The Australasian Trauma Society held its 4th Annual Scientific Meeting at Darling Harbour in Sydney from 2-4 March.

The joint meeting of the ATS and the Trauma Association of Canada and was attended by more than 400 registrants.

In line with other trauma societies, such as the Trauma Association of Canada and the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, the Australasian society had decided it should have a named lecture, given annually to honor a pioneer of trauma care.

It did not take much research to conclude that the most appropriate person to honor in such a way was Mr Gordon Trinca, A0, OBE, FRACS, a well-known personality to RACS Fellows.

The inaugural Gordon Trinca Lecture was delivered by Dr Mark Fitzgerald, a foundation member of the ATS and head of the Emergency Department at the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne.

In a comprehensive address, Dr Fitzgerald chronicled Mr Trinca's many achievements in injury care and trauma prevention.

The listeners were impressed and amazed by the achievements of this humble man, who was present in the audience.

At the end of the lecture, those present gave a standing ovation, not only to the presenter, but also to Mr Trinca, who was given the chance to say a few words.

In typical fashion, he reminded the audience that he was not solely responsible for all the achievements and that others had played a variety of roles.

As a member of the audience that day it was hard not to be moved by the power of the address and the character of the man who has given so much to the RACS and to injury care in Australasia.

Ian Civil
Past President and Member of Executive Committee
Australasian Trauma Society

Left to right: Mark Fitzgerald, Gordon Trinca, Tony Joseph
Basic Surgical Training meeting the challenges

Trainees are responding well to the new Basic Surgical Training Programme.

The pass rate for the multiple-choice exam held in February was 80 per cent, up from 40 per cent for the last 12 months.

Chairman of the Board of Basic Surgical Training, Professor Richard West, said the nine basic surgical trainees enrolled in the new program had achieved a 100 per cent pass rate.

He said the board believed the positive results could be attributed largely to the introduction of the education modules, the interactive educational website and the abolition of negative marking.

A Board of Basic Surgical Training Workshop held in March and attended by board members, related sub-committees, staff and trainees, also indicated the positive response to the programme.

Meeting facilitator Dr George Beaton helped the 50 participants to investigate strategic issues. Trainees including Dr Otis Wang, Dr Michael Weymouth, Dr Frank Gaillard and Dr Melanie Seale were thanked for their invaluable views on the training programme.

Trainee Otis Wang said that prior to attending the meeting he had considered the board a “distant entity”, but he came away with a better understanding of its role.

“They are an energetic and determined board led by a strong leader in Professor West, with excellent support from other committee members and administrative staff, whose main concerns are the trainees,” he said.

“I can reassure you all that the future of basic surgical training is in good hands in this period of change, but it is through change that training will move forward.”

The workshop discussed the board’s transition from being an examining board to a training and education board and recognised the challenges in delivering an increasingly complex curriculum and appropriate assessment methods.

The meeting also discussed the challenges of developing new capabilities, such as the educational website and skills courses.

The website, developed by Tim Shaw and Stuart Barnett of the Department of Education at Sydney University, was officially launched during the meeting. Board members made excellent contributions of education content. The site was very effective and enabled all trainees to have their own College home page.

Professor West said: “On completion of my term as Chairman of the Board I would personally like to thank all the Members of the Board and many Fellows for their contribution to success of the programme.”
College finances

Consideration of our College’s financial status starts with acknowledgement of that great asset, often overlooked – the pro bono contribution of Fellows, conservatively estimated at $230m p.a. Basically irreplaceable, it serves as the very backbone of our independence.

To demonstrate the inherent value of our independence to the community, our processes must satisfy the most critical public examination. We are currently being subjected to such critical scrutiny by the AMC accreditation process and the ACCC authorization process. These as yet ill dimensioned exercises are in train. The cost to the College is still to a degree speculative, but is estimated in the vicinity of $250,000.

