

Habari Gani

DECEMBER 2014

What's new from Rafiki Surgical Missions

RAFIKI ON TODAY TONIGHT

Many of you know Channel 7 news reporter Blake Johnson, who has done a great job and volunteered his time to be our MC at the Rafiki Ball for a number of years. In November he took his involvement even further, travelling to Tanzania with the team to take our story to television.

Blake spent four days in Mwanza, following the team and a few patients through their journey, which was filmed by Julia Logan from Myriad Images. Didier Murcia also took time out of his work schedule, while in Tanzania, to travel up to Mwanza and stand in as our sound recordist. After nearly 12 years as the spearhead of Rafiki, it was great for Didier to finally see the work of the team first-hand.

A highlight of the trip was a patient named Emmanuel, who Blake interviewed before his surgery. Emmanuel told Blake he was ready to find love, and he hoped his operation would help him. Blake was with Emmanuel when he woke from his surgery and Emmanuel's reaction was incredible to witness.

Keep a look out for the story, which will likely be aired on Today Tonight on Boxing Day and printed in the The West.

Thank you to Blake for helping share our story.



Left: Blake with Emmanuel after his surgery
Right: Didier with Paulo after surgery

Rafiki Surgical Missions

MISSION UPDATE: OCTOBER SURGICAL MISSION

Our last surgical mission for 2014 took place from 24 October to 7 November 2014 at Sekou Toure Hospital in Mwanza.

Another extremely busy mission saw the team see 81 patients and complete 50 procedures. Many of which were extremely challenging, some taking up to 7 hours each. The operations included repairs and releases for burns related injuries and cleft lip and/or palate repairs over the 10 days of surgeries.

We wish to thank Sekou Toure Hospital for its assistance again, in particular for making its facilities available to

us during the mission, and its staff for their continued support. We also wish to thank Geita Gold for their remarkable work especially in sourcing and transporting patients, providing nutritional meals for patients and in assisting with translating and generally running of the clinic and finally the biggest thank you needs to be extended to James Savundra, Brigid Corrigan, Andrew Wild, Steve Hilmi, David Crocker, Alice Haydon, Shannon Muir, Peta Sherriffs, Vivienne Bilsborough, Taka Wild and Shilpa Desai for volunteering their time, skills and energy in making this mission such a success.



NEXT SURGICAL MISSION: APRIL 2015

Plans are already under way for our next surgical mission that will be heading off to Sekou Toure Hospital in Mwanza from 10th – 24th April 2015.



Rafiki Surgical Missions

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: ANDREW MILLER

Dr Andrew Miller is an anaesthetist and has been involved with Rafiki for the past 5 years having undertaken 3 trips to Tanzania with his latest mission in April earlier this year. Rafiki was very fortunate to have Andrew do a speech at this year's Rafiki ball in June which definitely won the crowd over. His skills and personality have been extremely important to the ongoing success of missions and funds raised for Rafiki going forward.

How and when did you become involved with Rafiki?

I became involved in November 2009 when I was asked to go with Matt Hansen to Dar es Salaam to give anaesthetics. I had known about Rafiki for a few years before that and was aware of the work that Didier, Tony Baker and others had done to overcome all the logistic hurdles which are the main barrier I think to providing these services in Tanzania. Andrew Wild was my teacher on the first trip and I had a great lesson and a great time.

What does this work mean to you?

It is the fulfilment of one dream to work in a place where we can make such a big difference to lives in such a short space of time. The flow on effect for the kids and their families and communities is life long and the effort involved for us is minor compared to what they have been through. My dad had been a doctor in similar conditions in Vietnam for a time during the war and I thought about him having that experience a lot while I was there.

What keeps you coming back?

The chance to go and do this work with my friends and my admiration for the infrastructure of Rafiki. It is an honest, hardworking and effective organisation. The



people who shoulder the burden of the hard work, like Taka and Alice and the other nurses are inspirational. Once you have been part of one of these teams you wish you could work like that all the time.

What is your favourite memory from your trips to Tanzania?

Many but for example my aversion to flying in small planes meant the team graciously agreed to go on a road trip at the end of our stay to try and see some big animals (of course they complained the whole way that we could have flown there in an hour). That trip exposed me to parts of the real Africa away from tourist hot spots that put everything in a better context, like chameleons at the road side open air restaurants to the blue tse tse fly traps, family funeral processions, and even some elephants. It is an amazing place with many happy and beautiful people.

