



## NEWS UPDATE

### March - May 2007

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#### CHILDREN'S CATARACT SURGERY



Ophthalmologist, Dr Dharyata, operated seven children who were blind with cataracts in the Puri Raharja Hospital, Denpasar, over this period.

One of the children, a seven-month-old girl, had been blind in both eyes from birth, while the older children had gone blind at a later age. Three of these were completely blind with cataracts in both eyes, and three had a cataract in one eye.



All the operations were performed free of charge to the patient, and these children now have a chance at a normal life. We are very grateful to Balinese anaesthetist, Dr Putu Pramana, who offered his services to the Foundation free of charge for these patients.

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#### FIELD EYE SCREENING

YKI's field eye screening team conducted several mass eye screenings during this three-month period – in the areas of Songan, Keliki, Tiyang Tali, Petang, Sawan, Singaraja and Karangasem. In total 4,558 village people had their eyesight tested and their eye problems treated by our team, with 2,180 receiving a free pair of spectacles to correct refraction errors. At these screenings, cataract blind people are identified with cataracts and referred to the mobile clinics for an operation.



We were most fortunate to have Carl Valiquet, professional photographer, and Jean Fontaine, a film-maker, both from Quebec, Canada, spending a few days on one of the field screenings, donating their work to the Foundation for promotion purposes.

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#### CATARACT SURGERY – ADULTS IN MOBILE CLINICS

During March-May, the Foundation's mobile eye clinics and eye hospital program performed a total of 546 sight-restoring cataract operations free of charge to people in the lower socio-economic group.

North Bali Mobile Eye Clinic: 268

Indera Hospital and South Bali Mobile Eye Clinic: 69

South Kalimantan Mobile Eye Clinic: 209



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## AUSTRALIAN OPHTHALMIC REGISTRARS VISIT BALI

In May Dr Russell Townsend and Dr Kevin Chee, ophthalmic registrars from Perth worked with local ophthalmologists in Bali, visiting the North Bali Mobile Eye Clinic as well as Indera and Sanglah Hospitals in Denpasar. The registrars were supervised by our senior consultant ophthalmologist Dr Peter Graham, a regular volunteer to our Sight Restoration and Blindness Prevention Program. Dr Russell held a seminar and working sessions on vitreo retinal surgery with ophthalmologists at Sanglah Hospital and also visited our North Bali Mobile Eye Clinic on a monitoring trip. Dr Kevin worked with Dr Peter Graham and the ophthalmologists in the Indera Hospital demonstrating new surgical techniques, and joined with Dr Dharyata in a paediatric surgery session at the Puri Raharja Hospital.

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## CHILDREN'S CORRECTIVE SURGERY

In mid-April, Dr Tim Cooper, plastic surgeon from Perth, returned to Bali to assist in our Children's Corrective Surgery program and worked with Balinese surgeon, Dr Anom, at the Puri Raharja Hospital in Denpasar on cleft lip and palate patients, and other facial reconstructive work. Dr Tim and Dr Anom assessed the patients at a clinic at the YKI premises prior to listing them for surgery, and over the following three days Dr Tim and Dr Anom operated 10 patients.



One of the patients was Iluh, who Dr Tim operated last year in Perth, in the first of several operations to repair her facial deformity. Iluh still requires further operations, which Tim will perform each time he comes to Bali to help in this program.



Later in April, Dr Tony Moore, plastic surgeon from Adelaide, held a similar assessment clinic followed by a teaching surgical session in cleft lip and palate work and other children's reconstructive cases in the Prima Medika Hospital in Denpasar. Twelve patients were operated over a three-day period. One was a 10-year old girl who had been born without an ear. Tony performed the first of at least two operations to 'grow' an ear, using bone from the girl's rib cage.



The Children's Corrective Surgery program is funded by donations, and we would like to thank **Friends of 50 (MG)** and the **Rotary Club of Seminyak** for their support. We would also like to particularly thank 10-year-old Bali resident **Carina Hardy** who single-handedly organized two fundraising events during which she raised sufficient funds to pay for one cleft operation.

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## EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

At the end of May 512 children were being assisted with schooling in this Program, with 157 on our waiting list. All families are vetted prior to receiving assistance, and our two project assistants, Lanus and Murdika, visit each family every six months to monitor their use of the funds and changes in the families' financial circumstances.

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## BALI BASH

In early May, Bali resident, Liz Travers, organized a very successful Variety Club Bash - Bali style - to raise funds for the Foundation's Cleft Lip and Palate Program. Forty participants traveled from South Australia to take part in the five-day Bash event which took them around the island.

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## DOCUMENTARY AND BALI TV PROGRAM

Documentary maker, Richard Todd, made another trip to Bali in April to continue filming for the documentary on the humanitarian work of John Fawcett and the Foundation. Richard is also working with Michael Harvey, a public relations consultant based in Bali, on a short promotional DVD suitable for approaches to corporate organisations, and the Foundation is fortunate to have received financial assistance from Ian Batey to help with the costs of this production.

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## SUSI'S WEDDING



We are happy to announce that our accountant, Susi, was married in April to Wayan Murdiana in a ceremony in Wayan's village near Tabanan in Bali.

All members of the Foundation's staff attended the reception to wish Susi and her new husband well.

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## JFF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The John Fawcett Foundation held its Annual General Meeting in Perth on 20 April, earlier than usual to bring the JFF financial year into line with the YKI financial year which works on a calendar basis. At the meeting, Chairman, Graeme Robertson, announced that he would be stepping down as Chairman at the JFF Board meeting in October 2007, but would remain on the Board. Due to new rules concerning the boards of NGOs in Indonesia, he was also stepping down as Chairman of the YKI Board, which is undergoing a regulatory restructure in the current year.

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## DONATIONS TO THE FOUNDATION'S HUMANITARIAN WORK

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](http://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.

## ONLINE DONATIONS

We are in the process of establishing online credit card and direct debit facilities for donations via our website, which will make donating easier.

For further information, please email us at [yki@indo.net.id](mailto:yki@indo.net.id).