

## Our Donations

The money transferred by the Board in May 2018 was allocated for the following designated causes. Some were designated by the individual donors and others were decided either by the state committees of the FOV or the Board.

<b>Person to Person</b>	<b>\$7,438</b>
<b>Student Scholarship ( Nursing &amp; Allied Health)</b>	<b>\$22,475</b>
<b>Endowment Fund for Health Care for the Needy</b>	<b>\$26,000</b>
<b>Low Cost Effective Care Unit</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
<b>Distance Education Dept</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Mobile Eye Diagnostic Unit</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>
<b>Alumni Batch Projects</b>	<b>\$15,700</b>



### Donation by Elective Students

In March 2018, a couple of Physiotherapy students from the University of Newcastle – Samantha Smith and Josie Pepper went to CMC to do their elective term. They were quite taken up by the work done by the department, and were keen to help them financially. Since

coming back to Australia, they have been busy raising funds for the Physiotherapy Department and recently we received a donation of A\$1,220.00 from what they have collected over the past 6 months. This has been a collection from cake stalls & through Sam's Alchemy Chocolate business promotion! Thank you very much Sam & Josie for your hard work in raising these funds. We really do appreciate your invaluable contribution. The department has allocated this money for purchasing equipment, some of which were at the suggestion by Sam & Josie. We hope they continue to keep in touch with the Department.

*Thank you again for your continuing support to CMC Vellore. Stephen*

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## NSW Branch

### Friends of Vellore



*Supporting the work at  
Christian Medical College &  
Hospital, Vellore, S. India*

**May 2019**

**Kannigapuram Campus**

### Office Bearers

<b>President</b>	<b>Dr. Robyn Bradley</b>	<b>0402 224752</b>
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Dear Friends,

It has been a busy year for the FOV Australia even though as a state branch we have not been very active. I will try and cover as much of news as possible.

### Director's visit to Australia

Drs. J.V. Peter and his wife Jayanthi were in Australia for the AGM of the Board in August 2018. We had the pleasure of meeting them at the home of Gordon and Susannah Thomas during their stay in Sydney. Quite a few FOV and alumni from NSW were at the lovely dinner organized by them. It was great catching up with each other after quite some time. We had the opportunity to meet and talk to JVP and Jayanthi. Peter presented a brief account of the activities and recent development at CMC with the aid of Power Point presentation. Thank you Gordon and Susanna for making it possible.

The Vellore visitors went around the country meeting various state FOV branches and addressing them. It was a very successful visit and every one was very impressed by their humility and passion for CMC.

## The AGM Australian Vellore Board



The annual meeting of the Board took place on the 25th August 2018 in Adelaide. Dr. J.V. Peter was the chief guest and his wife Dr. Jayanthi also attended the proceedings. Stephen Aseervatham the president of the Board chaired the meeting. There were 13 attendees from various state branches. JVP gave a comprehensive account of the latest news from CMC and the plans for the coming years. The emphasis for CMC at this stage is to complete the Kannigapuram complex, hoping to occupy in mid 2020.

Richard Caitens the treasurer reported that we received a total of A\$358,000.00 from the various states during the year. A\$269,570.00 of which was Tax deductible donations. We transferred A\$200,000.00 to Vellore in May 2018. Various states presented their annual reports. Thanks to your generosity, we contributed \$18,030.00 from NSW, of which \$7050.00 was for designated causes.

A couple of matters were brought to the notice of the Board. We believe that, regrettably, the Tasmanian FOV is gradually becoming inactive because of the aging membership.

The generosity of the expatriate alumni in supporting projects at CMC initiated by their respective batches and also their invaluable help in obtaining clinical positions for the CMC faculty to come and work for a few years in Australia was gratefully acknowledged.

The Board was informed that we have to consider changing our traditional practice of sending all the money we received to CMC to comply with the recent changes to the government regulations regarding money received from abroad. We may have to keep some of it in reserve in Australia until we could identify a designated purpose for which it is needed by CMC. This has been the practice of other international FOVs.

All the members of the Board of Directors were re-elected. Next AGM is planned for 24th August 2019, in Melbourne. Our sincere thanks to Renjy Nelson and the executive committee of the SA FOV for the organization of the meeting and their kind hospitality to the interstate delegates.

## Allied Health Professional Training Fellowship

We informed you last year about the bequest from the estate of late Alison Vickery and the establishment of the above fellowship to give opportunity for two Allied health staff to come to Australia every year for further training. It provides A\$4000.00 to each candidate. It took more than an year for it to be finally approved(!) and the applications will be called in the coming month and thus it will be up and running by July. We are certain that the fellowship will be a fitting memory for the services Alison gave to the Friends of Vellore during her life time.

## Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Programme

We received a request from the Department of Ophthalmology at CMC to help them with establishing a mobile diagnostic unit which could travel to the peripheral units (RHUSA, CHAD, Chittoor & Jawadhi Hills) to carry out the screening. The quoted cost for the vehicle plus the equipment was beyond our funding capabilities. We believe that other FOVs were also not able to help them. We approached the USA and UK FOVs whether they would consider sharing the cost with us. They were very glad to do so. We further asked CMC whether we could spread our contributions over three years to lessen the burden in a given year. The institution was very happy with the proposal. We will be contributing A\$18,000.00 annually for three years. We are happy that the project is on the move and JVP is in particular very pleased about the initiative taken by the Australian Board in making it possible.

## Mission Department : KMF Hospital Kotagiri

As you are aware CMC has accepted the mandate to support struggling mission hospitals in India. After extensive consultations, the Department of Mission was established at CMC to undertake this task.

At present they are involved with three hospitals. The first one in Erode, Tamil Nadu. There have been some problems with that project and has not progressed very far. The Second one - KMF Hospital, Kotagiri, Tamil Nadu has been quite a success. The third one – Reynolds Memorial Hospital, Wasim is in Maharashtra. It is in the early stages.

The Mission Department has been looking for financial help to establish a lab at Kotagiri. The Board of directors are considering their request in conjunction with the UK FOV. The CMC administration would really appreciate the FOVs help with such projects at this stage as they themselves are very much under financial restraints with the huge loan they have taken to complete the Kannigapuram project.