Gone are the days of senior College administrative responsibilities being rotated around Australasia with change in office bearers. No longer is such cumbersome management of often-confidential records acceptable to modern practice. The personnel required in staffing a professional centralised administration with consequent improvement in efficiency, consistency and accountability results in a salary bill approximating $4m.

Expensive?

My estimate (it is no more than roughly indicative) of the current President’s personal contribution is of the order of $1m. The contribution of the Censor-and-Chief is likewise astounding. The implications of this provide further justification for expansion of salaried staff.

The current year financial deficit of $865,000 is forecast to reach $1.2m next year. It is largely salaries, administrative resources to support the expanding College activities and the introduction of a modular BST programme – not yet fully cost recovered.

The cost of $11,000 for the two year BST course compares favourably with $5,500 for the three day directors course at the Australian Institute of Company Directors or $22,000 for a three day simulator endorsement for aspiring B737 pilots with Virgin Airlines.

The payment of subscriptions one year in advance enabled the establishment of the College Foundation, and with it came a degree of financial security. At the same time, our response time lengthened by one year. The subscription increase passed by Council in October 2000 applies to the year 2002. The beneficial impact of this increase is therefore not seen until the budget figures of that year. It is anticipated we will not regain a balanced budget until 2003.

The recent improvement in College software has identified over $1.2m of outstanding subscriptions. This and the management of the GST are further vindications for an enhanced centralised financial approach.

The cash flow requirements of the College are in large part served by the proceeds of our $19m investment portfolio. The return on this investment (fluctuating from 21.78% in 1999 to 8.68% in 2000) is far from ideal. With the refund of imputation credits to non-taxable institutions such as ours, it becomes of value to utilise the present portfolio as collateral to raise a conservative margin lending facility (Council agreed to $3m) to purchase high yielding fully franked stock to reduce our dependence on the vagaries of the stock-market and the consequent fluctuation in the capital value of our portfolio.

A further major issue is the redevelopment of the Spring Street headquarters dictated by increasing space requirements and current building structural deficiencies.

Changes to the structure of the College Foundation and the appointment of a Director of the Division of Fellowship and External Affairs will enhance the corpus and consequently funding for research scholarships.

In summary, the College finances are sound although under pressure. This is of a transient nature as a consequence of the rapid but necessary change in governance and structure coinciding with the introduction of a more formalised and structured educational programme.

The building requirements add to this pressure.

The challenge for the Executive is the establishment of an alternate income stream – for the Fellowship the observance of a disciplined budgetary process.

Peter W H Woodruff
Honorary Treasurer
News from the Urological Society

Mr Stephen Stening has officially been president of the Urological Society of Australasia since the start of the year.

He sees his role as promoting and marketing urology and wants the specialty to be more widely recognised as the primary discipline to treat all conditions or disorders of the genitourinary system.

"We have always had a collaborative approach in the treatment of certain conditions," he said.

"But in recent years we have seen other clinical groups playing a fragmentary role in some of the subspecialties of urology that have traditionally been managed by urologists."

Mr Stening hopes to make the community and general practitioners more aware of the full scope of expertise that exists in urology and its ability to treat conditions both operatively and non-operatively.

He says advanced trainees are attracted to the specialty area because of the variety and challenges it offers.

Sixty to 70 per cent of all kidney tumors are now diagnosed incidentally by abdominal ultrasound, many of which are small and at an early stage in development.

Techniques have been developed for less invasive and tissue-sparing operations for these commonly small tumors.

Laparoscopic removal of the kidney has now been developed. Partial nephrectomy is also possible, allowing the part of the kidney containing the tumor to be removed and the major part of the organ retained, he said.

Laparoscopic technique was discussed at the society's successful annual scientific meeting in March.

More than 450 delegates, including members, trainees, invited overseas guests and urological nurses attended the meeting, held in Coolum in Queensland.

Mr Stening said interactive instructional courses and surgical workshops were popular and were responsive to changing trends in education.
College establishes register for help in a crisis

When the call came for medical aid from the troubled Solomon Islands in December last year, the College was quick to respond.

