



The "Bula Bulletin"



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**'Love the Lord your
God with all your
heart and with all
your soul and with
all your mind.'**
Matthew 22:37
(NRSV)

Heart-felt thanks and praise

In the week research from Mumbai reiterated the need to eat several doses of whole grains a day to reduce heart risk and the BBC World Service debated whether the heart as an organ was capable of influencing the human character, young leaders at the Wesley City Mission Church youth service posed '5 Questions of the Human Heart':


- who am I? (identity);
- where am I from? (source);
- why am I here? (purpose);
- what can I do? (potential); &
- where am I going? (destiny)



Sign outside Tavua Local Hospital, Western Division, Fiji



Apparently, regardless of age, it is never too late to ask ourselves these questions. The 30-plus, grateful heart patients, who were offered a new lease of life when they recently underwent treatment at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital in Suva, now have the chance to do just that.

 Colonial War Memorial Hospital, Suva

According to the Fiji Sun, a team of visiting doctors, nurses and a radiographer from the Gold Coast, Australia used a cardiac catheterisation machine to identify several patients who will need further treatment overseas. Those diagnosed, the newspaper said, had paid 'a reasonable price' for their investigation.



In Britain we take for granted the provision of basic, free healthcare. In Fiji access to medical facilities, especially in rural areas, may be very limited and preventative medical screening is often too costly at the governmental level to administer.

**'...Take my heart, it
is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal
throne....'**

*Take my life and let
it be*

F. R. Havergal

Yet, similar to most industrial countries, the Ministry of Health here reports that cardiovascular disease is the main cause of death in Fiji. Thankfully staff at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital are receiving suitable training in the diagnoses and treatment of heart conditions, and plans are in place for the Suva-based facility to have a cardiac unit and referral centre of its own.

The news received whole-hearted support locally. Let's pray that heart patients, and others with life-threatening illnesses, in the future, will be able to receive appropriate and prompt 'in-house' treatment in Fiji.

Extract from the
concluding hymn to
the youth-led Wesley
Church service

God bless
Julia