



**Interplast®**

Repairing bodies & rebuilding lives  
in the Asia Pacific region

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**2016-17**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



# Repairing bodies and rebuilding lives

Interplast Australia & New Zealand is a not-for-profit organisation working to improve the lives of people in developing countries who are disabled or have a reduced quality of life as a result of congenital or acquired medical conditions.

We do this by training and mentoring local medical and allied health professionals, investing in their ability to provide high-quality treatment. Interplast volunteers provide plastic and reconstructive surgery services to people who would otherwise not be able to afford access to such services.

## OUR VISION

People in developing countries across the Asia Pacific region have timely access to high-quality surgical, medical and allied health services.

## OUR MISSION

To enhance people's health and wellbeing by enabling access to life-changing reconstructive surgery and related medical services.

## OUR PURPOSE

Repairing bodies, rebuilding lives.

## OUR VALUES

We respect the values, cultures and perspectives of the countries and people with whom we work.

In all our endeavours, Interplast remains independent of any political or religious affiliations.

We value and harness the support, input and contributions of our volunteers, donors, partners and staff.

## OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We deliver and enable surgical and related medical services of the highest standards where patient welfare is always of paramount concern.

We are collaborative in our approach, building partnerships and fostering strategic alliances.

Our development philosophy is underpinned by the fundamental principle that solutions, changes and impact should be sustainable and enduring.

Measuring and understanding the impact of our initiatives is critical to all aspects of the Interplast strategy.

Accordingly, transparency, evaluation and accountability are embraced in all of our work.

We respond to needs or opportunities as they arise and as resources allow. In doing so, we direct resources and expertise to areas where it can achieve the greatest impact, ideally to those experiencing the greatest disadvantage.

(Extracted and adapted from Interplast Australia & New Zealand's Strategic Plan July 2013 - June 2018)

## COVER PHOTO:

John Pouliavaati, Head of Physiotherapy at Vaiola Hospital in Tonga, with Interplast volunteer physiotherapist Teresa Squires from Tasmania. Teresa visited Tonga in February 2017 with an Interplast surgical team, where she assisted with follow-up of patients after surgery, along with teaching local physiotherapists how to make splints for a range of injuries – including the one that John is wearing.

"We've learned a lot about different types of splinting for different types of cases. We're so happy to learn new ideas about how to help our people," said John. "We have a lot of hand problems here in Tonga. We are happy that Interplast is helping us."

Photo: Woodrow Wilson



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



The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons established Interplast with Rotarians and the Fellows remain active supporters.



Interplast Australia & New Zealand is a member of the Australian Council for International Development and signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct.

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Baby Emeline's cleft lip was repaired by an Interplast volunteer surgical team visiting Tonga. See page 10 for her story.  
Photo: Woodrow Wilson

## From the President



It is an honor to write my first President's message for an Interplast Annual Report.

I took on the role after David Inglis, a founding member of the Interplast Board, retired in November 2016. Many of the organisation's achievements over the past 33 years were made possible by his guidance and stewardship, and we are deeply grateful.

The past year has seen continued growth for Interplast, allowing us to deliver more programs that provide surgical services, training, education and mentoring in a sustainable way. This included nursing and allied health specialists, who are crucial to achieving the best outcomes for our local partners and their patients.

In May I accompanied a surgical and allied health team to Nepal, our first program there in several years and my first country visit as President. I was pleased to witness surgical training and mentoring delivered at a quality one would expect in Australia, and to see our physiotherapists teaching their counterparts how to make pressure garments for burns patients.

I also met with Interplast Ambassador Turia Pitt and the team of 25 supporters who were about to trek to Everest Base Camp to raise funds for Interplast. We are extremely grateful for her ongoing support, along with all of this year's trekkers.

In an exciting new initiative, Interplast was chosen as the preferred charity of the Australasian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery. A significant number of its members are volunteers with Interplast and we look forward to developing the relationship.

Our work could not continue without support from a range of organisations, such as the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Rotary clubs and districts throughout Australia and New Zealand, and other professional bodies.

And of course, the support and hard work of my fellow Board members is vital, and I thank you all. In particular I want to acknowledge two retiring members, Professor Mark Ashton and Professor Michael Leung. Your wise counsel will be missed.

The strength and growth of the past year is a credit to the hard-working management team led by CEO Prue Ingram, along with all of our staff who regularly go beyond the call of duty.

**Keith Mutimer,**  
President, Interplast Australia & New Zealand

## From the CEO



Over the past financial year we have continued to pursue the Interplast mission of enhancing access to life-changing reconstructive surgery and related services across the Asia Pacific region, addressing issues and expanding our programs along the way.

Our many achievements have occurred in a rapidly changing world. The security situation in some of our program countries has deteriorated, we have experienced changes in compliance expectations both in Australia and internationally and, in some countries, we have adapted to local medical services that are evolving rapidly.

Changes can be positive or present challenges. We were able to return to Nepal after several years' absence caused by meeting visa requirements, with our volunteers once again able to work alongside our friends at the Kirtipur Hospital in Kathmandu. In Bangladesh, however, our programs were suspended as a result of violence against aid workers.

Working closely with our local partners across 17 countries means that we have been able to begin a number of new initiatives: Following an earlier needs assessment to Murun in remote Mongolia, a successful program took place in August 2016; in November 2016, an assessment in the Sepik River region in Papua New Guinea laid the foundations for a new surgical and training program to Vanimo to come in 2017-18; and at the request of our local partners, the resumption of our microsurgery and nurse training program in Nepal was accompanied by a pressure garment manufacturing training course – a first for the country.

Of course, none of these things happen in isolation. As I reflect on Interplast's many achievements over the past year, it is clear that they could only have happened through the contributions of many people working together to change futures. This Annual Report attempts to acknowledge all of these different contributions - our local partners, our volunteers, our corporate, professional and Rotary partners, our wonderful ambassador Turia Pitt, our community fundraisers and, of course, our donors across Australia and New Zealand.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the Interplast Board for their wonderful support and, of course, the Interplast office staff. It truly is a team effort to ensure that our vital program activities are delivered to the places – and the people – that need them the most.

**Prue Ingram,**  
CEO, Interplast Australia & New Zealand

## Our four areas of work

At Interplast, our vision is that people in developing countries across the Asia Pacific region will have timely access to high-quality surgical, medical and allied health services.

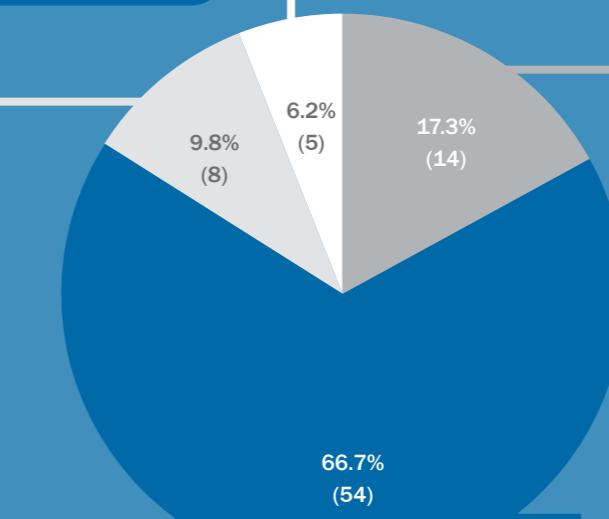
To achieve this vision, our work must involve more than providing necessary surgery and therapy to people who don't have access to or can't afford it. As such, we focus on four complementary areas of program work: surgical programs; training and mentoring; institutional support; and planning and evaluation.

During the 2016-17 the bulk of our programs were focused on training and mentoring, followed by surgical programs, planning and evaluation, and institutional support.

### Institutional support

In some cases, partners have the expertise to provide training or support themselves, but do not have the financial resources to deliver this support or training opportunities. In such cases, Interplast will provide limited financial support to facilitate these services.

5 programs in 2016-17



### Surgical

Programs that focus primarily on treating patients, with some training built into the program through in-theatre mentoring or lectures.

14 programs in 2016-17



### Planning and evaluation

These programs usually involve a combination of Interplast program staff together with medical volunteers visiting program countries to assess the need for new programs, or to monitor and evaluate the impact and effectiveness of existing programs.

8 programs in 2016-17



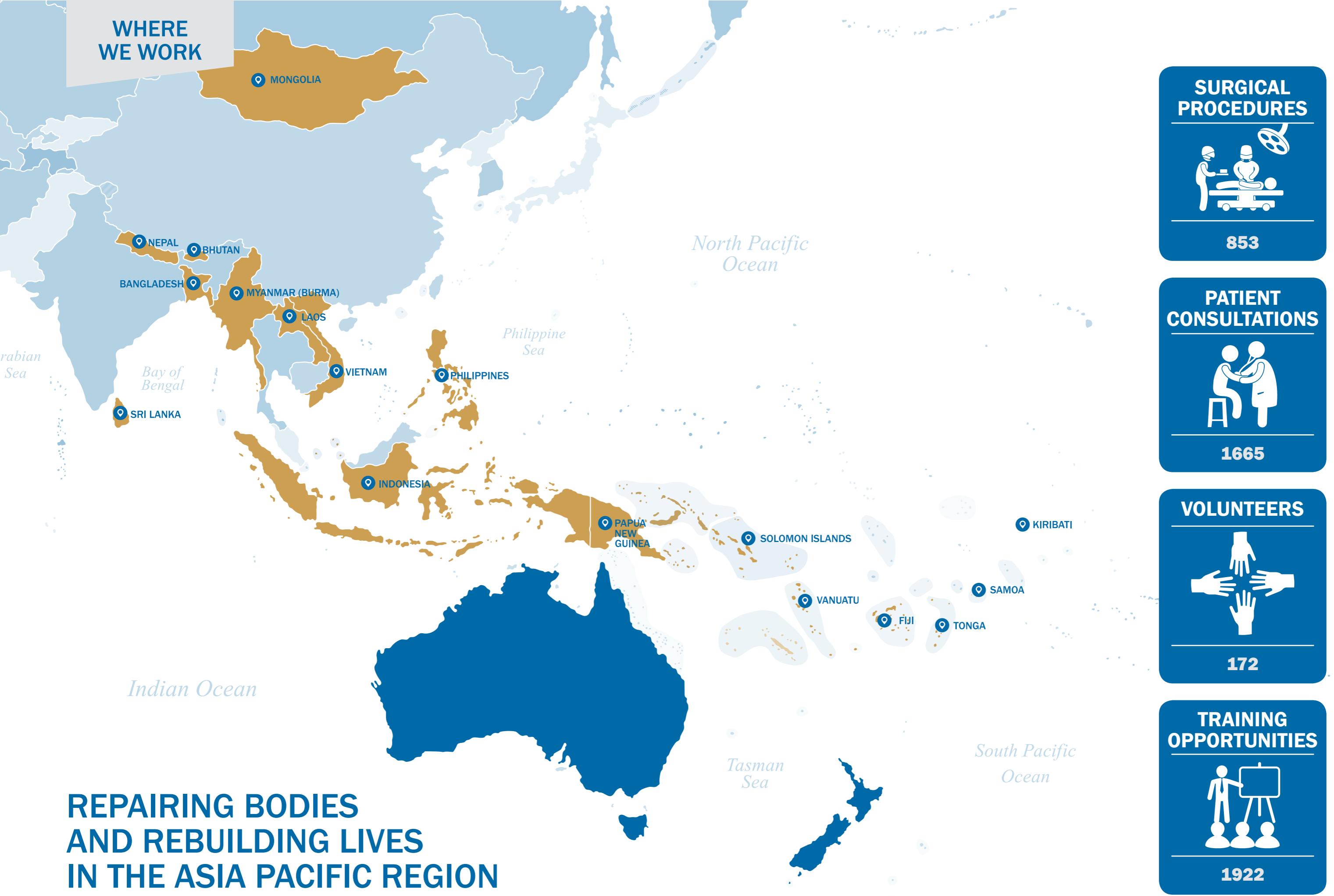
### Training and mentoring

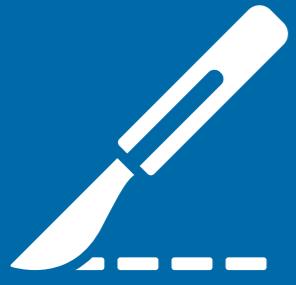
Programs that have a clear focus on training and mentoring, from microsurgery to nursing and allied health (such as physiotherapists and hand therapists). This can involve larger programs, one-on-one mentoring, and bringing medical professionals to Australia, New Zealand or other countries for professional development opportunities.

54 programs in 2016-17



## WHERE WE WORK





## OUR WORK SURGERY



### Changing futures today

At Interplast, we want to see a world in which all countries have healthcare systems that provide everything their people need. That's why we have a strong focus on training and mentoring local medical professionals.

However, in many countries across the Asia Pacific there are people who need surgery now and can't wait for local medical professionals to be trained.

Our surgical programs aim to meet some of this need. We send fully qualified teams of volunteer plastic and reconstructive surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses and allied health professionals to work alongside local partners to provide life-changing surgery and medical support that would otherwise be inaccessible to many people.

Surgical programs are generally one to two weeks in duration, with teams of up to seven medical volunteers. These teams work in partnership with a local hospital to deliver a program focused on treating patients – this can be up to 80 surgical procedures for a two-week program.

Our teams treat a range of conditions. Examples include cleft lip and palate, burns (acute and burns scar contractures),

hand injuries requiring tendon and nerve repairs, lower limb reconstruction following trauma, removal of tumours and various other congenital and acquired conditions.

While these programs are focused on immediate life-changing surgery, they generally include training of local staff through in-theatre mentoring or lectures. We see these programs as an entry point to investing in the training of local medical professionals over the long-term.

Over the past year, we have run 14 surgical programs that make up 17 per cent of our overall program activity.

We currently run annual surgical programs to the Pacific Islands, including Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and a number of annual programs to various locations in countries such as Papua New Guinea, Mongolia and the Philippines.

### Restoring 'superman's' hands

In August 2016, an Interplast volunteer surgical team visiting Mongolia gave 'Superman' back the use of his hands.

In Mongolia, burns are the leading cause of injuries in children under five years of age; one survey found that 25 per cent of children under five had sustained burns.

Five-year-old Yanjinlham, dubbed 'Superman' because of his T-shirt, had severe burns scars on both hands that left them barely functional. Only his thumb and index finger could touch; no other fingers could touch or pinch together.

Interplast volunteer plastic and reconstructive surgeon, Dr Kirstie MacGill, led the three-hour surgery supported by five local staff that she mentored throughout the operation. Two surgeons worked on one hand, one took skin grafts from the boy's stomach, and three surgeons worked on his other hand.

Afterwards, the local surgeons reported that the operation was a success and Yanjinlham was recovering well.

The program that changed Yanjinlam's life is a new chapter in a long relationship between Interplast and Mongolia. Since 2008 we have been supporting the development of anaesthesia skills through our partnership with the Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiologists.

In 2014, we were approached by Bright Blue, the Western Australian Police Commissioner's Fund for Sick Kids, as they were eager to support us to expand our Mongolian programs to include life-changing surgery.

