

'Indonesia relations on mend'

IMMIGRATION Minister Scott Morrison has played down the effects of Australia's degraded relationship with Indonesia on the government's border protection policy.

Mr Morrison confirmed in Sydney yesterday that Operation Sovereign Borders was continuing, despite Indonesia's anger over the phone-tapping issue.

"Operation Sovereign Borders ... is designed to ensure the operation stands or falls on no single measure," he said.

"We have the ability to work through our chain of measures to ensure that whatever circumstances we face ... we are able to adapt and ensure the people smugglers will be frustrated."

The issues between Prime Minister Tony Abbott and President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono were being addressed by them personally and he would not comment further.

"I don't think that is in our national interest," Mr Morrison said.

Operation Sovereign borders chief, Lieutenant General

Angus Campbell, also refused to comment on the effect of the phone-tapping allegations on Australia's border protection policies.

A senior ranking source from the Indonesian National Police anti-people smuggling taskforce said the asylum-seeker issue remained highly sensitive.

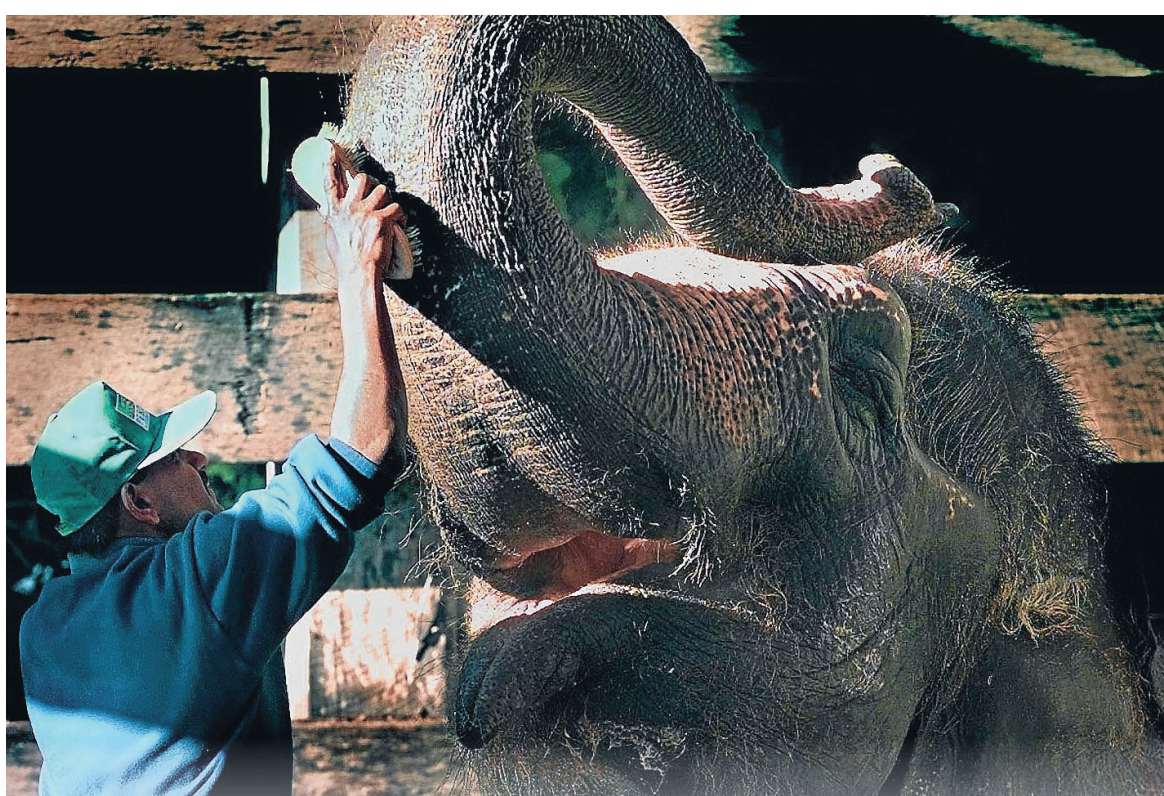
"It's too sensitive to talk about," he said.

Australia's efforts to smash the people smuggling rings is an "end to end" process taking in source countries such as Malaysia and Pakistan, and not just Indonesia, Mr Morrison said.

Up to 60 per cent of asylum seekers trying to get to Australia come via Malaysia, the minister said.

