

► **Thank you....Grazie....Arigato....
Merci...Xie Xie...Gracias**

- » Many thanks to Brisbane Girls Grammar for their continued financial support. John enjoyed attending assembly and the chance to speak about the Foundation's work in October.
- » Thanks to the local Uniting Church congregations who have held fundraisers and some of whom have taken on the Foundation as their mission project.
- » Thanks to Chermside Uniting Men's Breakfast, Deception Bay Uniting congregation for welcoming Dick Copland when he spoke to you recently.

► **Afternoon Tea**

In November Nathan and John, as the Foundation's co-leaders, will host an afternoon tea to introduce couples and families with young children to the Timor Children's Foundation. The Foundation is very well supported by friends and supporters of Bob Mitchell and Arie van Klinken. It is hoped that this event will raise awareness in younger generations.

► **Looking for...**

Male and female Golden Retrievers and 'Red' Standard Poodles. If you own one of these dogs and would like to assist Springfield Veterinary Clinic with their Goodle breeding program please contact Sandra Miotto on 3288 1574. All costs are covered and you will enable them to donate proceeds from each puppy to the Scholarships Program.



► **Welcome**

It is with great pleasure that we introduce two new members to the Timor Children's Foundation committee. Dr Lydia Pitcher and Mrs Robyn Pugh. Thank you for committing your time and expertise to our projects.

► **Gift Idea!**

Gift cards are now available for people who make a donation in lieu of a present. Please contact the Foundation's administrator, Sandy Nolde, on 3851 2192 for more information.

► **Timor Children's Foundation is now on Facebook!!**



www.facebook.com/pages/Timor-Childrens-Foundation/172077809471012 Check it out, participate in our discussions and let us know what you think!

To make a donation please complete the enclosed donation slip and post to:

**Timor Children's Foundation
Mrs Sandy Nolde
PO Box 363
Moorooka QLD 4105**

For information about the newsletter or to enquire about the work of the Timor Children's Foundation please contact Julia Godfrey on (07) 3892 2976

2010 Summer Newsletter



SUMMER NEWS

► Personal Experience in East Timor

In July John Ruhle and his young family were a part of a group, which spent a week in East Timor. The trip was a part of a UnitingWorld sponsored InSolidarity Exposure visit. The team consisted of 12 people including Rev Tanya Richards, John's family and members of The Gap and Glebe Road Congregations. They were fortunate to spend time with Moises da Silva, meet some recipients of the scholarship funds and have a picnic with Filomena and the children in her care. The following is part of John's report on his return.

St Mary's

There were 30 children living in her care, aged between 3 to 21 years. The children appeared well and are all living in Dili. Their renovated home still has a few areas to complete so the children are living in Filomena's home sharing three rooms. The goal is to have the house finished by Christmas 2010. The progress has been slow as Filomena is concerned about a repeat of violence or malicious acts on her good fortune.



Scholarships

Total students supported by July 2010: 212 (209 in 2009) Male - 110 and Female - 102

Moises da Silva has been the administrator of the

scholarships since Arie van Klinken first created the Project 20 years ago. He continues to do a great job. The accounts and book keeping were all ready and on hand and Moises was able to explain all aspects of these.

The team visited the Don Bosco Training Centre in Dili. They were greeted by the Director and 20 students who are currently being supported by the Foundation. A tour of the facilities was undertaken and the students were able to show the Group the work they are doing. John thought the facility was well run, staffed and with adequate resources.

There were many heart warming, inspirational stories shared with the Group when they met with students. Tales of overcoming hardship and the joy of gaining a scholarship and making a future for themselves. Two of the students John was able to speak to included:

Name: Jacinta

Age: 37 years old – widow and mother of 7

Studying: University of Peace

Comment: *"When you love yourself you also love others. We see the people who have come with hard work to help us. Because I am a widow I cannot go to school anymore. How are we going to get an education without your help? We thank God that ordinary people are willing to support us"*

Name: Graciana

Studying: Institute of Business

Comment: *"Your support has allowed me to continue my studies until 2nd year. We can do nothing to repay your kindness except to pray for you."*



One of the comments mentioned over and over was the students' amazement that their supporters were just ordinary people. "We thought that it would be rich people who could send money but you're just families, grandparents, kids – just like us and you're helping us. All we have to give back to you are our prayers." Thank you for being an ordinary person, doing extraordinary things by giving your money to this worthy cause.

For further information please contact John on jruhle@thegapuca.com.au

► Groodles

We have spoken of the generous support of Dr Jeannet Kessels and her Groodle breeders previously. In October, John and Julia represented the Timor Children's Foundation and enjoyed a wonderful evening with the group. Thank you for the introduction to your gorgeous dogs and the opportunity to explain how funds raised through the sale of Groodle puppies assists the East Timorese students. In 2010 the Groodle breeders were our largest donor and we give our sincere thanks for your dedication to the scholarships program.

► Dili's Story

Owners: Sarah and Joe Thorley and their 3 kids

Age: 14 mths

Breed: Groodle

Sex: Female

Character: peaceful, extremely loving, beautiful personality, curious, lots of fun

News: Dili is pregnant for the first time. She has approx. 8 puppies due in late Nov '10. All have already been sold!