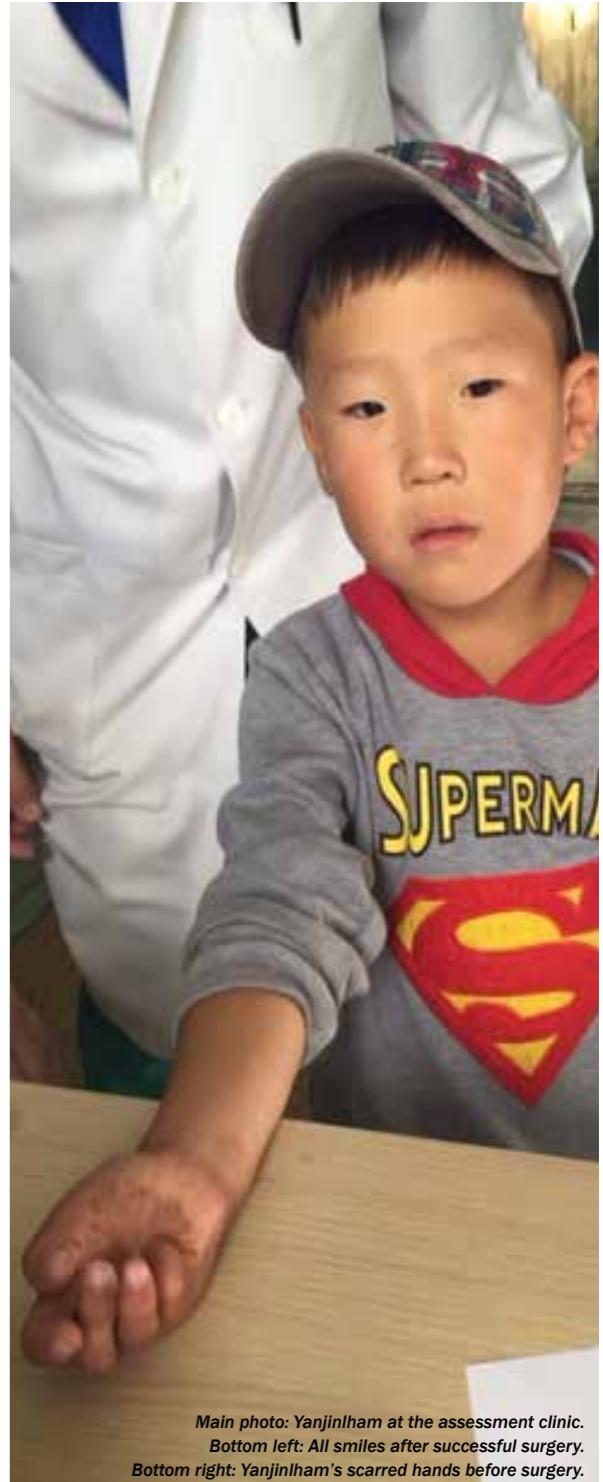
The demand for burns surgery in Mongolia is greater than available services, and formal physiotherapy has only recently been introduced. Many burns patients are not getting the treatment that they need.

An assessment in 2014 confirmed that support from Interplast would be necessary and welcomed, resulting in the August 2016 two-week surgical program that visited the capital, Ulaanbaatar, and the Khovsgol United Hospital in Murun, where Yanjinlham's operation took place. It was the first time we have sent a team to Murun.

During the program (which included a week of training local surgeons), 32 people received life-changing operations, most of them children.

Yanjinlham will now enjoy greater function of both of his hands, and in the future he will be able to eat, play and learn with much greater ease than before, as will many of the other patients who were treated during the week.

**We are grateful to Bright Blue for their ongoing support to make this program happen.**





*Main photo: Emeline and her mother at home after surgery. Bottom: Interplast volunteer plastic surgeon Dr Graham Sellars with Emeline and her parents as she recovers from surgery. Photos: Woodrow Wilson*

## A repaired lip gives Emeline a chance to grow strong and healthy

Little Emeline from Tonga now has a chance to grow stronger and healthier thanks to an Interplast surgical team that repaired her cleft lip, allowing her to feed normally.

When Emeline was born, her mother Nancy immediately knew there was something wrong, but a local doctor told her that one of our teams was coming soon and could repair the lip.

"When I heard about that I was really happy to know that the team is coming," she said.

However, it would be a few months until our team would arrive in February 2017, and Nancy still had to feed Emeline, a task made very difficult by the cleft lip.

"When I tried breastfeeding her, it was difficult for me to put the breast milk into her mouth. I tried to keep her feeding but she was crying all night and all day," Nancy said. "I go to the clinic and tell them what happened. It's so hard trying to wake up all day and all night trying to breastfeed my baby. I said 'I can't wait for the team to come and fix my baby'."

Nancy was eagerly awaiting the arrival of the Interplast team, which included two surgeons, two anaesthetists and two nurses, along with a physiotherapist who assisted with some of the follow-up after surgery and provided training to a local physiotherapist.

During their one-week visit, the team assessed 92 patients, and operated on 36 people, including Emeline.

Dr Graham Sellars worked with local doctors to repair the three-month-old's lip, and her parents are absolutely thrilled with the outcome.

"I really appreciate your help. I cannot express how I feel right now to see her doing good and happy and very hungry, and I would just like to say thank you very much for the good things that you are doing," said Nancy. "I just want to thank the team for a great job and helping my daughter. I am just so happy to see my daughter after surgery."

"When my baby starts to smile at the camera, I feel like this is the perfect day."

We have been sending surgical teams to Tonga once a year since 1984, where they combine treatment of local patients with training local medical staff. They deal with a range of issues, including cleft lips and palates, burns, tumours and upper and lower limb trauma.



## OUR WORK TRAINING AND MENTORING



*Interplast volunteer plastic surgeons lead in-theatre surgical training for their colleagues in Da Nang, Vietnam.*

### Training for the future

To have the greatest, long-term impact for people in countries across the Asia Pacific, Interplast invests in training and mentoring surgeons and other medical professionals.

Ultimately, we aim to help strengthen sustainable healthcare systems and the ability of local professionals to provide ongoing access to quality health services for local communities.

#### WE DO THIS IN A NUMBER OF WAYS.

We deliver direct training and mentoring to medical professionals in their home countries. These are generally shorter trips with a smaller number of people on the Interplast team, usually a maximum of two to three volunteers depending on the training focus. Such programs cover a variety of skills and specialities, including a range of surgical specialities, allied health (such as physiotherapy or speech therapy), anaesthesia and nurse training.

Surgical trips frequently involve practical training in the operating theatre, often with a specific focus requested by the local surgeons. Most training trips also involve classroom-based teaching.

Increasingly training and mentoring is being delivered in collaboration with local tertiary institutions, such as in Fiji, where we have been working with Fiji National University to

deliver allied health training for physiotherapists and trainees from across the Pacific, and helping the university to build its formal curriculum.

We also invest in bringing medical professionals to Australia and New Zealand for training and observation placements, along with funding them to travel to other countries in the Asia Pacific to participate in Interplast training programs.

Over the past year, we have run 54 training and mentoring programs that make up 67 per cent of our overall program activity. We are particularly grateful for the support of the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). DFAT has provided financial support for many of our in-country training and mentoring programs through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

Training and mentoring programs over the past year have included microsurgery training in Nepal, paediatric hand surgery and craniofacial surgery training in Sri Lanka, nurse education in Solomon Islands and Kiribati, and scholarships to bring anaesthetists from Indonesia to Australia for placements.



Interplast volunteer physiotherapist Jenny Ball shows colleagues from Nepal and Bangladesh how to sew a compression garment.  
Below: Interplast volunteer plastic surgeon Anand Ramakrishnan leads colleagues from both countries through a complex operation.

## Return to Nepal with a major program

In May 2017 we delivered a major training and mentoring program in Nepal.

We were pleased to be returning to Nepal for our first in-country training program since 2012, after a delay caused by complications with Nepali medical registration.

Our team included two plastic and reconstructive surgeons, two nurses, an anaesthetist and three physiotherapists. Along with the Nepali staff, we supported surgeons and physiotherapists from Bangladesh to travel to Kathmandu to join the training.

Our surgical team focused on practical training, working with their Nepali colleagues on patient consultations and operations in a teaching environment, observed by their colleagues from Bangladesh. The Nepali surgeons already have a great deal of experience; so the patient cases chosen were complex to help further their skills and expertise. Our anaesthetist and nurses also provided training to their Nepali colleagues as part of the process of treating the patients.

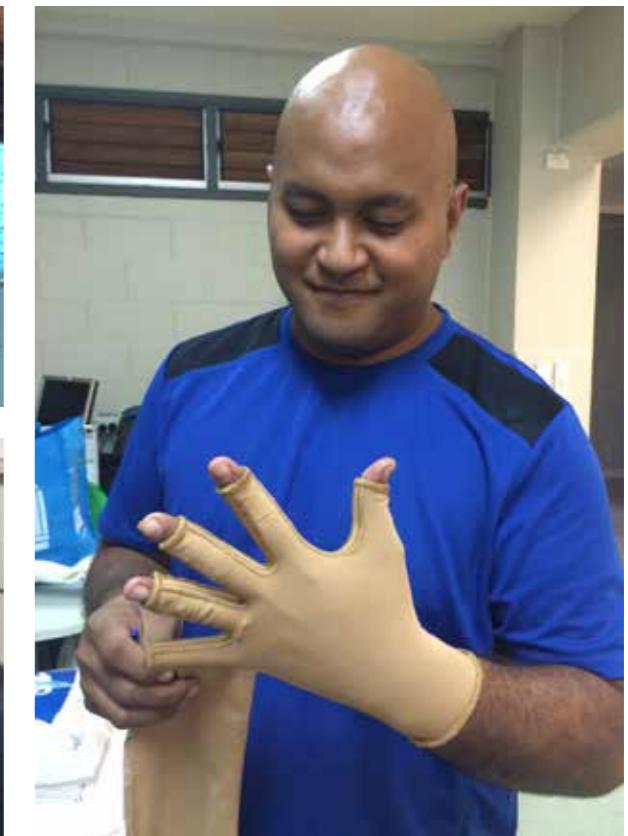
One of the cases they worked on together was nine-year-old Radj, who was born with facial nerve palsy. The condition meant he had trouble eating, smiling, and closing his left eye. He was teased a lot, and as a result had been forced to learn how to stick up for himself.

The visiting Interplast surgeons worked with the local surgeons to take muscle and nerves from Radj's inner thigh and use them to reconstruct the contour of his face and lip movement, with the hope of full restoration of his smile. The final outcome of this procedure will not be known for

12 months as the nerves only grow a millimetre a day. His parents and little brother were very happy, and Raj gave a thumbs-up and a lovely smile while playing with his new coloring books and pencils. See a photo of Radj with Turia Pitt on page 36.

Meanwhile, our physiotherapists provided a three-day hand and burn physiotherapy workshop for their Nepali and Bangladeshi colleagues as well as the local physiotherapy students from Kathmandu University. This workshop was held at the Nepal Physiotherapy Association just outside of Kathmandu. Topics included clinical reasoning, burns management, wound healing and tissue repair. This workshop had previously been delivered successfully in the Pacific.

For the final two days, our physiotherapy team worked from Kirtipur Hospital in Kathmandu, where they provided training in how to take measurements of patients with burns and then sew custom-made compression garments on a sewing machine provided by Interplast.



## Physiotherapists from across the Pacific expand their skills

Physiotherapists from across the Pacific are gaining confidence in treating burns, hand injuries and providing basic speech therapy to children with cleft palates thanks to ongoing training from Interplast volunteers.

In mid-August 2016, our volunteer physiotherapists Jenny Ball and Gillian Webb, and speech pathologist Melissa Parkin, travelled to Suva in Fiji to provide a week of training for a group of 21 physiotherapy students and practising physiotherapists from across the Pacific. This was the second year that Interplast has delivered this workshop in partnership with Fiji National University.

Jenny said the training was important for helping physiotherapists to understand the range of issues that they can deal with, particularly when they will often be based in remote areas where there are no specialised health professionals.

The week included training in how to treat people with burn injuries, such as making compression garments that can help a patient's recovery by minimising scarring.

Many people in the Pacific region acquire burn injuries that aren't treated properly, and then go to surgeons with bad burns contractures – severe tightening of the skin as the wound heals that often impacts on function and mobility.

"Contractures are a big issue but physiotherapists currently don't have the confidence to treat them," Jenny said.

Jenny said if a person with a burn injury received the right treatment immediately, including physiotherapy, it could prevent or minimise contractures, meaning the patient can resume normal life quite quickly, and often preventing the need for surgery at a later date.

Jenny said that training around cleft palates was important because there was a high incidence throughout the Pacific, and no local speech therapists. Children with cleft palates often don't develop normal speech, and can also have problems with feeding, which leads to nutrition issues. "And then even if they have their surgery by the Interplast team they may not develop their speech properly if they don't have someone to teach them how to do it," Jenny said.

Many of the practising physiotherapists from countries such as Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga and Solomon Islands had already received one-on-one Interplast mentoring in their home countries, with similar follow-up planned for after this training.

Interplast supported these physiotherapists to travel to Suva for the training, giving them a fantastic opportunity to engage with their colleagues from other similar countries, and develop networks with others working in isolated settings.



Main photo: Interplast volunteer plastic surgeon, Professor Michael Leung, leads in-theatre training for his colleagues in Myanmar.  
Bottom: Plastics trainee Dr Aung Thurein Tun and theatre nurse Khin Mar San.

## Investing in Myanmar's surgical future

Interplast has been working in Myanmar since 2001, and in that time has been instrumental in assisting to develop plastic and reconstructive surgery as a specialty. Initially this was through the provision of surgical programs and later the development of a training program for Myanmar plastic surgeons in partnership with the University of Medicine 1 and Yangon General Hospital (YGH).

Since 2014, we have been a core partner in developing and supporting the doctoral level of the university's postgraduate training course in plastic surgery, and we are now also assisting in training the masters level students.

Three times each year we send a team to Yangon to deliver a week-long program of advanced plastic surgical training and mentoring at YGH. In recent years we have also started delivering training for the anaesthetic and nursing staff, with a focus on post-operative care.

This year Interplast teams provided in-theatre mentoring and lectures to 11 doctoral and masters level students and more than 30 anaesthetists and nurses. This has contributed to increased confidence and improved surgical skills among the plastic surgeons and trainees as well as the nurses.

An important part of the Myanmar doctoral level training in plastic surgery is the opportunity for the candidates to undertake training placements in Australia. Our local partners have also recently requested short-term training and learning opportunities for key senior nurses and anaesthetists.

With generous support from The Baker Foundation and in partnership with the Dandenong Hospital, this year we supported three medical personnel from Myanmar to come to Australia. These were Nurse Khin Mar San, a theatre nurse, Dr Cho Myint Thun, an anaesthetist, and Dr Aung Thurein Tun.

Dr Tun, a second-year doctoral student and plastics trainee, was in Melbourne from April to July 2017 where he was based at the Dandenong Hospital under the supervision

of Associate Professor Michael Leung (Interplast's Country Coordinator for Myanmar). We also supported Dr Tun to attend and present at the 2017 Australian Society of Plastic Surgery Congress on the Gold Coast.

This placement was a vital contribution to Dr Tun's knowledge of plastic surgery and management of a surgical department, and will assist him in establishing Myanmar's second plastic surgery unit at the Military Hospital.

"This opportunity will enable me to set up a quality environment at home for successful surgery outcomes," said Dr Tun. "I will apply all knowledge learnt during the placement including standard surgical procedure, surgical environment, and interrelationship between surgeons from different specialities."



## Providing access to professional development

It is standard practice for medical professionals from countries such as Australia and New Zealand to develop their skills and experience through placements, often in other countries. Along with building up their expertise, it also allows them to develop a network of relationships with peers across the world that contributes to their ongoing learning and development.

Many medical professionals from developing countries do not get these opportunities. We know that performing surgery and training people in their home countries is only part of what it will take to help develop a strong group of medical leaders. Through our scholarship program we provide a range of professional development opportunities for overseas medical personnel, supporting them to undertake invaluable training and network with their overseas peers.

In 2016-17 these opportunities included training attachments in which Interplast supported individuals to travel from their base location to participate in a training activity or conference, or to join an Interplast surgical or training team. In many instances, Interplast volunteers also support these training placements in Australia and New Zealand. This list does not include specific workshops run overseas for large groups (such as those delivered in the Pacific for regional participants).

