



International College of Dentists Australasian Section

Newsletter

Issue Number 30, May 2009

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It is an honour to present my first report as President of the Australasian section of this College (Section VIII). My election to the office came in sad circumstances because of the illness of my good friend and current Vice President Dr Gerry

Dickinson, who as Vice President was expected to progress to the Presidency. We all wish Gerry a speedy recovery to good health and our thoughts are with him and Anne.

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of Past President Braham Pearlman for the fine job he has done as President of this section over the past two years. If you want a job done well, give it to a busy man – and Braham is certainly that, having been Registrar of General Stream of RACDS during that time along with his University and practice commitments.

The recent Convocation and Induction Ceremony in Perth – in conjunction with the 33rd Australian Dental Congress, was a great success.

It was well attended by fellows and inductees and the venue, (the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre) proved excellent.

I welcome the 27 inductees who participated in the ceremony on 13th March, with the knowledge that they are all of the calibre of professional which will enhance the activities of this section of the College.

The highlight of the Convocation was the address by newly inducted fellow Dr. Laynesh Gebrehiwot Woldec from Eritrea.

Laynesh was inducted into the College in Section

VIII at the request of International Council and through the generosity of our own fellow David Sheen.

Laynesh's life and professional experiences during the 30 year war for independence of her country show a life of overwhelming service to her people. Her address was a moving account of the service, provision she and her team were able to provide to her injured countrymen in the 30 year war against Ethiopia which was supported by the Soviet Union. Her family's note of appreciation to our section of the College is published following this report.

The Australasian section of the College continues to support dental health projects in our region and two were discussed by the Board in Perth.

- The Australian Veterans Vietnam Reconstruction Group – preventive program at Long Tan led by our fellow Colin Twelftree (SA). The Board resolved to financially support this program.
- Fiji Dental School support and mentorship. The Board had a full discussion with Senior Lecturer at the School, Bernadette Pushpaangaeli (also inducted in Perth). Bernadette will submit a "wish list" for the Board to consider. We will certainly try to maximize the section's support.

The Board also resolved to approach Dr David Crum CEO of the NZDA to join it and I am pleased to advise that David has accepted. He will certainly provide an expert voice on the Board and augment our New Zealand representation. Welcome David!

This is timely, because it is likely Section VIII's next Board Meeting and Convocation will be in New Zealand next year.(Christchurch August)

I look forward to an exciting period for the Australasian Section of the International College.

Dick Cook
President

President: Dick Cook AM RFD
Treasurer: Peter Noblet AM
Registrar: Jackie Robinson

Past President: Braham Pearlman
International Councillor: Clive Ross CNZM
Regents: David Thomson, David Crum

Vice President: Gerald R Dickinson
Editor: Jennifer Smyth

Our heartfelt Thanks

Dear Dr. David Sheen and Dr. Jackie Robinson.

On behalf of the Gebrehiwot family members and me as one part of that, I wish to express to you our appreciation for the effort and the enormous trouble that you had gone to help Laynesh to be inducted in the International College of Dentists. If it were not of your supportive and sponsorship, Laynesh could have never have achieved this internationally well respected and known recognition of the profession of dentistry.

It is a well known fact that the service that she is rendering to its beloved people and country is well recognized at home but to be able to upgrade the profession, an international recognition is imperative and this have been achieved through your thoughtfulness. It is people like you who make this world a better place to live in; and this comes with gratitude to let you know how much you are appreciated here by this family for what you have done to Laynesh. Hence, please accept our heartfelt thanks.

Moreover, we wish to ask you to pass our gratitude to all the individuals and organizations that helped for this induction to happen, without expecting anything in return.

With warm and high regards, Meswatti G.Hiwot (on behalf of the Gebrehiwot family).

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Induction – Perth, 13 March 2009

Including the new Fellows we are inducting this evening, the Australasian Section of the International College of Dentists now has a total membership of 540.

This is comprised of:

- 430 Active Members
- 98 Retired Members
- 3 Honorary Members

462 members are from Australia and 78 from New Zealand. Members of our Section have spread to many parts of the world with members now living in Fiji, Cambodia, Malaysia, France, Singapore, and the USA

Vale Fellows

Sadly, a number of distinguished colleagues who were fellows of our Section passed away since we last met in Melbourne and Rotorua in 2008.

These include Ian Dingle (SA), Ronald Dobinson (NSW), Denis Hagarty (QLD), William Joyce (TAS), N Stuart Walmsley (SA).

