



Australasian Society of  
Aesthetic Plastic  
Surgeons™

Excellence in cosmetic surgery™

ISSUE 17: DECEMBER 2022

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# MESSAGE FROM THE ASAPS President



As this year draws to a close, I would like to thank ASAPS members for your steadfast trust in the work of the ASAPS Board, and your continuous support during these challenging times for specialist plastic surgeons. Specialist plastic surgeons have number of threats facing us over the next decade with regards to cosmetic surgery, however, your Board will continue working on advocacy with the assistance of Australian Public Affairs who have assisted ASAPS board during negotiations over the last two years with regulators, stakeholders, political advisors, politicians, and ministers both state and federal.

ASAPS has made submission to AHPRA regarding public consultation into Regulation of medical practitioners who provide cosmetic medical and surgical procedures. Individual submissions by registered health practitioners were also available (ASAPS office shared this information with members on the 2 nd and 6 the December 2022) encouraging members to do the same. These organisation and public consultations include proposing changes to standalone Guidelines for medical practitioners who advertise cosmetic surgery because of the influential role of advertising in the cosmetic surgery sector. A positive development has been the communique from the recent health minister's meeting.

<https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-12/health-ministers-meeting-communique-14-december-2022.pdf>

This further confirmed their intension to restrict the use of the title surgeon. The ministers also agreed to ban patient testimonials and tighten enforcement of ethical advertising standards.

ASAPS continues to work with the regulator with respect to the proposed “endorsement” surrounding cosmetic surgery. It remains our steadfast position that

# MESSAGE FROM THE ASAPS PRESIDENT

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FRACS Specialist plastic Surgeons are the only group who have AMC accredited training in cosmetic surgery, and are hence the benchmark for any endorsement process.

With your continued support, your Society continues to grow from strength to strength because of our continued commitment to excellence in education and patient safety.

On a brighter note we invite you and your staff to next year's Annual ASAPS conference which will be held at the Langham Gold Coast from 13-15 October 2023, headlined by international speakers Richard Warren from Canada, Jennifer Walden from USA and Paul Harris from the UK. Topics include Facial and Aesthetic Breast surgery. The first day, Friday, will be facial aesthetic surgery to compliment the MAFAC course. Saturday and Sunday will be the Aesthetic Breast Course I. For the first time, we will cover basics and advanced practice management for younger and more senior team members. Please refer to 4 within this newsletter for all ASAPS 2023 educational meetings for you and your staff.

Please be advised 2023 membership renewal will include CPI increase and will be issued early February 2023.

I again urge you to embrace the fact that ASAPS is your Society. Please feel free to reach out to me or the ASAPS Board via the ASAPS office on any matters you may wish us to explore or to suggest ways in which you may contribute to the future of our organisation.

I wish you and your loved ones a very happy, healthy and safe remainder 2022 and into the new year.

Warmest regards,

**Dr. Tim Edwards, Specialist Plastic Surgeon MBBS MS FRACS FAID**

**President, ASAPS**

# 2023 Aesthetic Meetings



17 FEBRUARY 2023, Advanced Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Workshop



24-26 MARCH 2023, Annual ASCD symposium, Face to face Crown Conference centre and on demand



19-23 APRIL 2023, Miami Beach, FL The Aesthetic Meeting 2023



22 JUNE 2023, Queensland University of Technology, MERF



22-23 JUNE 2023 Non-Surgical Symposium



31 AUGUST - 2 SEPTEMBER 2023, Athens, Greece ISAPS World Congress

# 2023 Aesthetic Meetings

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11-12 OCTOBER 2023,  
Brisbane 29th MAFAC



13-16 OCTOBER 2023, Gold  
Coast, 45th Annual ASAPS  
Conference



Australasian  
Society of  
Cosmetic  
Dermatologists

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13 NOVEMBER Face to face  
Crown conference Centre and  
on demand Emerging Trends in  
Cosmetic Dermatology,

# William D. Walker Memorial

by John Newton

**WILLIAM "BILL" "WILLY" DOWNING WALKER**  
**14 May 1929 to 6 November 2022**

**A Man we can all be both happy and proud to remember.**



Bill died just over a month ago. He died quietly at the age of 93. He had the opportunity to say farewell to his partner Angela Jones, his sons, Colin and David and a host of his grandchildren. Their words at his funeral celebrated the joy of their lives with him whilst their emotions portrayed their loss.

