

RACS Queensland Charity Ball



Following the success of the RACS Western Australia Surgeons Ball in 2016 and 2017, the RACS Queensland State Committee (QSC) decided it was time to give RACS Queensland its first opportunity to support our very own charity evening.

On Saturday 10 November, 170 surgeons, their partners and supporters of the College attended the inaugural RACS Queensland Charity Ball held at Brisbane's award-winning riverside restaurant Blackbird.

The ball was initiated by the State Committee for Fellows, IMGs and Trainees from across all surgical specialties to enjoy an evening of fun, establish and nurture collegiate relationships within the profession whilst raising funds and awareness for the Foundation for Surgery.

The night's MC Associate Professor Kelvin Kong and the QSC Younger Fellows Group kept the crowd thoroughly entertained and motivated on raising funds for supporting Indigenous Australian Scholarships and the running of Early Management of Severe Trauma (EMST) courses in East Timor.

Highlights of the evening included fine food and beverages, live band, raffles, auctions and best of all, the showing of our 'Dancing with the Surgeons' video parody of the MC Hammer hit "U Can't Touch This", which raised funds through a live pledge auction. Haesley Cush brought the occasion to life with his auctioneering charm by engaging the audience to participate in the live auction. Winners for the raffles, silent and live auctions took home a variety of sought-after prizes including luxury packages, art packages, sports memorabilia and high-end jewellery. The night drew to a close, but not before working up a sweat on the dance floor and indulging in amazing dessert options.

Special thanks for the online donations by invitees who were unable to attend the Charity Ball, as well as funds raised on the night. These funds will ensure Indigenous Australians who aspire in a career in surgery will have a greater chance to succeed in their chosen pathway towards surgery. Along with supporting the training and further development of medical professionals in Timor Leste.



We are happy to announce that approximately \$50,000 was raised by the generosity of our RACS Queensland members and affiliates.

The event wouldn't have been possible without the support of all involved. Many thanks to:

- Angela D'Castro and the team at the RACS Western Australia Office for sharing their WA Surgeons Ball ideas and their great support
- Kelvin Kong for his stirring introduction and moving acknowledgement of Country
- QSC Younger Fellows Group for their time and hard work behind the running of the event and sourcing prizes
- our major sponsors Montserrat Day Hospitals and Walshs Financial Planning & Accounting
- the brave senior surgeons who participated in the video shoot for 'Dancing with the Surgeons'
- our guests who made the evening a night to remember.

The response from attendees on the evening and post event, reflect the wonderful experience enjoyed by all.

After the great success of this unforgettable event, we look forward to holding the next Queensland Charity Ball in late 2020, please keep your eyes peeled for details of this future event.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact the RACS Queensland State Office at charityball.qld@surgeons.org or +61 7 3249 2900.

RACS Queensland State Committee

