



# NSW Branch

**Friends of Vellore**

**Supporting the work at**

***Christian Medical College & Hospital***

**November 2014**

## Office Bearers

|                                    |                                |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Chairman:</b>                   | <b>Ms Alison Vickery</b>       | <b>02 99536376</b> |
| <b>Vice Chairman:</b>              | <b>Dr. Liza Jacob</b>          | <b>02 96595290</b> |
| <b>Secretary:</b>                  | <b>Dr. Gordon Thomas</b>       | <b>0419 238064</b> |
| <b>Treasurer /<br/>News Editor</b> | <b>Dr. Stephen Aseervatham</b> | <b>02 49467882</b> |

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Dear Friends,

It is quite some time since we had a second newsletter during the same calendar year! We also managed to have a dinner function in the past month. I hope it will be a new beginning for state branch. There has been some interest in having another gathering in March -April next year and hopefully we will have more news for you afterwards.

## **The AGM of the Vellore Board**

The AGM of the Australian Board of the Christian Medical College, Vellore was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2104, in Adelaide, SA.

Dr. Daryl Teague led the devotions. Ian Olver as the outgoing President mentioned in his report the importance of 'relationships' and believed that the training medical professionals and others received in Australia, particularly in South Australia, was leaving its mark. He briefly mentioned on Hugh Skiel's follow up with elective students, leadership by the Vellore Directorate, Tim Nicholls's proposed new DVD, facilities for online donation and the communication via teleconferencing had simplified and reduced the length of the AGM while keeping executive members up to date with what each State was doing

In his report, the treasurer Richard Caitens stated that. \$175.000 was sent to CMC Vellore during the year. The report was accepted with a special note of acknowledgment of his service and involvement with the Board for over a period of 20 years.

Reports by the Publicity Officer, State branches and the Alumni association were also presented. The following were elected as Office Bearers: President: Bella George, Vice-President: Stephen Aseervatham, Secretary: Liz Guiver, Treasure & Public Officer: Richard Caitens. As no one was appointed for the position of Publicity Officer, Stephen Aseervatham will continue to manage the web site for the present.

A vote of thanks was made to the outgoing President Ian Olver. Ian had contributed to the Board, its Website, developed State branches in Western Australia and the Northern Territory and was notable for his overall encouragement and professionalism in all tasks carried out by him.

The next AGM will be held in Victoria in August 2015, with the possibility of a visit by CMC Director or his representative. That evening all members attended the annual Dinner of the SA FOV .

### **Farewell to Ian and Jenny Olver**

Ian and Jenny are leaving Sydney at the end of this year, after being part of the NSW FOV over the past 8 years. They are moving back to Adelaide where Ian will get back into his specialty, Oncology.

About 20 friends from NSW met on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> of November at Epping Uniting Church hall to bid them farewell over a sumptuous Indian dinner. It was great catching up with some friends after a long time. Ian traced his experience with the



Vellore Board over the past 12 years or so in various capacities and was pleased that he was leaving the organisation in good shape.

We will miss them very much as they have been an integral part of the state branch. We wish them and their family the very best as they move to the next phase of their life.

Thank you all for your contribution with the dishes you brought to share and a special thanks to Alison Vickery for organising the function. We hope, that it won't be another 3 years before we meet again!

### **Thank You**

We are grateful for your very generous donations towards the end of the last financial year. Even though our donor base has shrunk dramatically over the years, the die hard supporters continue to uphold us. We had a total of \$13,345.00 received towards the CMCH Support Fund, out of which \$250.00 was for person to person fund and \$3000.00 donated for specific designated projects. Thank you all again.

## **Dr. Bella George**

At the last AGM of the Australian Board of Vellore, Bella was elected as the President. Bella has been an active member of the Friends of Vellore Queensland branch for many years. During that



time, she held the positions as the vice chairman and then the chairman. For the past 6 years, she was the Vice President of the Board.

Bella is an alumnus of CMC Vellore (Year 1965). She and her husband Tom came to Brisbane in 1978. She is a specialist in General Medicine and Geriatrics and Tom is a Psychiatrist. They both work in Brisbane and have two married daughters and blessed with 2 grand children,

Bella is the first alumnus to hold the position as the President of the Board. We wish her the very best and believe that she will bring about a greater relationship between the Australian FOV and CMC Vellore.

## **New Documentary about CMC**

The Australian team who made the award winning video, Home of a Healing God returned to CMC during September 2014 to make a new film, led by Sydney based producer Tim Nicholls.

They are back home and Tim is busy with the editing. To make sure the new CMC story is seen as widely as possible they hope to produce a series of short micro documentaries that will showcase CMC activities. Some of these micro-docs will be as short as three minutes while others will be longer.



*Wishing you all a happy and safe Christmas  
and Gods blessings in the coming year.*

