

New faces

We're ready for the future

Three new directors joined our board at our April AGM, making us better prepared than ever to deliver our goals.

Nicki Patten, Sarah Danne and Sophie Clarkson all have legal qualifications, as well as broad governance, NGO, business and government credentials.

These skills, and those of continuing directors, mean we are well positioned to grow and deliver on our ambitious program. This includes partnering to deliver Timor-Leste's first rheumatic heart disease prevalence study, along with an expanded preventative penicillin program.

Nicki's bio is overleaf, and there's more about all of our directors on "The Team" page of our website.

At our AGM we also farewelled foundation

director Julie Kean. We thank Julie for her outstanding service, and are very pleased that she will continue as a volunteer clinic administrator.

Recently we published a 2014-17 Strategic Plan "mid-term scorecard". With 85 per cent of the projects delivered or underway, and the rest in planning, we are on track. You can go to our website to find out about our plan to treat more patients, support local health capacity and tackle the root causes of poor heart health in Timor-Leste. Thank you for your support.

– **Ingrid Svendsen,**
board chair

PS: As it's nearly tax return time, please consider making a tax deductible end of financial year donation to our **New Heart for Paulo appeal**. Details are on our website.

Growing apace

Medical roundup with Dr Noel

Since the last newsletter there's been a lot going on.

In March we ran clinics in Dili and Maliana, 150k southwest of the capital, which were an outstanding success.

My colleague Dr Simon Eggleton and I saw well over 100 patients, with the able assistance of our admin team and our partners from the Bairo Pite Clinic. As well as new patients, we saw some who have previously received treatment, all of whom are doing extremely well.

We had an excellent result with Teresinha, our first patient for the year. With Barwon Health in Geelong and a new interstate partner now coming on board, the program continues to grow apace.

Our relationship with the Dili National Hospital continues to strengthen. We have been able to support the establishment of a coronary care unit, which is a first for the country, and have arranged for the donation of desperately needed cardiac ultrasound machines.

We're off to Timor-Leste again this month, and will be conducting clinics in Dili, as well as the remote enclave of Oecusse, in the western part of the country. I believe it will be the first time a cardiologist has been there, ever. Should be interesting!

– **Dr Noel Bayley,**
honorary medical adviser



That's what Teresinha, our latest patient, said after an amazing procedure to insert a high-tech titanium alloy plug device into her heart. Teresinha, a paediatric nurse at Dili National Hospital, is now back at work, and able to care for her nine-month old son. Our thanks to interventional cardiologist Dr Will Wilson and Royal Melbourne Hospital.

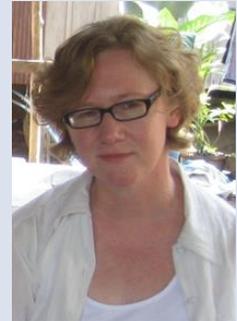
Running for healthy hearts

We are thrilled to announce that, thanks to the generosity of our sponsors **Smith + Tracey** and **Aspect Skin Care**, 2014 patient Melinda will be joining us at Run Melbourne on 24 July. Melinda is living proof of the impact of our work, so we hope you can come and meet her. Details about how to sign up and help us to raise \$20,000 to give 13-year-old Paulo life-saving heart surgery are on the Run Melbourne page of our website.

Three minutes with...

Nicki Patten

Director, clinical governance chair



How did you become involved in ETHF?

I had been thinking about using my legal skills and foreign aid experience in an organisation like East Timor Hearts Fund, and then heard about the organisation from a colleague. Always struck by the random quirk of fate allowing me to be born in a country of means with opportunities abounding, I have always been aware of the surplus of riches in some countries and the appalling deficits in others. In a small way, the ethos of East Timor Hearts Fund seeks to address this imbalance.

What does your role entail?

I was elected to the board in April 2016, and would like to use my role to develop our understanding of clinical governance over our operations, work to increase capability in East Timor to build medical services and knowhow and continue to build a sense of reciprocity in what we do – hearing and acting on the desires of our East Timorese counterparts.

What do you do in your spare time?

I love to travel, anything from the concert halls and art galleries of foreign cities to the alpine and wilderness areas of Australia and New Zealand. I have a recent and unexpected passion for life drawing and I have a background in piano performance, so I also have music on wherever I am. My children keep me pretty busy too as they wend their way through high school, and I have a day job at a community services organisation advising on legal and governance issues.