ACTIVITY	OVERSEAS MEDICAL PERSONNEL
Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Plastic Surgery Congress (Gold Coast), through the Marshall International Scholarship (four people), the Baker Foundation (one person) and Interplast (one person).	Dr Basil Scott Siota (Solomon Islands) Dr Semesa Matanaicake (Fiji) Dr Donna Savitry (Indonesia) Dr Aung Thurein Tun (Myanmar) Dr Akule Danlop Awasano (PNG) Dr Santiram Dhakal (Bhutan)
Anaesthesia professional development (Ballarat) supported by Interplast volunteer Dr John Oswald.	Dr Rieza Furry Anissa Putri and Dr Rinanti Septihingtyas Ngadiono (Indonesia)
Anaesthesia professional development (World Congress of Anaesthesiologists in Hong Kong) supported by Interplast volunteer Dr David Pescod.	Dr Bayalagmaa, Dr Tsetsgee and Dr Zolzaya (Mongolia)
Attendance at the Pacific Island Surgery Association (PISA) conference in Apia, Samoa.	Dr Morath Maire (PNG)
Attendance at ASPS Perforator Flap Workshop in Sydney supported by Interplast volunteer Mr Russell Corlett.	Dr Mohammad Nashir Uddin (Bangladesh) Dr Shankar Man Rai (Nepal)
Plastic surgery observership placements (Hobart and Auckland), through the Sir Benjamin Rank scholarship.	Dr Vueta Scott Buadromo (Fiji) Dr Basil Scott Siota (Solomon Islands)
Interplast craniofacial surgery mentoring program in Sri Lanka (supporting Nepalese surgeon to attend).	Dr Pramila Shakya (Nepal)
Five-week intensive nurse training placement in Melbourne, supported by Interplast volunteers Mak Wan Ling and Associate Professor Michael Leung.	Ms Khin Mar San (Myanmar)
Three-month intensive nurse training placement in Melbourne, supported by Interplast volunteer Associate Professor Michael Leung.	Dr Aung Thurein Tun (Myanmar)
Six-week intensive anaesthetic training placement in Melbourne, supported by Interplast volunteers Dr Ashit Das, Dr Stephen Leung, Dr Samantha Leung, Dr Debra Leung and Associate Professor Michael Leung.	Dr Cho Myint Tun (Myanmar)
Emergency Management of Severe Burns training in Bangladesh (supporting Nepalese participants to attend).	Dr Sunil Thapa and Dr Niran Maharjan, Ms Sunita Rajbanshi Rajbandari and Ms Shristy Kala Maharjan
Interplast microsurgical mentoring program in Nepal (supporting Bangladeshi surgeons to attend).	Dr Mohammad Choudhury, Dr Mosaddeque Hasan Asif, Dr Mahbub Hasan and Dr Sharmin Akter Sumi (Bangladesh)
Interplast Allied Health Workshop in Nepal (supporting Bangladeshi allied health therapists to attend).	MD Shamim Hossain and MD Ibrahim Kholil, Mr Joyez Uddin, Professor Abdus Salam and Ms Nasrin Sultana (Bangladesh)



# OUR WORK INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

## Nurturing local expertise

Another way that we contribute to sustainable healthcare systems across the Asia Pacific is by supporting our partners that already have the skills they need but face obstacles to using them for the benefit of local communities, or developing them further.

We have found that in some places, our local partners have the skills and ability to be delivering a range of training directly themselves, but they don't have enough funding to run workshops or support participants from remote areas to attend.

In these cases, we sometimes provide direct financial support to our local partners so that they can deliver training programs directly to local trainees and medical professionals.

Some of our local partners don't have the resources required to provide surgery to people who really need it. This can include supplies necessary for surgery, basic administration

costs, or funds to provide outreach programs.

In some cases, we financially support partners to meet these needs, which allows them to continue providing life-changing surgery, and in doing so they get vital ongoing experience applying their skills.

Such programs require our local partners to fully comply with Interplast funding agreements, standard reporting requirements and policies.

In the past year we have contributed to five institutional support programs, making up 6 per cent of our program activity.

## Anaesthesia training in Mongolia

Since 2001 we have been working with members of the Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA) to contribute to and support the annual conference of the Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiologists.

The conference has been an ongoing education project to provide professional development for anaesthetists in Mongolia. We contribute by providing direct funding for the conference, along with supporting ASA members to attend and present.

This year we supported 16 Interplast volunteers to attend and contribute to the conference, which was attended by more than 150 people, including doctors and trainees from Mongolian district hospitals. It was held at the University of Health Sciences in Ulaanbaatar.

Our volunteers were pleased to report that not only the conference but also much of the content and presentations were delivered by local Mongolian anaesthetists, which demonstrates strong local ownership of the event.

Our visiting anaesthetists contributed to the conference by preparing slides for translation and writing extensive educational summaries of their topics for inclusion in the seminar booklet that was handed to the participants. They



## Burns management training in Bangladesh

Since 2008, The Centre for Injury Prevention and Research Bangladesh (CIPRB) has been running the Emergency Management of Severe Burns Training (EMSB) with support from Interplast and the Australia and New Zealand Burn Association.

The training aims to improve the knowledge and skill of physicians and nurses who are managing burn patients. Since 2008 about 600 plastic surgeons, paediatric surgeons and general surgeons have been trained.

In March 2017, two EMSB courses were run from the Bangladesh College of Physician and Surgeons in Dhaka – one for physicians and one for nurses. Participants were medical professionals treating burn patients in different medical college hospitals and specialised hospitals all over the country.

This year we again supported CIPRB to run the course, along with supporting two doctors and two nurses from Nepal to travel to Dhaka to participate.

An evaluation found that almost all of the participants found the course to be very comprehensive and effective in enhancing their skill in burn management.

Although Interplast is not currently sending teams of Interplast volunteers into Bangladesh due to the security situation, security experts advise that there is less risk for Nepalis to travel in Bangladesh, which means that they are able to participate in this training opportunity.

## Support to conduct microsurgery independently in Nepal

One of the best ways for people to get better at something is to do it more often, but our volunteer teams can't be around all year to mentor their colleagues in our program countries.

In Nepal, we financially support the local surgical team to undertake complex microsurgery cases when our teams aren't there so that they can continue to build their skills.

We support our partner, Kirtipur Hospital, to independently undertake up to 15 microsurgery cases a year. This includes financial support up to a maximum of \$A500 per case and

email/phone support from Interplast volunteer surgeon and Nepal Country Coordinator Damien Grinsell. This support is available throughout the patient's assessment and treatment.

Overall, it's a cost-effective way of helping build the confidence and skills of Nepali surgeons.



# OUR WORK PLANNING & EVALUATION

## Learning as we go, building for the future

To ensure our programs are as effective as possible, it is essential for us to invest in quality planning and evaluation. This helps us to assess the success of our programs, learn from outcomes and ensure continuous improvement.

For all individual program activities, our volunteer teams complete comprehensive reporting on the program and its outcomes. This complements clinical information captured through patient records, as well as documentation around training participants and topics.

Local partners provide feedback on each activity, including local coordinators and trainees completing individual reports, and people who take part in training workshops complete evaluations. Reports are also completed by our program coordinators, covering logistical, financial and operational aspects of the activity.

Every year we undertake a country planning process for each of our 17 partner countries. Through this process, staff work closely with local partners and volunteer country coordinators

to review the previous year's programs and plan for the coming year.

In addition to all of these standard activities, each year we identify specific countries or programs that are due for a more comprehensive evaluation, along with opportunities for needs assessments for potential new programs.

These more focused planning and evaluation programs usually include a visit to partners in our program country by a team that can include Interplast staff and/or volunteers.

Over the past year we have delivered eight focused planning and evaluation programs, which makes up 10 per cent of our overall program activities. Along with the examples highlighted on these pages, you can also read about an assessment program to Papua New Guinea on pages 38 and 39.

## Long-term commitment to Laos recognised

In February 2017 a small staff team, including our CEO Prue Ingram, travelled to Laos for an in-country planning and evaluation visit. For more than two decades Interplast surgical teams have trained local counterparts and helped deliver reconstructive and plastic surgery for burns and other accidents.

The week-long review was timed to coincide with a surgical program, and it included interviews with staff from Mahosot Hospital, the Australian Embassy, other partners and patients and their families.

The visit served to further build relationships and confirmed that our planned programs were relevant to the local partner's needs for the immediate future, but was also central to planning programs over the coming years.

The review also identified a number of recommendations for our programs that will be addressed in future program design and implementation, including English language development.

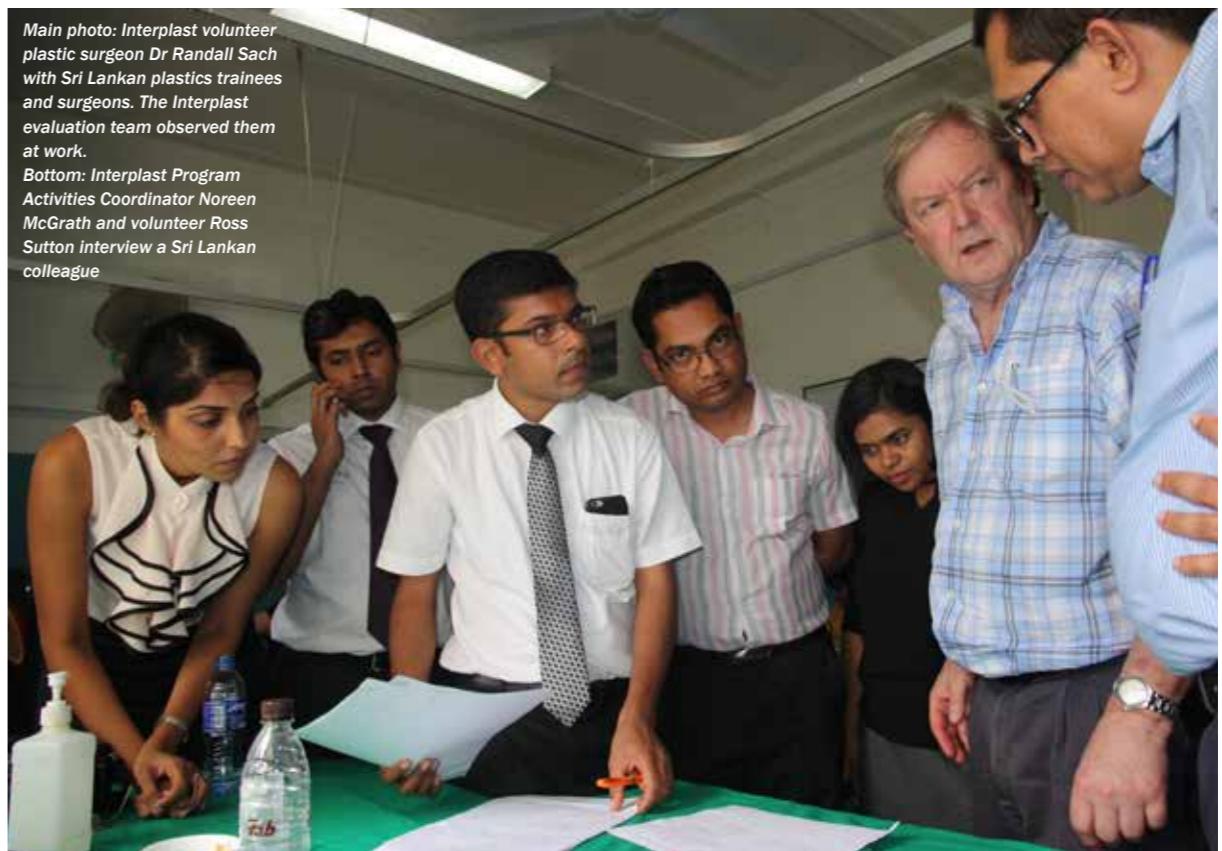


During the visit, our long-term commitment to Laos was recognised by the Australian Embassy, which presented our volunteer surgical team and local Laos medical team with a 65th anniversary award in recognition of their outstanding contribution to Australia-Laos relations in medical services.

The awards celebrate the 65th anniversary of formal Laos-Australian relations.

*Main photo: Interplast volunteer plastic surgeon Dr Randall Sach with Sri Lankan plastics trainees and surgeons. The Interplast evaluation team observed them at work.*

*Bottom: Interplast Program Activities Coordinator Noreen McGrath and volunteer Ross Sutton interview a Sri Lankan colleague*



## A detailed review in Sri Lanka

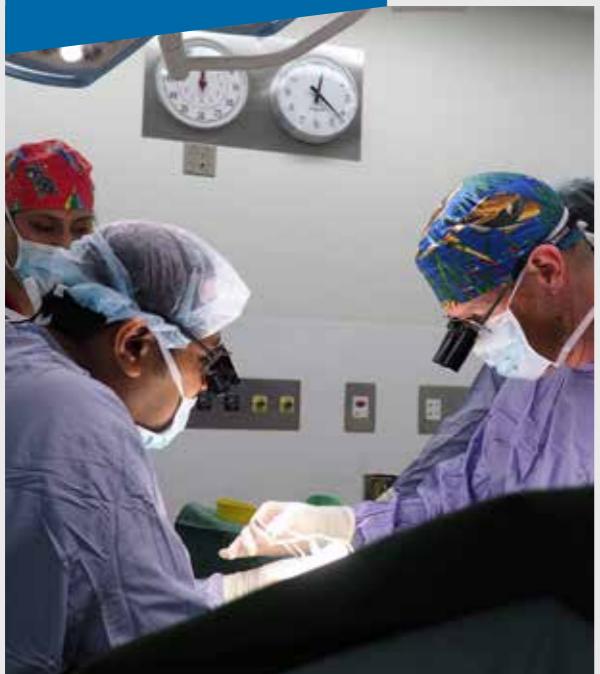
We undertook a detailed evaluation of our work in Sri Lanka, with the results showing that our long-term partnership with local health services over the past 16 years has had a major impact.

Since our first needs assessment in Sri Lanka in 2001, we have completed 43 programs. When we started, there was only one trained plastic surgeon in the country, and our programs were very much about providing surgery to people who needed it. Now there are more than 14 trained specialist plastic and reconstructive surgeons and 10 trainees, and our programs have evolved to focus on advanced training and mentoring, often in sub-specialities such as craniofacial surgery.

The review involved two stages. The first was a review of all historic documents related to our Sri Lanka program. The second stage involved a small team of our staff and evaluation volunteers accompanying a training and mentoring team on a five-day program to Sri Lanka in June 2017. During this time they observed the team in action and conducted extensive interviews with local staff.

The review team found that our Sri Lanka programs are a cost effective, strategic way to build the capacity of local plastic surgeons and other medical professionals. Local staff have demonstrated ownership of our programs, helping them to become more sustainable, and any challenges that have emerged have, for the most part, been embraced as learning opportunities.





## Working to change futures across the Asia Pacific region

Over the past year we delivered a diverse range of programs across our 17 partner countries throughout the Asia Pacific in our four areas of work: surgical programs, training and mentoring, planning and evaluation, and institutional support.

Over the following pages you can find more detailed information about what we have achieved in each of those countries. For each nation you'll find a map, an overview of the programs that we have delivered, the details of our impact in numbers (operations completed, patients consulted and medical professionals trained), and a list of our local partners.

These local partners are crucial to our work – we couldn't help to change so many lives without the continued support and

cooperation of a wide range of institutions and organisations in our partner countries.

The hospitals, training institutions and health centres that host our visiting surgical and training teams are vital to delivering our programs and achieving our mission.

Australian embassies and high commissions provide invaluable support across every stage in organising our programs. This includes practical tasks, such as facilitating customs permits, sourcing interpreters and help with the shipment of supplies and equipment. They also advertise programs, generate media coverage to raise awareness of our visits, and support our teams with formal and social events.

In many of our partner countries we are assisted by local government departments and officials who invite our teams to implement program activities in partnership with local hospitals and facilitate these arrangements.

We are grateful to local non-government organisations, businesses and community organisations in our partner

countries who support us in a range of ways, such as referring patients to see our surgical teams, covering patient costs, providing follow-up rehabilitative care to those treated by our teams and helping to 'spread the word' locally about our programs.

Finally, our essential partnership with Rotary extends beyond our supporting clubs and districts across Australia and New Zealand to the incredible support provided by clubs in our partner countries. They help with logistics, promote our visits, invite our teams to present at their meetings and host social functions.

## Where the money went – by country

All of our programs are guided by a detailed Country Program Plan. These are at a minimum annual plans, and at times up to three years. The plans are developed according to criteria that include local partner input and learnings from previous programs.

Country Program Plans go through an organisational process that includes review by relevant committees and local partners, and then formal sign-off by the Interplast Board.

A range of factors can impact the delivery of these Country Program Plans, including security concerns, political context, local laws and regulatory environment, and budget availability.

The table shows how we spent our programs budget for each country over the past year. These figures include spending on programs in the country, and costs related to bringing medical professionals to Australia and New Zealand for professional development. A few countries warrant further explanation – for more detail refer to specific country program summaries on the following pages.

