



NEWS UPDATE

June - July 2007

ABMEC OPENING

The **Australia Bali Memorial Eye Centre (ABMEC)** was finally opened with two ceremonies – the official opening on Friday 27 July and the ceremonial opening on Sunday 29 July. The Australian Prime Minister, Mr John Howard, and the President of Indonesia, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, unveiled the plaque at the official opening, which was arranged by the Indonesian and Australian Governments, and attended by Ministers from the Indonesian Parliament and Balinese dignitaries. JFF's Vice-chairman Bob Foord and senior ophthalmic consultant, Dr Peter Graham, attended the official opening, with John Fawcett and senior YKI staff.



Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono with JFF/YKI CEO & Founder John Fawcett at the ABMEC opening



Australian Prime Minister Mr John Howard



While the ABMEC is a government-run hospital, JFF/YKI will have a significant role in supporting its free services to the poor, especially cataract surgery. It is anticipated that 70% of the patients will be people from the lower socio-economic group, treated free of charge.

The ABMEC is expecting to take its first patients in September 2007. Prior to that, the equipment will be installed, staff trained in use of new equipment, and appropriate procedures established to enable smooth and efficient running of the new Eye Centre.

SOUTH BALI MOBILE EYE CLINIC (SBMEC)

We have received a very welcome commitment of funding from the Yaran Group of companies in Perth, Western Australia, to run the South Bali Mobile Eye Clinic for a three-year period. We have been keen to run this mobile clinic on the same basis as the very successful North Bali Mobile Eye Clinic but have been restricted in the past by lack of funding. With this second mobile clinic operating in the southern part of the island, together with the ABMEC, the poor of Bali should be well served with free cataract surgery, putting Bali well on the way to achieving the Vision 2020 goals of eliminating avoidable blindness by the year 2020. Once we have received the Governor's permission to use the South Bali Mobile Eye clinic, which is currently being used intermittently by the Indera Hospital, we will proceed with this program.

June-July 2007

FIELD EYE SCREENING TRIPS

In this two-month period, six field screening trips were conducted by the YKI screening team in remote villages in Bali. Of the 2,912 adults who were screened and treated for eye problems over this period, 88 cataract patients were identified and operated and 2,214 received a pair of glasses. Of the 1,954 primary school children whose visual acuity was tested, 24 were issued with remedial glasses.

ADELAIDE SUPPORTERS FIELD TRIP - SONGAN

In late July, six members of the Adelaide Supporters Group joined our YKI and NBMEC teams on a three-day field trip in the village of Songan, an isolated village located in the Batur volcanic crater in central-east Bali. Out of the 721 people screened 22 were identified for cataract surgery and 390 received a pair of remedial spectacles. The teams also tested the eyesight of 1,250 children in the local primary schools, and 11 of these were supplied free glasses to correct their vision.



CHILDREN'S CORRECTIVE SURGERY

Two children with cleft lips and two with cleft palates were operated in June and July by Dr Anom in the Puri Raharja Hospital in Denpasar, with volunteer anaesthetist Dr Wayan Sukra.



ASSISTANCE TO DESPERATELY ILL CHILDREN

During this two-month period, we were able to assist five young people suffering from serious medical conditions.

Four received operations

- a 4½-year-old boy with a colostomy reconnection
- a 12-year-old girl following complications from a colostomy operation
- a 25-year-old man for repair of a pressure wound
- a 10-year-old boy with a hernia.

We are also assisting a 14-year-old boy with ongoing treatment for a pressure wound he has developed since becoming a paraplegic in a motorbike accident 12 months ago.



10-year-old Kadek recovering from a hernia operation

EQUIPMENT DONATIONS AND SHIPMENT

The Foundation's 40ft container load of donated medical equipment was trucked to Bali from its destination port in Surabaya, Java, and the equipment offloaded in the Foundation's store in Denpasar for immaculating prior to distribution to hospitals which treat the poor. The load included hospital beds, patient trolleys, infusion stands, walking frames and wheelchairs.

ABMEC EQUIPMENT

Donated equipment for the ABMEC was also transported to Bali during July, and will be installed prior to the first intake of patients in September.

ARMY AND POLICE HOSPITALS

Several of the donated hospital beds were distributed to the Military and Police Hospitals in Denpasar and Singaraja which have a commitment to treat a certain percentage of poor patients.



Donated beds being moved by Army personnel to the military hospital in Denpasar.



YKI's Wayan Sukajaya (Senior Projects Manager) handing over the donated equipment to the Police Department

EDUCATION ASSISTANCE



At the end of July, 546 children were being assisted in our Education Assistance program, with 152 on the waiting list.

Members of the Adelaide Supporters Group visited their sponsored children in the Gianyar area on their return from the Field Eye Screening trip and the children entertained them with singing and games.

BALI TB PROJECT

Dr Rick Stapledon and Dr Ivan Bastian from the Australian TB Consortium spent two weeks in Bali in July providing ongoing training of Balinese TB workers in microscopy and DOTS management, as part of the five-year Bali TB Project funded by the Australian Red Cross.



Participants in the July training program – Australian trainers Dr Ivan Bastian & Dr Rick Stapledon in the back row

DONATIONS TO THE FOUNDATION'S HUMANITARIAN WORK

ONLINE DONATIONS

We are happy to announce that our online credit card and direct debit facilities for donations are now available via our website, www.balieye.org, which will make donating easier.

Tax deductible donations to the Foundation's humanitarian work can be made in Australia, the United Kingdom and the USA. Please refer to our website at www.balieye.org for information on how to donate. Donations from other countries can be made by direct transfer to the Foundation's bank accounts or online via our website.

For further information, please email us at yki@indo.net.id.