But the next time there is a similar call, it is hoped a register of specialist surgeons will help to find the experts needed to support a nation in crisis.

Devastated by two years of civil war, the Solomons' National Referral Hospital in Honiara had little left to offer in the way of medical services. It desperately needed a general surgeon, a general physician and an emergency medical specialist.

Rural Executive Officer Mr David Thompson said placements were found using the College Rural Locum Service. Geelong surgeons Ted Heffernan and Brian Walker are each spending six weeks at the hospital. Physician Eugene Athan, also of Geelong, will spend eight weeks helping out and Guy Sansom, of St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne, will spend three months providing emergency medical support.

The College administers a number of overseas aid programmes funded by AusAID – part of the Federal Government's External Affairs Department.

The current projects involve surgeons volunteering for short visits of one to two weeks in the Pacific Islands and New Guinea.

These visits usually involve a team consisting of a surgeon, an anaesthetist, a theatre sister, and possibly a ward sister. Team members have their expenses covered by the visit, but volunteer their time.

Mr Thompson said a similar project had been designed for East Timor, and it was expected the College would be asked to provide specialty teams to go to Dili Hospital, which had the capacity to take a team one week each month.

The College is being asked more frequently to provide such surgical teams at short notice when there are humanitarian disasters in the region. These teams need a functioning operating theatre facility, instruments and sterile supply – infrastructure that can only be provided with the cooperation of AusAID or the Armed Services.

The College wishes to compile a list of volunteer surgeons willing go to areas of great humanitarian need at short notice or be part of long-term aid programmes in the region.

Anyone wishing to join the register and help provide emergency medical aid please contact David Thompson at the College on +61 3 9276 7407 or email david.thompson@surgeons.org
The new executive team

Professor Richard West,
Censor-In-Chief

Professor Richard West takes on the College’s major education role with an ambitious array of plans for change. He recognises that his job will be challenging in the present climate as the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission conducts its inquiry. But he welcomes the opportunity to ensure the processes used by the College in its selection, assessment and examination of trainees are transparent, fair, equitable and reproducible.

Professor West, who has been Chairman of the Board of Basic Surgical Training for two years, wants to see a number of programmes successfully introduced to basic training, such as the educational website and skills courses, extended to all areas of advanced training.

As the new Censor In Chief, he will chair a new educational executive, a body within the College that will be responsible for overseeing all education processes including continuing medical education for Fellows. “Education should be a lifelong process,” he said.

“This body will play a coordinating role and it will contain the senior councillors in areas of education as well as educational experts in other fields.”

He also wants to establish a faculty of education, staffed by a full-time surgical Dean.

“This will be an expansion of the current department of training and education and we will have an education research department.”

Professor West said that of course all this would consume more College resources and would have to be funded.

“I want to make sure that the transition from basic training to advanced training is as seamless as possible. The College will have to train more surgeons to meet such challenges as ‘safe hours’.

“It is a very exciting time for education as we bring the new executive, the faculty, changes to the training and the website tool into the new millennium,” he said.

Vol.2 No.4 May 2001

Antony Low,
Chairman, Court of Examiners

Mr Low is looking forward to his second term in the position and expects it to be an eventful time.

The College is running its second recertification workshop for examiners this year, prior to the May exam. The first workshop was held two years ago and Mr Low says similar programmes will be held every two to three years.

He has approached speakers to address this year’s workshop, including Jenipher Martin the College’s Surgical Education Coordinator, solicitor Michael Gorton and Don Moss, who oversees the Train the Trainers Course.

Mr Low says the other challenges facing Council in the next six to 12 months will be to ensure the College achieves authorisation with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and accreditation with the Australian Medical Council.

As Chairman of the Court of Examiners, Mr Low will play an important role in that process, liaising with key people to ensure appropriate standards are maintained and providing reassurance to the public that the College is continuing to produce quality surgeons.

He says his main role as Chairman is working to ensure that the College exam remains relevant, maintains the appropriate high standard and is fair to all candidates.

