



SMILE!

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

Volume 1 Number 1

February 2003

Fundraising 2002!

Filipino Dance Party and Polo By The Sea boost
Operation Restore Hope mission funds



Sponsors Neil Rowland and Ulrich Hoffmann with Katherine and Victoria Hodgkinson enjoying a sunny Polo By The Sea

2002 Fundraising should have been called 'Fun Raising'. Everyone who was involved had a great time raising not only money but awareness for children in the Philippines with birth defects and deformities.

There were two major events: the Filipino Dance Party which was held at the Burwood RSL and featured Joey Marquez, Mayor of Paranaque and many talented stars like Lillian de Los Reyes and Theresa Gonzaga. And in November, the women's organising com-

mittee of Restore Hope mounted a marquee for Polo by the Sea with the generous assistance of the Sydney Polo Club. This day was not only a huge success financially but gave everyone a chance to share in the polo, fun, food and games.

We had other initiatives through the year such as the sale of Sydney Entertainment Books and Operation Restore Hope T-shirts. We are looking forward to having some more fun this year while making this worthwhile cause possible.

*A Letter from
Dr Hodgkinson*



Operation Restore Hope in 2002

2002 was a most successful surgical mission for us in both Cebu and Paranaque. We had many children return to us for follow-up to thank us for their second stage operation and for minor revisions where necessary. There were no major complications in the over 100 children operated on. It is really gratifying that we are finally able to start developing some continuity of care in the communities to which we have committed ourselves.

With the help of the hospital administrators and local health department in Paranaque, we are setting up an identification programme to have children registered with our teams when receiving their early infant injections. We are educating the nurses and staff at the immunisation centres on how
(continued overleaf col 3)

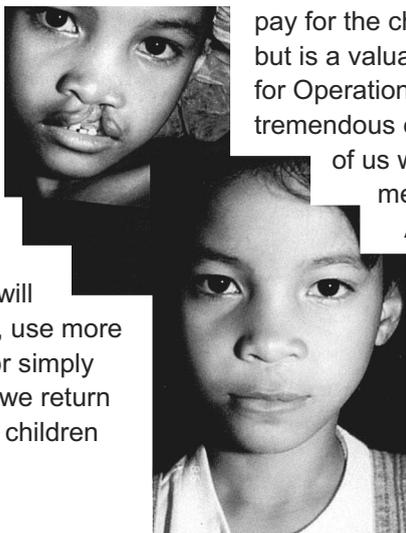
Memberships are now due!

Please see overleaf for details

Travel Warnings delay February Missions

The closure of the Australian Embassy in Manila and the travel warnings for all Australians to the Philippines have forced Operation Restore Hope to delay plans for February 2003.

The three teams of surgeons, nurses, anaesthetists and dentists have all confirmed that they will be ready to return to Paranaque and Cebu later in 2003 when we hope to have the renewed support of our governments. "Tell the children not to worry", said Dr. Hodgkinson, "we will send more teams, use more operating tables or simply stay longer when we return to ensure that the children are cared for."



Join Operation Restore Hope!

You can become a Member of Operation Restore Hope! Just fill out the coupon below with your details and we will send you an application form.

Membership not only helps us pay for the children's operations but is a valuable show of support for Operation Restore Hope and a tremendous encouragement to all of us working to keep these medical missions going.

Annual membership is only \$10 and there is a one time application fee of just \$10.

Operation Restore Hope is a registered charity in New South Wales.

Operation Restore Hope FAQs

Operation Restore Hope does not spend one cent on administration but has all its administrative services volunteered.

Sponsorship for a child is about \$400. Membership is only \$10 per year with a one time \$10 application fee.

Email Operation Restore Hope

Save us time, receive our newsletter and your renewals electronically - just email us on info@operationrestorehope.org with your full name, current mailing details and your email address!

A Letter from Dr Hodgkinson

(continued from page 1)

to refer children with cleft lips and palates to the hospital for registration and ongoing care.

We had a very congenial and helpful visit at Paranaque Community Hospital by Mr. John Buckley, the former Australian Ambassador to the Philippines. He seemed impressed we had "bitten off what we could chew" (his words).

Our fundraising was supported by the Australian Filipino Community. The first of our two highlights for the year was the Dance Party at Burwood RSL for which our host in Paranaque, Mayor Joey Marquez, made a special appearance. In October, assisted by Sydney Polo Club, the fundraising committee members organised another fabulous event with a marquee for 'Polo by the Sea'. This was a great day out and a successful one too! We have had innumerable supporters make a commitment to Operation Restore Hope and we thank the Lord for their generosity.

The 2003 mission has had to be delayed until later this year due to the closure of the Australian Embassy in Manila and the travel warnings during the aftermath of the Bali bombings.

We are praying that peace will endure and we can safely return to the Philippines later in the year to continue our charity surgery to the many children who are waiting to have their faces repaired and their voices made whole.

Kindest Wishes to all our supporters,

Darryl Hodgkinson



Become a Member of Operation Restore Hope

To: Operation Restore Hope,
PO Box 1185, Double Bay 1360
Please send me an application form for membership of Operation Restore Hope:

Name:

Address:

.....

Telephone: Email: