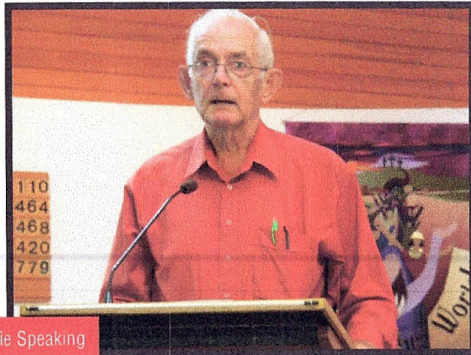


A CELEBRATION OF 20 YEARS OF SCHOLARSHIPS IN EAST TIMOR

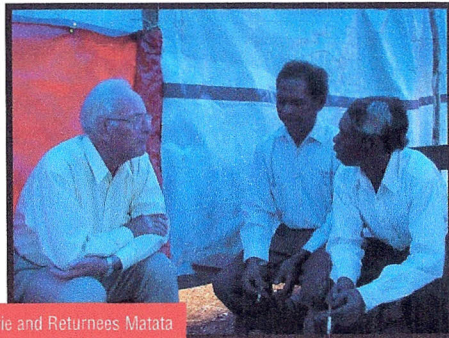
20 years ago, a man in his early 60's was reading an Indonesian magazine about East Timor. It spoke of the ongoing fighting in East Timor, and in contrast, spoke of local churches growing fast. This man, Arie van Klinken, was intrigued by what was going on in East Timor and so decided to go over to visit.



Arie Speaking

He did not know how this visit to East Timor would change his life, and touch the lives of so many in the 20 years that followed. It was the beginning of an amazing legacy that formed the Timor Children's Foundation and its Scholarships Project.

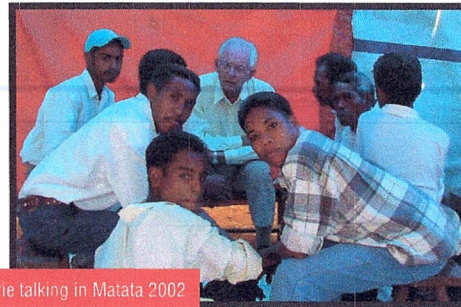
East Timor has a turbulent history. From 1975 – 1999 – it was occupied by Indonesian forces. Over 120 000 East Timorese and Indonesians were killed through fighting, violence, and poverty during these years.



Arie and Returnees Matata

When Arie first visited East Timor, it was a nation in ruins, one of the poorest nations in the world. He came away challenged and struck by the injustice that the East Timorese had experienced, and made a commitment to help them.

He came home not knowing how he would help the people of East Timor, but the answer became clear months later, when he received a letter from the local church in East Timor, asking for assistance to train a local minister at a cost of \$600 per annum. He went to his local church (Indooroopilly Uniting Church), and after speaking in the service, received \$1 350. This meant they were able to support the training of 2 ministers.



Arie talking in Matata 2002

Months later, after independence was declared in East Timor, they received another letter detailing 28 students who would like to apply for assistance to study various occupations. An Executive Committee was formed, as more people were inspired by this vision, and fundraising started. They could not say no to these 28 students, and the numbers of scholarships grew as the years passed, and support from donors increased.

Today, that number has grown to over 200 students each year. A variety of scholarships are given in areas such as - electricians, carpenters, mechanics, computer skills, librarians, administration skills, doctors, accountants and high school students. It has been vital to the nation of East Timor, to equip local people who would have otherwise had no way of affording such studies.

In 2002, there was a sense of overlap between two groups who were working in East Timor – the Scholarships Project

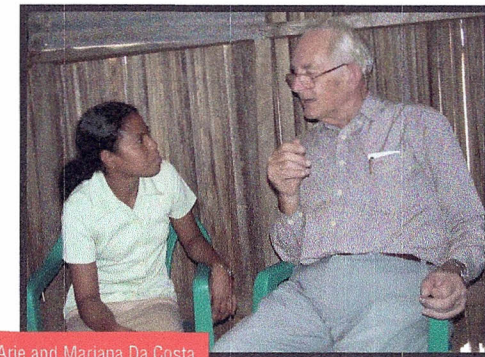
and another small charity supporting an orphanage. They amalgamated under the name of "Timor Children's Foundation".



Arie and one of his teams

The Timor Children's Foundation has continued the great work being done by the Scholarships Project, and has added many more projects, all aimed at helping those disadvantaged in East Timor. TCF is a non-profit organization that operates from a Christian ethos, on a non-discriminatory basis, with a particular focus on disadvantaged children in East Timor.

The success of the Scholarships Project, and other Timor Children's Foundation Projects, is due to the ongoing support of so many donors, churches and dedicated people that have witnessed the amazing effects these projects have had in the lives of those in East Timor.



Arie and Mariana Da Costa