularly interested to learn how to improve infection control procedures at the base hospital and health centre level in Cambodia. We were able to provide her with videos and DVDs and lots of articles about how this can be achieved in developing countries with limited resources.

Dr Tepirou presented a seminar on oral health services in Cambodia at the Colgate Research centre and her presentation left all of the audience in amazement as to the difficulties the dental fraternity have to face in providing even basic services to the population in Cambodia. I believe her visit will have helped her enormously, both in boosting her morale and in providing much needed information and material support. Knowing there is an organisation such as ADI which is supporting the profession in Cambodia and providing this support through a number of projects is of paramount importance to ensuring progress is achieved. With people dedicated and hard working as Dr Tepirou, I believe we can be very confident that our efforts will help make a significant difference.

News

from across the Tasman

The University of Otago Faculty of Dentistry is celebrating its centenary this year. A centenary celebration was held in Dunedin from 1 to 4 June with events that included a series of lectures and symposia, a day of clinical presentations by graduate students and staff, a dentistry v medicine debate (the moot was that doctors are failed dentists - which dentistry won) and a centennial dinner.

The New Zealand Dental Association is having its biennial Regional Conference in Dunedin from the 25 to 27 August 2007. Our own Mark

Kia Ora!

Goodhew becomes President of the New Zealand Dental Association at this meeting.

The University of Otago was recently informed that it had been placed top New Zealand University in the Performance Based Research Funding (PBRF) round. The Faculty of Dentistry also performed very well in the PBRF assessment. The next assessment will be in 2012.

Karl Lyons
Our NZ Correspondent



John McIntyre

We are proud to have our former Regent, Reg Hession on the international board in an executive position. Reg's appointment is sure to raise the international profile of our section. Our incoming Regent of the section, Mark Goodhew, is already making his mark. He will soon become the President of the New Zealand Dental Association and we wish him well during his incumbency. Fulfilling the responsibilities of this high office will undoubtedly place him in a good position to advance the interests of the ADI in the global arena.

The newsletter relies on your input. Please feel free to write to us with your thoughts and send through any news of home or abroad. Contact Roger Dennett (Secretary/Registrar) or me at any time.

What an exciting scenario has unfolded at the new dental clinic at Nambak! It is up and running and already providing greatly needed dental services to underprivileged people.

Our Academy attracts highly talented Fellows, many of whom reach out to needy communities. Don't forget that many Australian outposts also need our help and care. If you have any old equipment, instruments, books etc, please get in contact with us. Or if you are prepared to donate time and/or money, 'Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.' Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919).

Do it now, neither defer nor neglect it.

Fleet Street

Editor

Poets' Corner



Golden Summer, Eaglemont 1889, Arthur Streeton (1867-1943).

Australian Impressionism Exhibition, NGV. (Heidelberg School).

BEHOLD her, single in the field,
Yon solitary Highland Lass!
Reaping and singing by herself;
Stop here, or gently pass!
Alone she cuts and binds the grain,
And sings a melancholy strain;
O listen! for the Vale profound
Is overflowing with the sound.

William Wordsworth
1770-1850

Forthcoming Events

For more details see ADI website
www.adint.org

This information is not viewed by the general public.
The public only view name, city, state or country.

username "member"
password "adint"

Note: These are for the Association(s) NOT the Academy; contact the Central Office for local arrangements if any:

FEDERATION DENTAIRE INTERNATIONALE
(WORLD DENTAL CONGRESS)
October 24-27, 2007 - Dubai

**ADI USA SECTION CONVOCATION

American Dental Association
September 25, 2007 - San Francisco, California
October 15, 2008 - San Antonio, Texas
September 30, 2009 - Honolulu, Hawaii
Contact Dr R Ramus
3813 Gordon Creek Drive
Hicksville OHIO 43526US
email: rramus@bright.net

**ADI CONVOCATION OF CANADA SECTION

Canadian Dental Association and Alberta Dental Association
April 10, 2008 - Fairmount Jasper Park Lodge

**ADI (AUSTRALASIAN SECTION) CONVOCATION AND DINNER

33rd Australian Dental Congress
March 12-15, 2009
Perth, Western Australia

Contacts

Dr Roger Dennett

Secretary/Treasurer/Registrar
Suite7, 19-21 Central Miranda NSW 2228
Home 02 9501 0498
Work 02 9526 1458
Fax 02 9540 3952
Email rogerdennett@optusnet.com.au

Dr Eddie Street

Editor
Level 3, St Andrew's Place
33 North Street, Spring Hill QLD 4000
Home 07 3262 3837
Work 07 3832 4410
H. Fax 07 3862 6053
W. Fax 07 3832 1391
H. Email e.street@bigpond.com
W. Email estreet@pop.sawmh.org.au

 HENRY SCHEIN® | HALAS
Everything Dental.



It would be appreciated if letters, articles, photos etc are sent in high resolution, electronic format or TIFF (cmyk) where possible. We look forward to hearing from you.

Special thanks are due to Bill Cronk (Henry Schein Halas) and Brendan Casey (Medfin) for their generous sponsorship of this Newsletter, Elizabeth McCray for her publishing skills and ADAQ for its support.