Honours

Since our last meeting in 2008, two Fellows of the Australasian Section of the International College of Dentists were named in the 2009 Australia Day Honours. Janet Scott (SA) was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross;(an ADF medal) and Robert Henry (NSW) was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia.

We congratulate Janet and Robert on these well deserved recognitions.

The Board of Regents of the Australasian Section meets annually in conjunction with convocations and induction ceremonies. At the annual Board meeting nominations for new Fellows and proposals for project support are considered, in addition to other business being conducted. All Fellows are encouraged to nominate dental colleagues whom they know to be contributing to dentistry and to oral health in the community above and beyond their normal roles. Nomination forms can be requested from the Registrar.

Jackie Robinson
Registrar

ICD (Section VIII) Australasian Section Officers, March 2009 – 2011



President.....Dick Cook, AM
Vice President.....Gerald Dickinson
Immediate Past President.....Braham Pearlman
Secretary/Registrar.....Jackie Robinson
Treasurer.....Peter Noblet, AM
EditorJenny Smyth, AM
International CouncillorClive Ross, CNZM
Regents:.....David Thomson
David Crum

Donations for Oral Health Projects

Requesting donations for oral health projects through annual membership renewal notices was introduced in 2007. \$2,385 was received in donations with the 2007 membership subscription renewals.

Over \$4,000 was received with the 2008 membership renewals and the Treasurer has thanked them individually by mail.

Fellows can be proud of their contributions to such projects as the two included in this newsletter.

50th Anniversary of the Australasian Section

2014 will mark the 50th anniversary of the Australasian Section (Section VIII) of the International College of Dentists. Plans to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Section VIII are under consideration. The International Council is asked to consider holding the 2014 Council meeting in New Zealand as part of the 50th anniversary celebration of Section VIII.

INDUCTION CEREMONY AND DINNER PERTH 13 MARCH 2009

Section VIII hosted an induction ceremony and dinner in Perth the evening of March 13 as part of the 33rd Australian Dental Congress. The induction and dinner were attended by 126 Fellows and guests. 27 new Fellows were inducted. The inductees included Dr Bernadette Pushpaangaeli who is a Senior Lecturer at the Dental School, Fiji School of Medicine. Dr Pushpaangaeli is the third current Fijian member of Section VIII and is a vital link in assisting our Section to build relationships and membership in the South Pacific Region.

A special part of the Perth induction was the inclusion of Dr Laynesh Gebrehiwot Woldu of Eritrea as an inductee and guest speaker. Dr Gebrehiwot Woldu was admitted to the International College of Dentists in 2008 and was invited to attend the Section VIII induction. Laynesh enthralled and inspired those attending the induction with her account of her work in Eritrea over the past 30 years. Her work began as part of the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front in 1977 providing oral surgery under frontline conditions to patients with horrific war injuries. She has worked tirelessly ever since for her country and has been instrumental in building dental services and education in Eritrea.



Other inductees in Perth were:

Robert L Adams, General Practice, Surry Hills (NSW)
Nicholas M Boyd, Senior Lecturer Oral Pathology, University of WA
David J Curnow, General Practice, Dandenong (VIC)
Holly Ann Edwards, General Practice, Midland (WA)
Camille S Farah, Associate Professor Oral medicine/Oral Pathology, Royal Brisbane Hospital
Michael Foley, Principal Dentist, Stafford Dental Clinic (QLD)
Mark G Foster, General/Hospital Practice, Perth (WA)
John P Fricker, Orthodontist, Manuka (ACT)
Janet M Fuss, Postgraduate Coordinator/Asst Dean, University of Adelaide
Mithran S Goonewardene, Program Director (Orthodontics), University of WA
Lisa J A Heitz-Mayfield, Periodontist, West Perth (WA)
William A Kahler, Endodontist, Brisbane (QLD)
Stephen C Knott, Forensic Dentistry, Nedlands (WA)
Brian D Koch, General Practice, Applecross (WA)
Lena Lejmanoski, Senior Lecturer, University of WA
Robert McCray, General Practice, Brisbane (QLD)
John K McGeachie, Professor of Anatomy, University of WA
David Miles, General Practice, Adelaide (SA)
Anthony F Poli, General Practice, Gosnells and Northam (WA)-
President ADA (WA Branch)
Sarah L Raphael, Paediatric Dentist, Consultant, Colgate Oral Care
Philippa N Sawyer, Paediatric Dentist, Crows Nest (NSW)
Peter Sheridan, General Practice, Sydney (NSW)
Aneurin Rhys Thomas, Acting Chief Dental Officer, Queensland Health
J F (Barry) Walsh, General Practice, Kojonup (WA)
Andrew Teck Seng Wong, General Practice, Ipswich (QLD)