### Fiji

We use Fiji as a regional training hub, so the figures include the costs of bringing medical professionals and trainees to Fiji from across the region.

### Solomon Islands

The amount spent in Solomon Islands is low due to a surgical program being postponed until the 2017-18 financial year.

### Papua New Guinea

Due to high need, partner requests and available funds, we invested significantly in large programs in 2016-17. Remote locations, security arrangements and high costs in PNG also mean overall spend is higher.

### PROGRAMS SPENDING BY COUNTRY

	\$AUD
<b>PACIFIC</b>	
Fiji	149,867
Kiribati	62,496
Samoa	19,281
Solomon Islands	22,416
Tonga	46,369
Vanuatu	38,341
Papua New Guinea	197,148
	535,918
<b>ASIA</b>	
Bangladesh	15,206
Bhutan	130,239
Laos	114,307
Mongolia	74,724
Myanmar	142,977
Nepal	95,203
Indonesia	13,670
Philippines	172,103
Sri Lanka	68,694
Vietnam	48,072
	875,195
<b>Total Program Expenditure by Country</b>	<b>1,411,113</b>

### Bangladesh

Security concerns meant we were unable to implement programs in Bangladesh itself, resulting in relatively low program spending.

### Indonesia

We were unable to deliver programs in Indonesia itself due to current local NGO registration laws.

### Vietnam

Our programs spending in Vietnam is lower compared to other countries in the Asia region as we were returning to the country in 2016-17 after a period of issues with NGO registration.

## The Lifebox project

Lifebox Australia and New Zealand (ANZ), now in its second year, is a partnership that works to distribute pulse oximeters to hospitals throughout the Asia Pacific.

Lifebox ANZ was established in 2015 as a partnership between Lifebox, Interplast Australia and New Zealand, the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA), the Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA) and the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists.

The program also educates health workers in the use of pulse oximeters and improving surgical safety by introducing the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist.

A pulse oximeter is the most important monitoring tool in modern anaesthesia practice. It is a non-invasive medical device that checks the level of oxygen in a patient's bloodstream and sounds an alarm as soon as it detects the slightest unsafe change.

Lifebox ANZ is a unique program within the Interplast portfolio, functioning as a partnership that sits under two of our program areas: institutional support and training and mentoring.

In 2016-17, the second year of the Lifebox partnership, activities continued to grow. Lifebox ANZ coordinated oximeter donation and education in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Myanmar and Bhutan. Planning for an ongoing project in Mongolia continued and planning commenced for a program in Bangladesh.

We are grateful for the continued support of our donors to this partnership project. In 2016-17 there were 15 donations from individuals totalling \$41,604. The ASA raised more than \$20,000 from a raffle at their national congress, and



Dr Steve Kinnear, an anaesthetist and Lifebox volunteer from Adelaide, presents Bhutanese anaesthetist Dr Jampel with a Lifebox pulse oximeter.

speakers at the ANZCA Annual Scientific Meeting, in lieu of receiving gifts, donated more than \$10,000 to Lifebox.

For more detailed information about the Lifebox project and activities in 2016-17, visit the Lifebox page on the Interplast website: [www.interplast.org.au](http://www.interplast.org.au)

# OUR WORK

## In each country



### BANGLADESH

3 1

#### Country Coordinator: Mr Russell Corlett

Of the four program activities for the year, two took place in Bangladesh, one in Nepal, and one in Australia.

In Bangladesh, Interplast seeks to strengthen the ability of the local health system to provide quality burns management, and surgical, nursing and allied health services. This year, our work focused on burns management, allied health and the surgical sub-specialities of perforator flaps and microsurgery.

Four Bangladeshi surgeons participated in our microsurgery mentoring program in nearby Nepal. Interplast Country Coordinator Russell Corlett also presented at the Fifth International Conference on Plastic Surgery (PlasticCon) in Dhaka in February 2017, where he shared his knowledge and expertise in microsurgery with participants from Bangladesh and across the globe.

Interplast supported a Bangladeshi surgeon to undertake professional development in Australia, which included participating in a Perforator Flap Workshop in Sydney and observing leading Australian surgeons in-theatre.

Building on previous Interplast training, we supported five Bangladeshi allied health therapists to participate in an Allied Health Workshop in Nepal.

Therapists from our new partner hospital, Dhaka Community Hospital, also participated in the program. This not only promoted stronger relations between the respective hospitals in each country but also provided great networking opportunities for both Bangladeshi and Nepali surgeons and allied health specialists.

In partnership with the Australia and New Zealand Burns Association, we continue to support our local partner, the Centre for Injury Prevention and Research, Bangladesh, to provide training in emergency management of severe burns across the country.

#### The numbers

108 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Centre for Injury Prevention and Research Bangladesh  
Dhaka Medical College Hospital  
Dhaka Community Hospital  
Acid Survivors Foundation



### BHUTAN

2 2 1

#### Country Coordinator: Dr Phillip Griffin/ Dr Tim Proudman

Interplast undertook five program activities for Bhutan.

With strong continued support from the Bhutan Ministry of Health and the Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital, we delivered two concurrent surgical training and hand

#### KEY:

- Training and Mentoring
- Surgical Programs
- Planning and Evaluation
- Institutional Support

therapy mentoring activities. A planning and evaluation visit helped cement relationships with our Bhutanese partners, which were further strengthened with the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Health in April 2017.

Interplast supported Bhutanese orthopaedic surgeon Dr Santiram Dhakal to attend the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Plastic Surgery Congress as a Marshall International Scholar. Here he had the opportunity to meet with many of his Australian and New Zealand peers and attend a number of lectures and workshops, as well as presenting to the audience on his own experiences of working with Interplast in Bhutan.

Each of these activities aimed to build the ability of local surgical teams and hand therapists, and to provide improved access to plastic and reconstructive and hand therapy services to Bhutanese patients.

Our partners in Bhutan are eager to establish their own plastic surgery unit with Interplast's support and we are excited about the potential.

#### The numbers

241 consultations  
105 surgical procedures  
251 hand therapy treatments  
259 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital  
Eastern Regional Referral Hospital (Mongar)  
Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan  
Rotary Club of Thimphu



### FIJI

7 1 1

#### Country Coordinator: Mr Simon Thomson

Interplast undertook nine program activities for Fiji.

We support the development of plastic and reconstructive surgery in Fiji through a multi-disciplinary approach that builds local capacity in surgery, anaesthetics, nursing and allied health services. Our work also includes a number of regional programs that are implemented in Fiji but draw in participants from across the Pacific. These include training programs run through Fiji National University (FNU) in Suva, as well as other regional training opportunities that target Pacific Islanders trainees, including Fijians.

Interplast provided mentoring support to the Plastics and Burns Unit, led by Dr Semesa Matanaicake, at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital (CWM) in Suva, through two surgical mentoring visits to Suva and Labasa, and one surgical service program in Labasa.

These efforts were reinforced through the second plastic surgery skills workshop run in partnership with FNU. This training enabled Masters and Diploma of Surgery candidates to learn some of the foundations of plastic surgery.

We continued our important work to strengthen local physiotherapy and speech therapy with an allied health mentoring visit to Suva, and through our second formalised training workshop for physiotherapy in partnership with FNU.

We also delivered a two-part nurse training workshop in Suva to the undergraduate nursing students at FNU

and to the post-graduate (practicing) nurses from the CWM Hospital.

Interplast supported the ongoing training of Dr Matanaicake by supporting his attendance at the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Plastic Surgery Congress. We also provided an observational placement in Hobart for junior surgical registrar Dr Scott Buadromo.

During the year we met with our Fijian partners for a planning and evaluation visit. The aim was to ensure the continued relevance of our programs, and to provide formal support to FNU through the development of curriculum complemented by surgical and nursing workshops.

#### The numbers

62 surgical procedures  
124 consultations  
195 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Colonial War Memorial Hospital  
Fiji National University  
Labasa General Hospital  
Lautoka General Hospital  
Rotary Club of Labasa  
Rotary Club of Lautoka  
Rotary Club of Suva North  
Ruel Foundation Fiji



### INDONESIA

2

#### Country Coordinator: Mr Ian Carlisle

Interplast undertook two activities for Indonesia, both of which involved bringing medical professionals to Australia professional development. No activities took place in Indonesia itself.

Interplast seeks to support the development of quality plastic and reconstructive surgical and anaesthetic services in Indonesia through the

training of local health professionals.

This year we supported two Indonesian anaesthetic registrars, Dr Rieza Furry Anissa Putri and Dr Rinanti Septihingtyas from Airlangga University and Dr Soetomo Hospital in Surabaya to undertake a professional development and mentoring placement at Ballarat Health Services, overseen by long-term Interplast volunteer, Dr John Oswald.

Through the Marshall International Scholarship, we also supported Dr Donna Savitry, Treasurer and Secretary-General of the Indonesian Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons, to attend the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Plastic Surgery Congress. She was able to meet with many of her Australian and New Zealand peers and attend a number of lectures and workshops, as well as presenting to the audience on her own experiences working as a plastic surgeon in Indonesia.

Interplast continues to work with the Indonesian Ministry of Health and local partners to enable us to resume our surgical activities in Indonesia, with ongoing negotiations about a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indonesian Ministry of Health.

#### The numbers

3 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Indonesian Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons  
Kaltim Prima Coal  
Dr Soetomo Hospital – Surabaya

**\*\* Note that while we have mentioned in each country item the surgeons who were supported to attend the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Plastic Surgery Congress on the Gold Coast (from Bhutan, Fiji, Indonesia, Myanmar, PNG and the Solomon Islands), we have only counted this support in the number of activities against Indonesia, as Interplast considers this one activity across six countries.**



### KIRIBATI

1 1

**Country Coordinator:** Mr Miklos Pohl

Interplast undertook two activities in Kiribati.

Interplast seeks to alleviate disability through provision of plastic and reconstructive surgical services to the i-Kiribati people, and to help fill the current and ongoing gaps in local capacity in plastic and reconstructive surgery.

This year we delivered one surgical program to Tarawa. We also ran a concurrent nurse education program that focused on ward care. Rather than a workshop approach, this program involved an Interplast volunteer ward nurse working closely alongside her local counterparts and ensuring the appropriate follow-up care of patients.

Unfortunately we were unable to run a second, more formal nurse education program in Kiribati due to a lack of funding. However, plans are well underway for two ward nurse education programs in FY17-18.

#### The numbers

- 39 surgical procedures
- 41 consultations
- 51 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Tungaru Central Hospital  
Tobaraoi Travel



**Country Coordinator:** Mr Philip Slattery

Interplast undertook five activities for Laos.

Our focus in Laos is to work with Mahosot Hospital in the capital, Vientiane, to provide quality plastic and reconstructive surgical and allied health services, and contribute to strengthening the ability of local medical professionals to provide services year-round.

This year we provided one major two-week surgical program that resulted in more than 130 people receiving life-changing operations. This program included in-theatre surgical training and training for physiotherapists, nurses and anaesthetists. We also supported Mahosot Hospital to provide an outreach program in Champasak province in southern Laos.

The local surgeons, nurses and anaesthetists involved in the surgical program to Mahosot Hospital participated in the outreach program that provided plastic and reconstructive services, mostly burns treatment, to the people of southern Laos. This team was accompanied by an Interplast volunteer nurse.

We also made a planning and evaluation visit to work with our Lao partners to ensure that their training

needs are being met and to plan future programs.

The surgical training team in Vientiane was accompanied by Sarah Tolerton, scholarship recipient of the International Registrar Program, established in partnership with the Australasian Foundation for Plastic Surgery.

#### The numbers

- 287 consultations
- 136 procedures
- 36 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Cooperative Orthotic and Prosthetic Enterprise Laos  
Mahosot Hospital  
Women's International Group

surgical and training need, future programs to Murun have been planned in the coming years.

Our allied health mentoring activity at the Trauma Hospital in Ulaanbaatar built upon previous training and provided both small group and one-on-one training for local therapists.

Continuing our long-term institutional support for the Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiologists (MSA), we provided financial support for the operational costs of the MSA's training and education centre in partnership with the Australian Society of Anaesthetists. We also supported the annual MSA Conference, which provides training and professional development for anaesthetists throughout Mongolia.

#### The numbers

- 106 consultations
- 32 procedures
- 111 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiologists  
Traumatology and Orthopaedic Research Centre Hospital  
Khovsgol United Hospital



**MYANMAR**

9

**Country Coordinator:** Professor Michael Leung

Interplast undertook nine activities for Myanmar.

Interplast seeks to strengthen the ability of the Yangon General Hospital (YGH) to provide quality plastic and reconstructive surgical, nursing and anaesthetic services to the people of Myanmar.

This year we provided three mentoring visits to the Department of PMO Surgery at the Yangon General Hospital,

with training focused on the current post-doctoral candidate as well as the other plastic surgeons and surgical trainees.

Nurse education programs were run concurrently with each of these visits, focused on the ward nurses. This

program was developed at the request of local partners who were concerned about post-operative care skills for complex reconstructive surgical patients.

We also facilitated a range of training and professional development opportunities in Australia. This included supported a plastic surgery trainee, a senior theatre nurse and a senior anaesthetist to undertake training placements in Melbourne at the Dandenong Hospital and the Alfred Hospital, supervised by Interplast volunteers from each institution.

In addition to his observational placement, plastic surgery trainee Dr Aung Thurien Tun also attended the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Plastic Surgery Congress.

#### The numbers

- 48 consultations
- 44 operations
- 129 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Yangon General Hospital  
University of Medicine 1, Yangon





### NEPAL

5 1 2

Country Coordinator: Mr Damien Grinsell

Interplast undertook eight activities for Nepal.

Interplast seeks to improve quality access to plastic and reconstructive surgery services for the most marginalised and vulnerable Nepali people. We do this by training local medical personnel in plastic and reconstructive surgery, nursing and allied health.

We support the ongoing training of local plastic and reconstructive surgeons by providing in-country training and facilitating training opportunities outside of Nepal. We also provide institutional support to Kirtipur Hospital to undertake microsurgery cases independently of Interplast so that the local surgeons can continue to improve their skills after our teams leave.

This year we delivered two planning and evaluation activities. The first was undertaken to address issues experienced in the visa and medical registration process, which had prevented Interplast teams from conducting in-country training for some time. When this issue was resolved in early 2017 with the help of Resurge International, our President Keith Mutimer made a multi-purpose visit to Nepal. This included planning activities that contributed to the development of future program work, along with meeting with the Australian Ambassador and local Rotary members.

During the period in which we were unable to provide training in Nepal itself, we explored creative ways

to support our Nepali partner. This included providing burns management training in Bangladesh, supporting a Nepali surgeon to undertake professional development in Australia in perforator flaps, and supporting Kirtipur Hospital's only surgeon undertaking craniofacial surgeries to observe Interplast's craniofacial surgical mentoring program in Sri Lanka.

May 2017 marked Interplast's first training activity in Nepal since 2012 – providing simultaneous training programs in microsurgery and allied health.

See page 12 for more information.

#### The numbers

18 consultations  
5 operations  
72 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

PHECT Nepal – Kirtipur Hospital Resurge International



### PAPUA NEW GUINEA

4 2 1

Country Coordinator: Mr Simon Donahoe

Interplast undertook seven activities for Papua New Guinea.

We seek to alleviate disability by providing plastic and reconstructive surgical services to the PNG people. We do this by training local surgeons and helping to fill the current and ongoing gaps in plastic and reconstructive surgery, anaesthetics, nursing and allied health.

We do this by supporting the ongoing training of the local plastics trainee and other identified surgical trainees by including them in Interplast program

visits, along with other Pacific Island regional training programs where relevant.

This year we delivered two surgical programs (Mt Hagen and Rabaul) as well as two smaller surgical mentoring visits in Port Moresby and Madang. During all these activities, we worked with the local plastics trainee and his peers. In Port Moresby, the mentoring visit was complemented by a nurse education program, and in Madang the visit included a hand therapy component. These activities support surgical outcomes and are in response to local partner requests for this training.

We also carried out an assessment visit to remote areas of East Sepik province that will be followed by a small surgical team visit to Vanimo Hospital in FY17-18.

Interplast also supported the PNG plastics trainee to attend the Pacific Island Surgery Association meeting in Samoa, as well as the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Plastic Surgery Congress on the Gold Coast.