“It is our job to make sure we are producing surgeons who are safe and competent. By the time they pass this exam, they should ready to go out and function as capable and reliable top-class surgeons in the community,” he said.

Mr Low, a former examiner and senior examiner in urology for 10 years, said this experience helped him have an understanding of the exam process.

“The other advantage (of the role) is that I automatically become part of the Censor-In-Chief’s Committee, the Education Committee and the Continuing Professional Development Committee, to help maintain the relevance of the continuum of education and assessment throughout a surgeon’s career,” he said.

Mr Low, who is also Chairman of the Ethics Committee, says he is looking forward to working with the new team.

“I think the current and the new executive is a very appropriate representation of the council’s interests, with special emphasis on our core business of education,” he said.
Australian Competition & Consumer

Negotiations are still underway between the College and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission over the role of the College in the training of surgeons. ACCC Chairman, Alan Fels, has now indicated that the College is likely to get an interim authorisation to continue surgical training because as he says "we wouldn't want a system where anyone in Australia could become a brain surgeon."

However, the process of obtaining formal authorisation will be a lengthy one said the College Chief Executive, Dr Vin Massaro, and a result is not expected until at least October. In the meantime, the President, Bruce Barraclough and Dr Massaro have been meeting with government ministers and politicians to explain the College's role and to seek their support. The process to obtain authorisation is a public one and the College's submission and all responses are on the ACCC Web page.

The College needs to demonstrate while it may have an exclusive role in

Keeping tabs on new surgical techniques

It might be a surgical procedure mentioned by a colleague, a promotional package for a device received in the mail, or a technique discussed in an article. Whatever it is, if it's new to surgery, the NET-S project wants to know about it.

The NET-S (New and Emerging Techniques - Surgical) database lists more than 60 new techniques and technologies and aims to provide information on their use, efficacy and likely introduction into surgical practice in Australia and New Zealand. The project is administered by ASERNIP-S (Australian Safety and Efficacy Register of New Interventional Procedures - Surgical) with the RACS' New Technology Committee and its website is accessible via either body's home page.

The NET-S database includes details of new procedures, devices and techniques according to surgical specialty. It classifies them as either short or long-term, according to the likelihood of their introduction into health care services.

The information on the database was compiled following a NET-S Horizon Scanning survey of surgeons in 2000.

ASERNIP-S Surgical Director Professor Guy Maddern said the aim was to provide up-to-date data from a variety of sources that could inform surgeons and the public and act as an early warning system.

"In the end this will provide protection for both groups - surgeons and patients. The whole idea is that the general public is going to be a lot safer," he said.

"The database would offer a similar service to 'horizon scanning' projects in the United Kingdom and Canada, which have sought to keep track of all new procedures and devices being introduced in their countries and overseas," he said.

"But the Australian model will pay special attention to surgical issues and communicate directly with Fellows, rather than relying primarily on published literature."

Surgeons and patients will be able to comment on new techniques or provide information about new procedures through the website. The website offers a discussion page and access to forms for nominating or commenting on new procedures.

Regular updates on the project will be published in Surgical News and on the NET-S web page.

For more information contact the NET-S Project Officer on: phone +61 8 8239 1144; fax +61 8 8239 1244; email net-s.asernip@surgeons.org.
Commission – College not to blame

the training of surgeons this is in the public interest and serves to protect standards of health care. This service is also provided at no cost to the community.

“The process of obtaining authorisation has revealed a number of gaps in our processes,” said Dr Massaro. “One of our main tasks over the next months is to demonstrate publicly that the College’s main role is to ensure surgical specialists meet high standards. We want the public to realise that their surgeons have had the best possible training, which we provide at no cost to the public or the government.”

“This process has also made us aware that the public does not know what the College does or how we do it. I don’t believe the public understands the vital role we play in training Australia’s surgeons and we will be starting a public education campaign to try to reverse that,” Dr Massaro said.

Having Your Say

Changes to the College Library Services

I have observed with interest the changes in library services as announced in “Surgical News” recently. I applaud the College in its endeavours to provide more up to date and comprehensive information services to Fellows.