Inducted in absentia were:

Helen James, Director of Forensic Odontology, University of Adelaide
Frank N T Monsour, Oral Maxillofacial Surgeon, Brisbane (QLD)
Ian Rosenberg, Oral Max-fac Surgeon, Tuart Hill (WA)
Marc Tennant, Academic, University of WA

Photographs

Individual & group photos of the Induction are available from the studio website www.austconvphoto.com or from the Registrar by email.

The next ICD induction ceremony will be held in Christchurch in 2010. For further information contact the Registrar: jackie_robinson@inet.net.au

SPONSORSHIPS

Section VIII is committed to supporting the development of oral health services and education in underserved areas within its Region. In particular, the Section VIII Board has resolved to build relationships and support the struggling dental schools in the South Pacific Region through both direct professional involvement and financial support.

Projects currently supported by our Section include:

PNG Dental School

In 2008 the Board established an ICD travel fellowship for dentists our region to contribute their expertise to the teaching program at the Dental School in Papua New Guinea. A commitment has been made to fund the fellowship for three years.

Fiji Dental School

At the request of the Board, Dr Bernadette Pushpaangaeli attended the recent Board meeting in Perth to discuss potential ICD sponsorships for the Fiji Dental School. Dr Pushpaangaeli indicated that the School wishes to develop a relationship with the ICD in order to draw upon the expertise of Fellows to contribute to professional development amongst dental students and practicing dental professionals in Fiji.

The Faculty has identified professional development of practicing dental professionals as a priority at this time. Dr Pushpaangaeli is developing a specific proposal for the Board to consider.

In the interim, Section VIII provided financial support for a Fijian dentist, Dr Arpana Devi, to complete a year of endodontic training at the University of Western Australia Dental School in 2008. Dr Devi has now returned to the Dental School in Fiji and is developing the School's endodontic training program.

Oral Health Education Program in Nepal

Section VIII Fellow, Dr Sandra Meihubers, has worked on a volunteer basis in Nepal for many years. In 2008 the Board committed to provide funding for three years for an oral health education program Dr Meihubers has established in Nepal.

Vietnam Program

Fellow Dr Colin Twelftree requested support for treatment of preschool children and development of a preventive program and oral health education program in Long Tan, Vietnam.

Funding for this project was approved by the Board at its recent meeting in Perth.

Cook Islands Dental Volunteers

Rotary Australia World Community Service.

Project *9/2008 Oct Nov 2008

Sustainable Dental Aid for the Pacific Islands

Aims of the visit;

1. To install a new modern fully equipped dental clinic in Rarotonga which has been donated "in toto" by a Melbourne dentist (replacement value over \$100,000)
2. To make improvements to the infrastructure of the Cook Islands public dental service; and the main Rarotonga dental clinic with Cabinetry, Storage facilities, requested items such as Rotary Endo. with apex Locator, handpiece lubrication machine, painting, donations of stock, autoclaves, LED curing lights, equipment, toothbrushes, toys, promotional material etc.
3. To provide the Cook Islands Flying Dentist Service with a portable dental chair and operating unit.
4. To give clinical support in Orthodontics & General Dentistry.
5. To convert a shipping container into a dental store room including shelving and roofing it.
6. Upgrading the Prosthetics Lab. with new equipment, supplies and giving clinical training
7. Supporting Mauke College, an outer island school with books, teaching materials, educational equipment, tiles, computers, DVD, audio visual material etc. and also other donated goods from D9780 DIK to be distributed by Rarotonga Rotary to local charities.
8. To give education and training on how to place simple Titanium Dental Implants

To be done in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Rarotonga and the Cook Islands Dental Dept. A recent needs assessment was done on a reconnaissance visit in June 2008.

In the beginning

Dr. Raye Darrer retired from her Melbourne dental practice in Lower Templestowe in August 2007 but when she did she generously donated all of her two modern surgeries to Rotary to relocate to a suitable and worthy cause, preferably in the Pacific islands. This very generous donation of a completely intact modern dental practice in full working condition in my experience is very rare.

