

INTERPLAST MEETS THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKET TEAM



Shane Watson with an Interplast patient

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SAVE THE DATE!

Sydney Black & White Ball

The Ivy

Saturday 31 March, 2012

Ticket sales and further enquires

(03) 9249 1231

Interplast's volunteer medical team and our patients recently received a wonderful surprise when members of the touring Australian cricket team visited the Colombo National Hospital in Sri Lanka in September.

Sports stars Shane Watson, Phillip Hughes, Nathan Lyon, Usman Khawaja and Justin Langer received an introduction to Interplast and our work. "It was a very exciting and momentous occasion for all involved," said Adelaide-based Interplast volunteer plastic surgeon, Mr Randall Sach. "With the whole country focused on the test series and one day matches, there was enormous media attention on both teams, making the visit by

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our Australian team members to the wards so special for patients, medical personnel and ancillary staff."

Expressing surprise and awe at the level and complexity of the reconstructive hand surgery procedures undertaken by the Interplast team and local plastic surgeons, the cricketers, quite correctly identified "Interplast as a not so well known charitable organisation which is having an enormous impact on regional developing countries."

With Mihani, the young girl pictured above, having received three separate Interplast visits for a complex congenital radial club hand deformity, the cricketers, understandably, were bowled over! "There was great interest in the concept of Interplast and they expressed a willingness to be involved in future projects or ventures," explains Mr Sach.

VOLUNTEER YOUR THOUGHTS...

STEFAN SABATO
Anaesthetist
First-time volunteer

"I had always wanted to do an overseas aid program ever since performing an elective in Malawi as a medical student. However, as so often happens in life, there is always something to do: finishing medical school, postgraduate specialisation and exams, marriage and children. In July, three months after the birth of my second child (Owen), I received an email looking for someone to go to Laos in September, and, with my wife's encouragement, I made a spur of the moment decision.

Even though I had completed an 'Anaesthesia in Developing Countries' course a few years prior, I was still a little nervous. Thankfully, Team Laos is made up of experienced Interplast members who have been going regularly for years, and I settled in easily. There were certain aspects of the trip which were easier than I expected, and other aspects which were harder. Our operating theatres had recently been constructed, and I even had a fairly modern anaesthetic machine. This actually made it a fairly familiar working environment. Outside the theatres was a different story, and typical developing world hospital wards were the norm. Although equipment and construction can be donated to these hospitals, processes and procedures need to be developed over time. While some processes have been developed, others are sadly lacking. Postoperative observations and pain management were continually a concern. I was surprised that the hardest part of the trip for me wasn't the patients we treated, but rather the ones we did not. Sometimes we couldn't offer treatment, and sometimes, after discussion, our treatment was refused. I still think about these children today. It is important when planning to go on a mission of any kind to ask yourself, "Why am I doing this? What am I trying to achieve?" and on a personal level, "What am I getting from this?" When I think about the answers to these questions, I realise that, despite going to 'give' to the people of Laos, I was actually given far more in return - friendships, experience, perspective, memories, a renewed drive to help those in less developed parts of the world, and also a renewed drive to help my patients here in Australia."



STAFF PROFILE PRUE INGRAM

New General Manager, Interplast

WHAT INTERESTED YOU IN BECOMING INVOLVED WITH INTERPLAST?

To be honest, I really didn't know much about Interplast when I saw the position advertised. Since starting in the role, I've been so impressed with the commitment and enthusiasm of staff and volunteers in delivering these programs. I'm really excited to be part of such a great team and look forward to continuing to build the amazing work done by Interplast.

EUREKA CLIMB 2011

Well, it's come and it's gone! This year's Eureka Climb was a great success with 1,896 participants walking, climbing and crawling their way to the very top of the world's tallest residential building. In excess of \$240,000 was raised for Whitelion and of course, Interplast! Thank you so much to those who donned their fitness gear (or quirky outfit), those who donated money to see a friend tackle the 1,642 stairs, those who provided corporate support and those who contributed to the prizes and showbags. We couldn't have done it without you.

