

*THE SPIRIT OF INTERPLAST*



**Interplast**<sup>®</sup>

Repairing bodies & rebuilding lives  
in the Asia Pacific region

THE  
**GLENCOE**  
FOUNDATION





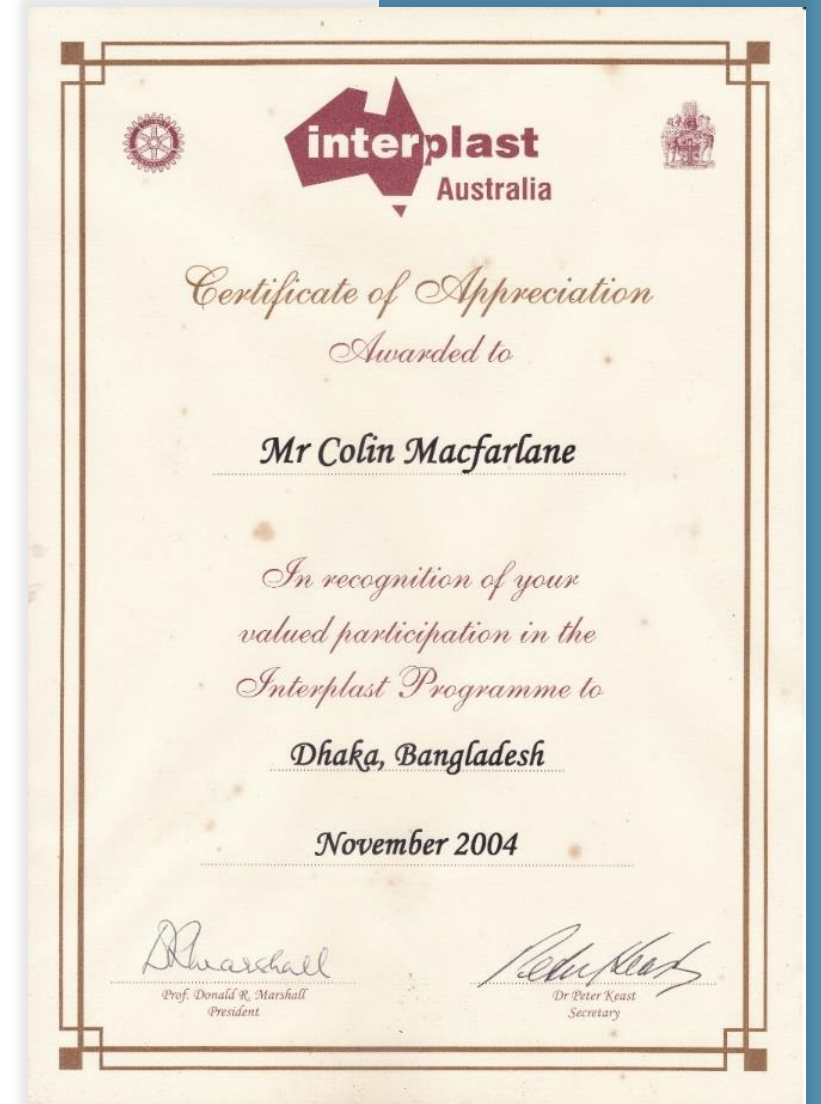
Simon Reilly, Gill Dickenson, Professor Shafquat, Allan Meares, Leone Simmons, David Huntersmith, and CCM.



