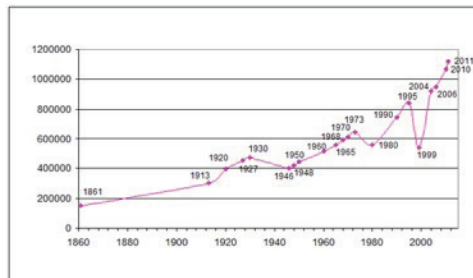


► TCF History – Looking Back, Giving Thanks

While preparing to give a presentation recently, I re-read the TCF newsletters since 2007. It was wonderful to be reminded of all the projects the Foundation has been involved in and to give thanks for those that have contributed time and talents to our cause. We should be proud of the difference we have, and are, making in Timor! In 1999, following the referendum on independence, over 50% of the population was aged 18 years or younger. Children had been orphaned or had lost contact with their family during the Indonesian occupation. (A detailed report prepared for the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation in East Timor cited a minimum of 102,800 conflict-related deaths in the period 1974–1999.) Scarcely any public infrastructure survived the violence.



Timor Leste population (1861 – 2011)

Almost 20 years on, things are improving. The Timorese are growing in independence and taking steps to make their country safer. Timor Plaza is a vibrant, busy shopping centre in Dili. The demographics are slowly improving too. In 2018, 61% are aged under 24 years, with another 30% between 25-54 years. However, it's interesting to note that despite all the progress, people who visit are still captured by the simple things such as the beauty of the countryside and the friendly smiling faces of the locals.

Timor Children's Foundation

PO Box 405, The Gap QLD 4061

Donations

07 3300 6528 or donations@timorchildren.com

► Tax Deductible Donations

The provision of Scholarships and hygiene packs for females are tax-deductible projects. Please consider making a donation to Timor Children's Foundation in your gift giving this year. A donation form is enclosed.

► Gift Cards

The Foundation has a range of gift cards, which are available if you wish to make a donation in lieu of a present. Please contact Ruth Grieve if you would like to do this on donations@timorchildren.com

► Timor Children's Foundation Luncheon

Thank you to everyone who attended our Luncheon on Saturday 12 May at Indooroopilly Uniting Church. It was wonderful to have not only the Churchie Community Chorale entertaining us with a very polished performance, but also 4 students courageously sang solos as well. This was followed by Mike Prince sharing stories about his bike riding adventures including photos and videos of the beautiful Timor countryside. Tour de Timor is certainly not for the faint hearted! The groodle dogs entertained the audience while Jeanette Kessels spoke and Malcolm Campbell updated us on the Dental Project.



Date for your diaries:

2019 LUNCHEON

DATE

Saturday 3rd August

VENUE

The Gap Uniting Church, 1050 Waterworks Road, The Gap

TIME

12noon presentation followed by a 1pm lunch

COST

\$25 pp, paid at the door

2018 SPRING NEWSLETTER



SPRING NEWS 2018

► Scholarship Provision

Arie van Klinken provided the first scholarships to two young ministers in 2000. This was continued with the support of the Indooroopilly Uniting Church, and then grew into a wider donor network once they joined with Timor Children's Foundation in 2007. Since 2010, between 210 – 300 scholarships have been distributed annually to students studying vocational and tertiary courses in areas such as Agriculture, Technology,



Construction, Oil Electrician, Engineering, Health as well as various trade and secretarial courses.

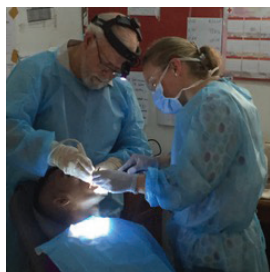
Rev Moises da Silva meets with recipients before they commence each semester. He checks their results, discusses how they are going and provides funding.

If each student takes 5 mins this amounts to 25 hours voluntary service to the Foundation ... twice a year! We are forever grateful of his dedication to serving the young Timorese on our behalf.

