

Friends of Vellore, Victoria

A division of the Australian Board of Vellore Christian Medical College and Hospital Limited, ABN 18 110 916 375

OCTOBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION FROM RECENT EDITIONS OF CMC NEWSLINE

CLINICAL SERVICES / DEPARTMENTS

There are 59 on the list and, below is a sample, just those with a first letter of A,B or C in their title for your information. CMC offers so much.

ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY
ANAESTHESIA
ANATOMY
BIOCHEMISTRY
BIOENGINEERING
BIostatISTICS
CARDIOLOGY
CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY
CHILD HEALTH
CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY
CLINICAL EPIDEMIOLOGY
CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY
CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY
CLINICAL VIROLOGY
COMMUNITY HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT
CYTOGENETICS

INDEPENDENCE DAY RUN

This much anticipated event jointly organised by the Department of Radiology and the Development Office was held on August 15, 2013. Over 600 people; students, staff, faculty and their families; enthusiastically participated, running 10km, 5km or the 5x1km relay through the verdant College Campus.



COLLEGE MOTTO AWARD

Instituted by the batch of 1949, the College Motto Award recognizes and celebrates each year an alumnus whose life and work has exemplified the motto of the Christian Medical College, Vellore, 'not to be served but to serve'. The eighth College Motto Award was presented to Dr. Adeline Sित्ther, alumnus of the MBBS batch of 1988 at the Alumni Reunion.



Dr. Sित्ther receiving the award.

PATIENT FRIENDLY AWARDS

The Award Ceremony for the Most Patient Friendly Wards, OPDs and MROs for 2012 was held on August 30, 2013 in Norman Auditorium.



G4 West : Most Patient Friendly General Ward

G7 South Ward was declared the 'Most Patient Friendly Private Ward' for the third consecutive year, G4 West Ward won the first place for the 'Most Patient Friendly General Ward' and Ophthalmology-I won the 'Most Patient Friendly General OPD' award. This is a sample from a larger number of awards presented on the day.

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REPORT ON THE AUSTRALIAN BOARD OF THE CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE VELLORE AGM

held on Saturday 17 August 2013 at the Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin N.T.

The Board Meeting, chaired by Ian Olver, was held in conjunction with the Vellore Alumni Conference. Dr. Sunil Chandy, CMC Vellore Director, was present together with a number of the Australian Alumni members; Dr. Mahiban Thomas (Alumni Conference Chair), Dr. Nitin Verma (President Australian Alumni Assoc & Alumni Board Rep.) and Dr. Vineet Nayyar (Alumni Assoc.) and, Rev. Malcolm Sercombe, Snr Pastor at Darwin Baptist Church together with Australian Board members, Dr. Stephen Aseervatham (Alumni Rep. & Publicity Officer), Richard Caitens (Treasurer & Public Officer), Cathy Chandani (Qld. Rep.), Dr. Anil Roy (S.A. Rep.), Deni and Barry Condi and Derek Scanalan (interested in forming a N.T. FOV), Liz Guiver (Vic. Rep.) and Stephen Bollipo (NSW Rep.).

The CMC College Song, 'Silver and Blue', was sung.

Devotions: Rev. Malcolm Sercombe focused the devotion on Matthew 10:5 and Mark 8: 13-21 with faith being the central theme. He shared his own background of having a mother who when confronted with any issues would always take them to the Lord. She taught him to do the same. No issue was too small or, too big for the Lord to deal with.

Message from the CMC Director:

1. Infrastructure; Buildings - now too small to accommodate needs.
2. College 'Neet' Court Case, where other hospitals were dovetailing on CMC.
3. Responding to Training requests from other countries; South Sudan and Fiji to train Medical Practitioners. Distance Education is being looked at.
4. The 2015 'Paul Brand (Leprosy Mission) Celebration' with a Plan to have a Retirement Home for past Surgeons to reside in.
5. New DVD's will be made, to bring friends and others up to date with what has been happening at CMC
6. Dr. Chandy mentioned that while money was not the priority, it was prayerful support that was most needed from the Friends of Vellore.

Matters discussed at the Australian Board:

Closer ties between the FOV and Alumni are developing but, it was made clear, that the Alumni want to remain a separate entity in order to retain their identity with each other. However, a suggestion was made that in order to obtain tax deductibility; the Alumni could send funds to FOV which has Corporate ability which might be useful to Alumni members and their respective supporters. Talks will continue between the two groups.

This year's total amount sent from the Australia Board to CMC was \$101,300.

Liz Guiver was nominated and appointed Secretary of the Australian Board.

The 2013 – 2014 Australian Board AGM will be held in South Australia.

Liz Guiver

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'WELCOME LUNCH' FOR PROFESSOR SUNIL CHANDY held on Wednesday 21 August 2013 in the Junior Common Room, Queens College.

