

NEWS UPDATE

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2008

THE JOHN
FAWCETT
FOUNDATION



YAYASAN
KEMANUSIAAN
INDONESIA

SOUTH BALI MOBILE EYE CLINIC NOW RUNNING



Our newest mobile eye clinic was completed in August and the newly trained team of ophthalmic nurses, with ophthalmologist Dr Dharyata, commenced operations at the beginning of September, completing 56 operations in the first month. Dr Dharyata has been working in conjunction with our Foundation since

the inception of the cataract program in 1991 and has recently retired from government service. We are very fortunate that he has decided to keep working with our Foundation as he is one of the most experienced cataract surgeons in Indonesia.

Our team of screening nurses underwent training in operating procedures in the mobile clinic for



several weeks prior to the start of operations in September. The Buleleng team nurses, who are already very experienced, provided most of this training.

DR ADAM GAJDATSY – EVISCERATION TRAINING



In September, Dr Adam Gajdatsy, volunteer ophthalmologist from Perth, Western Australia, traveled to Bali to conduct a

special training program with Dr Dharyata in evisceration procedures. He introduced a new technique which involves the insertion of a Perspex ball into the empty eye socket in preparation for a prosthesis shell at a later stage.

In November, Wayan Wijaya, our prosthesis eye technician, will undergo training in making the new style of prosthetic eyes which fit over the inserted ball.

*Left: Dr Adam Gajdatsy examining a patient.
Right: One of the children in the evisceration program*



BULELENG FIELD SCREENING

In September the YKI screening team traveled to Singaraja in the north of Bali to conduct a field screening in conjunction with the Buleleng Cataract Program. This was held in cooperation

with the Army in the grounds of the Army hospital in Singaraja and was attended by **1,193** people. Free glasses were distributed to **873** people who were refracted by the team, and

97 blind cataract patients were identified. These patients were operated by Dr Sekar and the Buleleng Team in the mobile clinic during the screening and on the following days.

BANYUWANGI SCREENING & CATARACT SURVEY



In August YKI's team traveled to Banyuwangi, the easternmost District of East Java, to conduct a screening survey in several villages, as a follow-up to the feasibility trip in July. The

team was virtually inundated with people, screening **3,413** people and distributing **2,291** pairs of glasses. They identified **346** people blind with cataracts.

The local government authorities have indicated that they would strongly support a cataract program in this district and we are seeking a donor to support a mobile clinic program.

REFRACTION TRAINING FOR BULELENG CATARACT TEAM

In August and September YKI's optometry technician, Nengah, traveled to Singaraja in the north of Bali to conduct training in refraction for the Buleleng Cataract team. Once the training is complete and a promotion campaign amongst the local health clinics is held, a free glasses distribution system

will be introduced into this program.

The introduction of the refraction program and free glasses distribution into a cataract program completes the basic service to the village people. Around 70% of the people screened can be assisted in the first instance with a pair of standard reading glasses.



OPHTHALMOLOGISTS WORKING TOGETHER



Ophthalmologist, Dr Endro Pranoto, from our cataract program in Lombok, took advantage of the public holidays in Lombok over the Ramadhan period to visit Bali in late September for professional discussions and surgical work with Balinese ophthalmologist, Dr Dharyata, and visiting volunteer ophthalmologist from Australia, Dr Peter Graham.

Left: Dr Peter Graham, Dr Dharyata, Dr Endro & Nurses performing a cataract operation in the mobile clinic.

FEASIBILITY TRIP TO SUMBA



Two of our staff, Wayan Sukajaya (Senior Projects Manager) and Wayan Helmy traveled to the

island of Sumba in the eastern part of Indonesia to meet local government authorities and make an initial

assessment with a view to establishing a cataract program on the island. They found an urgent need for additional health services, and in particular ophthalmic services, and the local government very keen to work with our Foundation.

This initial trip will be followed up by a team visit at the end of October to conduct a practical assessment survey. This will involve refraction, treatment for minor eye infections and free glasses distribution in selected villages around the island.

STRENGTH TRAINING FOR YOGIK

Ian Foord, volunteer physiotherapist from Adelaide, South Australia, made another visit to Bali in August, and reviewed several patients. He spent a lot of time with Yogik, the young boy who has recently been fitted with a prosthesis leg, and designed an exercise program for him.

Yogik's program has now been taken over by Eddy, a local fitness instructor, who is working regularly with Yogik to increase his strength and mobility. Yogik can now ride a bicycle and has swimming lessons and exercises in a pool, as well as undergoing general mobility training.



CLEFT OPERATIONS AND DENTAL WORK



In September three children's cleft operations were performed in our regular program. Dr Anom

performed the operations in the Puri Raharja Hospital in Denpasar, with volunteer anaesthetist, Dr Sukra, and the Puri Raharja theatre team.

Dr Hani, YKI's dentist, is working with cleft patients with crooked teeth in a program to wire the teeth and straighten them over a period of several months. This treatment involves regular adjustments to the wires, no mean feat for Dr Hani when the patients live in poor villages several hours away.

Right: Other patients with teeth problems are also assisted in this program



DOCUMENTARY: GOD MADE THEM BLIND



Since its release in August, Richard Todd's documentary, *God Made Them Blind* – the life and work

of John Fawcett, has been widely acclaimed. It was televised on the Australian Broadcasting Commission's Compass program on 17 August 2008. Prior to this, on 7 August, a premier screening was held in Fremantle, WA, which was so well attended that two sessions were necessary. The documentary was subsequently entered into the SunValley Film Festival in the USA where it won the best documentary award out of 350 entries. It was also screened in the Cambridge Film Festival and Hamburg Film Festival,

and achieved a five-star rating in Cambridge.

In October the documentary will be screened in the Bali Film Festival, and a special additional screening will be held in Sanur for invited guests.

We congratulate Richard on this great achievement and thank him for his long years of work the result of which will give fantastic exposure to the Foundation and John's humanitarian work in Indonesia.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We could not do all this valuable work without the wonderful support we receive from all of you.

Thank you so much, on behalf of the Indonesian people.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS

Donations to the Foundation's humanitarian work are tax-deductible in Australia, the United Kingdom and the USA.

Single or regular donations can be made by credit card online via our website, www.balieye.org or by direct bank transfer.

For further information, please refer to our website or email us at yki@indo.net.id.

A photograph of a man looking down at a baby with a cleft lip and palate, set against a red background. The image is framed with a white border and a yellow ribbon effect.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The John Fawcett Foundation assists Balinese from the lower socio-economic group free of charge

- Cataract surgery
- Cleft lip & palate surgery
- Assistance to desperately ill children
- Education assistance
- Wheelchairs
- TB microscopy training

THE JOHN FAWCETT FOUNDATION
YAYASAN KEMANUSIAAN INDONESIA
Jalan Pengembak 16, Blanjong
Sanur, Bali, Indonesia 80238
Tel : +62 361 270 812
Fax : +62 361 287 707

WWW.BALIEYE.ORG