Richard McMullin

Library Changes

Dear Sir,

In the current climate of pressure on educational resources available to surgeons it is a complete mystery to me why the College has chosen to disband its library collections and services.

I was unaware of an impending crisis in library resources and I certainly was not informed of any impending need to demonstrate continued support of this resource. This was one of the few positive contributions that the College made to enhance my professional life and was readily apparent and readily accessible. I strongly recommend that this decision is reviewed and the library resources are preserved and that the College continue their subscription to surgical journals, and that librarian services to interstate fellows and overseas fellows continue to be offered.

A sensible response to reduced demand for a particular resource is to ask the consumers why there is that reduced demand and to publicise the presence of that resource as being opened to all. The College appears not to have made those efforts. The consequent action in closing the library is a clumsy response that we are more accustomed to see from today’s Governments than from the Institutions to which we contribute our monies. To choose not to survey the wishes of fellows on this issue was a decision that I for one resent and deplore as abandoning the democratic process. I suggest that concerned fellows send a letter similar to this to register our outrage.

Yours sincerely,
Philip Griffin

Library Changes

Dear Mr Griffin,

I am responding to the issues raised in your letter as follows:

The decision of Council in November 2000 was reviewed at the February 2001 meeting when questions were raised by the Victorian State Chairman. The decision was upheld and it was recommended that more information on the new services be provided to the Fellowship. Articles have appeared in the March and April editions of Surgical News and these are available on the College web site.

The Library Committee recommended that all items of historical and Australasian interest be retained while all current items would not. The latter decision was made as it was recognised that the services offered were not current and that the advantages of new technology were not being made available to Fellows.

Statistical evidence for subscribing to the journals was not good. One quarter of the journals subscribed to were used less than twice a year and half the journals were used less than 10 times a year. Of the journals accessed, 38% of the requests were made by 15 Fellows and similarly with trainees, 73% of requests were made by 8 people.

Library services will continue to support Fellows and trainees interstate and overseas.

The decision not to survey Fellows was made on the basis of usage statistics and the types of services that could be provided electronically and at a distance easily.

Fellows will continue to be advised of the new Library services and resources through Surgical News and the College web site.

Anitra Dowling
Manager Information Systems
Staff profile: Lindy Moffat

The College has secured the services of Lindy Moffat to run the new Conference and Events Department.

Lindy is an industry trained professional with lengthy experience in event management. She spent several years at the Australian Football League managing the televised Brownlow Medal Dinners, media launches, 200 Club gala functions, business seminars and Grand Final Entertainment.

Lindy then joined the prestigious international educational group Young Presidents’ Organisation, a member run association of global business and industry leaders, as their Convention Co-ordinator, prior to most recently managing a corporate/environmental philanthropic foundation for the State Government.

Lindy looks forward to adding a new dimension to the College’s services and working closely with the Fellows to deliver first-class events.

Another feature of the new department is its accumulated knowledge of sponsorship, and a clear understanding of the important role it plays in reducing costs, and improving the bottom line.

“Sponsorship by definition is not a gift, its objective is to bring tangible benefits to all parties, and we will be addressing this area with enthusiasm and integrity in planning Fellows’ events” said Lindy.

The department can be contacted on +61 3 9249 1224.

Director of first impressions

If what they say about first impressions is true, then Jennifer Abraham is showing the College off in a great light.

The College receptionist, who took up her post in January, is enjoying her job and the contact it gives her with others.

From dealing with the mail and taking function room bookings, to running the College’s busy switchboard and greeting visitors, Jennifer says the role is a challenging one.

She describes herself as “a people person” and says she finds her role “very diverse” and “very busy” – just the way she likes it.

