



**The 13th Annual
Taveuni Eye Surgery
has been successfully
completed -
ON TIME and ON BUDGET**

**The Rotary Foundation
Global Grant GG1871441**

**The primary goal of the Rotary
Taveuni Eye Project (TEP) is to give
sight to children and adults from the
more remote and rural areas of Fiji.**



**2018 Project Results
2018 Project Notes
13 years of TEP
Insert – TEP 2019**

2018 Taveuni Eye Project

227 Cataracts
97 Pterygiums
3 Other Ops
1 Yag Laser

**Total Fijian Eyes
Restored to sight**

In 2018

328



**5 of the happiest children in Fiji.
Looking forward to strong futures
now they can see normally.**

The project commenced late 2017 with fund raising and Global Grant application. The Global Grant was approved and the pre-medical operation phase commenced in May 2018. All planning was completed and the Medical Operations commenced on Monday the 1st October with procedures completed on Friday 12th October and the last patients returning to their homes on Monday 15th October.

In total over 400 potential patients were health checked in the 10 operating days. Many more Fijians had their eyes and health checked in their villages as the screening was done to fund suitable patients. The project is built on a holistic patient care model, from patient home to home with all medical, caring, travel costs and food met by the Rotary Project.

Some minor disruption to the project occurred in the first two days with Fiji wide bad weather closing roads to some remote villages and delaying shipping. Local Rotary and Fiji Society for the Blind swung into action and quickly sourced replacement patients from Taveuni Island whilst awaiting the arrival of the first ferry.



Rotary and the Fijian people are indebted to the surgical team led for the 13th time by Dr. Jeff Rutgard (International Humanitarian Eye Surgeon) ably assisted by Dr David Pendergrast (Auckland Eye Surgeon), Dr Frederico Rupil (Argentinian Eye Surgeon and a Rotarian),



Dr Mark Saunders (New Zealand Eye Surgeon), Dr Lyn Stay (Anaesthetist from the USA), Dr Ieli Fakraufon (Suva based Anaesthetist for general anaesthetic of the children), Dr Greg Booth (Australian GP) and the nursing team (local and international) led by Ineke van Laar.

The Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services are a generous supporter of the Taveuni Eye Project each year.



Taveuni Rotarians Michael Prasad with Geoffrey and Joey Amos and their local teams supervised the logistics, took care of the patient's welfare and catering to ensure the project progressed smoothly. Our thanks go out to them and all the local Fijians who supplied assistance, fruit, vegetables, transport and all manner of other essential items.

Pictured - School children from Central Primary were trained in patient care and support.

The Fiji Society for the Blind (FSB) were again conducting Fiji wide testing and screening of potential patients. Not only did they screen but also provided valuable health related checks and information to all. Here we see two FSB members attending TEP as carers to ensure the patients both arrive safely and get home after their operations. Many cannot walk unaided and need to be guided every step of the way. **Well done FSB.**



Happy Patients and Parents in 2018

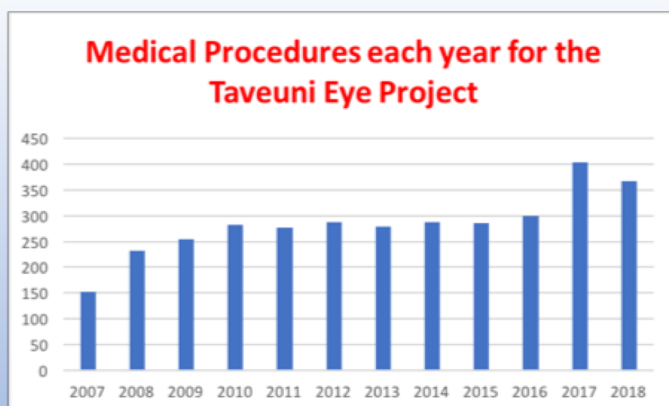
The Rotary Clubs of Taveuni, Newmarket and Boronia would like to extend sincere thanks to all those Rotary Clubs, Rotary Districts, Rotarians, Foundations, Vodafone Fiji and all those who assisted with fund raising, sunglass collection and the provision of linen, supplies and services – WELL DONE ALL.

Happy patients
all set to board
cars and
the ferry for the
trip home after
eyes corrected.



Over 3000 Fijians have had their sight restored over the 13 years that this project has been running. The Taveuni Eye Project changes the lives of hundreds of the remotest and poorest Fijians each year by restoring their eye sight. Above all this project outline proves beyond any doubt that the Rotary Taveuni Eye Project 2018 was a very successful project.

Without the ongoing support of The Rotary Foundation, Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Rotary Districts, Rotary Clubs, all the Partners, Donors and International and Local Volunteers this Project would never happen and the people of Fiji would miss out on life changing surgeries.



A total of over 3500 Procedures have been completed in the 13 Rotary Taveuni Eye Projects successfully run since 2007.

Note – In 2005 (1project) and 2006 (2 projects) Rotary Taveuni ran one week outreaches in conjunction with Marine Reach. 2007 had two one week projects and from then on it was deemed more efficient to have one 2 week project per year.

For queries regarding the Taveuni Eye Project including how to donate to the 2019 Taveuni Eye Project please see the insert and contact :-

Peter Malden
Rotary Club of Boronia (Australia)
petermalden@bigpond.com

mobile +61 417998082