

# SMILE!

ORH  
OPERATION  
RESTORE  
hope



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

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March 2008

## Donations Now Fully Tax-Deductible

AusAID approval makes giving easier



*Mark before his lip operation and one year later with volunteer nurse Anne after his palate procedure.*



### All donations to Operation Restore Hope Australia are now fully tax deductible.

At the end of 2007 AusAID and the ATO recognised the charity's commitment to more than just good works but to the development of sustainable programs in conjunction with our Filipino partners. The charity's programs are in basic terms to train, share and cooperate so that the special children who benefit from the systems and infrastructure we put in place can have not only the brighter tomorrow they deserve but live in communities which have been empowered to care for them.

### Now 3 Teams A Year Go To The Philippines

Operation Restore Hope is now sending three teams per year to the Philippines and has treated more than 1,300 patients. We now have branches developing in different corners of the world. Our New Zealand branch has become very active in fundraising, coordinating missions and in our quality control program. US and German branches are also getting organized. Our headquarters and home, however, are and will always remain in Australia, the birthplace of the charity.

### *A Letter from Dr Hodgkinson*



#### ORH Australia in 2008

Operation Restore Hope is now in its adolescence: 2008 marks our fifteenth year of missions to the Philippines. Proud of our achievements, we are now coming of age and facing our future with confidence. For the charity, gaining the endorsement of AusAID under their OAGDS scheme will not only allow us to extend tax deductibility for donations but seek much needed funding both from individuals and institutions. This endorsement also comes with the responsibility to maintain and improve our development programs with local partners in the Philippines to create a framework in which local surgeons will be given the skills and infrastructure to care for children with cleft lip and palate for generations. Every dollar, every hour of help are appreciated in making this dream come true.

# Our First Mission for 2008 A Success!



**A very successful trip was held to Lapu Lapu District Hospital on Mactan Island in Cebu this February.**

With surgeons from the US, and anaesthetists and nurses from Australia working with our Filipino partners, the team screened 120 people and operated successfully on 65 (27 cleft palates and 38 cleft lips), using three operating tables in one room. Most of the medical volunteers had been on five or more missions with some having been with the charity for ten years. Now that's dedication!

Our next mission to Caloocan City in Manila is scheduled for early April

and we will see a team comprised of Filipinos, Kiwis, Germans and of course Australians (many of whom have also been with the charity for over five years) make the little miracles that these operations are for these children and their families possible.

No matter how many hours in the day we work, the need is always greater and the possibility to grow and care for these children limited only by resources.

Thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers who work so hard each year to deliver hope to our special children and to our members and sponsors for their loyal support.

## New ORH Logo



international surgical charity for underprivileged children

A team of Operation Restore Hope volunteers from Australia and New Zealand met to discuss creating a logo that was universal in its appeal, uplifting and positive in spirit and still communicated our commitment to children and the Philippines. After hours, days and weeks of hard work, focus groups and many attempts, our volunteer webmaster, photographer and creative wizard Dean Wright of New Zealand came up with our new logo. Everyone had an immediate positive reaction to Dean's creation and we hope that you will too.



**"SMILE" is sponsored and printed by the GEON Group**

**GEON**

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 \_\_\_\_\_