Surgical News

Correspondence to Surgical News should be sent to: surgical.news@surgeons.org or The Editor, Surgical News, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Spring Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000. Tel: +61 3 9249 1200; Fax: +61 3 9249 1219; Internet: www.surgeons.org

Surgical News Authorised by Dr Vin Massaro
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Published by Blackwell Science Asia

10 RACS Surgical News
Division of Fellowship and External Affairs

The new Division of Fellowship and External Affairs is now complete with the appointment of the Director, Daliah Moss, Conference Manager, Lindy Moffat and Media Manager, Fiona Gillies. This follows Council's resolution to re-structure the College's management and streamline its activities into three main areas: Academic Services, Resources and Fellowship and External Affairs.

The new Division will incorporate:
- the Foundation secretariat,
- a new conference organising group which includes the ASC Secretariat,
- external projects administration,
- membership and member benefits,
- media and public relations,
- development and fund-raising.

An integrated External Affairs Division will ensure those approaches to spon-sors and the public is co-ordinated and different groups within the College do not approach potential sponsors. These new arrangements will ensure that the work of the Foundation and the various groups are well supported by appropriate public relations and media activities.

- The Foundation Board, with Sir James Gobbo (Patron), Mr Henry Bosch AO (Chairman), Dame Leonie Kramer, Mr Gordon Moffat, Professor Cliff Hughes, Mr Peter Woodruff, Professor David Scott, Professor Richard Bennett will oversee an improved research arm of the College.

- The Conference area of the Division, a self-funding and income generating unit will, from 2002, take full responsibility for the management of the Annual Scientific Congress, previously managed by an consulting company.

It will actively seek sponsorship and corporate support to ensure that registration costs are kept as low as possible. As a business unit, it will also bid for conferences and events from outside the College.

- The Media and Public Relations unit will work towards ensuring that the Australian and New Zealand public is kept informed of the significant amount of pro bono work in training performed by the College through the generosity of its Fellows. Also that the College becomes a significant reference point for the media and government seeking advice and comments on issues of relevance to health.

- The range and type of Member benefits will be reviewed following a survey of Fellows and their Partners. We need to ensure that the benefits offered are relevant and desirable to the membership and to determine which others may be of interest.

Director of Fellowship and External Affairs

Daliah Moss brings to her new role as Director of the Division of Fellowship and External Affairs, more than 20 years of experience at senior management level in business and educational management. Some of the roles Daliah has held include, Director of The Retail Institute of Australia, General Manager, Development, Association of Professional Engineers, Scientists and Managers, Australia and General Manager of the James Cook University Union.

Daliah has also been consultant to a wide range of business, community and government groups at State and Regional levels in Queensland, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Daliah's fascination with achieving excellence in fund-raising was sparked by her involvement with the Queensland Conservatorium of Music and the research undertaken while lecturing in Marketing Management and Fund-Raising at the Queensland University of Technology.
PART 2: How can error be managed?

There are four important steps in the management of error (Helmreich & Merritt, 1998; Davies & Lange, 2000). These are:
- Avoiding errors;
- Trapping errors as they occur;
- Treating the consequences of errors; and
- Exacerbating the consequences of errors.

Step 1: Avoid errors

The first (and most important) step is to avoid errors by decreasing the likelihood and the frequency of errors occurring (see Figure 1). The aim is to prevent errors before they occur (although errors can never be completely prevented).

Step 2: Trap errors

The next step is to trap errors as they occur (see Figure 2).
Step 3: Treat the consequences

The third step is to treat any consequences of errors and compounding factors. However, the results of some errors may be such that treatment will only limit the consequences (see figure 3).

Step 4: Exacerbate the consequences of errors

There is also a fourth step and that is error exacerbation (see Figure 4). This step often becomes necessary when the first three steps are omitted or are not carried out as well as they could be.

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Figure 3: Error management - Step 3: Treat the consequences of errors as they occur

Figure 4: Error management - step 4: exacerbate the consequences of errors
Polar Bears have two layers of fur to protect themselves against the severe Arctic conditions. Although they are well adapted to live in sub-zero temperatures, Polar Bears have more problems with overheating than from hypothermia. To avoid heat stress, they often swim or rest to lower their body temperature.