If you knew Bill, you understood.

Bill was indeed a remarkable individual. He was remarkable in what he did and so very individual in the ways he did it.

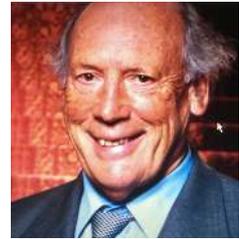
Bill was born in Randwick, N.S.W. His father was a bookmaker for whom he did the numbers from time to time and his mother was a Victorian Lady with high musical skills who led Bill into a musically happy life.

Bill was the youngest of eight children. He had an elder brother, Ted, who taught him to shoot a rifle, and six elder sisters. It was the depression and not an easy time. He spoke of tripe as the most affordable protein and said he remembers each of his toys because they had so few.

Before the War, the family moved to Katoomba, where Bill went to high school. Bill excelled at swimming, being recurrent school champion and setting a breaststroke record that stood for over 10 years. This was the start of a great career in swimming for Bill.

# William D. Walker Memorial

by John Newton



Bill was not a great student and actually sat the leaving certificate twice, failing English the first time. But the second go got Bill into Medicine at Sydney University, graduating in 1953. This was the start of a great career in medicine for him.

Bill elected to go to Newcastle as a junior medical officer and was stationed at Cessnock Hospital for his first year. This was where Bill began to define himself. Doris Hyams, a 20 year old nurse, saw Bill for the first time and said: "I'm going to marry you Dr. Walker!" Just 5 months later they married. Bill, in his first year out, was designated the anaesthetist for the hospital. He gave over 1,000 anaesthetics. This exposed him to surgery and surgeons. He decided he could do it better and set out to do so.

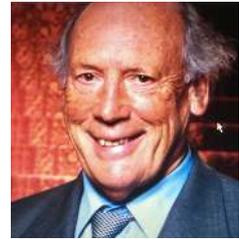
Bill next went to Paramatta Hospital which he credits with giving him a very full experience in road trauma, paediatrics and obstetrics. Hand surgery by Tom Gibson intrigued him. It is when he first considered formal surgical training. So, it was off to Perth and Princess Margaret hospital for children. Here he met Harold MaComb and discovered cleft lip surgery. It is also where he and Doris had their first child Alison.

Bill decided at this point to earn some money so that he could finance a trip to the U.K. he took up a position as the superintendent at Tara in Western Queensland for one year, but stayed for three. Bill enjoyed Tara. It was in Tara that he and Doris added to their family, having Colin and David.

He was a full-on country doctor. He did it all. He delivered over 200 babies, treated a wide variety of trauma, looked after snake bites and shot feral pigs and kangaroos. In fact, he was a good shot and took up competitive shooting. Years later he went on to win the "Bisley Cup" in the U.K. with a score of, wait for it, 997/1000 (15 shots, 14 bullseyes, 1 inner) over 600 meters.

# William D. Walker Memorial

by John Newton



By then it was time to head to the U.K., so the family boarded the “Castle Elise” and sailed to Glasgow. Bill worked at Hairmyers Hospital and sat the Glasgow Primary Course, going on to gain his Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh. During this time, he met Ian Jackson, who offered him a job at the Royal Glasgow Infirmary for a year where he worked with Ian McGregor. In Glasgow he did a lot of head and neck cancer and hand surgery. Then he was off to Manchester to work with Randall Champion. This he loved because of the workload of clefts and other congenital deformities.

But life dealt some blows to Bill and Doris in Scotland. Doris developed diabetes and unfortunately, they lost 3 babies, one stillborn and a pair of twins who died at birth in Manchester.

