

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

July 2012

SA FOV
Annual Dinner

August 2012

SA FOV
President's
Report

Vellore
Patient Story



We cordially invite you to the
**SA Friends of Vellore
Annual Dinner 2012**

Saturday, 25th August, 2012
6:30pm for 7:00pm

Fogolar Furlan Hall
69 Briar Rd, Felixstow

Guest Speaker:

Dr Annapurna Nori
Alumnus of CMC Vellore, Public Health Physician, Adelaide

Guaranteed to be an enjoyable evening of
wonderful Indian food and entertainment!

See the enclosed flyer for ticketing details.

A fund raising event in support of the Christian Medical College and Hospital Vellore, India

Upcoming Events At A Glance

Sat, 25th August, 2012

SA FOV Annual Dinner
Fogolar Furlan,
Felixstow

**Sun, late Oct/early
Nov 2012**

SA FOV Annual General
Meeting
Rosefield Uniting Church,

SA FOV President's Report

Dear friends,

Many of you would be aware that the "Vellore Presentations Evening" was held on Friday, the 4th of May at the Rosefield Uniting Church hall in Highgate. We had a good turnout of faculty and alumni from Vellore, medical students, friends and supporters of Vellore in South Australia and it was great to see the hall packed with people enthusiastic to hear about the work at Christian Medical College, Vellore. It was an interesting and informative night with the following 3 speakers from different medical specialities, all trained in Vellore.

* Dr Ravish Sanghi is a Hepato-biliary Surgeon from Vellore who is currently a Registrar in Gastro Intestinal Surgery at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital. He spoke about the spectrum of diseases of the liver and pancreas for which patients present to their department in Vellore and highlighted some of the tropical conditions such as hydatid cysts of the liver which are not seen here in Australia.

...contd

If you wish to receive this newsletter by email and no longer require the paper form, please email:
safriendsofvellore@gmail.com

South Australian Friends of Vellore Committee

President:	Dr Anil Roy	anilroy_86@hotmail.com	08 83595051
Vice-President:	Dr Renjy Nelson	renjy.nelson@gmail.com	
Secretary:	Marion Croser	Marionc@hotmail.net.au	0409 096 101
Treasurer:	Peter Kirk	peter_kirk@bigpond.com	08 8338 6745
Editor:	Gary Fielke	safriendsofvellore@gmail.com	08 8346 6679

✿ Dr Daisy Mohanasundaram is a Physiologist whose doctoral studies in Vellore included laboratory research in the area of pancreatic islet cell transplantation. She is a Scientist at the Basil Hetzel & Hanson Institutes in South Australia in the field of pancreatic islet cell transplantation for Diabetes as a part of the South Australian and Northern Territory Islet cell Program (SANTIP). She highlighted the highly sophisticated background work performed after the pancreas is removed from the donor, from the separation of islet cells until infusion into the transplant recipient. It was heartening to note that her training in this area from Vellore has been useful for the successful implementation of the program in Australia.

✿ Dr Gopinath Gopal is a Geriatrician from Vellore, currently Registrar in Geriatrics at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital. He took us through the problems unique to the elderly and pointed out that with improved healthcare and increasing life expectancy, Geriatricians are going to be fairly busy in the years to come. The Geriatrics Unit at Vellore is fairly young (!) and it is worth noting that the Unit's staff members include Dr Prasad Mathews and Dr V Surekha who were trained in Adelaide in recent years. Gopinath compared the contrasting social situations in India and Australia which has a bearing on how the elderly are cared for in these countries.

The evening served to give us a glimpse of the high quality of work and training at the Christian Medical College, Vellore. The "Vellore Presentations Evening" is usually held in the month of May every year, a favourite among supporters of Vellore and students planning to visit Vellore for their elective postings.

The Annual Dinner of South Australian Friends of Vellore is to be held on the 25th of August. Details are available elsewhere in this newsletter. Preparations are in full-swing and as in previous years, it promises to be a great evening with fabulous Indian food and dance, all in support of CMC, Vellore. Make sure you mark the date in your calendar, book your tickets and invite friends who may be interested in knowing more about Vellore.

Thanks to the SA Friends of Vellore Committee for their hard work behind the scenes and thanks to all of you for your support.

Dr Anil Roy, President, SA FOV

Ramadoss

Ramadoss, a 21 year old man lives in a remote village where transport services are very limited.

Most of the people in the village depend on agriculture related work. His house is in a hut in a field and the surrounding environment is not disabled friendly. It is challenging as far as mobility for a disabled person is concerned.

