

Friends of Aileu

A partnership established in 2000

Building Strong Communities in Timor-Leste and Australia

UPDATE No. 41

August 2015

IT'S ON AGAIN

Friends of Aileu Trivia Night

Don't miss out on the trivia fun, other competitions, music, great prizes and auction bargains

**Friday 28 August
7pm - 11pm
Coburg Town Hall
MC Nelly Thomas**

Tickets \$45 / \$25

For information and bookings:

<http://bit.ly/100uWLU>

More Diary Dates

**Saturday 29 August 6pm
Collingwood Town Hall**

**Share in celebrating
40 years of the
Melbourne - East
Timor Community
with food, music,
dancing and more**

**Bookings / Enquiries:
timorese.association.vic@gmail.com
[facebook.com/tav.inc](https://www.facebook.com/tav.inc)**

**Friday 2 October 7pm
Holy Family Centre
133 Malmesbury Drive
Meadow Heights**

**Friends of Aileu
hosts the METAC
Welcome Dinner**

**Entry by donation
Enquiries:
Friends of Aileu Project
Officer
info@moreland.vic.gov.au**

The Aileu Municipal Administration embraces the transition to local government and welcomes the next phase in the friendship relationship

Sr Martinho Matos, Aileu Municipal Manager, has welcomed the recent affirmation by Moreland and Hume City Councils of their continuing commitment to the friendship relationship with Aileu.

Sr Martinho was also enthusiastic about the decisions of both Councils to enter into a Municipal Cooperation Agreement to help support Aileu's transition to full local government status over the next few years.

These remarks were made during a visit to Aileu by the Friends of Aileu Project Officer Chris Adams during June.



Municipal Manager Sr Martinho Matos and the Project Officer

Chris also met with Aileu Relationship Commission Secretary and Liaison Officer, Sr Mario Soares, and other officials, including Sr Januario Mesquita, of the Aileu Technical Secretariat for Implementing the Municipality (SAIMs Aileu).

Sr Januario advised that the Aileu Municipal Strategic Plan is well advanced and will shortly be reviewed by the Aileu Consultative Council before being finalized.

In Dili the Chris Adams twice visited the Ministry of State Administration friendship group contact Sr Xisto Freitas first to advise of the visit program and then of its outcomes.

Chris also met with Sr Lino Torrezau, General Director SAIMs. Sr Lino is one of eight Timor-Leste Government officials who were in Melbourne on a study tour in April-May. The delegates' program included a workshop, together with Moreland and Hume City Council representatives, on municipal support for Economic Development and Women in Leadership.

University scholarship graduates contribute to Aileu's development

The Aileu Relationship Commission reported that the University Scholarship Program has to date produced 25 graduates. A meeting was held with seven recent graduates who are now employed in Aileu, in government (including in education, agriculture and municipal administration) and in the construction industry.

The graduates expressed their appreciation for the assistance provided by the Friends of Aileu and its donors and supporters.



The university scholarship program graduates & some of the secondary and university scholarship students

About the visit & Next steps

The visit to Aileu allowed the Project Officer to meet many of our partners from both the government and civil society sectors, and to gain a better understanding of their current activities and plans for the future.

A full report on the visit is being prepared. The report will serve as one of the inputs for strategic planning activities that will be undertaken over the coming months to help guide the next phase of the friendship relationship from 2015 onwards.

Some of our partners & their activities



Aileu Resource & Training Centre

Joanino & Anna Maria (L), Coordinator Quita Pereira & Sabino (R) with school work experience students in front of the 'Lost World' geological and fossil record educational display. ARTC would welcome continued support for projects such as the Science & Reading Contest and Community Expo and the staff development program.



Uma Ita Nian Clinic

Sister Susan Gubbins (Centre) met Ben Walta and members of the CERES Global study tour group. Sister Susan is working with clinic coordinators Doroteia and Felicidade to make the transition to full local management by 2017. The coordinators and staff welcome Friends of Aileu's continued support, especially during this period of change.



The UIN Clinic's Food Production Program

Rui Sarmiento (R) and volunteers inspect one of the fuel efficient earthen stoves they are promoting amongst residents of a government housing estate for economically vulnerable families.



Besilau Village Solar Lighting Scheme (VLS)

Learnings from this pilot project were discussed with Mario Soares (not shown), the ATA's Olivia Laskowski, Besilau leadership: village chief Manuel, VLS committee chair Budiman & VLS technician Augusto, and CNEFP's Simao Barreto (R).

Coffex Coffee East Timor Blend
Friends of Aileu Stock Taking Sale:
Only \$5 per 250g pack (reduced from \$8)
 Available now from Friends of Aileu and Moreland & Hume City Council Customer Service Centres

For more information about Friends of Aileu

<http://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/friends-of-aileu>
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 Telephone: 9240 1111