Professor Sunil and Mrs. Achamma Chandy attended a Welcome Lunch in the Junior Common Room, Queens College. Dr. Chandy visited Australia for the first time as Director of the Christian Medical College & Hospital, Vellore.

Dr. Chandy had already attended the Australian Alumni Conference and the Australian Board of the CMC Vellore 'Annual General Meeting', the previous weekend in Darwin. After Darwin, the Chandy's travelled to Queensland before travelling to Melbourne. Their busy schedule took them on to Adelaide prior to their returning home. We were privileged that the Chandy's busy schedule found time to visit Victoria.

Dr. Chandy recalled the beginning of CMC's footprint with the story of Ida Scudder from January 1900, some 113 years ago. This footprint has now been expanded.

- CMC focuses on Education, Service and Research
- Six (6) Campuses:
 1. CMC Vellore
 2. Bagayam College Campus
 3. Schell Hospital Campus
 4. Kagitapattarai College of Nursing Campus
 5. North Campus in Mapakshi of Chittoor Mandal, Andhra Pradesh
 6. South Campus in Kannigapuram, Andhra Pradesh
- Health Care (Water, Sanitation) and Social aspects (Road trauma) are needs, which CMC plan to focus on
- 6500 out patients present each day. The reason for this is 'trust' and 'reliability in the service that CMC offers'
- Requests for 'Training' have come from South Sudan, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. This will probably be achieved through Distance Education.
- There is a 'need for Health Care and Leadership Management Courses'
- Highest Patient demands are; Heart, Mental Health and Road Trauma
- CMC is a place of Inspiration – its Mission is focused in the Spirit of Christ
- Alumni members are 'Ambassadors' for the Institution
- 'FOV groups are Ambassadors for CMC'
- Developments in Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh, include a Speciality Hospital offering a range of health related education and training courses and advanced research facilities



Professor Sunil & Mrs Achamma Chandy after Lunch



Luncheon Guests

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PRESIDENT'S 2012 - 2013 REPORT

It has been encouraging to find a bible reading enclosed with each edition of the CMC Newslines which has enabled me to share some of these at our Executive Meetings.

During this past year there have been a number of significant highlights, achievements and events.

FOV Victoria Executive Meetings:

Meetings have been held in John Gault's Consulting Rooms in Bendigo on 13 September 2012, and on 21 February and 20 June 2013.

Australian FOV AGM – Hobart, 2012:

The Annual General Meeting of the Australian Board was held on 18 August, 2012 at Hutchins School, Sandy Bay, Hobart, Tasmania. Ian Oliver, President, chaired the Meeting and made mention of the healthy relationship between the Alumni and the FOV in Australia and of how FOV is hoping to make use of this association to build up FOV branches in Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Sunny Philip opened with prayer and a short devotion followed by a report in which he presented the recent developments at CMC Vellore.

FOV Victoria Fundraising Dinner:

The Annual Fundraising Dinner was held on 4 May 2013, with Dr. John Gault as Guest Speaker, followed by Dr. Helen McNamara who had recently returned from CMC Vellore. As John's topic was 'Medical Women in my Life' it was appropriate to have a woman doctor share her experiences with us.

During the evening there was a real buzz in the room and it highlighted the passion that attendees had for CMC Vellore. A big thank you to Evelyn who organized a large part of this event prior to attending her son's wedding in Copenhagen and, thanks to Committee members and to all those friends who attended. The Silent Auction was a highlight too as it enabled attendees to move around as they viewed the lace cloths and other sale items. An amount of \$5,333 was raised, after costs. A great effort!

Proposed Bio Ethics Centre at CMC Vellore:

At the June Executive Meeting, Revd Colin Honey shared his proposal for a Bio Ethics Centre at CMC Vellore. He made reference to the influence that Alistair Campbell, world authority and Head of Bio Ethics in Singapore, had on him and, of Christian Barnard, Surgeon, who was challenged by the ethical issues surrounding heart transplant donors.

Colin's proposal gained support from CMC and the FOV Victoria Executive Committee members. He has managed to obtain financial support from a donor and together with a \$5,000 FOVV donation an amount of \$20,000 has been raised towards a Bio Ethics Centre at CMC. This is an exciting new venture, so please pray for God's guiding hand.

GREAT NEWS – Bioethics Unit at CMC!

A Unit of Bioethics with four core members; Dr. Anna Pulimood, Rev. Aruldas, Dr. Kuryan George and Colin, has recently been set up at CMC. A student survey has been conducted on the ethics needs of the student body. An Ethics Curriculum for Undergraduate students is being designed and, a teaching group is being formed.

Network of Medical, Nursing, Occupational & Physical Therapist Alumni Association Members in Victoria:

FOV Victoria does not have a list of CMC Vellore Alumni members. After contacting Hugh Skiel at CMC, I was provided with email contacts and consequently have received the list of Medical and Allied Health members in Victoria. This list will be valuable as these members can now be connected with FOV Victoria's activities.