The Executive Committee, in consultation with Moises and Rob Williams, are paying for research to be undertaken on past scholarship recipients. We are wishing to know where (geographically) they are now residing and how they are using the qualification. We look forward to providing more details on the outcomes of this research during 2019.

► Dental Project

In May 2018, two dental teams visited Timor Leste and held clinics at Samaria Children's Home, Marcelo 2 School, and Immanuel Health Clinic in Lospalos. All together AUD\$119,930 worth of work was completed, including 337 extractions and 94 fillings! As expected, doubling their treatment time by having two teams working, resulted in a doubling of the actual treatment performed (2017 = AUD\$63,000). What a marvellous outcome!



Samaria Children's Home, Dili – the children continue to enjoy good oral health. Very little work was required and no extractions were needed this year. Toothbrushes and toothpaste were left for the children and Filomena continues to provide locked storage for the portable dental equipment between visits. Two Griffith University staff, Professor Peter Reher and Dr Vanessa Reher, who visited for the first time speak Portuguese, so were able to communicate easily with Filomena and developed a good relationship with her.

Marcelo 2 School, Dili – Peter Case developed a new record-keeping program prior to the visit. The program tracks patient details and treatments performed which was beneficial on this visit and will assist with continuity of information in the future. Classroom lessons and the tooth-brushing program continued again this year. The priority treatment was given to children and teachers with facial swelling, severe dental pain, and/or pain affecting the ability to sleep. Being able to offer consultations free-of-charge enabled Timorese to be cared for who would have otherwise continued suffering. Staff from the local Government Dental clinic attended the clinic for several days to observe and assist. They were very eager to assist chair side and helped with processing and sterilizing the instruments. This involvement was encouraged and will be developed further on future visits. The first Secretary of the Australian Embassy, and the Senior Coordinator of Health at DFAT (Australian Embassy) together visited the clinic to observe operations.

Immanuel Health Clinic, Lospalos – This was a very successful clinic with a high number of extractions. The support provided by Dr Monica Liddle and her staff at the clinic was essential. The most challenging aspect of providing treatment in Lospalos is transporting equipment and personnel from Dili. They are only 213km apart but the roads are so poor that it takes over 6 hours to drive, plus stopping to replace flat tires!



Discussions are continuing regarding what possibilities exist for collaboration between the TCF Dental Project, Glebe Road Uniting Church, Griffith University Dental School and the Timor Government's Ministry of Health.

Dr Malcolm Campbell concluded his trip report by acknowledging the success of the Dental Project is definitely due to the professionalism, commitment and compassion of the 15 people who took part in the trip. The Executive Committee agrees with him, and also thanks him

for being diligent in planning his visits and in reporting once he returns home. We are delighted to have his talents and expertise on the Executive Committee.



If you wish to support the work of the Dental Project please complete the enclosed donation slip or contact our administrator on donations@timorchildren.com

► Samaria Children's Home

In 2002 Bob Mitchell first visited Timor Leste and met Filomena. At this time she was caring for children in her home with no external financial support. Bob pledged to assist her and on returning to Australia created the Timor Children's Foundation, which has been her sole funding ever since. For three years between 2006-2009 Filomena and up to 25 children were refugees in Bacau after her house was burned when political riots erupted in Dili.

Next year, 2019, will be the 10th anniversary of her return home and we would like to mark the occasion by running an appeal*. Your gift of:



\$25 equates to \$1 per child in her care and covers a week's food.

\$50 would provide kerosene fuel, used in the kitchen stoves.

\$100 covers the cost of education supplies for a semester.

\$250 would enable new mattresses and blankets to replace worn out ones.

\$1,000 to purchase a laptop and portable modem so the children can learn to use technology, improve typing skills and to support their school education.

We thank you in advance for supporting Filomena and this appeal! Please use the donation slip enclosed.

**Donations to Samaria Children's Home are non-tax deductible*