



Creating a movement for change

by Manorama Chandra, Manager Central, Bayly Welfare & Education.

I was privileged to get the opportunity to attend a public seminar organized by Leadership Fiji at the Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva recently, where a panel of speakers from the Ministry of Women, Fiji Women's Crisis Center, Fiji Women's Rights Movement along with Rosie Batty, spoke about the challenges and issues of family violence.

Mrs. Asina Sahu Khan, who has been a Volunteer with the Suva Bayly Welfare Center since 2008 and currently on the Welfare Committee, also attended the seminar.



Asina Sahu Khan and Manorama Chandra during the Seminar

It was alarming to hear that in 33 years 15,000 women were domestic violence survivors. And the big question mark is, "What are we as a community doing"? It is not only the responsibility of the Fiji Police, Ministry of Women, Fiji Women's Crisis Center or the Fiji Women's Rights Movement. It is also our responsibility as a community.

My concern was and I also raised a question to the panel. Is there any training or any public awareness for the public at large to learn how to handle such situations?

As the perpetrators are mostly men in the house and they leave the family and go, the children who are brought up in these situations see and learn from the elders in the family. The trend continues. The children, especially the boys growing up, start showing their power on their mothers and sisters.

Participating in such events gives us exposure. We get to learn about other organizations doing similar work we do and they get to know us. It also creates an awareness of the work we do in collusion with other NGO's and Government organizations. In my opinion it is very important to work as a team so that together we can create a movement of change in our society.

Today we see an increase in cases of child abuse, sexual abuse and domestic violence ending up in murder. Are we just going to watch on the TV daily of what happens to the accused, read in the newspapers who raped who and fold our arms and say, "That's bad". We should protect our children, our mothers and our sisters. Talk to families who are going through these problems.

We see neighbors today who don't even know who stays next door and when there is domestic violence they close their doors and peep from the windows and when someone is killed or injured then they mouth around saying, they were like this all the time. Why couldn't they have helped earlier?

We need to stand up for people who are weak, who cannot speak for themselves, who don't know where to get help from. I know and understand that all these circumstances bring families into poverty.

We need to teach people to fish rather than to give them fish. We need to educate people to have a better living.

Life is a gift from God. Live the life that God gave you. Respect your families and earn respect in return.

Editor's note: Rosemary Anne "Rosie" Batty was born in England and settled in Australia in 1988. She is an Australian domestic violence campaigner and the 2015 Australian of the Year.

Her role as a campaigner began in 2014 after her 11 year old son Luke Batty was murdered by his father Greg Anderson.

She has spoken publicly about her experiences as a survivor of domestic violence to raise public awareness and advocate for social changes.

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has said of domestic violence in Australia that, "Cultural change requires a great advocate and Rosie has been able to do that in a way that I think nobody has done before."



2015 Australian of the Year, Rosie Batty spoke at the Seminar

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Services rewarded

by Sarojani Michael, Manager Western,
Bayly Welfare & Education.

A volunteer and a staff at the Lautoka Welfare Center were recognized for completing 20 years of service with the Centre. Elina Saurara and Tracey Beddoes were presented a Certificate of Appreciation as well as a cash reward of \$250.00 each by the JP Bayly Trust at a gathering of all Committee Members, Volunteers, staff and Doctors from the Bayly Clinic. Also present for the occasion on February 28th. 2018 was the General Manager and four Trustees who travelled from Suva.

Elina also known as *Bubu Elina* and a retired Nurse has been a volunteer for just over 20 years and at 76 years of age, is the oldest in the group. Her experience in this field is indeed put to good use when it comes to counseling our recipients, both young and old alike.

Topics on health care, teenage pregnancies and peer pressure, Elina ensures that everyone understands and comprehends with it. She is available whenever I call upon her to accompany me during case visits. And she always says, "One call does it all. Just give me a call and I will be there for you".

On receiving the award Elina remarked, "I never expected anything like this. When Mr. Bossley called our names, I thought he was going to ask us to leave Bayly! LOL. Although it was a real shock, I took a seat in front and felt very humbled. *Vinaka* to the Trustees for acknowledging me".

Tracey forever has a welcoming smile for anyone coming to the Center and nothing is a bother for her. Without guidance from this young woman I would have found it difficult in dealing with our recipients but over the years, I have learnt to address these issues. She gives 101 percent of herself and for this I will always be ever so grateful to her.

Asked to comment on the award Tracey stated, "It was such a surprise! I was very happy and overwhelmed and proud to be the holder of my very own Garland My First One Ever. Thank you all so much".

I am so blessed to have these two women in our Bayly Team in Lautoka.



Tracey Beddoes (left) and Elina Saurara (right) with their Certificates, flanking the Manager Western Sarojani Michael

Lady Committee member in Labasa

The Labasa Bayly Welfare Committee has a new lady Committee member after a lapse of many years. Susana Dilesia was recently invited by the Labasa Committee to come on board which she gladly

accepted. She is married with four children and is a teller with the ANZ Bank in Labasa where she has been for the past five years.



