



# International College of Dentists Australasian Section

## Newsletter

Issue Number 29, October 2008

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The company of Fellows is one of the key elements of the purpose and function of the International College. That has been accomplished this year in two very successful convocations of the Australasian Section.

In August, a Convocation was held at the Athenaeum Club following a Board meeting earlier in the day. Some 80 Fellows and partners attended for induction of 15 new Fellows. Included in the inductions was a new Honorary Fellowship, a rarely bestowed honour, to Professor Eric Reynolds AO, Head of the School of Dental Science, University of Melbourne. The induction ceremony was followed by the customary sumptuous dinner for which the Athenaeum Club is renowned. John Matthews attended as Federal President of the ADA.

A highlight of the evening was a triple exposition of dental services provided in Asia and SE Asia and the Pacific. Andrew Heggie described educational and clinical support provided by his team in Bangladesh, Jamie Robertson similarly in Vietnam, and David Goldsmith outlined his many years of his contributions to Tonga. These dedicated and selfless people with their teams are nothing short of inspirational. Their presentations were received with deserved enthusiasm and appreciation.

A few weeks later, in mid-September, a Convocation of the Section was held in

conjunction with the NZDA Biennial meeting in Rotorua NZ. Eleven new Fellows were inducted at a Luncheon at the Millennium Hotel. This was attended by 42 Fellows and partners. I officiated as President, assisted by the International Councillor, Clive Ross. Three of the inductees were Australian, and eight NZ Nationals. As usual in New Zealand, there was a most convivial atmosphere, and it was a pleasant mix of formal proceedings and relaxed company. The meeting was attended by Mark Goodhew, President of the NZDA and David Crum, Executive Director of the NZDA.

An essential part of the ICD is the support of dental projects in our region, especially of South-East Asia where services are frequently minimal and inadequate. The Board has approved grants, detailed elsewhere in the Newsletter, to assist education in Fiji, dental services in Nepal and education in Papua New Guinea.

I take this opportunity to thank the Board for their support and extraordinary devotion to the function of our Section, in particular Jackie Robinson as Registrar, Peter Noblet as Treasurer, Dick Cook as Editor and Clive Ross as International Councillor.

The next Convocation of the Section will be held in Perth on Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>, in conjunction with CSI, the 2009 ADA Congress. I hope that a large number of Fellows will have the opportunity to meet then, and attend what will be a major Convocation.

Braham Pearlman  
President – Australasian Section

**President:** Braham Pearlman  
**Treasurer:** Peter Noblet AM  
**Registrar:** Jackie Robinson

**Past President:** Clive Ross CNZM  
**International Councillor:** Clive Ross CNZM  
**Regents:** David Thomson, Jennifer Smyth AM

**Vice President:** Gerald R Dickinson  
**Editor:** Dick Cook AM

## 2009 Convocation and Inductions

The next International College of Dentists Induction Ceremony and Dinner will be held in Perth the evening of Friday, 13th March during the 33rd Australian Dental Congress, March 12-15 2009.

See the invitation in this newsletter for details and response slip.

### EDITORIAL NOTICE

The Newsletter editor welcomes contributions from fellows which can be sent to:-

8th Floor 68 St Georges Terrace  
PERTH WA 6000 (Hard copy)

OR

dick@orthodonticclinic.com.au (emailed copy – photographs acceptable)

## OBITUARIES

### John Frederick Lavis AM, MDS, FRACDS, FICD, FADI

John Lavis was an eminent dental practitioner, well known nationally and internationally. He had a long and illustrious career in his chosen profession, both as an outstanding clinician and teacher, and also in his service to the profession and the community in many and varied ways.

He graduated from the University of Adelaide in 1945 and established his own North Terrace practice in 1947 where he continued until 1993, The practice was orientated towards crown and bridge work, a field in which he excelled,

He gained his Masters degree in 1954 and became an inaugural Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons in 1963, having much to do with its formation, and serving as its President from 1972-1976.

He was also an external examiner for several years. He studied at the Eastman Dental Hospital, University of London and lectured and tutored at the Adelaide Dental School for many years where he became a friend to many a student.

