

# 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 2019

Saturday, 14th September, 2019  
6:30pm for 7:00pm

**Same wonderful venue as last year!**

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

*Guest Speaker:*  
*Assoc Prof Gordan Thomas*  
*Head Westmead Children's Hospital Surgery*

Don't miss the delicious Indian food, the wonderful Indian dancing, what will surely be a fascinating talk by Prof Thomas, and the inimitable Daryl Teague as auctioneer!

**More details on the flyer on page 3!**

**Easily purchase tickets at [www.trybooking.com/479564](http://www.trybooking.com/479564)**



All the details  
you'll need for  
the SA FOV  
Dinner 2019

From the  
President  
of SA FOV

International  
Women's Day  
at CMC

### From the President of SA Friends of Vellore, Dr Renjy Nelson

It's that time of the year and much has happened since the last newsletter. The Australian elections saw the government stay for another term and a similar result was seen in India as it went through the largest democratic exercise in the world. CMC continues to strive to provide care to all who come through its gates irrespective of ability to pay. We in Adelaide have a small part to play in this work. For this I thank each and every one of you for your ongoing support for CMC's work among those who need it most, through Friends of Vellore.

The South Australian Friends Vellore Clinical meeting was held on 10<sup>th</sup> of May at the Rosefield Uniting Church this year. Dr Juliana Joel, ICU consultant at CMC Vellore gave an excellent overview about her experience as an intensivist at CMC and also at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital where she is currently working. She was accompanied by Adil Isaac and Rohan Jacob, two sixth year medical students from Adelaide University ...contd page 2

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.

### Upcoming Events At A Glance

#### Sat 14th Sep, 2019

SA FOV Annual Dinner  
John DiFede Centre  
Windsor Gardens

#### Late Oct 2019

SA FOV Annual General Meeting  
Rosefield Uniting Church  
Highgate

### South Australian Friends of Vellore Committee

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who had spent their elective at CMC in Jan this year. Together they presented their clinical experience at CMC but also illustrated some of the challenges of practicing medicine in India as seen through the eyes of medical students.

The annual Friends of Vellore Dinner this year, a fund raising event, will be held on Saturday, the Saturday, 14th September 2019 at the John DiFede Centre. The guest speaker this year is Associate Professor Gordon Thomas, head of paediatric surgery at Westmead Childrens Hospital. Dr Thomas led a team of medical staff to India to participate in an incredible marathon surgery to separate a pair of conjoined twins in 2012 in rural India. This case highlighted a number of social issues in India and was aired on SBS. The programme will comprise a sumptuous three course dinner and colourful entertainment in the form of Indian dances. Bookings can be made through the following link, <https://www.trybooking.com/479564>

The Friends of Vellore Committee takes this opportunity to thank you once again for your support and we invite you again to join us as we host this year's dinner.

## International Women's Day Celebrations at CMC

### At the Bagayam Campus

CMC celebrated International Women's Day for the very first time this year, with an evening to remember the outstanding women pioneers of the institution. The event, organised on the 11th of March, three days after the official day, saw the active participation of the students from the Medical, Nursing and Allied Health streams, as well as the faculty from various departments. Rev.Dr. Arul Dhas, Chaplain offered the opening prayer and Mr. Richard Samuel organiser of the event welcomed the gathering.

The Chief Guest for the occasion was Dr. Annamma Abraham, retired faculty and psychologist and the other eminent speakers invited were Dr. Anna B. Pulimood, Principal and Dr.Vathsala Sadan, Dean of the College of Nursing. Dr. Anna Pulimood pointed out CMC's distinction as an institution where women have always been awarded equal pay and equal opportunities for growth. She also spoke with obvious pride of the yesteryear women leaders - almost all of them from a mission background - who gave their all to the institution. She recounted, among others, the moving story of Dr. Gwenda Lewis, who contracted polio by giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to a polio patient who had arrested in theatre. Despite this experience that would have proved to be a death sentence for the career of many a medical practitioner, Dr. Lewis went abroad for rehabilitation and came back to serve the poor here. Dr. Vathsala Sadan spoke about this year's theme for Women's Day and the significance of the colour purple for the day. She recalled the outstanding leaders in nursing like Vera Pitman, Florence Taylor, Delia Houghton, Pauline King and Aleyamma Kuruvilla and their invaluable contributions to the institution, which for many years, had focused its training efforts solely on nursing.



### At the Jawadhi Hills by the Community Health Department

On 7th and 15th March 2019, World Women's Day was celebrated at Chinnaveerapat village and Amattankollai village in Jawadhi Hills. This was initiated by the Social Workers of Community Health Department along with the Nurses and Occupational Therapist. The programme started with a talk on the theme, 'Balance for better empowerment'. This was followed by a quiz conducted to assess the awareness of the community regarding rights, government schemes, health issues and health facilities. The members in the community had been asked to prepare various food items and a Rangoli for a competition. Close to one hundred and fifty participants including children were present for the program in each village. The enthusiastic response from the community was encouraging and included representation from three women's self-help groups.

*Extracts from April 01, 2019 CMC Newsline.*

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 Fundraising Dinner 2019

*An Evening of Indian Cuisine, Music & Entertainment*

**Saturday 14 September 2019**

**John DiFede Centre**

**6:30pm for 7:00pm start**

**10 Freebairn Street Windsor Gardens**

**Tickets: \$70 per guest (12 guests per table)**

**Dress Code: Semi Formal/Indian**

**Speaker: Assoc Prof Gordon Thomas**  
(Head Westmead Children's Hospital Surgery)

Please book early-before 31 August

For Tickets click: <https://www.trybooking.com/479564>

Contact Wendy 0402169723 (except Jul 22- Aug 21 contact Merlin 82741369)

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

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

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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)