



Highlights of this period are surgical teaching programs in cleft lip and palate surgery and in cataract surgery, the signing of a new Agreement to run a cataract program in West Lombok, receipt of an award from the City of Denpasar and the Annual General Meeting of the Foundation in Perth.

LOMBOK MOBILE EYE CLINIC

Our new mobile clinic program based in East Lombok is progressing well, with 110 cataract operations performed during this two-month period. YKI's ophthalmologists, Dr Cosmas and Dr Dini, travel to Lombok alternately to operate the patients identified in field eye screening sessions by YKI's East Lombok team, which then works as the operating team supporting the surgeons.

In April Professor John Crompton conducted a week-long assessment of the facilities and capacity of the Gerung Hospital in the newly established District of West Lombok and at the same time YKI signed an Agreement with the Bupati of West Lombok to run a Cataract Operating Program in that District. This new program will expand the geographical capacity of our Lombok program, enabling more poor people to receive the free cataract operation service.



SURGICAL TRAINING

During this period we have had two visiting volunteer ophthalmologists from Australia helping with surgical training of Dr Herna, a new ophthalmologist for our cataract programs. In March Dr Gordon Bougher started off with wet-lab training, which was continued by Dr Peter Graham, who was in Bali for three weeks. Dr Peter also spent time with our nurses and field screening teams, refreshing their ophthalmic knowledge.



CHILDREN'S CORRECTIVE SURGERY

In early March volunteer plastic surgeon from Adelaide, Dr Tony Moore, traveled to Lombok with our staff, where he assisted with training surgeons in the Army Hospital in Mataram in the techniques of cleft surgery. This was the start of a new venture for the Foundation which we hope will enable our services to reach even more needy people outside of Bali.

Dr Tim Cooper also came to Bali to assist in this program at the end of March and early April. Over a period of five days he and Dr Anom operated 35 children and young people with cleft deformities and one young girl with amniotic constriction bands on her leg and fingers.

In the pre-op clinic Dr Tim also examined two young boys with severe burns contractions who needed further treatment in Australia. He has subsequently made arrangements for this to take place in Perth in May.

See Feature on Dr Tim Cooper – back page.



CITY OF DENPASAR ACCLAIMS YKI'S HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES



In March YKI received an award from the Walikota (mayor) of Denpasar, Rai Dharma Wijaya Mantra, in recognition of its assistance to the city's humanitarian work with the poor. YKI's screening and operating program in the Denpasar area is conducted under the auspices of the Walikota.



NYEPI – DAY OF SILENCE IN BALI

In March the Balinese celebrated the Balinese New Year, Nyepi, with a day of fasting, silence and self-reflection. In the days preceding Nyepi, our village programs slow to a halt as the people make preparations for this special day.

Right: In the weeks prior to Nyepi, the village people make large monsters, called ogoh-ogoh, from bamboo and other materials. These symbolize the evil spirits that one can encounter in life. On the day before Nyepi, these monsters are carried around in the villages and cities in a spectacular carnival, and finally burned as a way of exorcising evil.



JFF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The Annual General Meeting of The John Fawcett Foundation was held in Perth on 16 April. Three of the Bali staff traveled to Perth for the meeting.

The Chairman introduced Helmy who showed his new film on the Foundation's work. There was not a person in the room who was not moved by the powerful images

of people whose lives were transformed as a result of the Foundation's humanitarian work.

Following the film, Sukajaya, the Foundation's Senior Projects Manager, led the meeting through a PowerPoint presentation covering all aspects of the Foundation's work.

STAFF SPORT

YKI's staff does take time off from its busy schedule to participate in sporting activities. We now have a group of enthusiastic soccer players who play each week in friendly competition.



CHANGING LIVES DR TIM COOPER

“We help
because we can”

For a child with a cleft deformity who comes from a poor family in Indonesia there is little hope of the family's being able to afford the cost of an operation which would change his/her life completely.

Dr Tim Cooper has been helping in the Foundation's Children's Corrective Surgery Program for the last eight years, traveling to Bali regularly to work with Balinese surgeon, Ketut Anom Ratmaya, operating children and young people with cleft lips and palates and other disfiguring conditions.

Over the years he has performed countless operations in this surgical training program but, more importantly, has passed on his valuable skills and experience to local surgeons who can now carry on the operating program on a regular basis.



The Program is also supported by the Bali Anaesthetists' Association, the members of which give their time and skills free of charge, and Dr Anom and the Puri Raharja Hospital in Denpasar, whose services are provided at generously discounted rates, making it possible for the Foundation to help even more children with the donated funds.

The Program currently operates mainly in Bali, receiving patients from outlying provinces as well as from Bali itself, and in conjunction with the Indonesian Army has recently begun expanding into Lombok and other eastern provinces.

All operations and medical treatment is free to the patients who are from poor families. The cost of the operations is covered by donations.



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