The value of this equipment and stock would be in excess of \$100,000. There are two dental chairs, mobile aspirator, X-ray machine, mobile cabinetry, autoclave, ultrasonic cleaner, stools, bar fridge, filing cabinets, operating units with 8 high and 8 low speed handpieces, and a full set of instruments, and filling materials etc. In fact everything needed to run an Australian general dental practice. It was Raye's wish that it go to the Cook Islands.



A preliminary visit to Rarotonga was undertaken by David Goldsmith and Peter Copp in June 2008 to assess the dental facilities and to make contact with the staff in the dental department and the Rotary Club of Rarotonga.

A wish list of other needs was drawn up in conjunction with Chief Dental Officer, Dr George Hosking.

Donations were solicited from dentists, dental supply companies and Rotarians and brought to the DIK depot in Geelong where they were packed into the shipping container ready for transportation to the Cook Islands.



Rotary Donations In Kind Depot Geelong August 2008.

Dr John Oswald from the Ballarat West Rotary Club arranged two Rotary Foundation Matching Grants ; with Doncaster Sunrise in D9910 and Ballarat West and East clubs in D9870 in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Rarotonga.

These two grants raised funding of \$28,500 which enabled the purchase of many of the items requested by the dental department in Rarotonga.

Results of this Dental Volunteer team Visit Oct 24th - Nov 8th 2008 Renovations to the Rarotonga Dental Department

- Installation of a complete modern dental surgery into the clinic including instrumentation.

There are 6 treatment areas in the Rarotonga dental clinic. The old equipment was taken out of one of these areas and equipment from the Raye Darrer clinic was professionally installed in that room by dental equipment engineer Peter Copp. In addition the other five rooms were renovated with new cabinetry including air-conditioning the main surgery.



- A shipping container was converted into a permanent dental equipment and materials storage unit.



The dental clinic in Rarotonga was chronically short of storage space for its equipment and materials. Because of the large distances and costs involved in transportation from New Zealand extra storage space was a high priority for the dental department.

This container was purchased in Australia and used to transport our donations to the Cook Islands. There it was placed on a prepared site by the dental clinic, rust proofed and painted. Shelving was placed in the container and materials brought to put a roof over the container.

- Setting up a new clinical dental prosthetics area. A spare room adjacent to the dental prosthetics lab. was converted into a clinical area with a dental chair and a bench top with two sinks was added.

- Installation of 5 sets of new custom built dental cabinetry

New Dental cabinets with black marble tops were assembled and installed in the other five surgeries which gave the whole of the clinic a professional modern look as well as providing work surfaces and storage facilities. The cupboards and drawers were stocked with the donations of consumables that had been donated by Australian dental supply companies. The volunteer nurses (Julie and Camille) in the team did this in conjunction with the dentists and nurses in the Rarotonga Public Dental Clinic.

- Donation of a new mobile treatment unit, portable dental chair and compressor for the Cook Islands flying dental service

The 15 Cook Islands are widely spaced over 2.000.000 Sq.Km of the Pacific Ocean. For example the flight from Rarotonga in the South to Manihiki in the North takes over 4 hours in a light plane. Nine of these islands have their own dental clinics to provide dental services. This new portable dental equipment, (assembled by the Rotary Club of Newburg USA), will enable the flying dentist to take operative dental equipment from island to island by light plane.

Handpieces (high speed, low speed and straight) for the unit were made available at a discount price by Salzburg Rotary in Australia. Spare parts and a tool kit are a part of the package.

DENTAL EQUIPMENT

- Donation of a new cordless rotary endodontic system with a built in Apex Locator (TriAuto ZX) and sets of nickel titanium files (Rotary grant)
- Donation of a new Lubrina handpiece cleaning and lubrication system (Rotary grant)
- Donations of 2 new LED curing lights for composite filling materials and two Amalgamator mixing machines from Southern Dental Industries in Melbourne
- Donations of a large amount of dental, stock, materials, toothbrushes, Oral health promotional materials, by several Australian dental supply companies

- 16 Pedestal Fans for all the outer island dental clinics (Geelong DIK) . Donation of a water pump for the island of Atiu (Davey Pumps)
- Donations of prosthetic equipment, handpieces, denture teeth and materials for the denture Lab. (Davies Dental, Ballarat)

All these items listed had been specifically requested by the Cook Islands Dental department

Other donated items in the container from Rotary came from:-

Mauke College - a Prep to Year 11 school on the small and remote island of Mauke in the Cook Islands, with support from publishing houses such as Penguin and McPherson Books, Rotary in Geelong **Rotary Club of Rarotonga.**

The Rotary Club of Rarotonga was our partner in this project and they gave great support aided by the Rotary Foundation **Red Cross** - Donations of 16 boxes of clothing, toys etc. from Rotary **Rarotonga Hospital** Donations of 60 boxes of hospital supplies from Rotary.