#### The numbers

277 consultations  
78 operations  
206 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Modilon General Hospital (Madang)  
Nonga General Hospital (Rabaul)  
Mt Hagen General Hospital  
Divine Word University (Madang)  
MoniPlus  
Brian Bell  
Port Moresby General Hospital  
TNT Kenmore  
University of PNG's School of Medical Sciences  
Vanimo General Hospital  
Wewak General Hospital  
PanAust



### PHILIPPINES

3

Country Coordinator: Dr Kevin Ho

Interplast delivered three programs to the Philippines.

We seek to improve quality access to plastic and reconstructive surgery services in the Philippines for the most marginalised and vulnerable people.

This year we delivered three general plastic and reconstructive surgical program activities in Baguio, Masbate and Cagayan de Oro. These three programs have a focus on repairing cleft lips and palates, as there is a high incidence across the Philippines. Other areas attended to include skin grafting and releasing of burns scar contractures. A concurrent one-week nurse training visit was also carried out during the Interplast surgical program to Baguio.

The Masbate program continues to be possible due to a partnership with Filminera, a local mining corporation.

#### The numbers

184 consultations  
179 procedures  
130 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Benguet General Hospital  
Filminera (PhilGold)  
Masbate Provincial Hospital  
JR Borja Memorial Hospital  
Rotary Club of Cagayan de Oro



### SAMOA

2 1

Country Coordinator: Dr Benjamin Norris

Interplast undertook three programs to Samoa.

We seek to alleviate disability by providing plastic and reconstructive surgical services to the Samoan people, and by filling the current and ongoing gaps in plastic and reconstructive surgery and related medical and allied health services.

This year we delivered a week-long general plastic and reconstructive surgical program activity in Apia, accompanied by a concurrent allied health training program.

At the request of our Samoan partners, we delivered the first nurse education program, primarily around wound management. The feedback from both local partners and the volunteer team was very positive, reinforcing plans to continue this program in FY17-18.

#### The numbers

32 procedures  
50 consultations  
82 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Tuapa Tamasese Meaole Hospital  
Rotary Club of Apia



### SOLOMON ISLANDS

2

Country Coordinator: Dr Zac Moaveni

Interplast undertook two programs for the Solomon Islands.

We seek to alleviate disability by providing plastic and reconstructive surgery to the Solomon Islands people, and filling gaps in plastic and reconstructive surgery and related medical and allied health services.

This year we delivered a week-long nurse education program at the National Referral Hospital (NRH) in Honiara. The program took a three-pronged approach of building the skills of local nurse, establishing a sustainable train-the-trainer model, and further developing awareness and training about breast cancer. Due to a delay in funding and scheduling, only one of two nurse education programs scheduled could be delivered this year.

We also supported general surgeon Dr Scott Siota to attend a two-week observational placement in Auckland under the supervision of Dr Zachary Moaveni, along with the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Plastic Surgery Congress on the Gold Coast.

The planned annual surgical program to Solomon Islands was postponed from June to August 2017 as this timing proved more suitable to both the Interplast team and NRH in Honiara. The allied health training visit is timed alongside the surgical visit and was therefore postponed as well.

#### The numbers

16 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

National Referral Hospital  
Rotary Club of Honiara



Young Daniel from Samoa and his father, with Interplast volunteer surgeon Dr Damian Marucci who repaired Daniel's bilateral cleft palate, and volunteer anaesthetist Dr Alan Goodey. >>

# OUR WORK

## In each country



### SRI LANKA

4 2

**Country Coordinator:** Mr Randall Sach  
Interplast undertook six programs in Sri Lanka.

We seek to improve access to sustainable, quality plastic and reconstructive surgical services for the Sri Lankan people through collaborative local partnerships in surgical and allied health care.

This year we delivered three week-long training activities in the subspecialty areas of craniofacial, head and neck, and hand microsurgery.



The hand microsurgery program was complemented by allied health mentoring and training to support the development of local occupational therapists.

We also made two planning and evaluation visits. In mid-2017 a thorough review of Interplast's programs in Sri Lanka was undertaken, including meetings with Interplast's local partners, supporting agencies, patients and their families.

Later in the year, our President, Keith Mutimer, travelled to Sri Lanka to receive an Honorary Fellowship from the College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka for helping to establish plastic surgery in the country and contributing to the development of the formal curriculum for teaching the nation's plastic surgery trainees. This work was done in his capacity as an Interplast volunteer. While in Sri Lanka, he also met with our local partners to discuss our ongoing

program work. Mr Mutimer is only the second person to receive the Honorary Fellowship – the first was another Interplast volunteer, Mr Randall Sach.

#### The numbers

- 104 consultations
- 42 procedures
- 31 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Colombo National Hospital  
National Army Hospital



### TONGA

1 1

**Country Coordinator:** Mr David Morgan  
Interplast undertook two programs to Tonga.

We seek to alleviate disability through provision of plastic and reconstructive surgical services to the Tongan people, and help to fill the gaps in plastic and reconstructive surgery and related medical and allied health services.

This year we delivered a week-long general plastic and reconstructive surgical program activity to Nuku'alofa, complemented by a concurrent allied health training visit. These programs not only provided enhanced access to plastic and reconstructive services to the Tongan population, but also delivered appropriate training to surgical, anaesthetic, nursing and allied health staff.

#### The numbers

- 36 procedures
- 92 consultations
- 24 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Vaiola Central Hospital  
Rotary Club of Nuku'alofa



### VANUATU

4 1

**Country Coordinator:** Dr Ian Holten  
Interplast undertook five programs to Vanuatu.

We seek to alleviate disability by providing plastic and reconstructive surgical services to the ni-Vanuatu people, and helping to fill gaps in plastic and reconstructive surgery and related medical and allied health services.

This year we delivered a week-long general plastic and reconstructive surgical program activity to Port Vila. Two allied health training visits were also carried out, one of which ran concurrently during the surgical program.

To further support the ongoing training of general surgeon Dr Samuel Kemuel and the large cohort of medical interns, we began delivering specific surgical mentoring visits, with two occurring in this financial year.

#### The numbers

- 34 procedures
- 76 consultations
- 82 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Port Vila General Hospital



### VIETNAM

4

**Country Coordinator:** Dr James Masson  
Interplast undertook four programs in Vietnam.

We were pleased to recommence programs in Vietnam after favourable changes to the licensing requirements for foreign NGOs to work in Vietnam. Our return marked our first in-country training programs since 2014.

We seek to build the capacity of our local hospital partners to improve quality access to plastic and

reconstructive surgery and allied health services for the Vietnamese people.

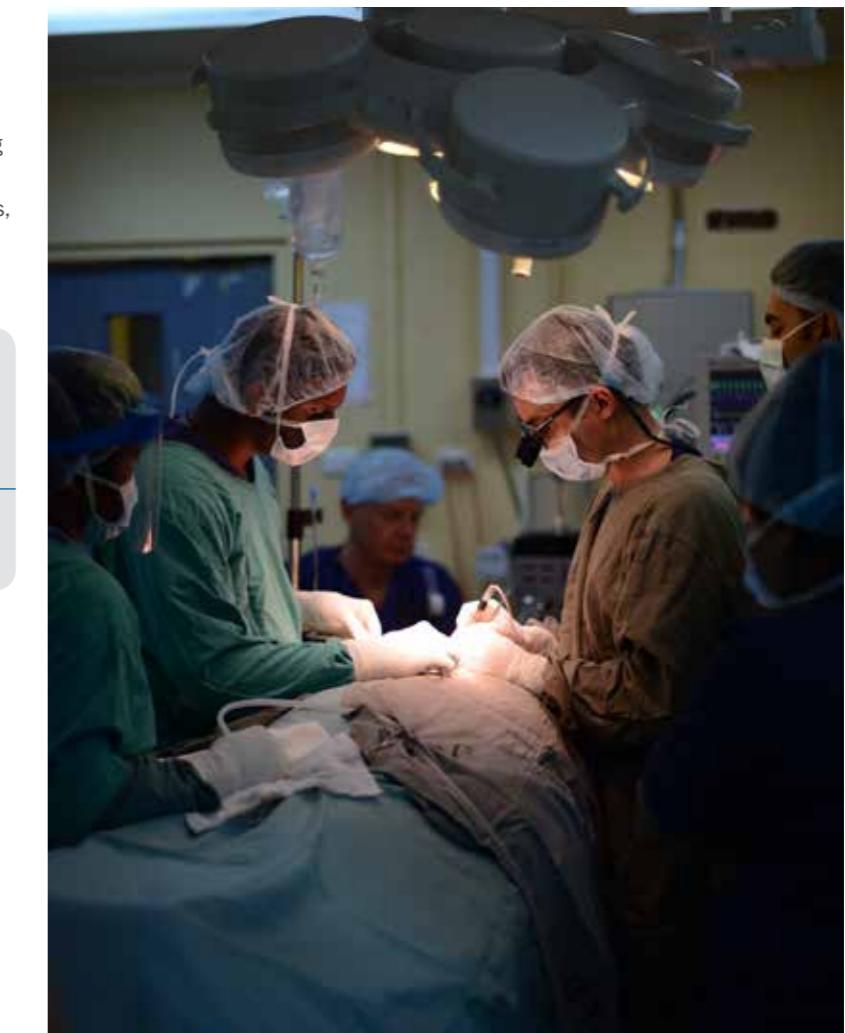
This year we delivered four week-long training programs in Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City. In Da Nang the surgical focus was on brachial plexus surgery mentoring and in Ho Chi Minh it was hand microsurgery mentoring. Both of these programs were complemented by allied health training that ran concurrently to the surgical programs. All consultations and surgeries as well as allied health treatments were undertaken in a training environment.

#### The numbers

- 48 consultations
- 25 procedures
- 45 local medical staff trained

#### Partners

Cho Ray Hospital  
Da Nang Hospital





## Selflessly giving to make a difference

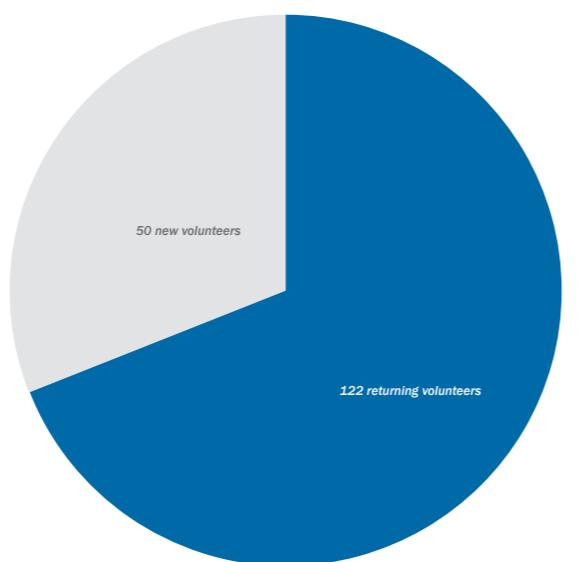
Interplast's passionate medical volunteers – our surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses and allied health professionals – are the backbone of our work. Without them, nothing happens. They give selflessly of their time and expertise, changing lives through direct treatment and by training local medical professionals who treat patients all year round.

On our programs, volunteers get to work in situations that are very different from their usual experience, providing them with professional challenges and experiencing the gratitude of people who would otherwise not have access to surgery and treatment. Through it all, they develop strong and enduring relationships with colleagues across the Asia Pacific, and those who return regularly from across Australia and New Zealand build a unique sense of team based on a common purpose and the shared values of Interplast.

Some of our volunteers take on additional workload as Country Coordinators, providing advice and input into Interplast program planning, monitoring and evaluation (Country Coordinators are highlighted in the Country Summaries pages).

A number of our volunteers also support us by serving on our Board, Committees and working groups – providing clinical governance and support on our many program activities.

A smaller group of volunteers serve on more than one program in a year, and many return year after year. However, as our programs expand, we are also excited to be welcoming more new volunteers. Over the past 12 months we had 172 volunteers provide their skills and expertise, with 50 of them (29%) travelling on their first program for Interplast.



A MIX OF NEW AND RETURNING VOLUNTEERS

## THANKS TO OUR 2016-17 VOLUNTEERS

The following people have given of their time and talent on our programs throughout the year. Together, they are the heart and soul of Interplast.

Alan Wallace	Frank Kimble	Mae Chen	Scott Ferris
Adam Nettleton*	Gerard O'Connor*	Mak Wan Ling*	Scott Fortey
Agadha Wickremesekera	Gill Bathgate^	Mansoor Mirkazemi	Shannon Bailey
Ajay Chauhan*	Gill Suter*	Mark Duncan-Smith	Shannon Bowler*
Alan Goodey	Gillian Webb^*	Mark Strahan	Shannon Muir
Amanda Baric	Graham Sellars	Mark Zammit	Sharon Goldby
Amphil Badra	Hana Menezes*	Mark Moore	Siddharth Karanth
Amy McLeod*	Hannah Van Tuil*	Megan Fitzgerald	Simon Thomson
Anand Ramakrishnan	Helen Fuss*	Mel McCulloch*	Sophie Rickets
Andrew Miller*	Herman Lim	Melissa Parkin	Stephanie Gardiner*
Andrew Jowitt	Hollie Janzen	Melissa Woods^*	Stephen Hur
Angela Doherty	Iain Stewart*	Michael Leung^	Stephen Kinnear*
Annie Porter	Ian Hogarth	Michael Henwood	Stephen Leung
Anthony McDonald	Ian Holten^	Michael Lo^	Steve Salerno
Anthony Birrell	Ian Richardson	Michelle Chan	Sue McMillan
Ashit Das	Indu Kapoor	Miki Pohl	Susan Quarmby
Barbara Cuff*	James Leong	MJ Laing	Suzanne Caragianis
Ben Norris	James Masson^	Moira Rush	Suzy Cook
Beryl Tan*	James Savundra^	Natalie Lambden*	Teresa Squires*
Caroline McLoughlin*	Jan Rice	Nelly Hartley	Tim Proudman
Catherine Hellier*	Jason Tan*	Nikki Frescos	Vanessa Dittmar
Charles Davis	Jenny Ball^	Paul Goggin*	William Blake
Chris Bennett	Jenny Tait-Robertson*	Penny McMahon	Woodrow Wilson#
Chris Hunter^	Jeremy Richardson*	Peter Haertsch	Yugesh Caplash
Chris Lowry	Jill Dickinson	Peter Maloney^	Yvonne Fellner
Christine Wheeler	Jo McGuinness	Philip Griffin	
Christopher Mitchell	Joanne Oxbrow	Philip Slattery	
Craig MacKinnon^	John de Waal	Rachel Quinert*	
Craig Noonan*	Jonathan Burge*	Randall Sach	
Daisy Sargeant	Julie O'Donnell*	Rebecca Schrale*	
Damian Marucci	Julie Pocock	Rebecca Scott*	
Damien Grinsell	Karen Burford*	Richard Wong-She	
Dan McGuinness	Karolin King*	Robert Coren*	
Danielle Norton*	Kathy Minchin	Robert Grace	
Darcy O'Neil*	Katie Anjou	Rob Nethercote#	
David McCombe	Kay Suter^	Rodney Wilson*	
David Morgan	Keith Mutimer^	Rory Maher*	
David Pescod^	Kevin Ho	Ross Sutton#	
David Thomas*	Kirstie MacGill	Russell Corlett^	
David Ying	Leah Lynch-Rurehe	Sadun Kithalogoda	
Debra Devonshire	Leonie Simmons	Sally McKelvie	
Debra Leung	Lian Pfitzner	Sally-Anne Mitchell	
Diana Francis	Lilliana Levada*	Samantha Jervios	
Dylan Evans*#	Linda Fredheim^	Samantha Leung^	
Emma Fernandes	Linda Ferguson	Samuel Kennedy	
Eugene Lim	Lindsay McBride	Sarah Bennell	
Fiona Merritt*	Lyndon Hudson*	Sarah Chadwick*	
Fiona Hansen	Lynne Sullivan*	Sarah Stott*	
Frances Salita*	Maddie Bayly-Stark*	Sathi Seevanayagam	

KEY:

\* Denotes volunteer who participated in an Interplast activity for the first time in FY16-17.