He served on Faculty, the Dental Curriculum Committee and the Post Graduate Committee in Dentistry held honorary and consulting positions at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, and was a member of the Dental Advisory Committee of the hospital John was an active member of the Dental Association, serving on State Council from 1955-1963 and was State Branch President in 1962. He was a Federal Councillor for eleven years and chaired the Education Committee for five years.

He contributed to the scientific programs at several Australian Dental Congresses, was Chairman of that programme in Adelaide in 1959 and was a Vice President of the 1976 Congress. He was a Fellow of the International College of Dentists serving on the Board of Regents from 1970-1965 and Vice-President from 1982-1985, a Fellow of the Academy of Dentistry International, and was involved in many community services, including Apex, the Royal Flying Doctor Service and several charitable appeals, and held honorary positions at the Royal Adelaide and Adelaide Children's Hospitals and Escourt House.

For his outstanding contribution to and involvement in many facets of dentistry the ADA SA Branch awarded him the Distinguished Service Medal in 1984 and he was made an Association life Member in 1993.

He received the award of Member of the Order of Australia in 1981 in recognition of his long and notable service to the profession and the community.

John had many wonderful attributes - his honesty, his willingness to listen and offer advice if sought, his sharp wit and wonderful story telling; he read widely, had an enthusiasm for knowledge and life and was admired by both colleagues and patients.

John Lavis was a gentleman and a gentle man; a person of great integrity and loyalty and a wonderful friend to many.

He will be sadly missed by all, especially his family Nan and daughter & Deb, Mary Jane and Rebecca and his grandchildren, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

*Geoffrey Hall AM*

## Brian M. Henderson MDSc (WA) FRACDS FICD

Following service in the RAAF in World War 2 Brian enrolled in the new Dental school of UWA in 1948 and obtained his BDS<sub>c</sub>(UWA) in 1953 and went on to complete his MDS<sub>c</sub> in Oral Surgery in 1957.

In 1958 he furthered his surgical experience at the East Grinstead Hospital in UK.

He was elected as an Inaugural Fellow of the RACDS in 1965.

In 1980 he was elected President of ANZAOMS after serving for many years as a Councillor.

From the 1960s-80s Brian taught oral surgery and exodontia to undergraduates and MDS<sub>c</sub> students in oral and maxillofacial surgery at UWA.

He was a skilled surgeon and a wise and considerate teacher. Brian was always willing to squeeze in an additional patient for a despairing dentist, despite being fully booked. He single handedly provided honorary on-call oral surgery for both Sir Charles Gairdner and Fremantle Hospitals until 1980.

He retired from practice in 1987.

The College also records with regret the deaths of the following fellows since the last newsletter

John Rattray (VIC)

K Ian Donaldson (Dunedin)

Elizabeth Fanning (SA)

George McKelvey (QLD)

Lawrence Williams (VIC)

Stuart Walmsley (SA)

## Email Addresses

The Australasian Section of the ICD foresees cost savings and increased convenience to fellows by electronic distribution of the Newsletter.

This is not imminent but it is planned to add emails of fellows to the address database.

To this end fellows are asked to forward their email addresses to the Registrar jackie\_robinson@iinet.net.au to start this process.

## CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

### August 2008

Total Membership: 528

#### Active Members: 405

359 from Australia

40 from New Zealand

1 from Cambodia

1 from Fiji

1 from Malaysia

1 from France

1 from USA

1 from Singapore

#### Retired Members: 110

84 from Australia

25 from New Zealand

1 from UK

#### Honorary Life Members: 10

#### Honorary Members: 3

## Australia Day Honour 2008

College fellow Dr. Ross King (Victoria) was awarded Member of the Order of Australia for service to dentistry as a clinician, educator and administrator, particularly in the area of standards and accreditation, and to the community.

Ross was CEO of the Australian Dental Council until 2007 and has an award for distinguished service from the ADAVB.

## Queen's Birthday Honour

Congratulations to our fellow John Edwards for his award of Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the Queen's Birthday honours for New Zealand.