Serendipitously, he met Dr Sweeney, a plastic surgeon from Sydney at a hand surgery meeting, who told Bill there was a plastic surgery job going in Newcastle. Bill was interviewed on 14 May 1968 and became Newcastle’s first ever “real” plastic surgeon.

So, Bill rolled up his sleeves and got stuck into one of the largest area health districts in New South Wales. He became the “full spectrum plastic surgeon”. Clefts, burns, breast deformities, breast reconstructions, hypospadias, hand trauma, hand deformities, head and neck cancer, compound injuries and redoes of the poor results of others were all part of his public workload. He set up the Cleft Palate Clinic and the Hand Surgery Unit. He chaperoned Peter O’Brien, Chris Howe and myself into practice in Newcastle. As head of plastics and a happy link between so many departments, he became intrinsically important to the provision of care in the region.

Bill worked in the public system and maintained a private practice in Newcastle from 1968 until 1994. During that time, he was the Director of Plastic Surgery for the Hunter Area Health Service. He also gained his Australian Fellowship in Plastic Surgery.

# William D. Walker Memorial

by John Newton



He became a member of A.S.P.S. and was a foundation member of A.S.A.P.S. and was the Honorary Secretary from 1985 to 1988. He was the president of the N.S.W. Hand Club and a member of the Australian Hand Club. It goes without saying that he was a member of the Australian Cleft Lip and Palate Society.

So, is that all Bill did? Absolutely not!

Bill had an outstanding career as a Third World Plastic Surgeon. This period of work began in 1987 and went through until 2015, by which time Bill was 86 years old. It began well before that, however, with a young girl named Margaret. Margaret from Northern Uganda. Margaret had been attacked by a hyena at age 7. In 1974, Rotary in Toronto N.S.W. arranged for Margaret to come to Australia for Bill to look after. Margaret underwent 20 operations by Bill. She stayed in Australia, became a nurse, and left her estate to Rotary Australia.

In 1985, Bill received a Paul Harris Fellowship, (a highly prestigious Rotary honor), for his work with Margaret. His ongoing work led to this award being upgraded to a Paul Harris Silver Bar in 1994. In 1996 Bill received the Len Avard Award for his work in New Guinea and in 2004, he received the Service Above Self Award from Rotary as well.

Bill became known worldwide within Plastic Surgery circles and, through various word-of-mouth contacts, did sundry trips to a wide variety of places. He would go to an international meeting and be asked if he could do a working trip to some far-away place to help out. He sadly reported that, when asked if he could go to Rwanda, to treat war victims he had to say that he simply did not have enough time. These trips were commonly self-funded.

# William D. Walker Memorial

by John Newton



OK. So, what did all this add up to and where did Bill go?

Bill, accompanied by his wife Doris when she was alive, made 41 trips to underprivileged countries, spread over 34 years.

The trips were to places all over the world including: Malawi, Mozambique during the Renamo revolution, Uganda during Idi Amin's reign, Ghana, China and Peru, along with about 20 trips through the Pacific region.

There are so many stories about these trips, but a favorite of mine is told by his nurse for most of the trips, Lyn Thorpe. While walking back to the hotel in Maputo, Malawi, Bill saw about 50 children sleeping on the ground outside a Catholic convent. They were the overflow from the 150 sleeping inside. The next day Bill bought 50 mattresses for them. Lyn says that Bill's average operating day on tour generally consisted of five to seven mixed cleft cases. She also tells of a patient in Peru with a severe bilateral cleft whom the two American surgeons on the trip would not touch. Bill did the operation as a single procedure. His result is pictured in his book and is testimony to his excellent skill.

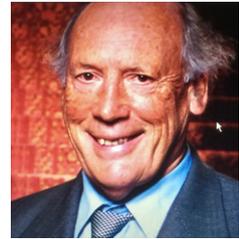
Bill's last trip was to Dhaka in 2015 at the age of 86. He said he was still in great health, but was happy to leave behind the twelve-hour operating days. By then, his passport must have been a very interesting document.

