



OUR MISSION: To provide specialist treatment for children from developing countries in the form of lifesaving and dignity restoring surgery not accessible to them in their home country.

Central Region (Districts 9500 and 9520) Newsletter

THE ROMAC CENTRAL REGION INAUGURAL WEAR RED FOR ROMAC DINNER/DANCE

Your ROMAC committee would like to thank the Rotary clubs and individuals that supported our inaugural Dinner/Dance at the Walkers Arms Convention Centre on February 25th 2017. It was great to see so many people wearing red. The committee considered it to be a very successful event. The event raised both the profile of ROMAC in our region and very much needed funds to help us continue our work on behalf of Rotary International. The event attracted 120 attendees who enjoyed a three course meal, entertainment and dancing to popular music from the band “The Buddies Four” There was a presentation by our National President Rob Wilkinson who came over from Sydney for the occasion, as well as significant amounts of socialisation mixed in with both the silent and public auctions of the donated goods and services. David Stockbridge our public auctioneer was recognised for his skill and entertainment ability. On the evening there were financial donations made or promised and paid later from the Rotary Clubs of Prospect, Henley Beach, Elizabeth, Burnside, Brownhill Creek and Regency Park totalling \$6000. Combined with the money from the silent and public auction and private donations the total raised as a result of the event was \$12,000 The attendee list showed strong support for ROMAC which included District Governors John Pohl and Sam Camporeale, District Governors Elect Bob Cooper and Peter Schaefer and District Governor Nominee David Egan as well as club presidents, Rotarians, friends and other supporters. Thank you for the feedback that has been given. We have spoken to the Walkers Arms in regards to noise, sound etc and given feedback from your comments to the appropriate people, both positive and areas for improvement. We would like to thank all those that donated to the course in time, auction items, venue space and services provided



Auctioneer David Stockbridge doing what he does best

Left to Right Officers of ROMAC - PDG Alun Hughes Current regional chair, Oleh Bilyk Past regional Chair, Rob Wilkinson National Chair, Alan McKinnon Regional Medical officer. Brett Dalton Regional Chair Elect, PDG Dick Milner past Regional Chair





THE PERSONAL SIDE OF ROMAC IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA. MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO YOUNG LIVES

Isac Lemos a 15 year old boy from Timor Leste arrived in Adelaide in March last year (2016) as an emergency case. Isac was suffering from a benign TB lesion in the brain that was causing him blindness in both eyes.

With only two days notice given to the committee, The Rotary Club of Salisbury accepted to be host club (which is a legal requirement) and Mary and Graham Purbrick offered to be host parents. At the same time interpreters, food, shelter and clothing had to be sourced for both Isac and his mother.

On arrival Isac was taken immediately to the Adelaide Women's and Children's Hospital and underwent surgery the next day by brain surgeon Cindy Molloy. Isac and his mother stayed in Adelaide for three weeks before returning home having to take medication to help restore his eye sight for 12 months.

Due to living in relative isolation it is challenging to receive news of long term outcomes. However we have just received notification that Isac is continuing to do well and has regained 100% of his sight.

Thanks must be given to doctors, surgeons, hospitals, interpreters, host families and clubs.

This is how the funds raised from Rotary Clubs makes a difference to lives.



Izak Lemos on arrival in Adelaide at the Woman's and Children's Hospital in March 2016



Izak, his mother, host parents Graham and Mary Purbrick, Tetun speaking interpreter Liza Goncalves and 2015/16 District Governor Doug Layng and wife Lynne when leaving hospital for home hosting