New Labasa Committee member Susana Dilesia

Susana told *Bayley News*, "I had always wanted to join a service organization and my dream came true when I was approached by Satishwar Chand, Manager of the Bayly Welfare Labasa if I wished to volunteer some valuable time

towards charity.

I had done some volunteer work in packing food rations for the Center with other Bank staff last year and after seeing their work I did not hesitate to say yes".

"I always have been passionate of helping, especially the needy people in our Labasa community where I was brought up. My belief is that if I cannot give money or other material things which I have, I can give my time to help others".

"I am looking forward to work with this organization in bringing a change to the people of our beloved community. *Vinaka Vakalevu* to those who had the trust and faith in me to give me a chance to become a Bayly member. God bless you all".

The Trustees and management welcome Susana and wish her well in her deliberations and engagement with the activities of the Center in Labasa.

Leadership development

General Manager John Yee has been selected together with 29 others to participate in the 2018 Leadership Fiji programme which commenced in early March and concludes in November. He was nominated by the Board of the JP Bayly Trust.

Leadership Fiji is aimed specifically to develop and enhance the quality of future leaders through skills development and building relationships characterized by respect, trust and understanding amongst individual leaders representing diverse elements which make up the Fiji community.

During the nine months the thirty participants will get a better appreciation of various aspects of what makes the country "tick" including Human Rights & the Media, Law & Order, Machinery of Government, Alternative Agriculture, Poverty & Social Welfare, Fiji's Economy & Infrastructure, Education, Health & Tourism etc.

There will be several eminent resource persons as guest speakers with visits to the Sugar Mill and Gold Mines as well as a visit to the North. Three weekend retreats have been planned for the opening, mid-year and closing and attendance at these is mandatory. In addition the programme will engage participants for two full days per month.

The graduation is in November and all the very best to John from the Trustees, Managers, staff, Volunteers and Committee members in Suva, Lautoka and Labasa. The programme is now in its 17th year having commenced in 2001.



Trust General Manager John Yee

A Milestone in Medical care

“a sense of enormous achievement..particularly with our welfare patients”.

by Joel Sahai

In a career spanning around 45 years, he has been with the Lautoka J.P. Bayly Clinic since it opened in 1987 and continues to operate his medical practice there for the past 31 years, the longest serving medical practitioner with the Trust.

Born and bred in Nadi where he still resides with his family, Dr. Davendra Nandan was given a scholarship to enter Natabua High School in Lautoka where he completed his New Zealand University Entrance examination and was then awarded a Fiji Government scholarship to undertake medical studies at the Fiji School of Medicine.

Here he was awarded the Desai Prize for the Highest Aggregate marks in the 1st. year and won a Gold medal in Physiology a year later. After three years in the Medical School, Dr. Nandan won a Commonwealth scholarship to study at the Grant Medical College in Bombay, India where he graduated with an MBBS degree in 1974.



A patient consulting with Dr. Davendra Nandan in his Lautoka surgery

On returning to Fiji, he commenced an internship at the CWM Hospital in Suva before going into private practice in 1976 and in the same year, passed the requirements of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) which assesses the readiness of international medical graduates to enter fellowship programs in the United States.

For the next two years from 1984, having been awarded a German Government fellowship to study Dermatology in West Germany, Dr. Nandan attended the Universities of Free Berlin, Johann Guttenberg of Mainz and Humburg and acquired skills in Dermatology, Venerology, Mycology, Virology, Andrology, Skin Surgery and Cryosurgery for which he was awarded a Certificate.

On the institutional and administrative aspects of his career, he served as President of the Fiji Medical Association for three years from 1987 and at the same time was a member of the Fiji Medical Council. He is a Fellow of the Fiji College of General Practitioners, former President of the Nadi Medical Association, Chairman of the Board of Governors of Nadi College and a member of the Rotary Club of Nadi.

His wife Saras is also a medical practitioner with her surgery in Nadi and they have two adult children. He lists his current interests as walking, yoga and is also an avid reader.

Dr. Nandan remarked, “Working at the Bayly Clinic has been tiring but very rewarding in terms of job satisfaction. The fact that one is able to help the poor and continue the ideals of Mr. Bayly is an added bonus. To see children that I have treated in the last 31 years grow up and become Doctors, Lawyers, IT professionals etc. gives one a sense of enormous achievement and a sense of having helped - particularly with our welfare patients”.

“I think the biggest influence in my life has been my wife. She is the rock to which my ship has been safely tethered”!

“Hats off to Bayly Welfare & Education, Lautoka.”

“...my life was a series of fetching the pail of water up the hill”.

Bula!!!! Welcome to reality! A place where every kid wants to grow up before their time and a place where every adult wants to change back time.

In this chaos of greed, jealousy and overconsumption, we seem to have lost the joy of love, humility, hard work and self identity.