He said he believed Indonesia would continue to be "good international citizens and good regional partners."

At the press conference Mr Morrison would not confirm if he ordered an asylum seeker vessel to be towed when it broke apart about 20km from Christmas Island.



Vibration massage for Tricia

TRICIA (pictured) may weigh 3600 kilograms and have two-centimetre-thick skin, but that does not stop her enjoying the luxuries of life as she gets older – including relaxing massages.

Perth Zoo's senior elephant is 56 years old, and the zoo veterinarians are keen to maintain the gentle

giant's mobility and flexibility as she ages.

Using a donated animal massage-therapy back pad, which looks like a saddle, Tricia is treated twice a day to a deep tissue massage that penetrates to her bones.

Each treatment goes for 25 minutes on her back and 10 minutes on each leg.

While Tricia is not experiencing muscle aches associated with ageing, the massages are a preventative health program to ensure the beloved Asian elephant has a long life.

Perth Zoo's senior vet Simone Vitali said the cycloid vibration therapy equipment was based on technology that originated in the

treatment of humans and had been used on horses.

"This is something that we've pioneered with Tricia. We haven't used this technology on other animals," she said.

"There aren't many animals in the zoo environment that are as well conditioned and as happy to co-operate with us as Tricia is."

No walk in the (Emu) park

Adam Vardy grew up in rural Queensland, a two-pharmacy town called Emu Park, near Yeppoon, not far from Rockhampton. Early on and through work experience, he identified that he would like to do pharmacy ... but how to get from having high school aspirations in a small country town, to the big smoke, Brisbane and the Uni of Queensland? A tough challenge.

Adam did all the work in his HSC, and gained a place at UQ to commence in 2009. A few days later, he received a letter from the Guild letting him know his application for a Rural Pharmacy Scholarship had been successful.

'I was stoked to get the place at UQ ... then days later, elated to get the scholarship!'

Part of the scholarship requirements is having a pharmacist mentor and Adam chose Penny Shepherd at Emu Park Pharmacy.

'Penny has been a fantastic mentor. She knows every facet of the pharmacy business; she's really good at managing. She lets me have a go at everything so I learn it first-hand. She gives me confidence as she lets me know she's there to support me.'

Additionally, he chose Emu Park Pharmacy as the location for his clinical placement curriculum requirements (supported by the Rural Pharmacy Student Placement Allowance), and since graduation he has commenced an internship there. This creates eligibility for the Pharmacy to receive the Intern Incentive Allowance for Rural Pharmacies, and for Adam to be eligible for the Rural Intern Training Allowance as Emu Park is in an appropriate location for this benefit.

When Adam completes his internship in 2014, he hopes to stay in the area: 'A job may be hard to find, but I'd like to stay here at home if possible.'

Adam, Penny and the Emu Park Pharmacy are great examples of the continuum of the rural workforce programs and rural retention; a personal, community and pharmacy

success story too.

To find out more about the Guild's rural workforce programs (funded by the Department of Health and Ageing through the 5th Community Pharmacy Agreement), please visit <http://www.5cpa.com.au/>

■ Adam Vardy, in the Emu Park Pharmacy, Queensland, making a success of the available rural workforce programs.



5th Community Pharmacy Agreement



Want to study pharmacy?

\$10,000 assistance available to achieve your dream

The Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme (RPSS) provides an opportunity for students from rural and remote areas of Australia to undertake undergraduate or graduate entry studies in pharmacy at University.

There are at least 30 scholarships valued at \$10,000 per annum (to a maximum value of \$40,000) to support students from rural communities to undertake studies in pharmacy, and are available at any stage of their study. In addition, 3 scholarships valued

at \$15,000 per annum (to a maximum value of \$60,000) are available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Students interested in studying pharmacy at university need to achieve high marks in English, Mathematics and Chemistry. Extra credits to assist students' entry to a pharmacy degree course are also available at some universities. Speak to your school careers counsellor or contact the Pharmacy School at one of the Universities to find out more.

Pharmacy offers students in rural and regional Australia the opportunity to make a real contribution in the community.

Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

These Programs are funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing as part of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement.

To find out more about the scheme visit

www.5cpa.com.au

or contact the Rural Pharmacy Workforce team on 02 6270 1888 or via email ruralpharmacy@guild.org.au

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