## August 2008 INDUCTION AND DINNER IN MELBOURNE

A very special evening was enjoyed by ICD Fellows in Melbourne in August at the time of the ADA Victorian Branch conference and the ADIA Exhibition. 19 new Fellows were inducted at a ceremony held at the Athenaeum Club the evening of Friday, August 22. The induction ceremony preceded a dinner attended by 80 Fellows and guests. Invited speakers David Goldsmith, Andrew Heggie and Jamie Robertson shared their inspiring experiences with humanitarian dental projects overseas.



### Inductees Melbourne August 2008

#### *New Fellows inducted in Melbourne were:*

Anders Blomberg, Prosthodontist, Townsville Q  
Stan Boyatzis, Periodontist, Sydney (NSW)  
Andrew Brostek, GP, Noranda (WA)  
Patrick Creagh, Prosthodontist, Toombul Q  
Stephen Dahlstrom, Endodontist, ACT  
David Goldsmith, GP, Ballarat (VIC)  
Mark Gryst, Special Needs Dentistry, Adelaide (SA)  
Don Highfield, GP, Camberwell (VIC)  
Stuart Howe, GP, Sydney (NSW)  
Leonard Keyte, GP Rose Bay (NSW)  
David McDonald, GP restricted to Oral Surgery (WA)  
Gregory Morris, GP, Hawthorn (VIC)  
John Sheahan, Paediatric Dentist, Brighton (VIC)  
Renato Simionato, GP, East Brunswick (VIC)

#### *Inducted in absentia were:*

John Arvier OAM, OMFS, Brisbane (QLD)  
Brian Bishop, GP, Mt Lawley (WA)  
Russell Lain, Staff Specialist, SDH (NSW)  
Anthony Lepere, Practice Limited to Anaesthesia and Sedation (WA)

## HONORARY FELLOWSHIP

Honorary Fellowship within the International College is conferred upon individuals of outstanding achievement in or for benefactions or contributions towards promotion of the dental profession. Honorary Fellowship is only conferred after careful investigation has revealed the person is fully worthy of such high honour. The person must have rendered conspicuous service to the cause of dental science or have furthered its public appreciation.

There are two Honorary Fellows within the Australasian Section of ICD and at the August induction in Melbourne, the Board was pleased to confer a third Honorary Fellowship for **PROFESSOR ERIC REYNOLDS AO**, Professor of Dental Science and Head, School of Dental Science, The University of Melbourne.

## INDUCTION AND LUNCHEON IN ROTORUA

13 September 2008

### Inductees Rotorua September 2008

The Australasian Section of the International College of Dentists hosted an induction ceremony and luncheon at the Millenium Hotel in Rotorua on Saturday, 13 September as part of the New Zealand Dental Association Biennial Conference. The function was attended by more than 40 Fellows and guests with President, Dr Braham Pearlman and International Councillor, Dr Clive Ross CNZM presiding.

#### *Eleven new Fellows were inducted:-*

Denis Beale, GP (Invercargill)  
Pamela Dalgliesh, Professional Services Manager for Dentsply (Australia)

Bernadette Drummond, Paediatric Dentist and Academic (University of Otago)

Robert Gibbs, Specialist Hospital Dentistry (Auckland)

Patrick Jackman, Special Needs Dentistry (Brisbane, Australia)

Howard Mace, Hospital Dentistry (Auckland)

Zac Morse, Independent Consultant (Suva, Fiji)

Graham Symes, GP (Wellington)

Ken Taylor, General Practice (Auckland)

Graeme Ting, Special Needs Dentistry (Auckland)

Hugh Trengrove, Prosthodontist (New Zealand Defence Force)

## IMPROVING ORAL HEALTH THROUGH PROJECT SUPPORT

Support for projects that improve oral health in communities has been part of the identity of the Australasian Section throughout its history.

Within the International College of Dentists, the Australasian Section (Section VIII) is recognised as achieving “best practice” through its support for such projects.