^ Denotes volunteer who participated in more than one activity across the year.

# Denotes non-medical volunteers.

## Reflections on volunteering



“

It is a privilege to work with the Interplast team in Tonga. We work hard and face challenges that are so very different to our work in Australia. We form friendships, meet strong beautiful people and have the honour of helping them. Our trips are so very rewarding for us all.

”

<< LIAN PFITZNER, ANAESTHETIST,  
TONGA, FEBRUARY 2017

Photo: Woodrow Wilson



“ My highlight was seeing our patients and their families smile when coming out of theatre or on ward round the next day, when they saw their post-operative results. Another highlight was working with the great team we had.

”

JEREMY RICHARDSON, PLASTIC SURGEON,  
MT HAGEN PNG, FEBRUARY 2017



“

I was given the privilege to join a plastics team that were preparing to volunteer in Bhutan. There were many highlights for me from this trip on a professional and personal level. I felt honoured to be given such an opportunity to be part of a dynamic group and organisation and to be able to work with such a wonderful and selfless group of professional people.

“Working in a developing country helping patients with the limited resources available was rewarding and humbling. I felt grateful that I was able to share my knowledge and skill with the staff at the hospital. I also learnt a great deal from the staff, patients and community as a whole.

“Thank you Interplast for the opportunity and support.

”

<< HELEN FUSS, NURSE,  
BHUTAN, NOVEMBER 2016



“ The highlight for me was in Laos where we were able to remove a large benign tumour from a preschool aged girl. Her mother had brought her from a remote part of the country and there was only one doctor at the hospital who could speak their dialect. Despite their obvious fears about the surgery they trusted us, and with the help of local staff we were able to successfully plan and perform the surgery. This was an opportunity to change her life forever at such an important developmental stage. She will forget what is was ever like to have this tumour. Being supported by Interplast with such good people and equipment made me confident we could do it safely. That Interplast is able to do this frequently and in a sustainable way is a tribute to the way it is organised and run.

”

<< ANDREW MILLER, ANAESTHETIST,  
LAOS, FEBRUARY 2017



## Generating support through major events

In May 2017, after nine months of fundraising and training, 24 adventurous souls set off for Nepal to take part in Turia's Everest Trek.

On arriving at Kathmandu the trekkers were met by our ambassador, Turia Pitt, who accompanied them on a visit to our partner hospital, Kirtipur Hospital, where an Interplast volunteer team was at work. This enabled the trekkers to get a firsthand insight into how the funds they raised are put to work and the difference it makes to people's lives. Inspired by what they had seen and learned, they then hit the trail to Everest Base Camp.

It was a life-changing experience for the trekkers. Not only did they make it to Base Camp and back, together they raised more than \$245,000 to help our volunteer teams continue to change lives throughout the Asia Pacific.

With the funds raised from this trek we also reached an amazing milestone of \$1 million raised from the four treks we have run over recent years, all of them coordinated by Inspired Adventures and led or promoted by Turia.

The annual Eureka Climb in November has become a signature event for us over the past nine years and this year's was a great success, raising much-needed funds to change lives throughout the Asia Pacific through Interplast, and in Australia through our event charity partner, Whitelion.

A huge thanks to everyone who supported this event, including our inspiring team of volunteer surgeons who took on the challenge of climbing the tower.

## Support that changes lives

Fundraising plays a key role in the delivery of our programs. This year we have again received crucial support from passionate supporters and donors who advocate on our behalf and raise much-needed income to ensure the ongoing sustainability and success of our work that changes lives across the Asia Pacific.

### WE WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND PAY TRIBUTE TO:

- Our private donors who ensure Interplast's financial security. This group of committed individuals are some of our strongest advocates. Their financial contribution directly impacts our work within the region and leads to improved health outcomes.
- Major donors, many of whom wish to remain anonymous, who have been responsible for funding programs, scholarships and operational expenses that enhance our work.
- A small yet diverse group of regular donors who provide funding on a monthly or quarterly basis. This dedicated funding allows us to plan for the future knowing that money is available as we need it.
- The many community fundraisers who support us by running events, taking part in sporting adventures and hosting fundraising activities in their local communities.
- Staff from some of Australia's best-known corporations who regularly contribute to our work through workplace giving and payroll gift schemes. Like other regular donors, these individuals offer long-term sustainability through their generous contributions.

We have also had great support from key events such as our trek to Everest Base Camp and the Eureka Climb.

Collectively, all of this support has helped us to deliver a record number of programs this year.

As part of our work, we are committed to keeping our supporters informed about how their contributions are making a difference, offering more opportunities to get involved, and educating the public about the challenges faced by people in developing countries who don't have access to adequate medical care.

Over the year we have shared stories through our appeals, monthly email updates, and our quarterly newsletter Inside Interplast. Further community education occurs with regular reports, stories and updates shared on our website, social media channels and through focused local events that include direct reports about the programs and work that we conduct across the Asia Pacific region.



## Powerful images to tell the Interplast story

We would particularly like to thank Woodrow Wilson from Clinical Imaging Australia, who has volunteered his skills as a talented professional photographer to help tell the Interplast

story through powerful images and videos that educate and inspire. Our cover image was taken by Woodrow on a surgical and allied health program to Tonga in February 2017.



## Valued ambassadors help raise our profile

We are ever grateful for ongoing support from our inspirational Ambassador, Turia Pitt. Turia's Everest Trek in May was a great success, and while Turia was not able to join the actual trek, her efforts beforehand and her decision to join trekkers in Nepal in the very early stages of her pregnancy demonstrate her amazing dedication and passion.

Turia has also continued to provide valuable support for Interplast through various radio and magazine interviews and through her social media activity.

We have also been fortunate to have the continued support of the indomitable Mike Rolls throughout the year, including helping us to launch the 2016 Eureka Climb.

During the year we also welcomed back Wendy Harmer, who has reconnected with Interplast after a few years focusing on media commitments. We are very pleased to be able to reignite this long-standing relationship.



## Corporate sponsors provide a platform for growth



Our corporate sponsors continue to make significant contributions to our work.

After a couple of years of planning, we announced in June that the Australasian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons (ASAPS) has chosen Interplast Australia & New Zealand as its preferred charity partner. A range of sponsorship packages will be launched in 2017-18 to provide opportunities for ASAPS members to support us. We are very grateful to Woodrow Wilson for his crucial role in bringing about this partnership.



## Community education a growing part of our work

Educating the community about our work and the challenges faced in developing countries is an important part of our engagement strategy. This includes updates on programs and activities via various media channels including our website, social media and monthly emails. We also held special dinner events during the year to provide direct reports about our work to volunteers and supporters. At our November dinner

we heard from Dr Shankar Man Rai from our partner in Nepal (pictured), and Dr Mohammad Nashir Uddin from our partner in Bangladesh. Both were in Melbourne for training supported by Interplast. In June we hosted an end-of-year event in Melbourne at which CEO Prue Ingram and President Keith Mutimer gave supporters and volunteers an overview of our year's achievements and the road ahead.

## Appeals that invite the public to contribute

We conduct a number of appeals throughout the year that aim to educate the public about the important work that we do and invite them to change lives with us.

Our 2017 Tax Appeal featured baby Andrew from Tonga. When our Interplast volunteer surgical team met baby Andrew in February, his life was in the balance. A severe cleft lip and palate meant that the seven-month-old could not feed properly.

Andrew was malnourished, and his immune system was terribly weak. He was dehydrated and had suffered repeated bouts of gastroenteritis, with multiple trips to intensive care

fighting life-threatening infections. After he had recovered from a severe case of conjunctivitis, Interplast surgeons repaired Andrew's cleft lip. The change was immediate; able to feed properly for the first time in his short life, Andrew was a happy and content baby.

The appeal was a first for Interplast, involving an integrated approach across printed communications and online – including our website, emails and social media - supported by a powerful video that featured Interplast volunteers telling Andrew's story. We had a great response to the appeal, with many donations and a large number of people hearing the Interplast story for the first time.





## Working together to reach people in remote PNG

Although our programs provide life-changing services to disadvantaged people across the Asia Pacific, we are generally restricted to locations that have the proper surgical facilities. People in remote areas still need to overcome distance and geography to get to our teams – a major challenge when you have a significant medical issue and you're battling poverty.

But strategic partnerships can make a difference. In November 2016, support from our long-term partner, PanAust, allowed us to send a small team that successfully completed surgical assessments of villagers in communities close to PanAust's Frieda River Copper-Gold Project in remote north-western Papua New Guinea.

The week-long visit took long-term volunteer plastic and reconstructive surgeon Russell Corlett and Interplast staff member and volunteer nurse Leonie Simmons to visit seven remote villages in the Sundaun and East Sepik Provinces. They were accompanied by PanAust Community Affairs staff and a volunteer photographer. Some of the communities

were so remote that the team had to travel by helicopter and boat.

PanAust staff had undertaken pre-assessments and advertising ahead of the visit to ensure that communities were aware of our visiting team and that people with relevant conditions could come for a review.

Our team assessed people who presented with a variety of conditions, met with community leaders and compiled patient data. In total, 42 patients were consulted.

Most cases seen were suitable to be treated by a future visiting Interplast surgical team. In preparation for this, the visit included a review of the Wewak and Vanimo hospitals to ascertain their suitability to host a surgical team in 2017.

After the visit, PanAust and Interplast began working together to plan for a surgical visit to Vanimo in September 2017, with the intention that PanAust would fund the program, including bringing people who had been assessed from their remote communities to Vanimo.

"Working in partnership with PanAust in PNG is enabling Interplast to reach communities we have not previously worked in, and is further extending the reach and impact of our work with medical professionals across the country," said Interplast CEO, Prue Ingram.

The program is the successful expansion of a collaboration between PanAust and Interplast in Laos since 2012. In that time, PanAust has contributed about \$US200,000 in sponsorship and the provision of in-kind travel and accommodation to deliver Interplast programs in the country.

PanAust General Manager Government and Community Relations (PNG), Glen Connell, said PanAust's partnership with Interplast demonstrates its commitment to supporting communities close to where it operates.

"As a mining company operating in developing countries, PanAust is in a position to make a significant contribution to improving the standard of living for current and future generations. We acknowledge that we have a role to play in bettering the lives of those living close to where we operate," Mr Connell said.

Without support from PanAust, this program would not have been possible. We are extremely grateful for this ongoing partnership, and we are looking forward to continuing to work in PNG with PanAust to deliver much-needed surgical and training programs.



## Partnering for success

Interplast is supported by some of Australia and New Zealand's most recognisable corporate and philanthropic partners.

### INTERPLAST'S CORPORATE AND PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS OFFER SUPPORT BY:

- Providing funding for program activities
- Sponsoring events and campaigns
- Delivering pro bono support and expertise
- Gifting equipment and resources, either in-kind or at heavily reduced costs.

Most importantly, many of Interplast's corporate and philanthropic partners spread news of our work to their extended networks. The power of their networks has significantly benefited Interplast throughout the 2016-17 period.

### FOR THEIR ONGOING SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT TO MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE, WE THANK:

- 3 Degrees Consulting
- Agility Logistics
- ANZ Trustees
- Avant Mutual
- B.Braun
- The Baker Foundation
- Brian Bell Group
- Bright Blue – Police Commissioner's Fund for Sick Kids  
(in 2017-18 renamed as Bright Blue – Charity for Sick Children)
- Cabrini Health
- Clifford Hallam Healthcare
- Chemtronics Biomedical Engineering
- Clinical Imaging Australia

- Collective Spark
- Corporate Traveller
- Device Technologies
- Dina Gollo Community Fund
- Dynamiq
- Egg Creative
- Filminera Resources Corporation
- Flexicar
- Galderma
- Goldman Sachs Gives
- Johnson & Johnson Medical
- Medical + Optical
- MicroCloud
- Minter Ellison
- MoniPlus
- Mountain Designs
- OLIKKA
- OPC Health

- PanAust
- Perpetual
- Spellbrook Foundation
- Stryker
- That Marketing Company
- Therapist Support Laboratory (TSL)
- Vorotek

In addition to the above businesses and foundations, we wish to acknowledge the suppliers and individuals with whom we regularly work, many of whom go above and beyond for us. Although there are too many to mention by name, we wish to particularly acknowledge: – GFM Removals, Ripple Village Marketing, Murphy Davis Consulting, Dr Alan Street and Sandy Abbott.

We also wish to acknowledge the support of airlines including Qantas, Virgin Australia, Druk Air, Bhutan Airlines and Emirates.

## Collaboration in Bhutan



In April 2017 we finalised a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with our partners in Bhutan to formalise the ongoing work that we have been doing there since 2014, and to build a solid foundation for growth in our programs and outcomes for the Bhutanese people.

This MoU is the result of a two-year process. It covers the partnership between Interplast, the Ministry of Health of the Royal Government of Bhutan, the Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National (JDWN) Referral Hospital and the Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan.

Under the terms of the MoU, we will continue to deliver two plastic surgery and hand therapy mentoring programs each financial year in collaboration with our partners. Together we hope that over time a suitable plastics trainee will be identified and that Interplast can assist with their training.



## Collaboration and commitment

We believe that the greatest outcomes for our in-country partners and ultimately for their patients are achieved through collaboration.

Interplast is proud to work alongside a range of like-minded partners, committed to achieving quality outcomes within the Asia Pacific region. We actively seek opportunities to partner with others to make the best use of resources and to avoid the duplication of services.

As part of our commitment to best practice and continuous quality improvement, we have signed agreements in place with many partners that outline the relationship, roles and responsibilities, and how we will work together.

**WE WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE IMPORTANT PARTNERSHIPS THAT WE HAVE WITH THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS DURING 2016-17, AND THANK THEM FOR THEIR SUPPORT:**

Australasian Foundation for Plastic Surgery  
Australian Hand Therapy Association (AHTA)  
Australian and New Zealand Burn Association (ANZBA)  
Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA)  
Australian Hand Surgery Society (AHSS)  
Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA)

Australian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons (ASAPS)  
Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS)  
Children First Foundation  
Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT)  
Lifebox Foundation  
New Zealand Association of Plastic Surgeons (NZAPS)  
New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists (NZSA)  
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)  
Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC)  
Rotary New Zealand World Service Limited (RNZWCS)

We especially wish to acknowledge those hospitals in Australia and New Zealand that support us in many ways – from providing leave to our volunteers who are their staff members, to sharing crucial training resources, donating medical equipment and other supplies, and hosting international medical trainees.

This collaboration, ongoing support and unwavering encouragement is key to our achievements. All at Interplast are grateful for these strong and lasting relationships.

## An integral part of the Interplast story

Rotary has been a part of the Interplast story since the very beginning, establishing the organisation in 1983 in partnership with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

Interplast is actively supported by Rotarians in Clubs and Districts throughout Australia and New Zealand. A core part of our identity, Rotarians are equal members of the Company, are represented on the Board of Directors and also form the Rotarian Committee, which advises the Board on Rotary matters. Rotarians are as much a part of Interplast as our skilled medical teams.

Throughout the past year, Rotarians have continued to support Interplast at all levels, with Clubs and Districts employing a variety of innovative activities to raise significant funds for the organisation and promoting our work amongst their vast networks. We deeply value the support and encouragement received through our Rotarian partners. It is a testament to this support that all Australian Rotary Districts have donated in the 2016-17 financial year.

Traditionally, Interplast programs have been perceived as meeting part of Rotary's International Avenue of Service. More recently there has been a clear acknowledgement of the increasing importance of transferring knowledge and skills to medical professionals in our program countries. As such, we have been moving into more vocational training opportunities supported by Rotary Clubs and Districts.

One way in which we are working towards this is through Global Grants from the Rotary Foundation.