OK, so much for Bill's Plastic Surgery career. What did he get up to in his spare time?

Doris was a Christian. Bill was an agnostic at best. That was until, at the age of 51, he too became Christian. He became a highly active Christadelphian and still attended and read at church into his 90's. There is no doubt that Christianity was a driving force in his life and work.

# William D. Walker Memorial

by John Newton



Bill became very involved with Rotary. His initial involvement was via the support rotary gave, beginning with Margaret Ilukol and continuing throughout his aid-work career. He became directly involved by joining Rotary in 1991, remaining an active member until 2018. He was active as a representative for Rotarians Against Malaria for 11 years and Rotarian Oceania Medical Aid for Children for 6 years.

Anything else? Yes.

Swimming was a self-taught exercise he loved. Bill suffered from asthma/COAD and he said that swimming was his best defense against it. So, swim he did! He competed successfully at university, but began his really competitive swimming when he joined the Masters in 1999. He swam his first masters race and won it. He said he loved the adrenalin buzz of winning that race and got serious. He had his first swimming lesson at age 70. At that age he even learned butterfly. He went on to compete regularly in the FINA World Masters, the World Masters and the PAN-Pac Masters Games. His favorite meeting was in Kazan, Russia in 2015, when he won 5 gold medals out of 5 races. His last competition was in 2019 in Korea where he won 4 Golds and a Silver. He loved it.

His granddaughter tells of attending an event and being asked who she was there to support. She replied: "My Granddad. He's the one standing on the middle block in the speedos with "WILLY" written on the front of them."

Bill played hockey too. He was a first grade player at Sydney University and continued for many years on return to Newcastle. He loved a round ball sport and played competitive golf, tennis and bowls. Add sailboarding to that and, according to Bill's sons, you never got to rest on the weekend.

Anything else? Yes. The cello and flying.

# William D. Walker Memorial

by John Newton



As I said earlier, Bill's mother was an accomplished pianist. They had 2 pianos at home. Bill loved it and would practice 2 hours a day and passed level 6 with credit whilst at school. Bill took up the cello when he came to Newcastle and went on to reach seventh grade. He played in local symphony orchestras for over thirty years and joined the Amateur Chamber Music Society of New South Wales.

Bill's son David became a pilot, so, at the age of 65, Bill decided to learn to fly as well. He got his license and bought a Turbo Cessna 210. He and David flew it around Australia. He became so proficient that he participated in flying Rotarian trips in the USA, Canada and Alaska.

Bill was often prompted to write his story. Eventually, with the help of his nephew Bruce Walker, he did. The book is called "Hard Yards." Despite the title, it is a lighthearted and happy book. It is worth a read.

So, Farewell Bill. For those who knew you, you were a wonderful man. You have contributed so much in so many ways that Whilst the world will miss you, You leave it a much better place.

AWARDS :      ORDER OF AUSTRALIA 1999  
                  ROTARY PAUL HARRIS FELLOW 1985  
                  ROTARY PAUL HARRIS FELLOW 2009  
                  ROTARY SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD 2004  
                  ROTARY LEN AVARD AWARD 2007

# Popular Social Posts



“Health ministers have finally recognised the significant danger around misuse of the title cosmetic surgeon. This move to protect the title of surgeon is common sense.”

Dr Timothy Edwards MBBS MS FRACS FAICD  
Specialist Plastic Surgeon and President, Australasian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons (ASAPS)

**BREAKING NEWS**



Australasian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons™



**Dr Tim Papadopoulos**  
BSc MBBS FRACS (General) FRACS (Plastics)

*“ASAPS are thrilled that patients are finally having their safety put first. It should have always been this way.”*



Dr Timothy Edwards MBBS MS FRACS FAICD  
Specialist Plastic Surgeon and President, Australasian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons (ASAPS)

Four of our most popular social posts for November.