Ramadoss's life has been full of miserable events. He lost his parents during his infancy. He was brought up by his aunt (mother's elder sister) and his cousin. He studied up to 7th Std, then started looking for job opportunities. Under the influence of his cousin, Rajiv Gandhi, who was employed on a sweet stall, he got a job in the same sweet stall at Chennai. However he had a special interest in working in the transport sector. Having worked in the sweet stall for two years, he returned to his village and started working as a cleaner in a truck. He used to travel across various states of India.



One day the truck collided with another vehicle in the nearby state (Andhra Pradesh). He was hospitalized in the local government hospital and diagnosed to have spinal cord injury. He was taken to Chennai by his family for further treatment. The owner of the truck supported him initially but withdrew the support as the truck was not covered by any insurance. Ramados had to return home and developed multiple pressure sores.

As his village belonged to the area covered by the Rural Unit for Health and Social Action (RUHSA), which is a part of CMC's community health services, he was referred from RUHSA and admitted in the Rehabilitation Institute (Rehab). The Rehab Social Worker made an evaluation home visit in order to

understand the socio-economic background and explore vocational options for him. While at Rehab Ramadoss took part in the Stamp ("Earn and Enjoy") Project. He was given the task of soaking off stamps for which he "earned" a small remuneration. He was then able to "enjoy" being able to help to pay for his medicines and food and for some of the aides which he needed. Like Ramadoss many other deserving poor patients have been helped through this Project.

On admission, Ramados's nutritional status was very poor and the stamp project helped him to improve his health and his self esteem over a period of time. He was trained to walk with knee ankle foot calipers and elbow crutches which were provided free of cost through the International Committee of Red Cross fund. He was also trained to become independent in all his self care. Bladder and bowel management was also taught to him. Vocational options were discussed with him and he was counseled to learn a new skill. It was amazing to see the moral and physical support given by his aunt and his cousin during the period of rehabilitation. Following discharge he returned home and applied, successfully for an identity card for a person with disability from the state government which helped him to get a monthly pension. He joined the vocational rehabilitation programme of the Rehab Institute and has been learning tailoring skills at the Mary Verghese Trust (the rehabilitation project run by Rehab). He is hoping to complete in three months time and start a new life with a new skill.

from UK FOV Summer 2012 edition

CMC VELLORE RANKED SECOND IN INDIA TODAY SURVEY

In the *India Today- Nielsen* sixteenth annual survey of the best colleges in the country, Christian Medical College, Vellore has done itself proud, ranking second in Medicine, next only to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

A rigorous four step methodology governed the ranking methodology, and all the medical colleges in the country were considered. Colleges were ranked on five parameters- reputation, quality of academic input, student care, infrastructure and job prospects. A total of 165 experts rated the medical colleges to arrive at the perceptual rankings. The factual ranks were based on the factual data provided by each college. The perceptual and factual scores were added in the ratio of 50:50 to arrive at the final scores.

It is worth quoting what *India Today** has to say about Christian Medical College, Vellore:

If AIIMS faces any competition, it comes from Christian Medical College (CMC) in Vellore. CMC has gained immensely from the synergy of a well- reputed hospital, established consciously away from any major city, and run with tremendous commitment. It is to its credit that patients from the farthest corners of the country are ready to travel to Vellore, about 125 km from the state capital Chennai, for treatment.

Among its alumni are several public health specialists who have broken away from the traditional mould. They include the civil rights activist, Binayak Sen, who worked for years among the tribals in Chhattisgarh, and the Magsaysay Award winner, Rajnikant Arole, who developed a comprehensive healthcare system along with his wife, Mabelle, at Jamkhed in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.

In this mercenary age, CMC still produces medical professionals ready to offer unflinching public service to the nation.

We thank God for this honour and seek His guidance as we continue to uphold the legacy and vision of Dr. Ida S. Scudder- and countless others- and be the difference to healthcare in India.

**India Today June 18, 2012*

Article sourced from June 18, 2012 edition of Vellore News

TOP 10 COLLEGES			
	2012	2011	2010
>>	1	1	1
	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi		
↑	2	4	2
	Christian Medical College, Vellore		
↑	3	7	4
	JIPMER, Puducherry		
↑	4	5	3
	Armed Forces Medical College, Pune		
↓	5	2	5
	Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi		
↑	6	9	9
	Grant Medical College, Mumbai		
↑	7	18	12
	Madras Medical College, Chennai		
↓	8	3	11
	University College of Medical Sciences & GTB Hospital, Delhi		
↑	9	20	8
	St. John's Medical College, Bangalore		
↑	10	15	13
	Institute of Medical Sciences, Varanasi		

National rankings are derived from a combination of perceptual and factual scores. Colleges that did not provide factual information were not ranked.

Mr. P.J. Kirk
9 Burnham Ave
Myrtle Bank, SA, 5064

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)