

KDT Update May 2015

We are now between the May and June trips and preparing for a return to the Kimberley on the 12th June for four weeks.

As you may be aware there have also been other exciting developments during the past weeks. During National Volunteers Week Jan was very proud to receive an Excellence in Volunteer Management Award at the WA Volunteers Week Gala Dinner. Due to Jan's Kimberley commitments Jilen and Jyoti attended the dinner and accepted the award on Jan's behalf.

The ABC also ran a story about KDT and our Kimberley work. For those of you, like us, who watched about 4 hours of news but still managed to miss it, you can see the story on the [uTube](#) link. Thanks to Natalie Jones and cameraman Greg for their reporting and also for making a mercy dash to our Broome house on their return and sending 10 boxes of SDI fissure seal on the Greyhound bus to us in Halls Creek.

The trip started from Broome on 2nd May

May 2015 Teams:

Week 1. The new team came in through Broome and we set off to Fitzroy on Sunday morning with the KAMSC truck, and KDT vehicles. Monday saw us examining the children at Bayulu School followed by Tuesday and Wednesday morning spent at the much larger Fitzroy School. By Wednesday evening we were into Halls Creek and ready for two days examining the children at Halls Creek School. In all 420 children were examined and 1043 Fissure seals placed by the team and we celebrated this amazing achievement with 'sumptuous nibbles' a la Tim and a sausage sizzle at Caroline Pool.

Dr Tim Clair, Dr Chaturi Neboda, Dr Simone Mustac, DT Cate Corcoran, DA Maria Holland, final year dental student Greg Crane, Alex Easton, Trish Pepper, Jan and John.

Week 2. After seeing the team off on to Kununurra on Saturday morning John, Trish and Jan analysed the data from week 1, prepared permission forms and readied ourselves for the incoming team who arrived on Sunday afternoon excited and ready for a busy week. The main teams were busy at the hospital dental clinic and also in the KAMSC truck at the school and smaller teams went to Red Hill School, Frail Aged and to the communities of Gibb River, Frog Hollow and Warmun. We enjoyed some great meals together and finished the week with a trip to China Wall followed by a sausage sizzle at Caroline Pool.

Dr Simon Shanahan, Dr Sheyda Khadembaschi, Dr Celso Cardano Orth, DA Ruth Warden, DA Louise Cross, Tracy Sandercock, final year dental student Elisia Doucas, Jan and John.

Thanks again to Dental Partners for their generous sponsorship of KDT. Dental Partners participating volunteers were Dr Celso Cardano Orth, Ms Cate Corcoran and Ms Jodie Horskins. Dr Anu Reddy, Dr Tommie Strydom, Ms Kristy Ross and Ms Kylie Hill will be joining us during the June trip.

Week 3. Our final KDT week was spent in the Kutjungka region and we visited the communities of Balgo, Mulan and Billiluna. As with last year the team spent two nights in Balgo and two in Billiluna with a day trip to Mulan in between. On Tuesday we set an all time KDT record, providing 113 exams and OHI instruction at the school followed by an afternoon clinic where 21 of the children were treated and while all this was happening a small team worked at the Balgo Clinic and treated a further 19 people. These long and very productive days in the Kutjungka rounded off an amazing trip of dentistry and oral health education in equal proportions. The team then travelled back to Broome, having spent the night in Yiyili as guests of the school, and arrived in time to share a sunset drinks at Cable Beach and a celebratory dinner at Matsos.

Dr Ian McCarrey, Dr Danny Lavery, Dr Michael Chan, DA Ruth Warden, DA Julie Leahy, Tracy Sandercock, Jan and John.

Thank you to the Australian Dental Association (WA Branch), for their ongoing support of KDT in general and for awarding final year dental students Elisia Doucas and Greg Crane with Remote Area Student Scholarships to assist with their remote placement.

The information and data gained from examining approximately 900 children this year and comparing it to 6 years of existing data will allow us to measure and refine our education and preventative program, Strong Teeth for Kimberley Kids, and review future community visits and methods of service delivery.

In May KDT provided oral health education and dental services at 880 appointments; 830 examinations, 101 extractions, 158 restorations, 44 scale and cleans, 26 radiographs, 527 fluoride treatments and 1,530 fissure seals and two partial dentures. In all, this represents approximately \$222,000 worth of dental care, assistance and advice.

KDT teams always work very hard but this recent trip saw us achieve an even more punishing pace with amazing outcomes. As well as working hard and covering many hundreds of kilometers the teams had a great deal of fun and shared some fabulous meals and memorable moments. Halls Creek teams enjoyed visits to China Wall and sausage sizzle sundowners at Caroline Pool while those on the Kutjungka week enjoyed barbecues around the campfire and the Broome based teams shared wine, cheese and gorgeous sunsets at the Cable Beach.

A big thank you to our fabulous volunteers, sponsors and supporters without whom these results could not be achieved.

STOP PRESS: We have just heard the exciting news that we have been awarded a CommBank Community Grant of \$10,000. These grants are made possible by the CommBank staff who donate to their Staff Community Fund. Thank you so much.

Follow our 2015 travels and adventures on the [Craig the Croc Facebook](#) page.

Jan and John Owen
Kimberley Dental Team
www.kimberleydentalteam.com