# KEY METRICS: 1 NOVEMBER - 31 NOVEMBER 2022

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## WEBSITE

- Website Visitors: 8,833
- Website Pageviews: 16,659

## SOCIAL MEDIA

- Facebook Users: 5,377 (ASAPS) + 1,328 (NSS) + 93.8%
- Facebook Impressions: 165,738 (ASAPS) + 1,792 (NSS) + 94%
- Facebook Reach: 78,141 (ASAPS) + 112.9%
- Instagram Followers: 4,823 (ASAPS) + 4,543 (NSS) + 34.2%
- Instagram Impressions: 32,664 (ASAPS) + 6,890 (NSS) + 1.7%
- Instagram Reach: 13,764 + 21.3%
- LinkedIn Followers: 483 (ASAPS) + 217.4%
- LinkedIn Impressions: 3,362 (ASAPS) + 440.6%

## PR CAMPAIGNS

- Total Number of Media Clips: 2
- Total Estimated Audience Reach: 4,719
- Total Estimated \$ ad Value: \$2,129

# ASAPS GUIDES

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The ASAPS Cosmetic Surgery Guides provide your patients with all the information they need about various cosmetic surgery procedures. The guides cover everything from helping patients choose the right surgeon and telling them what to expect before and during the surgical procedure to post-operative care tips.



## ASAPS GUIDE - THREE STEPS TO SAFE COSMETIC SURGERY

A guide for patients to help you find the right surgeon, spot the warning signs and know your rights.

- Spot the signs of a trustworthy plastic surgeon
- Find a safe facility
- Know your rights

[DOWNLOAD NOW](#)



## ASAPS SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES FOR PLASTIC SURGEONS

Navigating obligations and ensuring patients and plastic surgery are treated with respect and ethical conduct.

- Patient Privacy
- Before & Afters
- Sexualising or making light of surgery
- Testimonials
- Resources

[DOWNLOAD NOW](#)



## ASAPS COSMETIC SURGERY GUIDE!

Your choice of surgeon does make a difference!

- Overwhelmed by the number of choices you have when it comes to choosing a plastic surgeon?
- Don't know how to evaluate a doctor's qualifications, training or experience?
- Lured by a cheap deal but not aware of the risk factors?

[DOWNLOAD NOW](#)

# WRITE A **BLOG** RIGHT FOR US!!

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If you'd like to **showcase your expertise** we want to hear from you!

**Submit a Blog** for publication on the ASAPS website. It's a great opportunity to build your authority and extend your reach to a wider audience.

Members who have submitted blogs in the past have seen a **significant increase** in their own website readership, social media following, and enquiries from prospective patients.

These new blogs are generating a lot of interest in our online community:

- Dr. Katarzyna Mackenzie: [Breast reduction: Less is More](#)
- Dr. Philip Richardson: [Breast Buzzwords: How to Spot Marketing Gimmicks](#)

Go ahead and write that blog! You will be helping your patients by answering their questions as well as increasing your readership.

**Please note that the content in blogs provided must be different to what is on your individual website. If ASAPS post the exact blogs, Google will penalise ASAPS for duplicate content.**

Email your blog to **Suzane Ali**:

[sali@asaps.org.au](mailto:sali@asaps.org.au) and keep to a word count of approx. 500-800 words.

# ASAPS BOARD

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- Dr Timothy Edwards, President – SA
- Dr Robert Sheen, Immediate Past President – VIC
- Dr Amira Sanki, Vice President & Chair of Education – NSW
- Dr Lily Vrtik Honorary Treasurer – QLD
- Dr Scott Ingram, Honorary Secretary – QLD
- Dr Jesse Kenton-Smith, Board Member – NZ
- Dr Damian Marucci, Board Member – NSW
- Dr Frank Lin, Board Member – VIC
- Dr Cameron Keating, Board Member – TAS
- Suzane Ali, Executive Secretary – NSW

# CONTACT US

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