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Generous Donations received:

During the year a number of generous donations have been received and the Committee members are very grateful and sincerely thank all those who have continued to support the work at CMC Vellore. Donations have supported the following projects, Community Lay-Leaders Health Training Certificate Program, Nursing Scholarship, Proposed Bio Ethics Centre and of course those in need of medical care and support.

You will be delighted to know that \$35,000 has been forwarded to the Australian FOV Board for transfer to CMC.

Australian FOV Webpage:

Make sure you visit this website from time to time to assist you to keep abreast of the Friends of Vellore activities across Australia.

Appreciation:

Finally, I would like to pass on my appreciation and gratitude to the FOV Victoria Executive members; Dr. P.J. Kuruvilla (Vice President), Louise Joy (Secretary), John Gault and Evelyn Lehmann (Joint Treasurers), George Guiver (Newsletter Editor), and Committee members Molly Kuruvilla and Ian Luhrs.

In Matthew 14: 13 -21 we read of 'a particularly sad time for Jesus who had just received news that his cousin, John the Baptist, had been beheaded. He just wanted to be alone, but a huge crowd followed him. Jesus puts aside his own grief and sits down with the crowd and speaks to them. Later, Jesus gave instructions on how to seat the hungry crowd and He blesses the only food that was available and then gives it to the people to eat. They went home and He was able to find time to be alone and pray'.

The passage encourages us to be mindful of those in need and, to remember to pray to enable God to refresh you and, to answer your prayers according to His will. (CMC Newsline, 10 June, 2013)

What a privilege and pleasure it is to be involved in the work of CMC Vellore, as it continues to carry out God's work by seeking the poor, lost, strayed and injured and healing them so they are made well and able to return home.

Liz Guiver

President FOVV

28 June, 2013 (Bioethics Unit material updated on 1 August, 2013)

PROPOSED SOUTH INDIA MISSION EXPOSURE TOUR - SEPTEMBER 2014

I invite expressions of interest at this early stage for a proposed 2-3 week South India Mission Exposure Tour to be conducted in September 2014. I will work on finalising dates and costings early in the New Year but would be happy to add names onto a mailing list for now.

I have travelled into South India on three previous occasions providing excellent opportunities for Australians to gain a first-hand appreciation of the work of God in this amazing country.

Grace and peace,
Mark

Rev Mark J Dunn

St John's Uniting Church Parish Essendon

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FOV VICTORIA INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2012-2013

BAL B/FORWARD FROM 2011/12		BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2013	
General Cheque Acct	\$15,759.38	General Cheque Acct	\$17,701.89
Investment Acct	\$24,034.81	Investment Acct	\$35,285.89
TOTAL	\$39,794.19	TOTAL	\$52,987.78
INCOME 2012-2013		EXPENDITURE 2012-2013	
Donations fundraising dinner	\$2,825.00	Donations forwarded to Australian	
Donations in lieu of dinner	\$926.00	Vellore Board / CMC	\$35,000.00
Donations other	\$39,587.00	Bank Acct Fees	\$31.10
General Cheq acct Interest	\$388.81	Fundraising Dinner	\$3,896.00
Investment Acct Interest	\$1,251.08	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$38,927.10
Fundraising Dinner	\$4,325.00		
Fundraising Book Sales	\$730.00		
Fundraising Raffles - AGM & Dinner	\$575.00	NET INCOME (after Expenditure)	\$13,193.59
Fundraising - Olive Oil	\$330.00		
Fundraising - Silent Auction	\$612.80		
Queen's College Welcome Lunch	\$570.00		
TOTAL INCOME	\$52,120.69		

Evelyn Lehmann & John Gault
Joint Treasurers
21 August 2013

IT'S ALWAYS A VERY GOOD TIME TO DONATE TO FOVV

Send or Transfer your gift as described below, clearly indicating it is a tax deductible donation to CMC Vellore and a tax deductible receipt is required. Also your return address for sending the receipt to you.

By Cheque: made out to "Friends of Vellore Victoria" posted to the address shown below or,
By Payment: to any Bendigo & Adelaide Bank (by cheque, cash, transfer or direct credit)

Post Details:

Evelyn Lehmann and John Gault
c/o Treasurers Friends of Vellore Victoria
203 View Street
Bendigo Victoria 3550
(Ensure return address and donor name is included for receipt/s)

Bank Details (for payment):

Friends of Vellore Victoria BBL
BSB: 633000
Account: 139185151
Reference: Your name/deductible donation
(Please e-mail your postal address and name to
Joint Treasurers e-mail address listed below for receipt/s)

FOVV INFORMATION MATERIAL:

Enquiries/orders to Louise Joy, Secretary FOVV; e-mail to fovvsecretary@gmail.com,
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