

June 2017

# Vellore News

CMCH Vellore Web site:  
Australian FOV web site:  
SA FOV email:

<http://www.cmch-vellore.edu>  
<http://www.australianfov.net.au>  
[safriendsofvellore@gmail.com](mailto:safriendsofvellore@gmail.com)



We cordially invite you to the  
**SA Friends of Vellore  
Annual Dinner 2017**

Saturday, 26th August, 2017  
6:30pm for 7:00pm

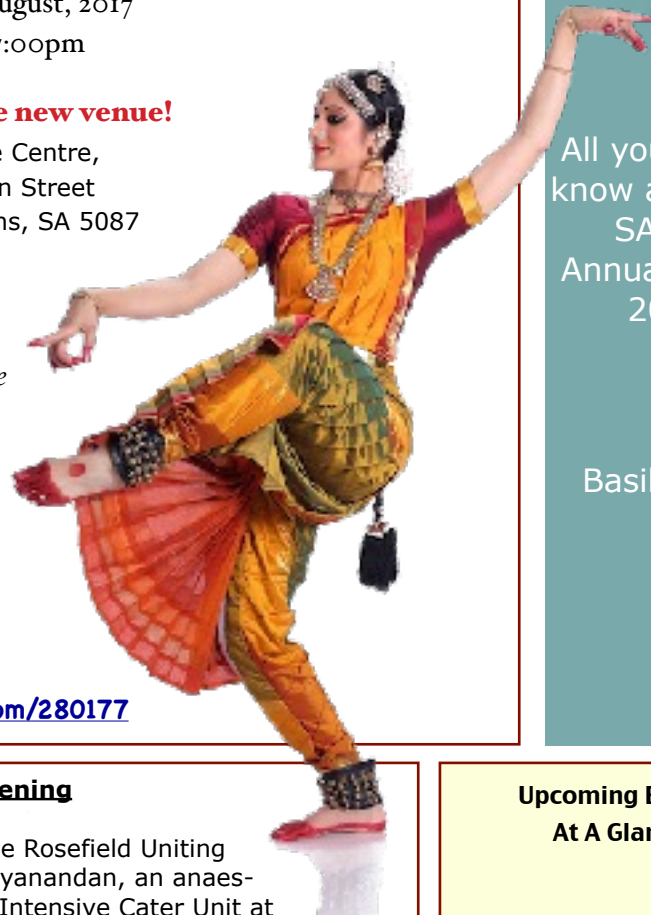
**Don't forget the new venue!**

John DiFede Centre,  
10 Freebairn Street  
Windsor Gardens, SA 5087

Guest Speaker: **Mr Hugh Skiel**  
Manager of CMC Development Office

*This promises to be another wonderful evening  
at an exciting new venue. Come along and enjoy  
a delicious Indian meal, dazzling entertainment,  
and lots more!*

See the flyer on page 3 for more details!  
Easily purchase tickets at [www.trybooking.com/280177](http://www.trybooking.com/280177)



All you need to  
know about the  
SA FOV  
Annual Dinner  
2017!

Basil Hetzel

## Vellore Presentations Evening

The clinical meeting was held on May 19th at the Rosefield Uniting Church hall. The speakers were Dr Cephas Sathyanandan, an anaesthetist at CMC Vellore, currently working in the Intensive Cater Unit at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and Dr Viju Daniel Varghese, Orthopaedic Surgeon from CMC currently working at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. Dr Sathyanandan gave us a glimpse into the evolution of the anaesthesia department at CMC from its inception in the 1930s to its current state where nearly 40,000 anaesthetics are performed in operating theatres and 10,000 peripheral anaesthetics every year. Dr Viju Daniel gave an overview of work done by the orthopaedic department at CMC, particularly in relation to trauma.

*Dr Renjy Nelson, President of SA FOV*

## Upcoming Events At A Glance

### **Sat 26th Aug, 2017**

SA FOV Annual Dinner  
John DiFede Centre  
Windsor Gardens

### **Sun 5th November, 2017**

SA FOV Annual General Meeting  
Rosefield Uniting Church  
Highgate

A reminder that if you wish to receive this newsletter by email and no longer require the paper form, please email: [safriendsofvellore@gmail.com](mailto:safriendsofvellore@gmail.com)  
Remember to let us know if you change your email address.