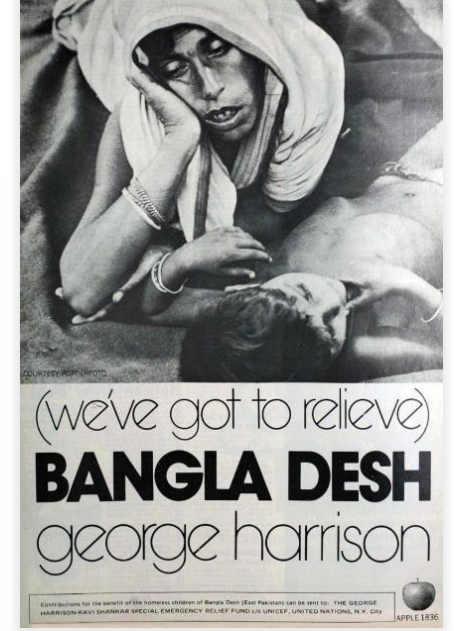
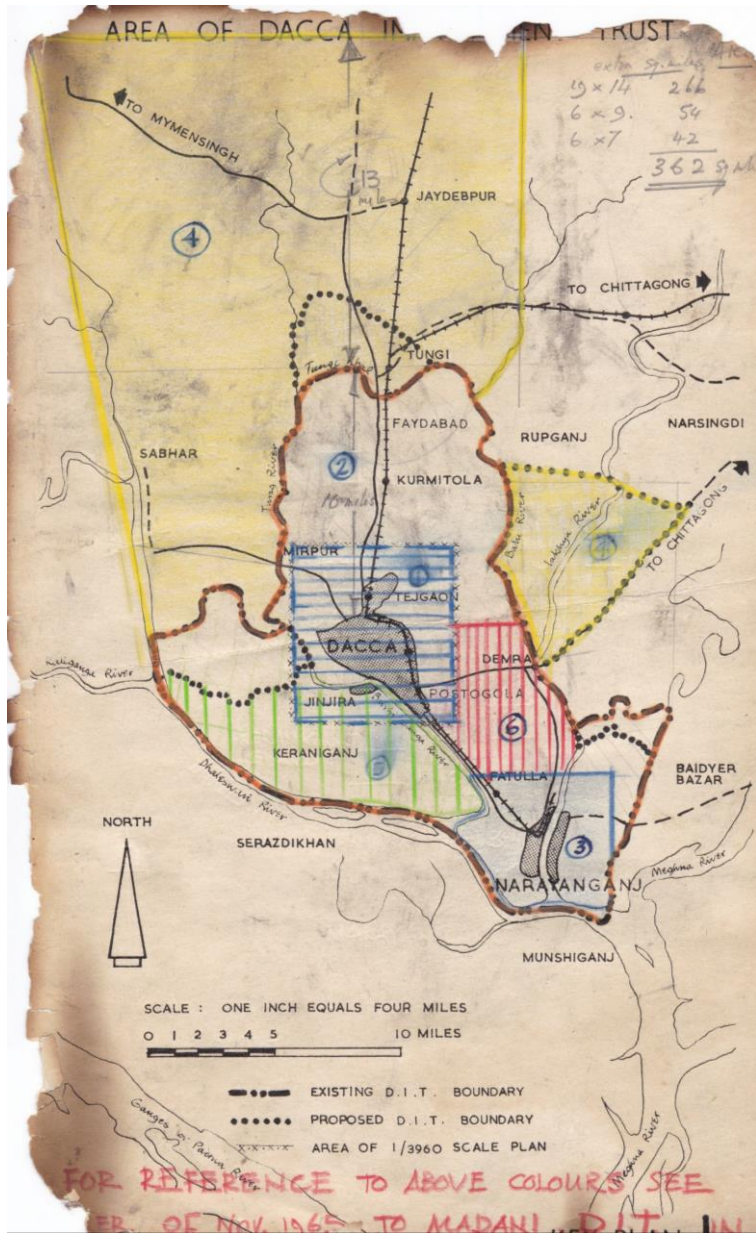
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In 2004 and 2005 there was an opportunity to sponsor two Australian Interplast teams of plastic surgeons and nurses to Dhaka Medical College Hospital. My life changed.







My father was a partner in a London firm of architects and town planners: Minoprio, Spencely and Macfarlane. In 1959 they were commissioned to prepare a feasibility study for the growth of Dhaka and Chittagong.

I was 14 at the time. He flew in a BOAC Comet 4 to, then, East Pakistan.

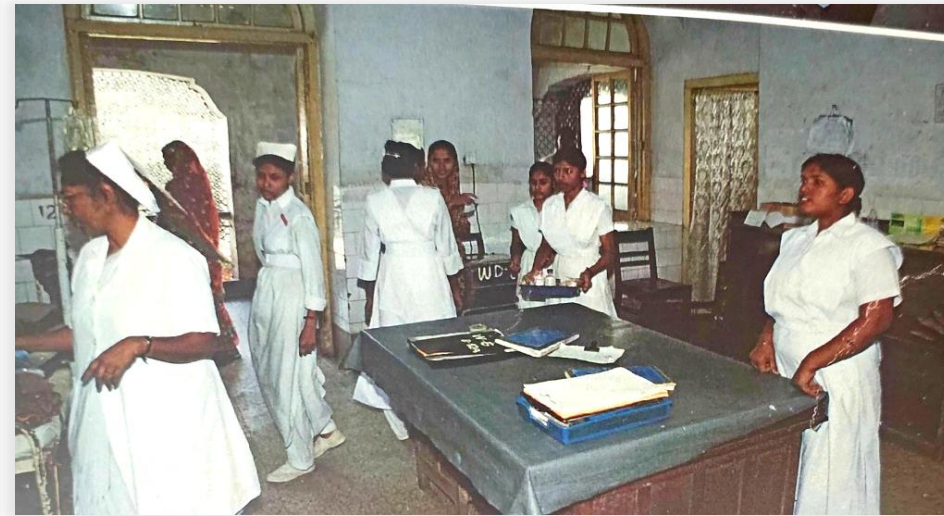
Much later I remember George Harrison's concert for Bangladesh. But I knew little of the sub-continent.