Dental Training

Probably the most important facet of any Dental Volunteer team is in the education and skills that can be passed on. This team was fortunate in having several experienced dental professionals who were only too willing to do this. The other big plus for the visit was the relish with which the local dental staff participated in learning and using these new skills and materials.

Many of these techniques and materials were being demonstrated in the Cook Islands for the first time and included implantology and orthodontics as well as instruction on root canal therapy using rotary instrumentation, advice on new materials and techniques in general dentistry, donations of educational DVDs and Oral Health promotional manuals and plans laid for Jimmy Areai, the Cook islands dental technician coming to Ballarat for further training in the future **Aitutaki Island.**

A Needs assessment was made of this outer island's hospital, dental clinic and schools as a possible future Rotary project. Aitutaki is an island 200 kms from Rarotonga and has one of the most pristine tropical lagoons in the South Pacific. There is a 14 bed hospital with a dental clinic and dental lab. (currently unused).

There are 38 patients on Aitutaki on a denture waiting list. The dental chair and unit are in quite good condition but dental cabinetry and instrumentation and supplies are in need of improvement. The hospital is short of many simple items such as kitchen utensils, ambulance equipment and supplies, photocopier, linen, infusion pumps, crutches, suction pumps etc.

Acknowledgements

Many Thanks to Dr George Hosking CDO of the Cook Islands and all the dental staff who gave us their wholehearted support throughout our stay and who were such a joy to work with.

To Rotary in its many aspects; Rotary Foundation, Rotary D9810 (R.C. Doncaster Sunrise), D 9780, Rotary Club of Ballarat West (especially John Oswald for arranging the Matching Grants), R.C. Ballarat East, D 9780 Donations In Kind (especially Anton van Doornik), Rotary Club of Rarotonga (especially Mousie Skews and John McElhinney), R.A.W.C.S. (Southern Region)

To the many Dental Supply companies and local dentists for their donations, especially Henry Schein Regional, Trollplast, Southern Dental Industries, Colgate-Palmolive, Oral-B, Davey pumps, Haymes paint and others Lou Sbalchiero and Mauke College.

Dr Raye Darrer for the donation of a complete dental surgery including all instruments and equipment which formed the basis for the project back in August 2007.

And of course to the volunteers who paid all their expenses for the project and gave freely of their time and expertise;

Dr. Toni McNicol (Specialist Orthodontist)

Dr. John Williams (Dentist)

Bill Davies (Dental Prosthetist)

Peter Copp (dental equipment engineer)

Georgia Copp

Amanda Riches

Camille Lewis (Dental nurse)

Julie Taylor (Dental Nurse)

Michele Holian (Dental Nurse)

Lloyd Gray (Builder)

Dr. David Goldsmith (Dentist, team leader)

David Goldsmith

Rotary Club of Ballarat West District 9780

Email dgold@netconnect.com.au

Australian Veterans Vietnam Reconstruction Group Preventive Dental Program at Long Tan.

The Australian Vietnam Reconstruction Group (AVVRG) is a national body and a registered Non Government Organisation (NGO) in Vietnam. The objectives of the organisation are to provide aid to the people of South Vietnam, especially those resident in the area of responsibility of the Australian Army during the Vietnam War. The organisation has

a long and proud history in Vietnam and full details can be accessed on the website www.avvrg.com.

The South Australian sub-committee, of which I am the organiser, has two main projects, one of which is to administer and staff a dental clinic located in the Polyclinic adjacent to the village of Long Tan. The Polyclinic is in the area of the battle of Long Tan and in close proximity to the Long Tan Cross which is an area of special significance to Australia. The dental clinic was equipped by AVVRG and one of my jobs is to staff the clinic periodically with volunteer dentists from Australia. In between times, the clinic is used two days a week by a government dentist.



Colin Twelftree, Peter Froud and the assistants - Vietnamese and Australian

On my recent trip, when a colleague, Peter Froud, and I spent a week providing dental treatment, I visited a preschool of two hundred children next door to the clinic and was appalled by the rampant caries present in most children.