## South Australian Friends of Vellore Committee

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**The Hon Basil Hetzel AC**  
13 June 1922 – 4 February 2017

This week one of Australia's most significant researchers died. As has been widely reported, his discovery in Papua New Guinea in the 1960's of the link between iodine deficiency and brain development has helped to prevent brain damage in millions of children. What is more, I am sure that he derived great satisfaction that his research had particular impact in low income countries and amongst the most disadvantaged.

You may imagine that this would have been sufficient service for one lifetime, but I first met Basil Hetzel late in his career, because of his involvement with a charity, the Friends of Vellore group. He had been part of the founding of this group in South Australia. Its mission was to raise funds to pay for treatment for the poor who presented at the Christian Medical College Hospital in Vellore in southern India. Despite his heavy schedule he continued to not only support this cause over the decades but was a source of ongoing encouragement for those who succeeded him in leading these fundraising efforts. Indeed, subsequently this evolved so that Adelaide became a place where dozens of doctors and nurses from Vellore were to train in the various specialities and bring that expertise back to Vellore. That was only one example of the charities which he supported which also included the Order of St John which raises funds supporting the Mary Potter Hospice.



Basil Hetzel will also be remembered for leadership. Prominent in his appointments after starting at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, University of Adelaide is an appointment as the Foundation Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine at Monash University and the First Chief of the CSIRO Division of Human Nutrition. These new trailblazing appointments brought an increasing prominence to the field of public health for which he remained a strong advocate. This created opportunities for the next generation of public health researchers. We continue to need examples of innovative leadership today. Moreover, Basil Hetzel's leadership embraced genuine interest in those he led which provided opportunities for his successors to flourish.

When I moved to the University of South Australia a couple of years ago it was no surprise to me to find that he had had a role in the continuing upward trajectory of that university, serving as its Chancellor from 1992 to 1998. However, today's staff remember him from just a couple of years ago when in his 90's he generously agreed to return and give a Sansom Institute seminar, thereby inspiring a new generation.

He may well be remembered by the many accolades including the Companion of the Order of Australia, his time as Lieutenant Governor of South Australia, or the awards, a research institute and building named in his honour.

I will remember him, however, as a gentle, charming man who set a towering example to young researchers of achieving stellar success with humility, and to those of us who crossed his path of selfless service to communities throughout the world.

*Prof Ian Olver AM*  
*Director, Sansom Institute for Health Research*  
*University of South Australia*

Tax deductible donations to CMCH can be made online at: <http://australianfov.net.au/donations/>

Simply and easily make a donation to the work of the Christian Medical College and Hospital, Vellore.





## SA Friends of Vellore Annual Fund-Raising Dinner 2017

*An evening of Indian Cuisine, Cultural Dance & Entertainment*

*Supporting Christian Medical College Vellore, India*

**Saturday 26 Aug 2017, 6:30pm for 7:00pm start**

**John DiFede Centre**  
10 Freebairn Street, Windsor Gardens SA

**Guest Speaker: Mr Hugh Skeil** *(Manager, Development Office, CMC Vellore)*

**Ticket: \$70 per person** Tickets: <http://www.trybooking.com/280177>

\* Please book early, deadline: 14th Aug 2017

*Donations: <http://australianfov.net.au/donations/>*

**Email: [safriendsofvellore@gmail.com](mailto:safriendsofvellore@gmail.com)**

**Contact Wendy 0402169723**

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Dr. Ian Roberts-Thomson  
8 William St  
Hawthorn, SA, 5062

Please accept the enclosed donation of \$..... to the work of the Christian Medical College and Hospital at Vellore, India.

Name.....

Address.....

.....Post Code.....

Phone No.....

(Donations are tax-deductible if made to the Vellore Christian Medical College and Hospital Support Fund)