



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **Editor's Welcome**
- **New Website - A fresh new look !**
- **Femoral Head Donation — What is it?**
- **ATBF Scientific & Business Meeting 2009**
- **Rural Health West Conference**
- **Staff Profile - Gavin Wells**
- **How You Can Help**

Want to know
more?

Freecall

1800 801 997

PBTB Quarterly Newsletter

Greetings and many thanks for reading the very first issue of the Perth Bone & Tissue Bank (PBTB) quarterly newsletter. The bone bank has come a very long way since its humble beginnings in 1993. From a two-person team in a small office to what it is today – a largely self sufficient operation involving 16 staff and supplying graft for around 500 patients each year.

In times of economic turmoil, the PBTB remains strong and has ambitious plans for the near future including a new purpose built facility. It seems 'new' is the buzz word right now as we have also employed new donor liaison staff, begun implementation of a new database and unveiled the fantastic new website.

Would you like to receive the newsletter straight to your email each quarter?

Please send us an email at:

info@perthbonebank.com



The Perth Bone & Tissue Bank is currently located at the Perth Orthopaedic Institute, at the rear of the Hollywood Hospital campus.

Brand New Website

The new website will be launched shortly. We hope you will like the new functionality and the fresh new look. It is the result of lots of hard work from the web designers and PBTB staff, in particular Marlene Fuller and Ross Hunter who have put in a lot of time and effort over and above their normal duties.

Thanks guys, it looks terrific!

Check it out at www.perthbonebank.com

Femoral Head Donation—What is it?



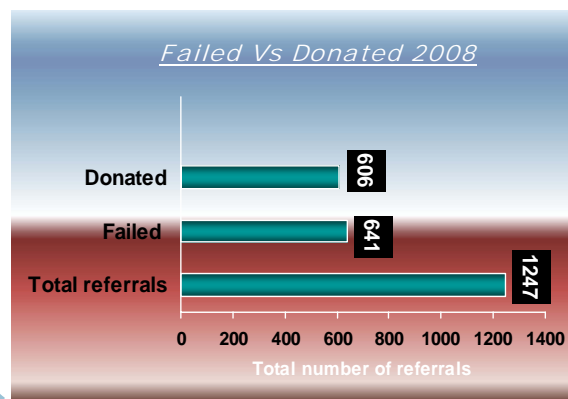
Removal of femoral head during primary total hip replacement

“ Femoral Head Donation is a voluntary donation by informed consent, it does not alter the way the surgery is performed, there is no age limit and no cost to the donor”

Patients undergoing hip replacement surgery are in the unique position of being able to voluntarily donate the ball part of the hip joint (femoral head) when the surgery is performed. This bone is routinely removed by the surgeon to enable the hip prosthesis to be fitted.

The role of the Donor Liaison was introduced in 2005 to facilitate the recovery of femoral heads. Donor Liaison staff work exclusively with potential donors to ensure detailed information is provided about the bone donation process. Patients are contacted at home prior to surgery, ensuring adequate time is provided to obtain informed consent. Using a personalised approach, the potential donor's suitability to donate is then assessed and they are advised on how to become a donor should they be eligible and keen to participate. Upon receipt of the completed consent form, donors are contacted again to clarify and obtain additional medical and social history as required. This ensures all bone recovered meets the strict criteria required for transplantation. If bone is not suitable for transplantation, then, with the donor's consent it can be used for approved bone research.

The number of potential donors referred to the Perth Bone & Tissue Bank has increased each year since it began in 1993. For the year ending 2009, 1247 referrals were received of which 606 donors were accepted and their bone successfully banked. Due to strict exclusion criteria, the remainder failed to be accepted.



Graft is used in various surgical procedures including:

- ◆ Spinal / Scoliosis
- ◆ Joint Revision
- ◆ Bone Tumours
- ◆ General Orthopaedic
- ◆ Trauma

ATBF Scientific & Business Meeting 2009



Australasian
Tissue
Biotherapeutics
Forum

The 10th ATBF Scientific & Business Meeting will be held from the 4th-8th May 2009 in Perth.

The Australasian Tissue & Biotherapeutics Forum (the ATBF) is a not-for-profit organisation inaugurated in 2000 and representing Tissue Banks throughout Australia.