Onwards and upwards!



DESCRIBE THE PATH THAT HAS LED YOU TO THIS POSITION.

I originally trained as a speech pathologist, but have been working in health and community services management positions for over 25 years – paediatrics, disability, aged care, community health and indigenous access amongst others.

WHAT'S YOUR HIGHLIGHT SO FAR AT INTERPLAST?

Reporting for duty at the Eureka Tower at 4.30am on a Sunday (!) morning for the Eureka Climb – doesn't get much higher than 88 floors!

FAVOURITE BAND?

The Graveyard Train - check them out!

INTERPLAST IS SUPPORTED BY:



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



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



Interplast is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. For more information, go to www.acfid.asn.au



ONE ON ONE WITH SR MARIE DOOLAN

Sr Marie Doolan, an Interplast volunteer and pressure garment specialist, reflects on her recent trip to Cambodia for the Cambodian Acid Survivors charity.

WHAT WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE LIKE IN CAMBODIA RECENTLY?

It was a wonderful experience as I was asked to train the people so that they could become independent and be able to make the garments themselves.

THE PEOPLE WHO YOU HELP MUST HAVE SOME PROFOUND STORIES. WHOSE STORY REALLY HAD AN IMPACT ON YOU?

I suppose a lady named Ngieb, who had never been to school and didn't know how to read or write in her own language. She had been profoundly burnt. She was just wonderful! The way that she learnt - she stood at my shoulder and watched absolutely everything and achieved extremely well.

HOW MUCH OF AN IMPACT ARE YOU AND INTERPLAST HAVING IN DEALING WITH AND TREATING ACID BURNS?

I could get emotional here! Absolutely extraordinary! Women were able to go on by themselves before I left that day. They could see the client, work out what they needed, could design it, make the pattern, cut it out, make it and fit it, and alter it if necessary. They did an absolutely wonderful job!

THANK YOU, MARION WRIGHT!

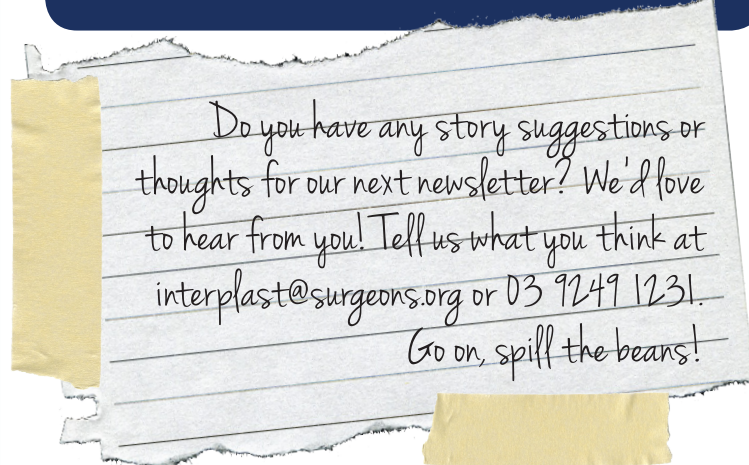
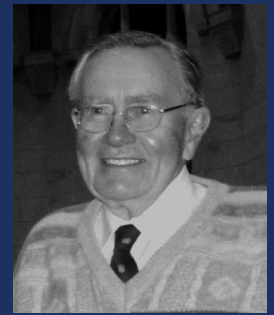
On Wednesday 30 November, a thank you function was held to acknowledge the significant contribution Marion Wright has had to Interplast over the past 28 years.

The night was a great success! Thank you to all those who attended and contributed towards this special acknowledgement. Thank you, most of all, to Marion for her loyalty, dedication and devotion to Interplast.



VALE - DR GERALD DUFF

The Interplast Board of Directors would like to acknowledge and pay tribute to Dr Gerald Duff for his involvement in the establishment of Interplast. Sadly, Dr Duff died on 14 July 2011, aged 89 years.



