



SACIM News

www.sacim.org.au—like us on facebook at Sacim society...
350 copies circulated for SACIM Members & Supporters © 2007 SACIM (Aust) Inc.
Society for Aid to Children Inoperable in Mauritius

SACIM(Australia) Inc.
Volume 40 Issue 1
August 2015

President's Message



Message from the president

Dear members and supporters of SACIM. Once more it is with great pleasure that we bring to you the 2015 edition of our newsletter. Since our last edition we have

had some encouraging events happening mainly in the areas of medical, the committee, communication and youth engagement.

Medical:-

So far we have had some encouraging news on the medical front. Since last October we have paid \$58,000 on the following cases :- (1) Hospitalisation and surgery costs at the SPARSH hospital in Bangalore, India for 10 y.o Marie Andrea Moothoo, suffering from scoliosis. (2) A sizeable donation to Christina Chinnatambi, a young Mauritian student living in Melbourne who suffers from acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, a rare blood cancer. (3)



Follow up visit and further treatment at the Royal Children Hospital for Liza Sebastien. Two years ago we paid for Liza's surgery and this time around we paid for her airfares and all her medical expenses. The specialist at RCH and Liza's parents are very impressed with Liza's progress. Liza and her parents went back to

Mauritius on 14th of June. (4) On 15th July Eleanor Callychurn, an 8 yo girl with a severe heart condition had surgery at Epworth hospital. We paid for Eleanor's hospitalisation and surgery costs. So far Eleanor is recovering and doing extremely well. Eleanor and her parents are going back to Mauritius mid August. (5) As has been the case over the last few years we made a substantial donation to the Kind Cuts For Kids Foundation to help them with the good work they undertake abroad.

We considered two other cases, the first one did not meet our guidelines and the second one has been referred to specialists in Mauritius for further investigation.

Finally, we have decided to reduce our dependency on SACIM Mauritius when it comes to us receiving patients from Mauritius. We have cases referred to us, or parents coming to us directly for help. We give careful consideration to each case to ensure that (a) the case is inoperable in Mauritius, and (b) the parents do not have the necessary financial means to seek treatment overseas for their sick child.

Fund Raising:-

By now you would be aware that our annual dinner dance will be held at Malvern Town Hall on Saturday 29th August. Once again we will be entertained by Ben Sandapa and his group and we will be spoiled with delicious Mauritian food from Jacques La Catering. We will be counting on as many young people as possible to help us on the night, so if you are coming along in the company of younger ones please encourage them to help us make the night a success.

Our raffle books have been out for a few weeks now and we have been encouraged by the number of people volunteering to sell them. Our aim this year is to sell the maximum books possible prior to the dinner dance. So, if you have not bought any

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>President's Message</i> <i>Cyril Tuyau</i>	1
<i>About Liza</i>	3
<i>A case for Mauritian authorities</i> <i>by Fritz Herry</i>	
<i>Eleanor</i> <i>By Krystel and Patrick Callychurn</i>	4
<i>Penned by Danielle Pereira</i>	
<i>Journey to SACIM Aust</i> <i>Irlande Lespine</i>	5
<i>In memoriam</i> <i>Norbert Toussaint</i> <i>By Herve Rochecouste</i>	
<i>The committee before the newcomers</i>	6
<i>Our magnificent sponsors</i>	7
<i>About SACIM</i>	8
<i>Membership application</i>	



(Continued from page 1)

book yet please do so as soon as you can. We heavily rely on revenue raised on the raffle to help us with our work, that is make a difference in the lives of unfortunate sick children.

I take this opportunity to thank our sponsors and supporters for their contribution. Air Mauritius has once again donated the first prize. They have been our major sponsor for quite a few years now. Please support them so that they can continue to support us. If you are planning a trip overseas why not check with Air Mauritius first. You can register online to their frequent flyer programme, kestrelflyer, and benefit from the enormous privileges on offer.