## OUR HISTORY

A brief look at minutes from Board meetings over the past five years shows that in recent years our Section has supported projects such as:

- Preventive Dentistry Measures in Tonga
- Transport of autoclaves to SE Asia
- Forensic training for Cambodian dentist
- Dental School in Papua, New Guinea
- Health training program in East Timor
- School based preventive dental care in Nepal
- Visiting paediatric dentistry lecturer to Dental School in Cambodia
- Travel grant for President of East Timor Dental Association to attend ADA Congress in Sydney

## OUR FUTURE

Future project support was discussed at length at the August Board meeting in Melbourne. The Board agreed that our Section will continue to support dental projects that involve Section VIII Fellows and that achieve sustainable improved oral health outcomes in communities in our region. In particular, the Board identified a commitment to support the Dental Schools in the South Pacific Region at this time. The Board will work closely with the Dental Schools to identify their priorities in order to gain maximum benefit from our support.

To continue our proud tradition in 2009, support will be provided for:

- Travel Fellowship for training of Dr John Kulu, Dental School, Papua New Guinea
- Education of Dr Arpana Devi to establish endodontic training within the Dental School in Suva, Fiji
- School Oral Health Education Program in Nepal - Dr Sandra Meihubers

## A MORE SYSTEMATIC APPROACH

Our Section has reached a stage in its evolution where we would like our commitment to supporting oral health projects to be formalised and supported more systematically. Towards that end, from 2009 an annual budget will be set for financial support of oral health projects in our region. As well as financial support within the limited means of our Section, we will encourage active participation calling upon the considerable skills and talents within our membership.

In your annual subscription notice which you will receive soon, there is more information about support for oral health projects in our community. Please help our Section in our efforts to promote this work amongst our members and to continue to provide ongoing financial support.

Submissions for project support are considered at the annual Board meeting. The next Board meeting will be held in March 2009. Applications for project support can be requested from the Registrar

(email: jackie\_robinson@iinet.net.au).

## Report on Nepal Project-Dr Sandra Meihubers

Dr Indira Shrestha is now the Director of ICD Nepal. She and the team are maintaining primary health care clinic in Banepa, and the dental clinic which now employs Rajendra Rana Magar and Naresh Shrestha.

It seems they have been getting support from ADRA Nepal to conduct remote dental camps in western Nepal and in the Terai regions in the south. However it seems they are not getting funds to actually cover salaries and all staff are working at 75% salary level.

They have also been advised by Scheer Memorial Hospital that they will need to vacate premises by June.

Rajendra was working in the Terai region on a 15-day remote camp visit, leaving Naresh to staff the Banepa clinic alone. There seem to be about 7-10 dental patients per day,

## Bhattedande school education and dental survey

Naresh and I visited the Bhattedande school, where we did a dental education session with the students. This involved general dental information, toothbrushing demonstration, and a couple of student volunteers chewing plaque disclosing tablets to demonstrate the presence and location of plaque on their teeth. They of course then cleaned their teeth carefully to remove the pink dye!

We visited a couple of days later with Dr Shyam Maharjan, to collect oral health data that will be used as part of the evaluation of the school's daily toothbrushing program we commenced in November last year using grant funds from the International College of Dentists.

In total we examined 134 students (out of 220 enrolments). In the preceding week the school had boosted its student numbers by 80. However there were a couple of festivals happening on our "survey" day, so numbers were down somewhat, but more than enough for our purposes.

In Australia, prior to coming to Nepal, I developed a survey method and protocol, This

was essentially designing a survey form that was adapted from other forms used in Australia, and creating an Excel spreadsheet for data entry and analysis. I ran this methodology past one of the senior researchers in the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH), Dr Kaye Roberts-Thomson, who said it was fine. Naresh, Dr Shyam and I performed the dental examinations/screenings, Senior student volunteers acted as our recorders - recording information on the oral health data survey sheets.

Laxman Lama, one of my friends in the village, worked to register each student and allocate an ID number. Great thanks must also go to Mr Durga Oli and his staff for their enthusiasm and cooperation.

The next day, the data were entered into the spreadsheet by Laxman and his twin brother Ram, helped occasionally by another young villager Jaya Kumar. Several of their friends would drop in during the day but the data entry boys were not distracted! The boys were great, this gave them a chance to practise their computer skills, as they had done a computer course in Dhulikhel earlier this year. It took them about 5 hours in total (!), and they worked almost non-stop, despite encouragements to take rest and exercise breaks.