I, like many of you who have been through unfair trials can understand that it is easier to give up sometimes than to get back up after falling down for the nth (an indefinite) time. I can understand, yes! However I do not agree. Every time that you fall, you learn a little bit more about yourself. Do you heal fast? Is the ground hard or soft? Does it take you more time than others to get back on your feet? When you realise how much wiser failure has made you, only then can you fully appreciate your success.

Like many of us who come to the Bayly Welfare Centre, my life was a series of fetching the pail of water up the hill. Some hills were really steep and some just a fun hike. However, it is these climbs through life that made me stronger and motivated to finish my University studies.

I am a 23 year old Marine Science graduate from the University of the South Pacific and am currently employed as a Marine Scientist at a 5 star Resort. I would like to sincerely thank the Bayly Trust for financially and emotionally stabilizing my academic career so that I could accomplish some of the phenomenal works that are expected of young youth leaders.



Anastasha Savura in Washington DC

My mum had always and continues to tell me to follow my dreams and I still believe that is the best advice anyone has ever given me to date. Education is important. Education is a NEED. Education is the core foundation for a future. However, education should not be molded to that of society’s conceptions of what it should be. For example, farming is a multi-million dollar industry; everyone wants to be a doctor or a lawyer to fit in the high class white collar society.

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

Our little gadgets and false information have over the years, negatively conceptualized imagination as a child's growth factor rather than using the same concept as a means to educate innovation. Let's change that shall we?

There is nothing wrong with starting a farm, being a fisherman or even sewing clothes. I have friends in these areas that are very well off entrepreneurs as they have businesses in the Copra industry, run dive industries and are fashion designers.

Personally, hard work and dedication has allowed me to travel to French Polynesia where I have made scientific discoveries in the field of Marine Biology. I have managed to form partnerships with 23 Pacific Island countries to form a Pacific Youth Leadership framework.

I had the honor of being chosen by the United States Department of State and Foreign Affairs to travel to the US and meet with the Presidents of many countries including President Obama and Secretary of State, Senator John Kerry and most recently, attended the COP23 Climate Conference led by Fiji at Bonn, Germany. I may not know exactly what I want in life but I do know that I love the ocean.

As a Pacific Islander, the ocean is our identity. The Ocean gave birth to our islands and has protected us from enemies and provided us with life. It is engraved in our culture, tradition and has evolved to be an integral part of our economy through tourism. Our Ocean is under threat from overfishing, coral reef bleaching, a rise in global temperature and human impacts such as pollution as well as reef destruction from the intense and frequent cyclones due to Climate Change.

I find it is my responsibility as a youth to advocate climate justice and understand how the Global community is affected by Global temperature rise, build a Global youth network and collaborate, innovative ideas/dialogue in the hope of protecting all our species and planet earth.

Trustees visit the Lautoka Center

by Sarojani Michael, Manager Western -
Bayly Welfare & Education.

The Trustees' visit to the Lautoka Centre on the 28th February 2018 was more than an ordinary one. Only the Welfare Committee Chairperson Stella Smith and I knew the real reason. It was all a very well under cover, a James Bond kind of thing – a secret well kept.

The Board of the Trust decided to have its February meeting in Lautoka to coincide with a visit to the Center for a presentation to two very special people for their services over the past 20 years. Plans for the special day were going on between Trustee Joel Sahai and the General Manager John Yee in Suva and likewise in Lautoka with Mrs. Smith and me.

Trustee Sahai asked that all the Volunteers and staff be present and was quiet worried, thinking how I would be able to get everyone

It is said that the journey is more important than the destination. It's a life quote that has helped me through a lot of struggles and I hope it helps motivate you if you are reading this.

A big *Vinaka* to Bayly Welfare and Education, Lautoka which is funded by the JP Bayly Trust, for their tremendous support to me and my family. With much love. *Anastasha Savura*

About the Photograph. The photo of Anastasha Savura was taken at the Our Oceans Conference Center in Washington DC, USA and the object depicts art made from the plastic waste that was collected in the oceans and beaches. The purpose of such art was to send a visual picture to the public about the state of natural resources in the ocean through plastic pollution in a more colourful way so as to engage people in the Conference.



The ever jovial Lautoka Bayly Team of Volunteers and Staff

to be present, especially Tracey and Elina. I told him not to worry and just leave it to me and all will be done accordingly. I had full confidence in my team as I know them better than anyone else.

The Team in Lautoka and I always look forward to a visit from the Trustees because we hardly get a chance to meet with them. When I told the Team about the visit, they were over excited and happy to take over the responsibility and arrange a light lunch and refreshments for the day.

We all had a good time with the Trustees and the Doctors from the Clinic who were also invited. The two main girls Elina and Tracey were not ever aware of what was going to happen, until Chairman Bossley announced their names and called them to the front.

They were both very emotional and nervous especially when Committee Chairperson Stella Smith garlanded them.

I would like to thank the Trustees for acknowledging these special people and for taking time out to make this day a memorable one and also to my hard working and faithful Volunteers and staff for making this day a truly special occasion.

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