Seapoint Bungalows and Mrs Akaloo have also been one of our major sponsors for many years. They have been offering free accommodation at their luxurious bungalows in Pointe Aux Piments. So why not check their very competitive rates if you are planning to spend some time in Mauritius.

For the third year running CDC Homes of Keilor has donated the second prize. If you are thinking of building, no matter where in Melbourne, it would pay you to seek professional advice from Sam, Charlie and the team at CDC Homes.

La Caze Mama who joined us last year has donated a hamper as our third prize. Mr Girrish Ramjuttun, the owner, is very keen to help us. He wants to build a strong relationship with us as a sponsor. As a business they do need our support as well, so I urge you to buy their products, imported from Mauritius, whenever you can.

DIUS Computing has donated the fourth prize. Mr Clency Coutet has always supported our cause, and when he was contacted to make a donation he did not hesitate to do so. If you run a business and you need some IT advice it would be worth to give DIUS a call.

Gontran Cleaning Services has donated the fifth prize. Henrico Gontran, the managing director and a member of our committee has on many occasions made substantial donations towards our fund raising initiatives, whether in the form of a door prize or a prize for our raffle. His business offers a wide range of cleaning services. If you need his services, no matter how small or big, please support him.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the contribu-

tion of Jacqueline Devienne, who gives us the most beautiful flower arrangement for the night and which is auctioned to raise much needed funds. The Lobster Cave for their discount vouchers. Danielle Pereira, a long time supporter and now a committee member for her door prize. Mr Andre Leung Shing of World Network Travel of NSW for his door prize.

On a sad note, Norbert Toussaint a long time friend of SACIM and treasurer in the 80's recently passed away from heart failure. A few SACIM members attended the funeral. Our deepest sympathy goes to everyone affected by his passing.

On a brighter note, Daisy Rochecouste widow of SACIM co-founder and mother of Herve is celebrating her 90th birthday in August. Our very best wishes go to Daisy, good health and happiness.

Many of you have already renewed your membership for 2015/2016. If you have not done so yet, please renew your membership as soon as you can. Try to invite a relative or a friend of yours to join as well. We are currently updating our membership database, so if you have changed address, phone number or email address please advise our secretary. It is far more economical for us to correspond with you via email instead of postal mail. Also, please keep in touch with us by joining our facebook page and visiting our website.

I would also like to inform you that most recently two new members have joined our committee. Danielle Pereira has been a long time member and supporter of ours and she has decided to join us to make a more solid contribution. Likewise, Irlande Lespine who has been involved with similar organisations like ours in France and in Mauritius has decided to come on board. I would personally like to thank them for their involvement.

Finally, our AGM will be held on Saturday 26th September starting at 2.00 pm at the Rodriguan Social Club, 48 Garnsworthy st, Springvale. Please make an effort to attend our AGM as some serious discussions regarding our future direction, amendment to our constitution, the youth committee, our investment options, election of a new committee etc, will take place. If you cannot attend please appoint a proxy, see attached form, to have a say on your behalf.

I hope to see as many of you at our fund raising dinner dance and that you have bought as many raffle tickets as possible.

Until next time, all the very best to you and your loved ones. Keep safe and well.



Liza Sebastien



Liza was born with cerebral palsy that affected the muscles in her legs and a crooked foot. The parents spent a large sum of money to have corrective surgery performed at Apollo Bramwell hospital in Mauritius, the surgery was not successful. They

approached the Mauritian Government for financial help to send Liza overseas for surgery, but were unsuccessful as the Mauritian Government took the view that Liza's condition could be treated in Mauritius. They contacted hospitals in the USA and Australia and they received a positive response from the Royal children hospital in Melbourne.

They organised public fundraising and went on television and contacted radio stations to make a case for Liza. When SACIM Australia offered to help it was a great relief for the parents. Liza came two years ago for surgery and since then she has made great progress to the point where with some help she can stand up.

She recently returned to the RCH for follow up and further surgery. The treating specialist took the view that further surgery was not warranted as Liza will go through a lot of pain and suffering for little or no progress. The specialist was very pleased and amazed by her progress and she is now on a strict exercise regime and her progress is closely monitored by a physiotherapist in Mauritius.

