

HOPE!



The Newsletter of Operation Restore Hope Australia
website: <http://www.operationrestorehope.org>

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Operation Restore Hope: Still Going and Growing!

33 missions in 17 years and there's more to come.



Angela: before and after multiple surgeries by Dr Taps Gurango and her Filipino team, sponsored by ORH



greater if not surgically repaired early on. Ear infections due to dysfunction of the Eustachian tubes, difficulty with speech due to poor function of the palate, and the consequences

Operation Restore Hope has just completed three missions in the last six months to the Philippines. One to Caloocan in Manila, one to Lapu Lapu in Cebu and another to a new venue in downtown Cebu City, the Sacred Heart Hospital.

Our teams are unique in being multinational, multispecialty and interdisciplinary, and therefore able to address the majority of all problems from which children with cleft lip and palate suffer.

Most casual observers only think of the cosmetic facial deformity of clefts but in reality the consequences of cleft are much

of poor socialisation and psychological problems related to social isolation are only a few of the issues involved. Dental and orthodontic problems are almost universal in a severe cleft.

"Cleft" children often bullied
Filipino children, just like Australian children, can be very cruel and bully their peers at school, and a "cleft child" is frequently subjected to this early childhood abuse. We pride ourselves with a unique model of returning to the same site annually, following our children and doing secondary procedures as needed. As children grow, other



Four young patients wait their turn.

A Letter from Dr Hodgkinson



ORH Australia: The Future
Operation Restore Hope has operated on nearly 2000 children in over 30 missions and the number increases each year. We have had many offers to expand our mission to other sites and each and every opportunity is explored for logistics, long term sustainability and partnership opportunities. Our initial visits to another area in the Visayas have given us the possibility of another hospital mission site in 2011 making four missions per year. Funds are critical to our present and future success and it costs at least \$500 to perform one of these complex operations. If we expand to other sites we will need to take into account the need for more funds. We welcome any suggestions to encourage friends and volunteers to seek ways to financially support Operation Restore Hope to sustain them in the future.



The cost to Operation Restore Hope Australia to repair a facial cleft is approximately \$500 AUD per operation. The more donations we receive, the more children we can help.

No funds received are spent on administrative, accounting, advertising or infrastructure costs. All membership fees and donations are spent directly on surgeries performed.

You can also become a Life Member of Operation Restore Hope Australia or just join for a year. Your fee or donation will help fund the cost of a child's surgery.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Donations over \$2.00 are fully tax deductible and are payable to "Operation Restore Hope Philippines Relief Fund"

I wish to make a donation of \$ _____

Memberships are not tax deductible and are payable to 'Operation Restore Hope Australia'

Enclosed is my \$100 Lifetime Membership fee

Enclosed is my \$20 Annual Membership fee

TOTAL PAYMENT: \$ _____

Method of Payment:

Cheque enclosed MasterCard Visa

Credit Card No. _____

Signature _____ Expiry Date _____



Torchlight surgery during a power blackout in Cebu

problems emerge and the child may need speech therapy and orthodontic management.

Our presence in both Luzon and the Visayas over a long term has been supported by Metro Rotary Cebu in particular and this has allowed us to return and follow our children as they reach adolescence. Adolescence stimulates growth and problems with growth especially in the jaws and nose become obvious at this period of development.

Reaching out to local surgeons

Our missions have always reached out to local surgeons in a partnership arrangement, especially those surgeons that are interested and capable of performing these difficult surgical procedures. This assures the support of the local medical societies and long term viability of Operation Restore Hope.

Thank you to our Supporters

Each and every dollar donated to Operation Restore Hope is tax deductible. We pride ourselves on not wasting a single cent. We do not pay salaries as all our staff are volunteers nor do we pay accounting fees or legal fees as these services are donated

pro bono. Even this newsletter was created and printed by volunteers. Given this, we are unlike many other charities, in that you can see the impact of your charity dollar as it goes directly to helping the less fortunate children we care for.

Our Valued Major Sponsors

Jaycar is our major corporate sponsor and is joined by Abbott Australasia, Charles J Grace & Co, VAMPS Bistro, Noall & Co and Mondeal Aesthetics. We are hoping to secure the future of the charity by finding new sponsors, especially corporations or individuals who do business in the Philippines.

Hats Off to Our Volunteers

The nurses, anaesthetists and surgeons who put their hand up every year are to be congratulated for their professionalism and dedication

to this surgery under unpredictable and difficult circumstances.

Non medical volunteers are especially welcome as they bring to us experience in other areas such as infrastructure, transport, political awareness and spin offs from their own charity efforts.



**WANT TO GET INVOLVED?
ORH Fundraising Committee
Inaugural Meeting
5 pm Tuesday, May 25th**

In order to help finance our future we need to raise some money. If you are interested in being part of the ORH Fundraising Committee, please email Jenny Hall at jhall14@bigpond.net.au or telephone her on 9363 2318.

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