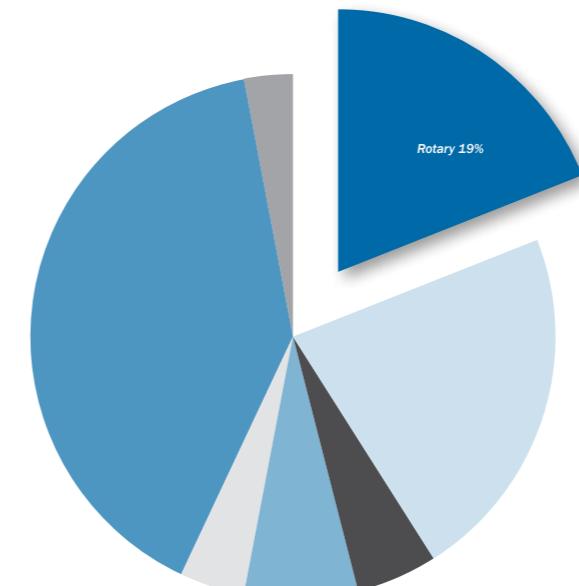
We are grateful to the Rotary Foundation and the Clubs and Districts that have partnered with us to apply for these grants, and look forward to working with the Foundation in the future to implement programs in 2017-18 and beyond.

One of the key Rotarian roles is that of Interplast District Chair (IDC). This team of dedicated volunteers give of their time, passion and talent to promote Interplast and support local Clubs with their Interplast-related activities in each of their Districts. Spread across Australia and New Zealand, the IDC network is truly part of the strong Interplast team.

Equally important to the ongoing success of Interplast is the Rotarian Committee. Comprised of Past District Governors from across Australia and New Zealand, this group meets regularly to advise the Board and support the staff on matters related to Rotary.

We are very grateful for every Rotarian who has supported Interplast during 2016-17. Together, we are repairing bodies and rebuilding lives.

Rotary and its members have always been part of our strongest network of supporters. We look forward to continuing that tradition for years to come.



WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

**Rotary** 

Rotarians provide a significant portion of Interplast's funding, through direct fundraising by clubs and districts and through individual donations that are attributed to a Rotarian donor's club or district.

This chart shows funds received from Rotary Clubs and Districts throughout 2016-17. (Please note that this is different to the revenue details indicated in the full financials, which report on income in the year that it is spent).

## Observer reflections



**“**

I gained far more from this experience than I anticipated.

It was an honour to witness the surgeries being carried out, and to see the great teamwork between the volunteer team and local staff that is such a necessary part of making the job successful.

It is a wonderful feeling to know that the money that Rotarians donate to Interplast is definitely making a huge difference in the world.

DI NORTH

**”**

In February 2017, Di North, District Governor nominee for District 9675 (2019-20), travelled as an observer on an Interplast surgical program to Tonga.

## Creative fundraising



Clubs and Districts across Australia and New Zealand run a variety of activities to raise funds for our work. In April the Rotary Club of Ascot in Western Australia (District 9465)

held its annual week-long Australian Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians. The week was attended by Rotarians from across Australia and raised more than \$42,000 for Interplast.

## Rotary donations for 2016-17

### DISTRICT 9455

Balcatta

Belmont (WA)

Freshwater Bay

Kalamunda

Karrinyup

Matilda Bay

Midland

Morley

Mosman Park

Mount Lawley

Mundaring

Nedlands

North Perth

Northam

Northbridge (WA)

Osborne Park

Perth

Scarborough

Subiaco

Swan Districts

Wanneroo

Welshpool

West Perth

Wyalkatchem

6 Individuals

### Red Cliffs

Strathalbyn

### DISTRICT 9550

Ayr

1 Individual

### DISTRICT 9685

Blackheath

Galston

Hornsby

Lower Blue Mountains

Monto

Rockhampton North

Walkerston

1 Individual

### DISTRICT 9570

Hervey Bay Sunrise

Maryborough Sunrise

Monto

Roseville Chase

1 Individual

### DISTRICT 9700

Blayney

Condobolin

Cowra

Griffith

Lockhart

South Wagga Wagga

Wagga Wagga

Wagga Wagga

Kooringal

Wagga Wagga Sunrise

2 Individuals

### DISTRICT 9600

Archerfield

Cleveland

Ipswich City

3 Individuals

### DISTRICT 9465

Ascot

Cannington

Como

Kenwick

Margaret River

Mill Point

Rockingham

Rossmoyne

South Perth Burswood

Willetton

27 Individuals

54 Businesses

### DISTRICT 9640

Ballina-Richmond

Stanhope

### DISTRICT 9650

Gloucester

Tamworth

### DISTRICT 9780

Morisset

### DISTRICT 9500

Charles Sturt Grange

Gawler

### DISTRICT 9675

1 Individual

### DISTRICT 9520

Brownhill Creek

Flagstaff Hill

### DISTRICT 9810

Ballarat East

Ballarat South

Ballarat West

Belmont (VIC)

D9780 Interplast

Cmte

Geelong

Grovedale

Hamilton North

Highton

Dapto

Highton Kardinia

Fairy Meadow

Horsham East

### Five Dock

Gymea

Rockdale City

West Wollongong

9 Individuals

### DISTRICT 9685

Ayer

1 Individual

### DISTRICT 9570

Blackheath

Galston

Hornsby

Lower Blue Mountains

Monto

Roseville Chase

1 Individual

### DISTRICT 9700

Blayney

Condobolin

Cowra

Griffith

Lockhart

South Wagga Wagga

Wagga Wagga

Wagga Wagga

Kooringal

Wagga Wagga Sunrise

2 Individuals

### DISTRICT 9710

Belconnen

Canberra-Weston

Creek

Cooma

Gerringong Sunrise

Goulburn Mulwaree

Pambula

1 Individual

### DISTRICT 9640

Archerfield

Cleveland

Ipswich City

3 Individuals

### DISTRICT 9465

Ascot

Cannington

Como

Kenwick

Margaret River

Mill Point

Rockingham

Rossmoyne

South Perth Burswood

Willetton

### DISTRICT 9780

27 Individuals

54 Businesses

### DISTRICT 9670

Archerfield

Cleveland

Ipswich City

### DISTRICT 9465

3 Individuals

### DISTRICT 9650

Archerfield

Cleveland

Ipswich City

3 Individuals

### DISTRICT 9640

Archerfield

Cleveland

Ipswich City

3 Individuals

### DISTRICT 9465

Archerfield

Cleveland

Ipswich City

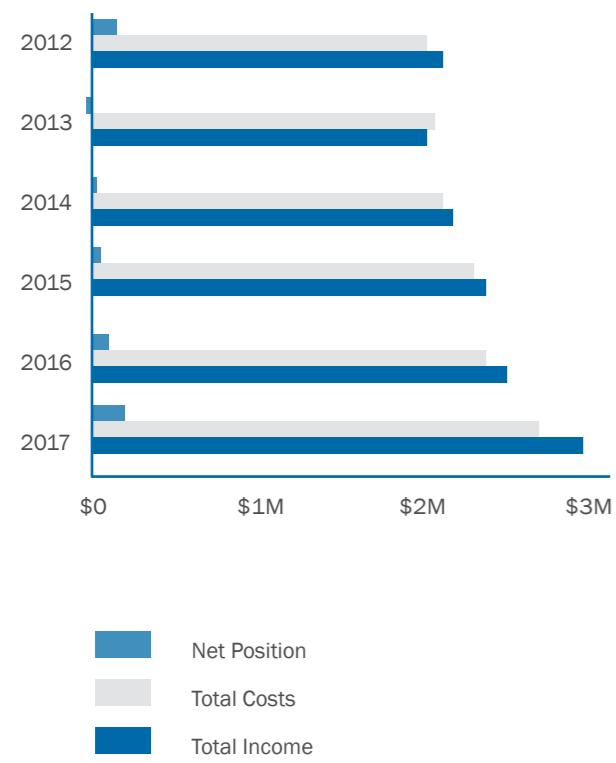
3 Individuals

## A sound financial position

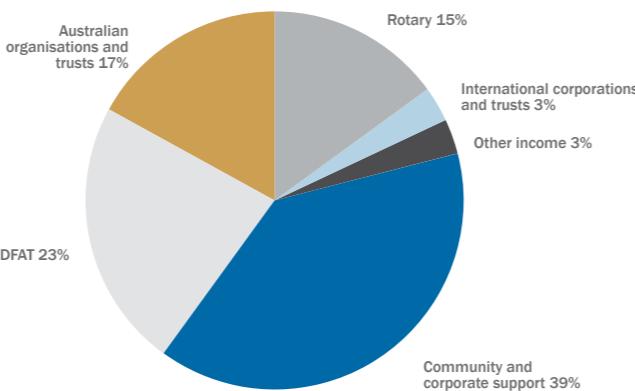
Interplast Australia & New Zealand finished the year with an operating surplus of \$151,544, reinforcing our sound financial position. This surplus was achieved as a result of a 14.7 per cent increase in revenue to \$2.86 million. Improved revenue was largely driven by an increase in program grants, which offset an 8 per cent decrease in general donations. This decrease in donations reflected a softening in general giving experienced across the not-for-profit sector, along with a supporter preference to tie funds directly to programs (grants).

The increase in revenue, combined with a strong focus on efficiency gains and the continued support of our specialised volunteers, enabled us to grow our program base by 21 per cent in FY16-17. This outcome reflects our ongoing commitment to maximise the percentage of funds allocated to direct program delivery, as illustrated in the graph 'Where the money is spent'. The impact of our volunteers is well illustrated in the pie chart 'The real value is priceless'.

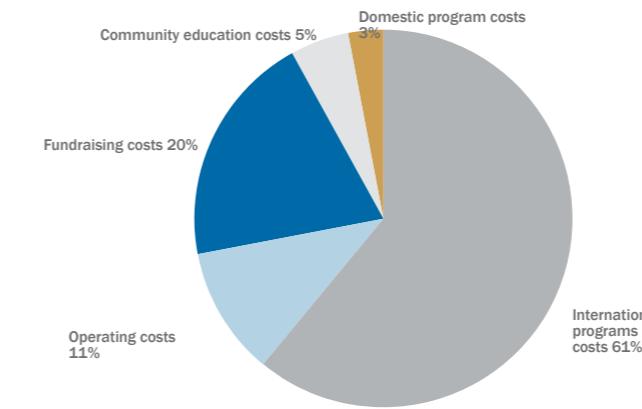
## Six Year Comparison



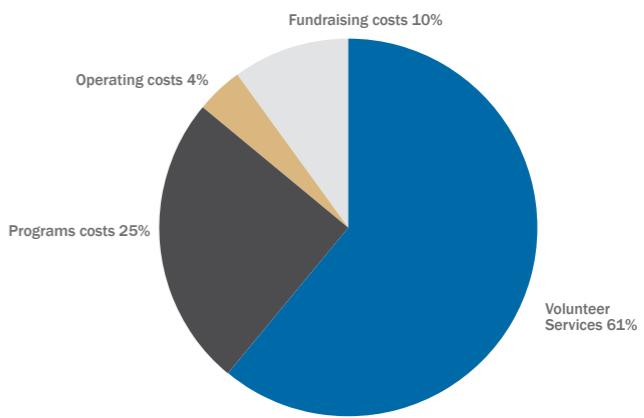
## Where the money comes from



## Where the money is spent



## The real value is priceless



INCOME	TOTALS
Community and corporate support	\$1,115,513
DFAT	\$658,868
Australian organisations and trusts	\$475,172
Rotary	\$443,451
International corporations and trusts	\$88,786
Other income	\$82,898
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT</b>	<b>\$2,864,688</b>

### Community and corporate support

Income received from the Australian public and corporations in the form of public donations, fundraising, gifts in-kind and bequests.

### DFAT

Grants received directly from the Australian Government's aid budget, administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

### Australian organisations and trusts

Income received from other Australian organisations, trusts and foundations including the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons as part of DFAT's funding via the Pacific Islands Program.

### Rotary

Income earned from grants and donation receipts from Rotary clubs, and individual donations attributed to a donor's Rotary club and/or district.

### International corporations and trusts

Income received from overseas corporations and trusts.

### Other income

Income received from interest and other.

COST	TOTALS
International programs costs	\$1,668,523
Operating costs	\$287,780
Fundraising costs	\$537,187
Community education costs	\$149,691
Domestic program costs	\$69,963
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>\$2,713,144</b>

### International program costs

Includes all expenses and support costs associated with running our country training/educational and surgical programs, including local support costs

### Domestic program costs

Costs relating to support and training of international medical staff in Australia.

### Community education

Costs related to increasing awareness and educating the Australian community about humanitarian and development issues.

### Operating costs

Covers administrative and other costs inherent in running an organisation, including staff time in areas such as finance, insurance premiums, office supplies, and other running costs.

### Fundraising costs

Costs associated with attracting more support through donations, sponsorships and community awareness. This includes costs such as staff time, events, advertising, mail-outs, website, and the processing of donations.

\* Further details are available in our full financials, which can be accessed at: [www.interplast.org.au](http://www.interplast.org.au)

COST	TOTALS
*Volunteer services	\$4,170,056
81 nurses and allied health specialists for a total of 899.5 days	\$708,356
96 surgeons and anaesthetists for a total of 1049 days	\$3,461,700
International and domestic program costs	\$1,738,486
Operating costs	\$287,780
Fundraising costs	\$686,878
<b>TOTAL 'REAL VALUE'</b>	<b>\$6,883,200</b>

### Volunteer Services

\* The value of volunteer services as reported in the financial accounts is based on rates determined by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) which, given the highly specialised nature of our volunteers, is a significant underestimation. The above figures represent a more realistic, although still conservative, estimate. This chart illustrates the real impact if Interplast had to pay for this invaluable expertise.

The above figures represent all Australian and New Zealand medical volunteers utilised by Interplast.

## Income Statement For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Donations & Gifts - Monetary	1,028,882	1,117,178
Donations & Gifts - Non Monetary	139,051	74,955
Bequests & Legacies	160,436	5,649
Grants		
- Government - Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade	658,868	448,301
- Government - RACS	19,632	94,976
- Other Australian	686,135	494,065
- Overseas	88,786	184,829
Interest	74,291	74,926
Other Income	8,607	385
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>2,864,688</b>	<b>2,495,264</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<i>International aid and development programs expenditure</i>		
International Programs		
- Funds to international programs	1,341,150	1,037,061
- Program Support costs	267,228	324,881
Community education	149,691	107,127
Fundraising Costs		
- Public	486,559	282,910
- Government, Multilateral and Private	50,628	69,999
Accountability and administration	287,780	520,807
Non-Monetary Expenditure	60,145	69,578
<b>Total international aid and development expenditure</b>	<b>2,643,181</b>	<b>2,412,363</b>
Domestic programs	69,963	-
<b>Total domestic program expenditure</b>	<b>69,963</b>	-
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>2,713,144</b>	<b>2,412,363</b>
Excess of revenue over expenditure	151,544	82,901
Other comprehensive income	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>151,544</b>	<b>82,901</b>

## Balance sheet For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,057,005	3,001,492
Trade and other receivables	86,053	74,909
Prepayments	27,818	88,767
Inventories	5,007	20,167
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>3,175,883</b>	<b>3,185,335</b>
Non-current assets		
Property and equipment	111,498	71,059
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>111,498</b>	<b>71,059</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>3,287,381</b>	<b>3,256,394</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	138,114	96,125
Deferred income	620,001	783,981
Provisions	60,690	64,133
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>818,805</b>	<b>944,239</b>
Non-Current Liabilities		
Provisions	17,569	12,692
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>17,569</b>	<b>12,692</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>836,374</b>	<b>956,931</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>2,451,007</b>	<b>2,299,463</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
General Reserve	500,000	500,000
Capacity Reserve	80,000	-
Accumulated Funds	1,871,007	1,799,463
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>2,451,007</b>	<b>2,299,463</b>

## Statement of changes in equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	\$ Retained Earnings	\$ General Reserve	\$ Capacity Reserve	\$ Total
Balance at 1 July 2015	1,716,562	500,000	-	2,216,562
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	82,901	-	-	82,901
Balance at 30 June 2016	1,799,463	500,000	-	2,299,463
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	151,544	-	-	151,544
Reserve Transfer	(80,000)	-	80,000	-
Balance at 30 June 2017	1,871,007	500,000	80,000	2,451,007

## Summary of cash movements For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	Cash Available at Beginning of Financial Year	Cash Raised During Financial Year	Cash Disbursed During Financial Year	Cash Available at End of Financial Year
Funds held for future programs	400,014	1,010,248	(1,209,739)	200,523
Funds held for future programs - Rotary	383,967	269,147	(233,636)	419,478
Total for other purposes	2,217,511	1,272,217	(1,052,724)	2,437,006
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,001,492</b>	<b>2,551,612</b>	<b>(2,496,099)</b>	<b>3,057,005</b>

## Australian volunteers For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

### RECOGNISED DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE: VALUE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES

The value of volunteer services is not included in the accounts. However, for the purposes of claiming DFAT Recognised Development Expenditure the following information has been prepared in accordance with the rates approved by DFAT.