Before going back to Mauritius the parents were invited to attend our committee meeting. They were very grateful for what SACIM has done and they presented the committee with a painting. They wanted us to convey their gratitude to all members and supporters of SACIM.

A case for the Mauritian authorities

By Fritz Herry

I have been a committee member of SACIM (Australia) for over 25 years. During this time I have often been told that Mauritius is progressing rapidly and very soon will not need our help in that field.

The visit of Josian Sebastian from Mauritius, a father who accompanied his daughter of 10 years old to look for medical treatment in Australia, told me that many facilities for children suffering from certain diseases are not available in Mauritius, and that is the reason he is in Australia.

His daughter was diagnosed with 'Cerebral Palsy' at birth and later on could not walk.

During 10 years he has looked for help in the medical profession in Mauritius with no success. He, eventually enquired for medical help abroad. Finally he met with one of my relatives in Mauritius, who told him that Australia was well advanced in this field. With the help of his uncle in Australia, he made arrangements with the Royal Children Hospital, in Melbourne, to see a specialist in this field.

Two years ago he came to Australia with an appointment to meet Dr Paulo Selber, an orthopedic surgeon, at the Royal Children Hospital, in Melbourne. The surgeon advised surgery for Liza, the daughter of Josian. Since Josian didn't have the financial means to go ahead with the treatment, he approached the SACIM Organisation in Australia. SACIM (Australia) agreed to pay for the treatment, and the operation was a success.

This year, Liza and her parents are back in Australia after two years, for further treatments, and this time again with the help of SACIM (Australia). More work was done by Dr Paulo Selber to improve the lifestyle of Liza.

This case is proof that Mauritius still, does not have all the facilities and the expertise in certain field of diseases, and need the help of specialists from abroad. Unfortunately, it is not easy to make contact with parents and children of Mauritius, and especially of Rodrigues, who are in great need of help for medical facilities, not available in Mauritius.

I suggest that the High Commissioner of Mauritius and the Consul in Australia, should be able to let the Government of Mauritius and the people, aware that these facilities are available in Australia, and that they should take advantage of these.

(Continued on page 4)

A recent case, where a Specialist, who has a very busy schedule in Australia wanted to go to Mauritius, to share his expertise, was unable to do so, because of



lengthy procedures involved, in letting the Specialist know, at what particular time to make the visit. There was also no proper arrangements for the visit.

I wish that the High Commissioner of Mauritius and the Consul would make some necessary arrangements in the future

to facilitate the visit of these Specialists from Australia to visit Mauritius and share their expertise.



Eleanor Callychurn's case

By the parents of Eleanor

On the 13th of February after a Physical Education class the teacher of our 7-year-old daughter Eleanor called us in for a meeting. He brought to our attention that compared to her classmates, Eleanor needed a longer recuperation time after some running activities.

On the same day we brought Eleanor to the Apollo Hospital for a general check up. After an echography she was diagnosed with a left "Pulmonary Artery Stenosis".

A CT Angio Pulmonary confirmed the diagnostic on the 23rd February and the doctor advised us that a "Left Pulmonary Angioplasty" was mandatory. Such a procedure was best done in a pediatric cardiac institute, which is not available in Mauritius. From that day onward, nothing had been the same. Our child has been afraid to play as she used to and she had to give up some of her after school activities.

We started to look around for a Pediatric cardiac institute where the procedure could be done. After a conversation with our cousin Chantal Jodun we opted for Australia. Chantal was of a GREAT help. We will always be thankful to her. She contacted Dr. Brooks who referred us to Dr. Lane of the Melbourne Pediatric Hospital.

Dr. Lane's approach was extremely professional and

methodical. He requested that results of the entire test done in Mauritius (Eco and CT Scan) to be couriered to him. After various email exchanges and phone calls with us and also directly with the Apollo Hospital in Mauritius he advised us that unfortunately the results were not clear enough for him to make a decision. That is when we decided to come to Australia to have the entire test done here.