Rafiki Surgical Missions

EST 1922

Stefan
DIAMONDS



VOLUNTEER PROFILE: STEFAN DIAMONDS

Josh Reed and Fiona Hoang from Stefan Diamonds have been tremendous supporters of Rafiki since our first fundraising ball. From the very beginning they have donated beautiful jewellery pieces to auction at our balls, and to date have helped us raise over \$100,000 through their contribution alone. That's the cost of about 160 operations!

Can you tell us a bit about Stefan and what you have contributed to Rafiki over the years?

Stefan Diamonds is a small family owned diamond retailer in the heart of perth that deals in bespoke diamond jewellery. Each year we are thrilled to donated diamond jewellery pieces to be auctioned off at Rafiki. We are honoured to be part of such an amazing cause, and will always continue our support.

What is it about Rafiki that keeps you donating year after year?

Rafiki is an amazing cause. Fiona and I have three children of our own, and it pains us to think that there are millions of children in Africa who are suffering because they do not have access to the medical support they need, something we all take for granted here. We believe that every child in this world has the right to lead a healthy life.

Another very important factor in this support base is that ALL the funds are distributed exactly where they need to go and are not eaten up by large corporate salaries.

What do you think it's important personally, and for your business, to be partnered with Rafiki?

Since its inception Fiona and I have been inspired by the people in Perth that travel to Tanzania to perform the surgeries. If every business was able to assist in one way or another, third world countries like these would be in a much better place.

Would you encourage other business to support Rafiki, and other charitable organisations?

Absolutely. A small donation of any kind can lead to a massive ripple effect for positive change.

You've helped us raise enough for 160 operations, which has changed the lives of all those people and their families. How does that make you feel?

Happiness comes in many different forms and, witnessing the change before our very eyes, we fell blessed that we are part of this.

Rafiki Surgical Missions

MANU COOKING SCHOOL

In October the lucky winning bidders of the 'Manu Cooking Class' auction item at this year's Rafiki Ball, were treated to a night of great food, fun and, of course, Manu who donated his time once again!

Champagne was served to start the night off as Manu began teaching the group how to cook his entrée of Pea Soup with Cold Crab Salad.

After polishing off the soup (which was

a big hit), a main course of John Dory Chowder was cooked and served by Manu, as he kept the group entertained with stories and cooking tips.

The night finished off with cheese boards and more wine and laughs.

Manu was assisted by Siobhan Halse from The Larder Margaret River. Thank you for volunteering your time Siobhan, and for sourcing the amazing produce.



Thank you once again to Manu Feidel for his time and energy, which made the night so much fun.

Finally, a big thank you to Grant Davey from Cradle Resources for his on-going support.



SEACLIFF HOTEL

Rafiki has been very lucky to have Sea Cliff Hotel on board as a sponsor for more than 10 years now. The hotel, located on Toure Drive in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania has provided accommodation to the teams during stopovers in Tanzania as well as during missions that were held in Dar es Salaam some years back.

As its name suggests, the hotel sits on a cliff and the view overlooking the Indian Ocean is incredible. Their friendly service and five star facilities always makes for a pleasant stay. If you are ever in Dar es Salaam, Sea Cliff Hotel is a great place to be!

Thank you to Sea Cliff Hotel for your support.





Rafiki Surgical Missions

SPONSORS

A big thank you to all of our sponsors for 2014, in particular our major sponsors African Barrick Gold, AngloGold Ashanti, Murcia Pestell Hillard, Myriad Images, Graphic Source, Corporate Traveller, Stefan The Diamond Centre, AGC-AusGroup Limited, Cradle Resources Limited, ASG Group Limited, Qatar Airways, Austal, Freight Forwarders Tanzania, Serena Hotels, GKR Transport, Manu Feildel, Di Taylor, Michelle Bibby, Peter Phillips and Bridal Creations. We are very grateful for the support you

have given to us throughout this year and hope that this will continue in 2015.

A huge thank you also needs to go to all of those who volunteered their time and assistance to Rafiki this year. Your help has been much appreciated and we hope that you will continue with your involvement in Rafiki in the years ahead.

Finally, we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to 2015 being bigger and better.

DONATIONS

Information in relation to making a donation to Rafiki can be obtained from our website www.asanterafiki.com or alternatively please contact Lily Balfour on +61 8 9221 0033 or info@asanterafiki.com


JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

If you would like to join our mailing list or need to update your contact details then please email Lily Balfour at info@asanterafiki.com



MERRY CHRISTMAS

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to 2015 being bigger and better.



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