That all changed with the visit to Bangladesh with Interplast in 2004.





The program was held at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. This massive structure was built 120 years ago by the British. Capacity 1800 beds.



There have been many positive changes at DMCH since 2004. The wards were dirty and overcrowded. Many patients slept on the floor. Note the nurses in immaculate starched uniforms !



**“I saw a  
strange land”**







4,000 meals a  
day served!





I noticed the young man patiently waiting, holding a towel to his face. Joynta ,12, had been attacked by a wild bear. Later he came to Australia for major surgery.

“

Never let a boy be separated from his cricket ball!

”





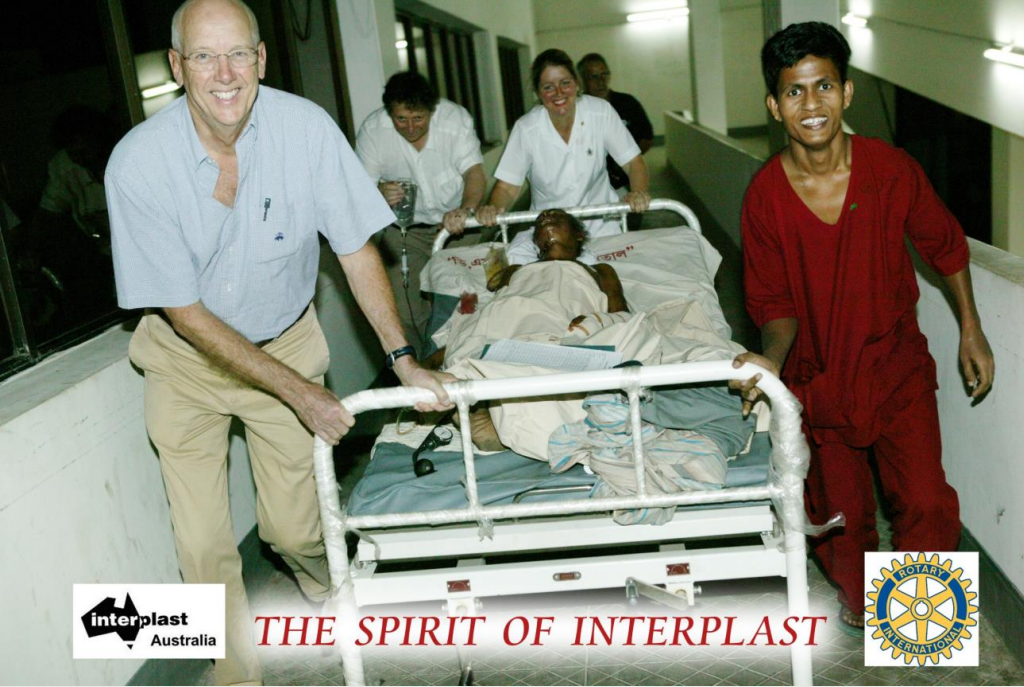
## Trainee Surgeons



Teaching is an integral part of Interplast programs. In the top photograph Dr Tulip Chowdhury, in yellow, is now a surgeon in Melbourne. We are still friends after 20 years!







**THE SPIRIT OF INTERPLAST**



Farewell

**The spirit of Interplast!**

**Not without humor. Farewell thanks, with patient still on table!**



Allan Meares and David Huntersmith Plastic Surgeons





His File is Marked: Police Case



The skill of the plastic surgeon. 7 hour operation to re attach.





A crowded ward. 2 days before the 2005 program ended. A lad with an untreated cleft lip . I never learnt his name. He was waiting for unrelated surgery .

The doctor : **“A poor village boy, family no money”**

“গ্রামের গরীব ছেলে, পরিবারে টাকা নেই”

Quick negotiations with hospital surgeons, and a deal to privately fix 60 clefts . This was the start of Operation Cleft...and another story.

To my young Bangla friend “ Thank you : By chance to July 2024 you have changed over 21 000 lives. I hope your cleft was corrected and you have a happy life. Inshallah.

**We met on my 60th birthday.”**

“ধন্যবাদ: ঘটনাক্রমে তোমার কল্যাণে হাজার হাজার জীবন পরিবর্তিত হয়েছে। আমি আশা করি তোমার ঠোঁট কাটা সংশোধন করা হয়েছে এবং তুমি একটি সুখী জীবনযাপন করছো, ইনশাআল্লাহ।  
আমার ৬০তম জন্মদিনে আমাদের দেখা হয়েছিলো।”





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**Thank You!**