In the meantime, on the 5th of March, Chantal told us that she was in contact with the SACIM secretary and that there was a possibility that the SACIM organization could help financially for Eleanor's surgery if needs be. The news of forthcoming assistance from SACIM greatly eased the stress that finances can bring in such a situation.

We arrived in Melbourne on the 17th of May. After further tests Dr Lane advised us that the initial diagnostic was incorrect and that in fact Eleanor had a hole in her heart and that she will need to undergo heart catheterization with device closure of ASD.

The SACIM organisation is heaven-sent to parents and children in similar situation to ours. All the work of fundraising and helping others is a beautiful act of love that will be long remembered. Thank you so much for caring in this wonderful way. We are praying that God will bless SACIM, all its members and supporters in every way for your kindness and generosity. Eleanor will have her surgery on the 15th of July. We feel confident knowing that she is in good hands in Australia.



Words cannot express our gratitude to SACIM and its members. We will always keep in touch and will let you know how Eleanor progresses in life.

Krystel & Patrick



Penned by Danielle Pereira

I have recently become a member of the SACIM committee after retiring from the work force. I have always held this organisation close to my heart due to



the great work that they do in helping sick children from Mauritius. I believe it is a very good cause as without the help of SACIM these under privileged children would have no prospect in life. I look forward to see SACIM grow and continue the wonderful work that they do.



JOURNEY TO SACM AUSTRALIA

Born in Agalega, brought up in Port Louis Mauritius, lived in France, I'm not 20 but 60...

Having dropped my suitcases in Melbourne for some years to be closer to my granddaughters, it was a great chance for me to be accepted by SACIM Australia.

Having a forty year experience in an international humanitarian NGO, having worked with SACIM Mauritius and with Mauritius, I was attracted by the dynamic work of SACIM Australia.

The members are very human and do a wonderful work.

President Tuyau and secretary Marlene are the key-stone upon whom we all rely with entire confidence.

I hope to bring a stone to their beautiful cathedral and challenge.

Thank you SACIM! VIVE SACIM!

Irlande LESPINE



In memory of Norbert Toussaint, 29 October 1952 - 3 July 2015.



In the late 50s when Norbert Toussaint was exchanging looks with Margaret Oxenham across the benches of the Visitation Primary School at Vacoas, little did he know that his Australian adventure had already started. Norbert and Margaret had common origins from Vacoas in Mauritius, and later on built a whole life-time of dreams and achievements together in far-away Australia. Margaret's family migrated to Melbourne in 1967, and that was the start of their Australian adventure together.

They did not physically keep in touch after that, but the bond between them must have been strong, as when Margaret visited Mauritius in 1976 after completing secondary school and working for a few years in Melbourne she linked up with Norbert again to consolidate another chapter of their Australian adventure still to come. The first chapter of that Australian adventure started when Norbert migrated to Australia to join Margaret in 1979. That Australian adventure will include a long relationship with SACIM.

In 1980 Margaret's sister Rosemay was already involved with SACIM Victoria, formed only 7 years before. Rosemay must have been an effective motivator for the whole family as both Norbert and his sister Yolène joined the SACIM committee as ordinary members to later move on to the executive committee for many years. IN 1986 Rosemay became President of SACIM Vic and served in that office until 1991 when Norbert assumed the Treasurer's role. In the same year Yolène was elected as Secretary, and served in that office for nine years.

Norbert acted as our Treasurer for nine years and many committee members who worked with him during that period told me that he was a hard and extremely effective worker who lifted SACIM from a small family charity group it was then to the professional organization it is today. In that time Norbert served under three Presidents (Rosemay Oxenham, Fritz Herry and Jocelyn Rosette), and in those nine years, twelve SACIM children from Mauritius came to Melbourne for life-saving surgery at the Royal Children's Hospital, with two of them returning three times for on-going treatment, and one returning twice. Anyone who has worked on the SACIM committee will confirm that that was quite an achievement – in coordination, fundraising, medical liaisons, hospital visits, foster-parenting and all the responsibilities associated with doing volunteer charity work at that level. Norbert's Australian adventure was

merely 10 years old, and already he had actively contributed towards helping twelve very sick children travelling to Melbourne from Mauritius to undergo critical surgery not available at home. In parallel with managing the SACIM accounts for a long time Norbert and Margaret have supported the children by numerous hospital visits and providing respite to foster parents for two of the twelve cases over the years.