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Leap Ahead in Barrier Protection.
Congratulations to new college councillors

At the election of Council held on 6 April 2001 to fill seven (7) vacancies on the Council the result was as follows:

TOTAL BALLOTS 1520
VALID BALLOTS 1504
INVALID VOTES 16

**ATKINSON, Robert Neville** 810
BERRY, Neil Anthony 286
CADE, Richard James 544
*DAVIDSON, Patricia Margaret* 1032
*DEANE, Stephen Arthur* 948
*FAULKNER, Kingsley Walton* 870
GOUGH, Ian Ronald 666
GRAHAM, John Campbell 657
HUGHES, Clifford Frederick 588
**LINACRE, Robert Nicholas** 681
MALYCIA, Peter Lewis 605
SPECK, Gary Raymond 619
*STITZ, Russell William* 917
*WEST, Richard Hugh* 767
WESTMORE, David Davoren 538

* re-elected to Council
** newly elected to Council

In accordance with the Articles of Association:
P M Davidson, S A Deane, R W Stitz, K W Faulkner and R H West are re-elected to Council and R N Atkinson and R N Linacre are elected to Council.

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Thank you

The College gratefully acknowledges these generous contributions to the College Foundation between 1 April 2001 and 15 April 2001

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<td>Mr J W Raine</td>
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<td>Mr G B Skeggs</td>
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<td>Mr G N Wilton</td>
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<td>Grand Total:</td>
<td>$837.50</td>
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Deaths of Fellows

The College Council notes with regret the deaths of the following Fellows:
D O Cropley 1957 (NSW)
N A Cust 1951 (Vic)
K N Morris 1948 (Vic)
M Woodruff 1955 (Vic)

Fellows honoured

The following Fellow was honoured recently:
Gordon Gordon-Taylor Medal
M Larobina (Vic)
Meetings

Sydney 17-19 May 2001
Best Medical Educators Workshop
Where: Parkroyal Hotel, Sydney
Keynote speakers: Prof Ken Bain (USA), Prof Jeanette Norden, Prof Michael Field, Dr Paul Heinrich
Contact details: Conference Secretariat, tel: +61 2 9351 3526

Sydney 19-21 May 2001
1st Asia Pacific Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care
Where: Hilton Hotel, Sydney
Keynote speakers: Julie Goodrick, tel: +61 2 6289 4255
or Kirsty Cheyne-Macpherson, email Kirsty.Cheyne-Macpherson@health.gov.au

Sydney 23-27 September 2001
The Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology
Where: Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre
Guest speakers: Joseph Sung (Hong Kong), Martin Freeman (USA), Masao Omata (Japan)
Contact details: Conference Secretariat, tel: +61 2 9256 5454, email gesa@rACP.edu.au

Perth 8-9 October 2001
Blood Conservation Conference
Where: Sheraton Perth Hotel, WA
Keynote speakers: Prof James Ishister, Dr Albert Farrugia, Prof. Konrad Messner, Prof Peter Earnshaw, A/Prof Aryeh Shander, Dr Jonathan Waters, Dr James Kong, Prof. Lawrence T Goodnough
Contact details: Kate Vautier, tel: +61 8 9339 1655

SEARCH FOR SURGEONS

EAST TIMOR

The Australian Defence Forces are looking for medical practitioners to bolster their ranks in East Timor.

A group of five reserve specialists serve a four week stint on rotation roster in the region. The group includes a general surgeon, an orthopaedic surgeon, an anaesthetist, an intensivist and a public health physician.

Colonel Glenn Wells plays a key role in organising and maintaining Army and specialist medical personnel in the region, and says they are desperately short of specialists.

“We anticipate being there until at least the end 2003 and we have limited resources currently within the reserve,” Colonel Wells said.

Anyone who is interested in participating will have to join the reserves, but Colonel Wells says they can help anyone who is keen with the process.

If you would like further information on how to join the Defence Force’s medical services in East Timor, contact Health Services Army Reserve, Colonel Glenn Wells on +61 2 9339 3528.