Although the building of the clinic was of prime concern to the local people, it was always my objective to provide a preventive dental program for the population which would have significant long term benefits.

The objective of the project is to improve the dental health and awareness of the villagers of Long Tan by initially restoring the mouths of the preschool children with the Atraumatic Restorative Technique as endorsed by Dr John McIntyre and the World Health Organisation. Oral hygiene aids in the form of toothbrushes and fluoride toothpaste will be provided to the children and dental health education will be given to the teachers who supervise the children on a daily basis.

The parents of the children are not readily accessible but it is hoped that this education will

percolate through to the parents eventually. Once the preschool children are under control the project will be extended to the nearby primary school of some five hundred children. An important part of the project will be an annual examination and survey of the children so that its effectiveness can be gauged and the continuation of the project in the future justified.

Dr Colin C Twelftree B.D.S. ; M.D.S. ; F.I.C.D.

AWARD OF ICD TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP TO DR JOHN KULU, BDS, UPNG

The International College of Dentistry (Australasian Section) recently awarded Dr John Kulu, a PNG Dentist, a travel scholarship of \$10,000. This will cover the costs of his travel to Adelaide each year of his four year MDS program with the University of PNG, to undertake a six week enrichment program in Removable Prosthodontics at the Adelaide Dental School.

The photo is of Dr Peter Noblet, treasurer for the Section, presenting John Kulu with a certificate to mark the award, Dr John McIntyre looking on.



As Fellows are aware, a BDS program has recently been re-introduced to PNG to help re-establish a comprehensive Dental Service in that country. Already 31 new Dentists have been trained to augment the 11 Dentists and 100 Therapists who were catering for the needs of the 5.5 million population in 2004.

The ICD along with ADI, Southern Dental Industries, Rotary, and AUSAID have all contributed to rebuilding teaching facilities and bringing lecturers each year from Australia to provide training in those areas not able to be catered for by the PNG staff.

The BDS program is now established and the next phase of this program, to train dental specialists, has commenced. One OMF Surgeon has been trained, and two new Dentists have commenced the MDS program at the University of PNG this year, Dr Luna Amlau in Advanced Restorative, the second Dr John Kulu in Removable Prosthodontics. Luna and John were Dental Therapists, and were chosen in

2002 to upgrade their training to BDS level at the Fiji School, which also has been the recipient of ICD support. They gained their BDS degrees in 2004 and completed their two year Residency requirements for the Health Dept in PNG in 2006. Both have demonstrated a high level of clinical competency and were selected by UPNG staff to commence speciality training.

As there are no specialists in PNG in these sub-disciplines of Dentistry, John has to mainly do his training at a distance. Prof Lindsay Richards and Dr Peter Telfer have agreed to be co-supervisors, and are currently exposing John in Adelaide to the requirements of his MDS training program, allowing him to participate in seminars and to observe clinical work in progress.

He has access to the University Library, and is making copious notes in the areas he is required to study. We will also help John obtain a digital camera to enable him to send details of the cases he manages in PNG to Lindsay and Peter, and hopefully will be able to arrange Skype discussions on his return. So, John is faced with significant disadvantages compared with our clinical PGs, and the travel award provided by ICD will be of immense benefit to him in providing direct contact with his specialist mentors. It would be difficult to this training without such support. Hopefully Peter Telfer or Lindsay can also travel to PNG occasionally to assist with John's course, and help monitor his progress directly and provide advice where needed.

The training program developed for John caters directly for the needs in PNG, and allows for the scarcity of resources in that country. It is hoped also to provide some maxillo-facial prosthetic training once John has completed his first two years, as oral cancer and facial trauma are two major problem areas in PNG. Dr Peter Hawker has kindly indicated his willingness to assist in this area.

We have just commenced a Dip Dental Technology course at the dental School in Pt Moresby and John will assist in teaching both in the BDS and Dental Technology programs after he sits his theory exams at the end of this year. The MDS is a great challenge for John, and it would be a great help if anyone is able to assist with recent text books or Prosthetic Journals, or specialised instruments such as functional articulators, as these are in short supply in PNG. If so please contact John McIntyre at email john.mcintyre@adelaide.edu.au.

I wish to thank the ICD very sincerely for this very important support, as well as Lindsay and Peter Telfer for their generous assistance.

John McIntyre AM, Hon Visiting Prof Dentistry, School Medicine and Health Sciences, UPNG