In addition to the devotion to the SACIM work, over the years Norbert also had the passion for volunteer work elsewhere. Those included managing the finances of his local Keysborough Resurrection Parish for a few years, being on the board the St. James College at Bentleigh East where his two boys Mark and Olivier went to secondary school, treasurer of the Edithvale Life-Saving Club where the boys were training for years, and also helping several sporting organizations in which he played soccer at competition level. All this was achieved in parallel with his normal and everyday career as a professional accountant, and successfully bring up his own family. There is an old saying stating that if you need something done well and on time, then find someone who is busy to help you. Norbert has always successfully delivered the tasks that he undertook with all the volunteer organizations that he supported, thereby demonstrating to all of us that the saying is actually correct. If you are busy it means that you know what you are doing, and will be sought after by those who need results.

Norbert left us in July 2015, aged 62. He was a quiet high achiever. On the day of his funeral at the Resurrection Parish church, it was standing room only – family, friends, work colleagues and representation from all the organizations for which he contributed so much time as a volunteer over the years during his Australian adventure. The congregation included many current SACIM committee members, and five ex-presidents. That was confirmation that his good work lives on, and will be remembered for a very long time. His Australian adventure will have a beneficial influence in several spheres for years to come.

The SACIM Committee convey their sincere condolences to Margaret, Mark, Oli, daughter in law Louise and grandson Axel, to the Toussaint and Oxenham families Thank you for having made Norbert available to support and promote our mission.

Hervé Rochecouste, SACIM member since 1973, President 2004 – 2008.



SACIM COMMITTEE 2013 – 2014

PRESIDENT

Guy Cyril Tuyau (0414 806 073)

VICE PRESIDENT & MAJOR EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR

Gilbert Clark (0414 935 454)

SECRETARY

Marlene Tesmann (0413 339 485)

TREASURER

Christiane Quenette (0401 144 719)

ASS SECRETARY & MEMBERSHIP CO-ORDINATOR

Chantal Felix (0425 781 030)

MEMBERS:-

Henrico Gontran

May Herry

Fritz Herry

Richard Le Miere

Danielle Pereira

Irlande Lespine

WEB CO-ORDINATOR

Sophie Rochecouste




SACIM Acknowledges the valuable support provided by Air Mauritius: Two Return Tickets Perth / Mauritius as the First Prize for our Major Raffle drawn at our annual Charity Ball .

Non-Stop-Caring!

Air Mauritius Melbourne Office:

Tel: 03-9251-5047

<http://www.airmauritius.com/>

Seapoint Beach Bungalows
Pointe aux Canoniers, Mauritius




Home away from home self contained studios on the beach with fantastic views. Each studio accommodates up to 2 persons and has a double bed, adjoining bathroom/toilet, a kitchenette and a verandah.

Swimming pool & BBQ area!

Ph: +230-696-48-04, Fax: +230-686-73-80



CDC Homes - Building Dreams for over 30 years

Building your new home is an important milestone & we are here to help you every step of the way.

At CDC Homes, we're proud of our 30 year history of helping our many repeat customers achieve their dream of building a house they can proudly call their home. As a custom builder we take the time to get to know you and your requirements.

SACIM (Aust) Inc.

Want to reach our Members & Supporters with your Ad in the next issue?

Contact the Secretary with your details.