Christmas is a time for **GIVING**
SO...
as an alternative to a gift,
consider donating to Interplast instead!

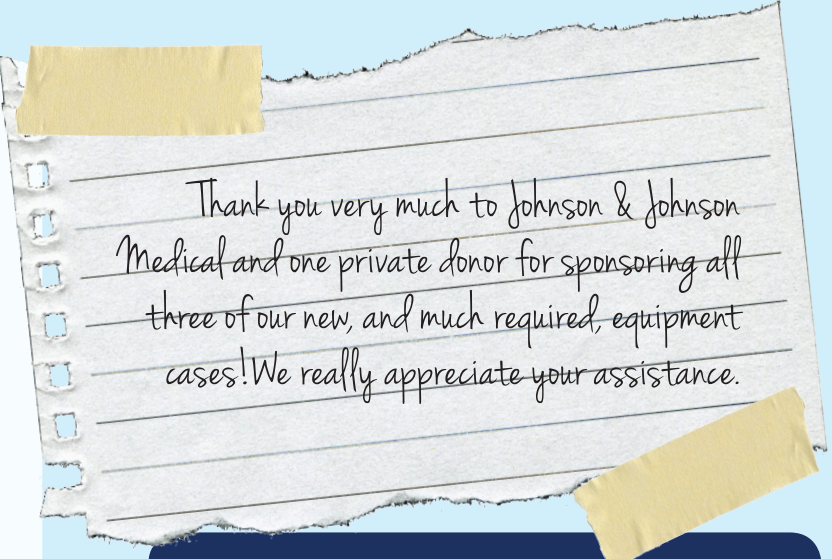
HEAD TO WWW.INTERPLAST.COM.AU & GIVE THE ULTIMATE GIFT

In the online donation form, specify 'Christmas Gift' and the name and email address of your recipient and a Christmas gift receipt will be provided. If online is not for you, contact us on 03 9249 1231.



FAST FACTS
PHILIPPINES PROGRAM
BAGUIO CITY
(5 - 17 NOV 2011)

- 7** Interplast volunteers **1** staff member
- 6** flights in **13** days
- 16** hour round trip on the bus from Manila to Baguio City
- 28** trainee Filipino nurses working with the Interplast team
- 1062** kilometres / **2** days - the longest distance travelled by a patient (via boat and bus) to be seen by Interplast
- 73** life-changing operations



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My donation to Interplast

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO HELP REPAIR BODIES AND REBUILD LIVES

I/We would like to donate \$ _____ to Interplast Australia & New Zealand
 (All donations over \$2 are tax deductible)

PAYMENT OPTIONS (please circle):

Cash Credit Card Cheque
 Please make cheques payable to Interplast Australia & New Zealand

CREDIT CARD DETAILS (please circle):

Visa Mastercard Diners Club AMEX
 Name on Card: Card Number:
 Expiry Date: Signature:

REGULAR/MONTHLY GIVING — JOIN THE REBUILDING LIVES FELLOWSHIP:

I would like to join the Rebuilding Lives Fellowship and make monthly donations from my credit card.
 Please deduct \$ _____ on the 1st / 15th (please circle) of every month (or the next business day) from my credit card.

TRIBUTE / ROTARY CLUB:

Please tribute/ Rotary Club (District): _____

BEQUEST:

Please send me information on how I can remember Interplast in my will.

Title First name: Surname:
 Address: State: Post Code:
 Suburb: Mobile:
 Email:

Any information you provide to Interplast will be treated in the strictest confidence. Interplast will only use your personal details in order to provide you with the opportunity of a range of services and facilities that will benefit Interplast programs. Interplast does not rent, lease, or sell your personal details to any other organisation. Interplast Australia & New Zealand respects your privacy. For more information on our privacy policy please see our website at www.interplast.com.au. Please call us on 03 9249 1231 if you would like to be removed from our mailing list.