	2017 \$	2016 \$
96 Specialists for a total of 917.5 days – Medical Officer 4	584,448	488,991
81 Nurses – Allied Health specialists for a total of 803 days – APS Level 5	240,614	169,503
<b>Actual Total Value of Volunteer Services</b>	<b>825,062</b>	<b>658,494</b>

### REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF INTERPLAST AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

#### Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the balance sheet as at 30 June 2017, the income statement, the summary of cash movements and the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, and related notes are derived from the audited financial report of Interplast Australia & New Zealand for the year ended 30 June 2017.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report, in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Australia Accounting Standards, Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the disclosure requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct.

#### Summary Financial Statements

The summary statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the relevant Australia Accounting Standards, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the disclosure requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited annual financial report and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial report do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial report.

#### The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated 10 October 2017. That report also includes an Emphasis of Matter which describes the basis of accounting which draws attention to the financial report being for the purpose of fulfilling the Company's financial reporting responsibilities under the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 as outlined in Note 1 to the audited financial report, and as a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion was not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Director's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The Director's of the company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the summarised financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Australia Accounting Standards, Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the disclosure requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the summarised financial report.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report based on our procedures, which are conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.



William Buck Audit (Vic) Pty Ltd  
ABN 59 116 151 136



J.C. Luckins  
Director

Dated this 30th day of October, 2017

## Honoured members

Interplast is able to continue to make a difference for thousands of people across the Asia Pacific region thanks to the many dedicated people who volunteer their time and expertise in a range of crucial areas.

To recognise people who have provided exceptional service to Interplast over the longer term, in the 2016-17 financial year we established the Honoured Member award.

This recognition is designed to promote the accomplishments of distinguished volunteers or past staff to the wider Interplast community and to formalise an ongoing relationship with these valued people.

Nominations are invited each year to help recognise exceptional Interplast individuals for their years of extraordinary service. Anyone may make a nomination.

To become an Honoured Member, nominees must have provided at least five years of consecutive extraordinary service to Interplast, and agree to formally represent Interplast when requested (subject to availability).

### IN 2016-17, HONOURED MEMBERSHIP WAS AWARDED TO SEVEN OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUALS.



**MR RUSSELL CORLETT**

- Volunteer Country Coordinator - Bangladesh.
- Participated as a volunteer surgeon on 23 program activities since 1985, including to Bangladesh, Fiji, Samoa, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Indonesia, Micronesia, PNG and Nepal.
- Interplast representative on RACS PIP Monitoring and Evaluation Committee.
- Continues to speak on behalf of Interplast at various events.

Honoured Members may be drawn from a number of categories. Potential recipients include:

- Medical volunteers (surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses, allied health professionals).
- Office volunteers.
- Board, committee and working group members.
- Past staff.
- Ambassadors, significant advisors or other categories as determined by the Board.

Nominations are reviewed by the Board of Directors, who then make the selection for the year. The annual award is then announced at Interplast's Annual General Meeting in November.



**JOHN BARNES  
(ROTARY PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR)**

- Board Director from 2002 - 2014.
- Secretary from 2006-2014.
- Inaugural chairman of Rotarian Committee from 2006-2008 and continues to be a member.
- Company Member from 2004-2015.
- Actively promotes Interplast to Rotary Clubs and Districts throughout Australia and New Zealand.
- Accompanied programs to the Solomon Islands and Laos.



**THE HON. DR KAY PATTERSON AO**

- Board Director from 2006-2015.
- Vice President 2010-2015.
- Company Member since 2009.
- Actively promoted Interplast to Rotary Clubs and Districts throughout Australia and New Zealand.
- Accompanied program activities to Laos in 2008 and Vanuatu in 2010.
- Assists at fundraising events where possible.
- Continues to speak on behalf of Interplast.



**MR IAN CARLISLE**

- Board Director from 2002-2014.
- Chair of Surgical Committee from 2003-2010, and remains a member of the Committee.
- Volunteer Country Coordinator - Indonesia.
- Participated as a volunteer surgeon on 36 program activities to Indonesia, Fiji and the Philippines.
- Interplast Board representative on the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) International Committee until 2015.
- Worked tirelessly to progress the development of an Memorandum of Understanding with the Indonesian Government.



**MS JAN RICE**

- Volunteered as a nurse educator on 19 programs since 1994 to countries including Indonesia, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Bangladesh and PNG.
- Past member of Surgical Committee.
- Current member of Nurse Working Group.
- Developed significant nurse education resources for Interplast.
- Continues to speak on behalf of Interplast.



**MR ALLAN MEARES**

- Participated as a volunteer surgeon on program activities since 1995.
- Participated on 17 program activities including to Tonga, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Solomon Islands, Fiji and PNG.
- Volunteer Country Coordinator for Bangladesh until 2012.
- Continues to speak at events, particular Rotary Clubs and Districts on behalf of Interplast.



**MR ROSS SUTTON**

- Board member from 2007-2014.
- Visited Bangladesh twice in 2009 and again in 2015 to contribute to program planning and Myanmar in 2011 to assist with a needs assessment.
- Founder and current member of Monitoring & Evaluation Working Group providing his valuable expertise to the organisation.



*Outgoing Interplast President David Inglis (third from left), incoming President Keith Mutimer (fifth from left), Acting Programs Manager Thomas Loperto and volunteer nurse Jo Oxbrow (far right) with the Bhutanese Health Minister (centre) and members of his staff.*



*Interplast Equipment and Supplies Coordinator and volunteer nurse Leonie Simmons on assignment in PNG during an assessment visit.*

*Photo: Dylan Evans*

## The Interplast Team

Changing futures across the Asia Pacific takes a team effort by a group of dedicated and talented people. In addition to our medical volunteers and Country Coordinators, the Board of Directors, Committee Members and Staff are all highly skilled and passionate about the work of Interplast.

### COMPANY MEMBERSHIP

During the period of this report, the Company Membership has been constituted as follows:

### Dr Michael McGlynn OAM

MBBS FRACS  
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Nominee

### Mr Keith Mutimer

MBBS FRACS  
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Nominee

### Professor David Watters

MB ChB FRCS (Edinburgh) FRACS  
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Nominee

### PDG Anne Brand OAM

District 9630  
Rotarian Nominee

### PDG Brian Guest

District 9465  
Rotarian Nominee

### PDG Kel Hobby

District 9820  
Rotarian Nominee

### The Hon. Dr Kay Patterson AO

PhD BA (Hons) Dip. Ed. MAPsS GAID  
Independent Nominee

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Mr Keith Mutimer

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery,  
Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons  
President (appointed November 2016)

#### Mr David Inglis

Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws  
President (retired November 2016)

#### Dr Michael McGlynn OAM

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery,  
Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons  
Director

#### Associate Professor Michael Leung

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery,

Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Director

#### Mr John Georgakis

Bachelor of Business (Accounting)  
Member of the Institute of

Chartered Accountants.

Treasurer & Vice President

#### Mr Brian Guest

Company Management  
Company Director  
Secretary

#### Professor Mark Ashton

Doctorate of Medicine, Bachelor of Medicine,  
Bachelor of Surgery  
Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons  
Director (Retired November 2016)

#### Ms Andrea Coote

Bachelor of Arts  
Director

### Ms Marie Dorrington

Bachelor of Arts, Diploma of Education,  
Diploma of Teaching.

Director

### Dr Rowan Gillies

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery,  
Bachelor of Science,

Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Director

### Mr Philip Ragg

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Anaesthetics,  
Fellow Australia and New Zealand College of

Anaesthetists

Director (appointed November 2016)

### Mr Paul Sundberg

Bachelor of Economics (Honors),  
Chartered Accountant FCA

Director

### Ms Hayley Morris

Bachelor of Arts (Communication)

Director

### PATRON

**Professor Donald R Marshall AM**  
MBBS FRACS FACS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Committee consisting of the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer meets as required.

### AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

The objective of the Audit & Risk Committee is to assist the Board of Directors to discharge its corporate governance responsibilities in relation to financial affairs and compliance with regulatory requirements.

- Associate Professor Michael Leung (Chair)
- Professor Mark Ashton (co-Chair until November 2016)
- Mr Chris Bennett
- Mr Ian Carlisle
- Ms Gillian Dickinson
- Ms Angela Doherty (resigned February 2017)
- Dr Michael McGlynn
- Dr Ian Hogarth
- Mr Grant Chisnall (appointed June 2017)
- Mr Ian Holten
- Mr Nick Houseman
- Mr Damian Ireland
- Mr James Leong
- Mr Peter Maloney
- Dr David Pescod
- Mr Anand Ramakrishnan
- Ms Leonie Simmons

### SURGICAL COMMITTEE

The Surgical Committee assists the Board of Directors to discharge its corporate governance responsibilities to exercise due care, diligence and skill in relation to surgical and medical issues involved in the implementation of program activities.

### THE ROTARIAN COMMITTEE

Provides professional advice and assistance to the Board of Directors in relation to all matters pertaining to our relationship with Rotary Clubs and Districts across Australia and New Zealand.

- PDG Marie Dorrington – D9500 (Chair from October 2016)
- PDG Brian Guest – D9465 (Chair until August 2016)
- PDG John Barnes – D9810
- PDG Anne Brand OAM – D9630
- PDG Kel Hobby – D9820
- PDG Peter Murfett – D9830 (resigned March 2017)
- PDG Peter Signal – D9930
- PDG Murray Verso – D9800

### MONITORING AND EVALUATION WORKING GROUP

The Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group has an increased role in providing professional advice and assistance to Interplast in monitoring and evaluating all of Interplast's activities and functions.

- Ms Prue Ingram (Chair)
- Dr Ross Sutton
- Ms Jess Hill
- Mr Thomas Loperto
- Mr Peter Huggan
- Ms Susan Learner

**NURSE WORKING GROUP**

The Nurse Working Group provides clinical and educational advice and assistance to Interplast on the development and evaluation of Interplast nurse education activities. This is an increasing area of focus for the organisation.

- Ms Leonie Simmons (Chair)
- Ms Annette McLeod
- Ms Jo Oxbow
- Ms Linda Ferguson
- Ms Daisy Sargeant
- Ms Chris Hunter
- Ms Jan Rice
- Ms Angela Doherty
- Ms Jill Dickinson

**ALLIED HEALTH WORKING GROUP**

The Allied Health Working Group (previously the Hand Therapy Working Group) provides clinical and educational advice and assistance to Interplast on the development and evaluation of Interplast program activities that include components of hand therapy, physiotherapy and burns rehabilitation.

- This is an increasing area of focus for the organisation.
- Ms Jess Hill (Chair until February 2017)
- Mr Thomas Loperto (Chair from February 2017)
- Ms Jane Aarons
- Ms Jennifer Ball (Allied Health Coordinator - Pacific)
- Ms Yvonne Fellner
- Ms Diana Francis
- Ms Sharon Goldby (Allied Health Coordinator - Asia)
- Ms Alison Hardman
- Ms Kylie Harrison
- Ms Penny McMahon
- Ms Beth McNeish
- Ms Katie Anjou
- Ms Sarah Florisson
- Ms Megan Fitzgerald
- Ms Melissa Parkin

**INTERPLAST STAFF**

Current staff as at 30 June 2017

**Prue Ingram**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

**Jacquie Arulanandam**  
*Program Activities Officer*

**Phyllis Bell**  
*Equipment Assistant*

**David Cook**  
*Communications Coordinator*

**Alison Chan**  
*Finance Assistant*

**Carol Chevalier**  
*Database Officer*

**Di Gillies**  
*Rotarian Coordinator*

**Jess Hill**  
(Maternity leave from February 2017)  
*Program Manager*

**Peter Huggan**  
*Finance Manager*

**Susan Learner**  
*Fundraising and Marketing Manager*

**Thomas Loperto**  
*Program Activities Coordinator*  
*Acting Program Manager*  
(from February 2017)

**Noreen McGrath**  
*Program Activities Coordinator*

**Leonie Simmons**  
*Equipment and Supplies Coordinator*

**Dinushka Vethavanam**  
*Fundraising Coordinator*

**Fhon Williams**  
*Program Activities Officer*  
*Acting Program Coordinator*  
(from February 2017)

**STAFF WHO WORKED FOR PART OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR**

**Shannon Farrow**, *Administration Officer*

**Madeleine Jones**, *Project Officer*

**Anne-Marie Maher**, *Finance Manager*

**Joelle Metcalf**, *Database Coordinator*

**Laura Nicholson**, *Executive Assistant*

**Penny Wedesweiler**, *Community Fundraising & Events Coordinator*

Interplast operates in a highly regulated environment, with laws, regulations, licences and codes of conduct that we need to comply with to ensure we remain accountable to the community in our funding countries, and also in our program countries.

**IN OUR PROGRAM COUNTRIES**

We comply with all the regulations and expectations of each country in which we work. We ensure that all medical volunteers have relevant medical registrations, and correct visas. We also comply with all Customs requirements regarding medical equipment and supplies. We abide by all local laws and protocols, and follow the work practices of our partner hospitals. We only go where we have been invited and have the approval of local authorities.

**AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT FOR PROFIT COMMISSION**

As a registered charity, Interplast is required to comply with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) Act 2012. This includes complying with Australian Accounting standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

**AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE**

The Australian Taxation Office has given Interplast the status of a Deductible Gift Recipient, granted exemption from Income Tax and provided concession for Fringe Benefits Tax and GST. Reporting requirements comprise mainly annual fringe benefits tax returns, quarterly Business Activity Statements and monthly pay-as-you-go (PAYG) submissions.

**AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS COMMISSION (ASIC)**

As a public company limited by guarantee, Interplast is required to comply with ASIC regulations.

**DFAT****Australian Government****Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

Interplast is fully accredited by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), responsible for managing the Australian Government's aid program. To maintain accreditation, Interplast's systems, policies and processes are rigorously reviewed by the Australian Government every five years. Accreditation ensures the transparent and accountable use of funding, and covers our entire portfolio, including non-development activities and activities that are not funded by DFAT.

As a fully accredited agency and trusted recipient of funds, Interplast receives support from DFAT through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

**ACFID**

Interplast is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct.

ACFID is the peak body for aid and international development NGOs and its code of conduct upholds the highest standards of ethics, effectiveness and accountability. For further information on the Code, please refer to the ACFID

Code of Conduct Guidance Document available at: [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)

Complaints relating to a breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct by an ACFID member can be made to the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee ([www.acfid.asn.au/code-of-conduct/complaints](http://www.acfid.asn.au/code-of-conduct/complaints)).

**FUNDRAISING**

Interplast is a member of the Fundraising Institute of Australia (FIA) and as such abides by the FIA Code of Conduct for professional fundraising

Fundraising licenses are required by all states in Australia in order to raise funds within their borders.

Interplast holds all required licenses and complies with the requirements associated with these licenses, which includes such conditions as providing extra reporting to particular states.

**COMPLAINTS**

Interplast has a process for handling any complaints. The complaints policy and process can be found on our website at: [www.interplast.org.au](http://www.interplast.org.au)

If you wish to lodge a complaint about Interplast, send an email to [contactus@interplast.org.au](mailto:contactus@interplast.org.au), phone our office on 03 9249 1231 or mail the principal office listed on the back cover.

**REGISTERED OFFICE**

Minter Ellison Lawyers  
Level 23  
Rialto Towers  
525 Collins Street  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

**BANKERS**

Westpac



**Interplast**<sup>®</sup>

Repairing bodies & rebuilding lives  
in the Asia Pacific region

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**[www.interplast.org.au](http://www.interplast.org.au)**

## CONNECT WITH US

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East Melbourne VIC 3002

📞 +61 3 9249 1231

✉ contactus@Interplast.org.au

FACEBOOK /INTERPLASTANZ

LinkedIn Interplast Australia and New Zealand

YouTube InterplastAustNZ

ABN 59 006 155 193