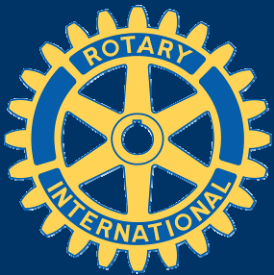


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## *Interplast scores a century in Fiji!*



Interplast Australia & New Zealand is a project actively supported by Rotarians in Clubs and Districts throughout Australia and New Zealand.



ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

In October 2010 Interplast delivered its one hundredth program to Fiji. Joining the team of surgical volunteer veterans were two wide-eyed Rotarian observers.

Kylie-Anne Rich from the Rotary Club of Docklands (Melbourne) represented District 9800, which funded both the first Interplast program to Fiji and this special program. Steve Weychan represented District 9465 (Perth) which funded a program to Laos, where there is no Rotary presence.

Between the first Interplast program to Fiji in 1983 and this milestone, over 7500 consultations have taken place with some 4200 patients receiving treatment for conditions including congenital deformities such as cleft lip and cleft palate and contractures from severe burns.

"It's through the generosity of the volunteer surgical staff, supported financially by Rotarians, that Interplast can help so many," said Interplast General Manager, Marion Wright.

On this visit, 100 consultations resulted in 60 operations at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital.

"As a Rotarian, I am very proud that my District funded this historic program," commented Kylie-Anne Rich.

## What Does Interplast Do?

Interplast Australia & New Zealand sends teams of **volunteer** plastic and reconstructive surgeons, anaesthetists and nurses to developing countries of the Asia Pacific region to provide free medical **treatment and training**.

### Volunteers

Each member of an Interplast program is fully qualified in their field of expertise and VOLUNTEER their time to participate in an Interplast program.

### Treatment

Interplast volunteers provide free treatment to people living with a disability from a congenital condition such as cleft lip and palate, or an acquired condition such as burn scar contractures. Treatment is targeted to the indigent population who would otherwise not be able to afford to access services.

### Training

Interplast assists with developing local capacity to provide plastic and reconstructive surgery services by providing training and mentoring programs for medical and allied health professionals. All Interplast programs are training programs — leaving a legacy long after the team has gone. ■



## Where did Interplast go in 2009/10? How did Rotary help?

- **Bangladesh**  
August 09, December 09, May 10, June 10
- **Burma (Myanmar)**  
November 09
- **Indonesia**  
June 09, July 09, September 09, February 10, **March 10**, **May 10**
- **Laos**  
**February 10**, **April 10**
- **Mongolia**  
June 10
- **Pacific**  
June 09, **August 09**, September 09, **October 09**, November 09, April 10
  - Samoa
  - Vanuatu
  - **Fiji**
  - Solomon Islands
  - Cook Islands
- **Nepal**  
**October 09\***, April 10, May 10
- **Papua New Guinea**  
January 10, May 10
- **Philippines**  
**October 09**, **November 09**
- **Sri Lanka**  
August 09, November 10
- **Vietnam**  
**August 09**

“Both the show of appreciation from those who were treated and the generosity in time and expertise of the medical team members combined to make being the Rotarian Observer a very humbling experience.”

*Mr John Lipman  
Rotarian Observer  
Cagayan de Oro, Philippines*

Rotary continued its practical support by funding (indicated in red above) eleven of the forty-three programs Interplast coordinated in the 2009/10 Rotary Year to deliver **treatment** and **training** to Asia Pacific countries.

\* District 9640 funded a surgeon and an allied health therapist from Nepal to attend the Melbourne Paediatric Plastic Surgery Conference at the Royal Children's Hospital..

Since the inception of Interplast, nearly sixty Rotarian Observers have accompanied volunteer teams that have been funded by their Club or District.

Five Rotarians experienced first hand the life changing work of an Interplast program in the Rotary Year 2009/10. Rotarians Peter Brown (Chelsea, D9810), Carol Pitman (Wandin, D9810), Natalie Graham (Seaford-Carrum Downs, D9820), John Lipman (Archerfield, D9630) and Andrew Ling (District 9820) are now sharing their experiences with their fellow Rotarians.

Details of the various Interplast programs can be found in the Annual Report for 2009/10 due at the end of November. Go to: [www.interplast.com.au](http://www.interplast.com.au) ■

## Did you know?

A major component in the cost of any Interplast volunteer surgical team that visits an overseas country is the medical and surgical consumables.

On average, the cost for these consumables amounts to some \$9,000.

They include:

- sutures
- anaesthetic agents
- ECG electrodes

- adult and paediatric disposable anaesthetic circuits
  - airway filters
  - masks
  - gloves
  - dressings—gauze / Elastoplast / crepe bandages, etc
  - antiseptics
  - pain relief
- and the list goes on ...