\$30 per issue

ASPC



Make your garden dance

- * * Free quotes
- * * Garden establishment & maintenance programs
- * * Turf & irrigation installation
- * * Pest & weed identification & control
- * * Pruning & edging
- * * Veggie gardens

Fully Insured

Call **Richard** or **Anne-Marie**

Ph 5975-7722 Mob 0400 031 209
PO Box 882 Mornington 3931
Email aspcgarden@bigpond.com



Gontran Cleaning Services Pty Ltd
TRADING AS:
White Dove Cleaning Services
~Cleaning with Meaning~

- FACTORIES
- CAR PARK CLEANING
- OFFICES
- NEW HOMES
- WINDOW CLEANING
- PHARMACEUTICALS
- SCHOOLS
- MEDICAL CENTRE

Henrico Gontran
Mobile: 0414 256 187
Phone / Fax: (03) 8787 5719
Email: henrico.gontran@gmail.com



D.L GRAPHICS

DESIGN & PRINT

Business Cards

Fliers / Brochures

Invoice Books


Damien Labutte

WWW.DLGRAPHICS.COM.AU

P: 8768 7574 or 0413 454 880
FAX: 9791 9827
E: DLGRAPHICS@BIGPOND.COM

For all your accounting and financial services needs

Call **Gilbert Clark** at **DFS**
BH 0414-935-454
gilbert@dfs.com.au
www.dfs.com.au



Danber Financial Services

1/13 Scott Street, Dandenong 3175



World Network Travel

305 Homer Street
Earlwood NSW 2206
T: 02 9558 8633 - F: 02 9559 5714
E: earlwood@wntravel.com.au

web: helloworld.com.au

a member of **helloworld**



Anyone can match an airfare, but no one can match our experience and service. Without a Travel Agent you are on your own!



La Caze Mama
Bringing you your motherland



For Newsletter queries, please contact
The SACIM (Aust) Secretary
At
222 Brandon Park Drive
Wheelers Hill, VIC 3150
AUSTRALIA

Tel: 03-9561-1953
E-Mail: info@sacim.org.au

Web Site:
www.sacim.org.au

About SACIM (Australia) Inc. SACIM (Aust) Inc. is a volunteer charitable organisation that started in Australia in 1973 to provide critical operations in Australian Hospitals to children inoperable in Mauritius. The focus in Australia has shifted recently in that more parents from Mauritius are approaching SACIM directly to meet some of the funding shortfall in the provision of critical medical care to their infants overseas (from Mauritius)

Some of the medical and professional services may be voluntarily provided. Nevertheless, there are substantial costs that cannot be waived. Those costs have amounted into tens of thousands of dollars. SACIM's contributions have been sourced from supporters throughout Australia from dinner dances and raffles. Over the past 42 years SACIM has cared for hundreds children from Mauritius in Australia and overseas.

Also, SACIM in Australia has been able to sponsor Specialist Doctors from Australia to travel to Mauritius to perform operations locally there; an effective service delivery to more children when this has been appropriate.

To find more about SACIM, to join the organization or to become a volunteer, please call the Secretary on **03-9561-1953** or discuss with any Committee Member. A membership application form is included at the bottom of this page.

Your donation is welcome, please use the form at the bottom of this page . Thank you.



Home	About	Committee	Events	Newsletters	Links	Contact Us
------	-------	-----------	--------	-------------	-------	------------

SACIM Australia is the proud recipient of the 2005 Victoria Award for excellence in Multicultural Affairs.

SOCIETY FOR AID TO CHILDREN INOPERABLE IN MAURITIUS - Membership Application & Donation Form

I /We would like to renew my/our membership, or apply to become a member(s) of SACIM (Aust) Inc., ABN 23 058 026 816,
Or make a donation as indicated below.

Please find enclosed a Cheque/Money Order/Cash for \$_____ (Membership is \$15 per annum per member, \$25 for family)

Please find enclosed a Cheque/Money Order/Cash for \$_____ (being my/our **donation** in support of SACIM's work.)

TOTAL \$_____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____

Phone _____ Signature (1) _____

Signature (2) _____

Membership runs from 1st July to 30th June financial year.

Please send completed form to: The SACIM Secretary, 222 Brandon Park Drive, Wheelers Hill, VIC 3150.

A receipt will be sent for all membership fees and donations. Thank You.