The data will also be used to identify those students in need of dental care, as ICD will conduct a dental camp soon in the village.

## Bhattedande school toothbrushing program

Dirga Oli and his staff are still very enthusiastic about this program and are making sure all students brush their teeth every day after lunch. Some of the International College of Dentists funds were used to install a couple of sinks outside the toilet (one each for boys and girls) and a large mirror, This is great for the toothbrushing., plus also great for the kids to be able to wash their hands after visiting the toilet,

We need to commit to this program for the next 3 years at least. Funds are basically used to

buy toothbrushes and toothpaste for each child. The International College of Dentists funds will be used up by November this year. The expected annual cost for this will be approximately \$600. If we include the cost of a dental camp and dental education each year, the cost would be \$1000.

At ICD we discussed the possibility of extending this program to other needy schools. Of course this would be good, but also of course it would require more funds, and a school or schools that are well managed and supportive of such a program,

## **A summary of Oral Health Data collected in Bhattedante school 30 April 2008**

An oral health survey was conducted in the Bhattedande school as part of the evaluation process of the school dental program which involves a supervised daily school based toothbrushing program. Dental education of children, teachers and families is also an integral component of the program.

Examiners used natural light or headlamp to check the children's oral health. Examiners were introduced to the coding methods, and calibration (standardisation) of examiners was performed by Dr Sandra Meihubers. A senior student worked with each examiner to record the oral health codes.

Data were collected on caries (decay) rates and gum health (Needing and calculus index). The data collected were entered into a spreadsheet by local village volunteers, under supervision and then analysed by Dr Meihubers, Children with treatment needs have been identified and lists will be given to the ICD dental team, for dental care follow up.

In total 134 children were registered for examination. Some (young ones) refused examination, hence the total population sample size was 126.

## **Conclusion**

Attention must be paid to appropriate dental prevention, and the support and continuation

of the school daily toothbrushing program is essential, with the cooperation of the school and its staff.

Dental education to community members and school personnel would help to enforce and encourage the decreased consumption of sweet foods, and improved oral hygiene.

We agree with Yee and McDonald who recommend "...an appropriate oral health response based primarily on prevention and health promotion. Foremost in this regime would be the promotion and use of accessible and affordable fluoridated toothpaste."

Data would be collected again in 2 years time, to measure the impact of our dental program.

## **Acknowledgements**

Great thanks and gratitude to the following people, for support and continuation of this school dental program:

- Mr Durga Oli and his staff for their enthusiasm and support
- ICD Nepal management for coordination and support of this program
- Mr Rajendra Rana Magar for providing dental care to the children
- Mr Naresh Shrestha for dedication to oral health improvement of school children
- Dr Shyam Maharjan for commitment to dental public health and oral health improvement
- Mr Prem Lama for continuing support and encouragement
- Mr Laxman Lama and Mr Ram Lama for the great achievement in data entry, and support for the program
- Senior students from Bhattedande school for their interest and hard work during the oral health data collection
- Mr Paul Pholeros for assistance in data collection methodology
- International College of Dentists for funding support.

Sandra Meihubers 22 May 2008



**International College of Dentists**  
Australasian Section

## **CONVOCATION INDUCTION CEREMONY AND DINNER**

**Meeting Rooms 1&2 (Level 2)/Foyer 2 (East)**  
**Perth Convention Centre**  
**21 Mounts Bay Road, Perth WA**

**Friday, 13th March 2009**

**6:00 for 6:30 pm**

**\$120 per person**

**Please join us in welcoming our new members.**

**Dress: Lounge suit**

I will/will not attend the 2009 Convocation Induction Ceremony and Dinner in Perth.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be accompanied by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(preferred name)

Additional guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Special dietary requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

*Cheques to be made payable to "International College of Dentists".*

Credit Card Payment:  Mastercard  Visa Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number:

Name of Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return **by 27 February 2009**  
to the Registrar:

Dr Jackie Robinson  
10 Bendtree Way, Castle Hill, NSW 2154

Enquiries: Jackie Robinson 0434 308 422 or email: jackie\_robinson@iinet.net.au