## Aanya—a New Zealand Story ...

New Zealand Interplast chair, Alan Davies and Interplast District 9930 Chair Rebecca Signal presented a program on Interplast at the Zone 7B GETs meeting. A short talk along with some graphic slides showing before and after pictures of Interplast recipients made a significant impact on the GETs participants.

Rebecca and her husband District Governor Peter have made the funding of an Interplast team a district goal. Until this Rotary year Interplast was only supported by two or three clubs in the district and many clubs were unaware of the program.

The presentations made to all the clubs in District 9930 have raised the profile of Interplast with the Rotarians. Many of the clubs in the District are supporting Interplast with various fund raising activities and the District is planning to sponsor an Interplast team to Fiji in 2011.



As Rebecca said *“It has been easy, we have a personal interest in promoting Interplast. We found out at the 20 week scan that our only granddaughter, Aanya, had a cleft lip.*

*The support the whole family received from the New Zealand health system has been remarkable. Aanya had surgery to correct her lip at six months of age and, although there will be further surgery to address the gum defects, as you can see in the photo taken in April 2010 she looks great.”*

We in the developed countries can do so much to help address disabilities from congenital conditions such as cleft lip and palate and acquired conditions such as scar contractures from burns.

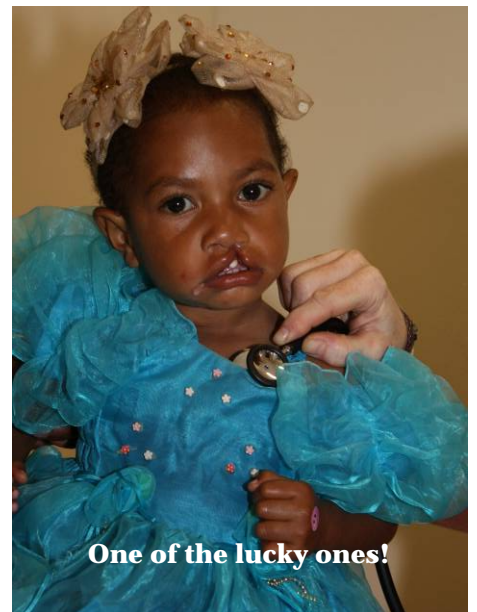
Interplast volunteers provide free surgical and medical treatment targeted to the indigent population who would otherwise not be able to afford access to services.

Interplast assists with developing local capacity by providing training and mentoring for medical and allied health professionals to provide safe and appropriate treatment. ■

## And those who wait and hope...and dress to be noticed



**Mt Hagen, Papua New Guinea in August 2010  
87 consultations and 30 operations on 29 patients in 4 days.**



**One of the lucky ones!**

### ***A note from your Editor:***

*Interplast is grateful to the many Rotarians across Australia and New Zealand who are involved with what we do.*

*From the fervent knitters of our teddy bears we offer as gifts to our young patients, to the District Chairs and Interplast Committee members, to the Clubs and individual Rotarians, each plays an important part in the delivery of our aid and development services.*

*On behalf of the Board of Interplast, the Rotarian Committee Members and Staff, I wish you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.*

***PP Glenda Sherwin-Lane, Rotarian Coordinator  
Interplast Australia & New Zealand***



# Contact Us

Interplast has a District Chair in all of the Australian and New Zealand Rotary Districts. Please contact them or the Interplast office if you would like any further information sent to you, or would like to host a speaker who has experienced first hand the incredible work of Interplast's highly motivated and caring volunteers.

## Contact PP Glenda Sherwin-Lane, Rotarian Coordinator:

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# or Your Interplast District Chair

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Interplast is grateful to the District Chairs and Committee members for their time and effort on our behalf.

## Donation Form

### Yes I would like to rebuild lives

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

**By making a donation of \$** \_\_\_\_\_  My cheque is payable to-  
Interplast Australia & New Zealand Overseas Aid Fund  
 From my credit card (complete details below)

### ROTARY CLUB

Please credit Rotary Club \_\_\_\_\_ **District** \_\_\_\_\_

### JOIN THE REBUILDING LIVES FELLOWSHIP

I would like to join the **Rebuilding Lives Fellowship** and make monthly donations from my credit card.

Please deduct \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ of every month from my credit card until further notice.

*Insert amount*

### CREDIT CARD DETAILS

Visa  Mastercard  Diners Club  AMEX

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Any information you provide to Interplast will be treated in the strictest of confidence. Interplast will only use your personal details in order to provide you with the opportunity of a range of services and facilities that will benefit Interplast programs. Interplast does not rent, lease, or sell your personal details to any other organisation. Interplast Australia & New Zealand respects your privacy, for more information on our privacy policy please see our website at [www.interplast.com.au](http://www.interplast.com.au). Please check this box if you do not wish to receive further material from Interplast.

R Summer 10



Interplast Australia & New Zealand is a project actively supported by Rotarians in Clubs and Districts throughout Australia and New Zealand.



ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN  
COLLEGE OF SURGEONS