

# Friends of Aileu

A partnership established in 2000

Building Strong Communities in Timor-Leste and Australia

UPDATE No. 47

November 2017

## Don't miss these upcoming events:

### The next Friends of Aileu Community Committee Meeting

Tuesday 28 November  
Seminar Room  
Hume Global Learning Centre, Pascoe Vale Road, Broadmeadows  
7 - 10 pm

Celebrate another rewarding year working together.

Guest Speaker: Palmira Pires, Director ETDA

### Join Friends of Aileu at Coburg Night Market

Friday 24 November  
Friday 1 December  
Bridges Reserve  
Bell St, Coburg  
5.30 - 10pm

### Join Friends of Aileu and Coffee United at Carols by the Lake

Saturday 9 December  
Coburg Lake Reserve  
Murray Road, Coburg  
6 - 9pm

## For more information on these events:

<http://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/>

Contact Friends of Aileu Project Officer:

Tel: 9240 1111 or

<https://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/send-message>

## Some highlights of activities in Moreland and Hume since the last Update Newsletter

Annual Dinner & Forum:  
*Reforestation & Sustainable Livelihoods, Aileu and Baguia, Timor-Leste*

This year's anniversary dinner and forum was held in May at the Hume Global Learning Centre, Broadmeadows, with *Sabores de Timor* providing their usual fine fare.



Andrew Mahar of xpend Foundation, and Brian Hilton of World Vision, gave informative presentations on sustainable livelihoods in Timor-Leste, following which guests engaged in a lively discussion.

### Giving Circle Dinner

Glenyys and Graham Romanes and friends hosted a dinner for a houseful of guests in April – raising \$4,600.

These funds helped support the 2017 Science and Reading Contest, facilitated by the Aileu Resource and Training Centre working with the Ministry of Education and most of the 70 plus schools in Aileu.

### Trivia Night Fundraiser

This year's Trivia Night was again a great success, raising over \$10,500 for the Cr Andy Ingham Aileu University Scholarship Program.

Despite the cold August night, the Coburg Town Hall heated up with the lively sounds of over 150 trivia buffs of varying abilities tackling the challenging quiz questions, while they enjoyed being entertained by dual MCs Yung Philly and Neda Rahmani

and the O'Ziriguidum Samba School band and friends.



### Grassroots Fundraiser for youth arts development in Aileu

After having met Henrique Rodrigues, volunteer school teacher and youth group leader, during a visit to Aileu earlier this year, Aoife Carli Hannan teamed up with friends to organise a music fundraiser in September at t The Howler, one of Brunswick's iconic Venues.

Over \$1,000 was raised to help young people in Aileu develop and share their skills in drawing and painting.

### Jose Maria Tilman of the Rotaract Club of Aileu shares some of his experiences

Jose Maria Tilman is spending five months in Melbourne studying an intensive English language course under a Walter Mangold scholarship.



At the October meetings of the Friends of Aileu Community Committee and the Rotary Club of Greenvale, Jose shared some thoughts on personal and community development.

Jose discussed his experiences leaving the village of Aileu for university study in Dili, linking up with the Aileu University Students Association and Aileu Rotaract, and talked of his aim to continue working with the Aileu community after he returns to Timor-Leste later this year.

## METAC Dinner in Hume

Earlier this month, members of Melbourne's East Timorese community and friends came together in Hume for the METAC (Melbourne East Timorese Activity Centre) Welcome Dinner. It has become an annual event for the Friends of Aileu to sponsor one of these monthly dinners.



Speakers for the evening were Ana Noronha, Office Manager Timor-Leste Consulate, Gizela de Carvalho, Director NGO FKSH and member of Rede Feto, Robin dos Santos, Cailor Media, and Chico do Santos.

## Some Aileu highlights

### Delegation to Aileu

A Friends of Aileu delegation, including Carlo Carli, Chair of Merri Health, met with the Municipal Administrator, other municipal staff and officers of government ministries in Aileu, and civil society.



Framed copies of the Friendship Agreement that had been renewed

in 2016 were presented. A range of current projects, future priorities and proposals and oversight arrangements were discussed. The delegation also accompanied staff of the Uma Ita Nian Clinic and the Aileu Resource and Training Centre on field trips to clients and partners in remote villages.

### Election Observer Mission

Andrea Spinoso went to Aileu in late July as part of the Australia Timor-Leste Election Observer Mission for the parliamentary elections.

While there Andrea spent time with members of the Aileu Municipal Youth Centre, learning and developing the relationship between younger members of our communities.

### The Aileu Resource and Training Centre

The Aileu Resource and Training Centre's annual Science and Reading Contest culminated in Sub-district finals in July and District finals in September



Preparations are now well underway for the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Aileu Expo 26 - 28 November.

### Campaspe East Timor Association in Friendship

In late August, on the way to Maubisse for some work with teachers there, a party including members of the Campaspe East Timor Association in Friendship met with representatives of the Aileu Municipal Administration and the Aileu Resource and Training Centre.

The visit helped renew long-standing friendship connections, from 2005 when Campaspe Shire and community entered into a Friendship Agreement with Lequidoe Sub-district.

### Uma Ita Nian Parish Clinic

The Uma Ita Nian Clinic continues its full program of community health services, including its nutrition program with mothers and children in remote villages.

This year the Clinic has also been undertaking a review and planning process to chart its future course.

## Some dates for your diary 2018:

**February: Friends of Aileu Community Committee meeting**

Concert Hall West,  
Moreland Civic Centre  
Tuesday 6 February  
6pm for 6.30 - 8.30  
meeting

**February: Fundraiser for Aileu school gardens**

CERES Pavilion  
Sunday 25 February

**May: Friends of Aileu Anniversary Dinner and Forum**

Brunswick Town Hall  
Friday 11 May

**August: Annual Trivia Night fundraiser for Aileu University Scholarship Program**

Coburg Town Hall  
Friday 31 August

For more information about Friends of Aileu, and to find out how you can participate, see:

[www.moreland.vic.gov.au/friends-of-aileu](http://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/friends-of-aileu)

and

[www.facebook.com/friendsofaileu](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofaileu)

where there are many more up-to-date news items and photos.

