

# KDT Update July Trip 2023

Having just concluded our KDT July trip here's an update on our achievements and outcomes.

Our team, Dr. Andrew Heap and Dr. Nick Albatis, along with dental assistants Ruth Warden and Kathy Kahaupt, and admin assistant Tracy Sandercock, arrived in Broome on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July. After an afternoon briefing we all enjoyed a delightful sundowner on Cable Beach.

On Monday morning we packed up our supplies and readied the vehicles, setting off from Broome mid morning.

Monday Afternoon (Pandanus Park): We kicked off the trip by providing dental care to 17 patients at Pandanus Park community where we were greeted by the community CEO worked in the Centrelink Office space until quite late. After a quick set up and dinner we spent a surprisingly chilly night in the campsite at Willare Bridge Roadhouse.

Tuesday (Derby High School): On Tuesday morning we packed up quickly and headed off to Derby. A very busy dental clinic was conducted at Derby High School, where we were able to examine and treat 79 children in our pop up clinic in the school library. This care and preventive measures taken during this visit will contribute to the long-term dental health of these young people.

In the evening we set up at the Derby Entrance Caravan Park.

Wednesday (Mowanjum Community): Our outreach extended to Mowanjum community, where we provided considerable dental services to 26 adults and children. The reception from the community members was heart warming, and we are glad to have made a positive impact in their lives.

Thursday (Holy Rosary School in Derby): Our final destination was Holy Rosary school in Derby, where we treated 42 children and 1 young adult, the latter required the expertise of a bush orthodontist and luckily for him we just so happened to have one with his leatherman along with us.

Special thanks for the help and support provided by the team at WACHS Community Health and by Derby High School and Holy Rosary school staff who performed a mammoth task in alerting parents to our visits.

After four days of service provision we returned to Broome with a sense of fulfillment. We achieved our primary goal of providing dental care and education to many individuals, and we did so with compassion and professionalism.

In all we saw 165 people, all receiving examinations, oral hygiene instruction and dietary advice. We also carried out 29 fluoride applications, 41 fissure seals, 20 extractions, 43 restorations and 10 scale and cleans. Valued at \$39,648.75

As we unpack, clean our gear, restock and plan for 2024, let's take a moment to appreciate the contributions of every team member this year and over the 15 years of KDT care. Your commitment and hard work has made all of our KDT trips such a huge success.

Thank you as always to our incredible current and past corporate sponsors, Maven Dental Group, Denticare, International College of Dentists, SDI, Colgate, CBA Employees Community Grants, the Office of the Chief Dental Officer, the Mc Cusker Charitable Foundation, the Academy of Dentistry International, the Rotary Clubs of Perth, Perth City East and Heirrisson for their ongoing support, the young Rotaracts for packing our toothbrushes into classroom ready packs.

Thank you to the Australian Dental Association (WA Branch), for their ongoing support of KDT in general and for awarding three Grants for final year dental students. These Remote Area Student Scholarships greatly assist with their remote placement costs. Additionally, UWA awarded scholarships to four final year DMD dental students through the John Prichard Travel Scholarships. This along with ADA support allows us to mentor and support seven students this year.

**Thank you** to our fabulous volunteers and supporters without whom these results could not have been achieved over the past fifteen years.

Follow our 2023 travels and adventures on the [Craig the Croc Facebook](#) page.