The ATBF has embraced the following objectives-

- ⇒ To foster and promote best practice in the retrieval, preparation, storage and distribution of human tissue for transplantation throughout Australia.
- ⇒ To provide expert advice and guidance to those public authorities responsible for controlling and licensing tissue banks.
- ⇒ To provide continuing education for Tissue Bank staff.
- ⇒ To collaborate with and foster a close working relationship with the professional associations involved in the transplantation of banked tissue.

Delegates from within Australia and overseas will meet on the 4th of May for one week to participate in the 10th Australasian Tissue & Biotherapeutics Forum Scientific & Business Meeting which will be held in Perth.

Friends of the Perth Bone & Tissue Bank

The Friends are a group of volunteers who fundraise for research and equipment for the Perth Bone & Tissue Bank. Meetings are held approximately once a month at the Perth Orthopaedic Institute, Hollywood Private Hospital in Nedlands.

The Friends are a small, but dedicated group, and we welcome new members to assist our fundraising efforts. Membership of the Friends is free, and members have a lot of fun organising and participating in fundraising events.

For more information, or to join, call Margaret on freecall 1800 801 997

Rural Health West Conference 2009



The 2009 Rural Health West Conference was held at Burswood on the 4th & 5th of April. The conference was well attended with 179 medical delegates from all around the state. The Perth Bone & Tissue Bank was represented by a display booth which explained femoral head donation and the role of the Donor Liaison Officers. Informative posters described PBTB processes and detailed information was available to all delegates.

Other PBTB fundraisers include:

- Art Exhibition
- Movie Screenings
- Bush Breakfast
- Raffles

For More Info Call Margaret:

Freecall 1800 801 997

“ My job involves a fair amount of responsibility and a lot of work. I really enjoy the challenge and feel privileged to work with such a fantastic group of people “

Staff Profile - Gavin Wells

- Position:** Technician / OH&S Supervisor
- Since:** 2007
- Background:** I am 29 Years old, originally from a small town in NSW called Muswellbrook. I moved to Perth in 2002 to finish my schooling and went on to TAFE and then University.
- Interests:** I play many sports, love playing my guitar and camping. I am a bit of a joker and can often be found down at the local pub.
- My Job:** I have been at PBTB for two years now.
 My job involves a fair amount of responsibility and a lot of work. I really enjoy the challenge and feel privileged to work with such a lovely group of people.
 I am involved in all stages of graft production and am in charge of local graft dispatch and stock control.
 I am also the OH&S Supervisor.





PO Box 1125
Nedlands 6909
Western Australia

Phone: (08) 9386 9300
Fax: (08) 9386 9344
Freecall: 1 800 801 997
E-mail: info@perthbonebank.com
www.perthbonebank.com

'LOANS FOR LIFE'

Helping people...Changing lives....Making a difference

OUR VALUES:

Honesty, Integrity, Fairness, Respect

We strive daily – both professionally and personally – to achieve and support the core values of the Perth Bone and Tissue Bank. We have a total commitment to these values and they are integral to the way we carry out our business for our clients, our staff and our organisation.

We pride ourselves on being compassionate, responsible and professional. Our ethics and integrity are unquestionable. The management of donated human tissue is based on excellence and equality. Client support is vital and client confidentiality treasured and ensured. We strive for transparency in all aspects of our operations, including financial, regulatory and innovation.

We are an incorporated organisation, with a staff base of 16. We operate daily under the guidance of a Managing Director and are answerable to a Board of Management made up of staff, medical specialists and supporters offering various avenues of expertise in management, finances and corporate structure. We are also wonderfully supported by a large base of volunteers.

We're on the Web !!
www.perthbonebank.com

Entertainment Books

Only \$65

A fundraiser for the
Perth Bone & Tissue Bank



To Order:

Phone Margaret
Freecall: 1800 801 997

How Can You Help ???

The Perth Bone & Tissue Bank is an independent, West Australian, incorporated charitable organisation which retrieves bone, after extensive testing and processing, it is then stored awaiting its use in a wide variety of orthopaedic procedures, both within Australia and overseas.

There are a number of ways that you can assist us in this very important service which improves the quality of life for many people.....



- ◆ By supporting the Friends Group.
- ◆ Financial donations are welcome and are tax deductible
- ◆ Referrals to the Donor Liaison Officers from Orthopaedic Surgeons
- ◆ Talk to your family about organ & tissue donation.