

► Churchie Community Chorale

Once again the Chorale will perform at the annual fundraising Luncheon in May. In 2014 the group performed four songs and we are looking forward to hearing the blend of their voices again. The internationally acclaimed opera singer, Jeffrey Black is their conductor. He was born in Brisbane and was educated at the Anglican Church Grammar School before studying singing at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music. We are grateful to them for giving their time to perform.



► Welcome and Farewells

The Foundation welcomes the addition of Dr Malcolm Campbell to our Executive Committee. Over the past two years since Malcolm visited Timor we have seen his enthusiasm grow for assisting the Timorese. We're delighted to have his insight and experience invested in the Committee and look forward to working together.

We farewell Dr Robyn Pugh, who has been a talented contributor to the committee for the past 5 years. She has capably assisted with Book Fairs, Luncheons, speaking engagements, hosting market stalls, creating Christmas cards to sell and researching projects. Nothing was ever too much trouble and you will be sadly missed. Thank you Robyn!



► Australia Post

Many of our supporters opt to receive the newsletter by email, which provides a link to the electronic copy on our website (i.e. you don't have to download it). Australia Post will be increasing the price of stamps later this year. To assist the Foundation to minimise administration expenses we would like to offer anyone who is receiving the newsletter by mail to consider providing their email address so we can send it electronically. Church and community groups will still be sent copies for distribution, however we would appreciate individuals assisting us in this way, if possible. Please email Sandy at admin@timorchildren.com with your relevant details.



timorchildren.org

► Fundraising events at The Gap

Make the Timor Children Smile Dental Project Two fundraising events:

Dinner Dance

@ The Gap Football Club 23rd May 7pm

Featuring the band M7 who will be joined by Andrea Morris Campbell.

Cost \$65 pp. Bookings: 0412042729 or mjc62@live.com

A Delightful Afternoon

with the Blackbirds (acclaimed Female Vocal Group)

2pm Sunday 31st May @ The Gap UC.

Tickets \$15 Adults, \$10 Concession, Children Free

For more information email BlackbirdsVocal@gmail.com

► Contacting Timor Children's Foundation

- Sandy Nolde – administration manager
admin@timorchildren.com or donations@timorchildren.com
- Julia Godfrey – marketing manager
info@timorchildren.com



Winter 2015

WINTER NEWS

► Thanks

Brisbane Girls Grammar O'Connor House had a successful chocolate fudge sale last year that raised money for TCF. We love hearing about the creative ways people fundraise for us!

All the best to the inaugural 'Service Captains', Jessica Darveniza and Joanna John. The Foundation looks forward to working with you this year.



► 2015 Appeal

Teeth...essential to speaking clearly, eating and smiling, and yet we take them for granted. In Australia we have plenty of Dentists to choose from and exceptional care when we need it. In Timor this is not the case and dental disease and poor dental hygiene can be precursors for a range of other health issues.

TCF has teamed with Dr Malcolm Campbell and created the 2015 Dental Equipment Appeal. We hope to raise money to purchase portable dental equipment, which will be taken to Timor in September and used to check the teeth of the children living at Samaria children's home.

Check out more details on our website, www.timorchildren.org. If you know someone who might be interested in this work, please pass on the information or contact us so we can follow them up.



► Timor through the eyes of Aussie children

Caleb, 7 yrs, *"The people were happy and smiling even though they had very little."*

Shae, 10yrs, *"They have hardly any money and most people don't have enough money for the things they need in their family. I'd like to go over every two years and check if things have improved and see how it's going."*



Jessica, 12 yrs, *"It is amazing that the people are so generous given the very little that they have."*

Tahlia, 11 yrs – *"The students keep on going even when things are hard for them. I hope that the Timor Children's Foundation can keep going and continue to help the people we have met."*



► TCF Strategic Plan

During 2014 Dr Lydia Pitcher, led the executive committee through a process of strategic planning. The founder of Timor Children's Foundation, Bob Mitchell, was inspired by a Charles Wesley quote that we should "Do all the good you can by all the means you can." As a result of the planning meeting, the committee added to this. TCF is Empowering Future Leaders of Timor Leste. We would love to see a future where TCF isn't required. Where children don't require external funds to provide daily food. Where education is seen as a priority not a luxury for the minority. Until such time the Foundation is committed to continuing to support the Scholarships Program and be the sole financial support for the Samaria Children's Home.

The Strategic Plan is available to donors who wish to understand our vision for the future. Please contact info@timorchildren.org for a copy.

► Scholarship Project

Rev Moises da Silva reported that the new semester began well. 180 students met with him in February to collect their scholarship, and a further 130 came later in the semester. For the first time, female students were provided with a Women's Health Pack. This was a colourful, discrete fabric bag containing washable cloth sanitary items. Bele Kria, a local Timorese sewing group, manufactured them for us and we are proud to support this local enterprise. For more information please see <https://www.facebook.com/belekriasewing>



► Celebrating Partnerships with Timor

On 19th April a Thanksgiving Service was held at Glebe Road Uniting Church in Ipswich to celebrate their work in Timor Leste. There has been a five-year partnership between this congregation and the Ekaristi Protestant Church in Timor Leste, and they recently completed a School Building Project at Marcello II School. This required raising \$45,000 to build 3 new classrooms at the school, which is an outreach of Ekaristi Church. 623 children attend the school and 23 teachers are employed. One of these teachers, Mr Isac Pinto de Jesus, received a TCF Scholarship for his education and he is 'paying this forward' to the next generation. He and School Principal, Mrs Leocardia de Jesus, attended the 2014 TCF annual luncheon, along with members of Team Timor and Glebe Uniting Church.

Many dignitaries attended the Thanksgiving Service including Honourable Shayne Neumann MP and the Lady Mayoress Janet Pisasale who both congratulated the congregation on their commitment and practical demonstration of their Christian faith. Rev Moises da Silva, Mrs Leocardia de Jesus and Rev Helena Malpani sent messages of thanks from Timor Leste. The service was conducted by Rev Peter Arnett, Minister at Glebe Road UC. Peter has had a long association with Timor Leste as he was on the Timor Children's Foundation Committee for some years prior to his involvement with this congregation. Many thanks to Robyn Pugh who represented TCF.

Mr Rob Floyd, Managing Director of UnitingWorld, and Mrs Sharon Robinson, UnitingWorld Representative with the Queensland Synod also attended. Rob was the Guest Speaker and spoke of the Uniting Church's role, as described in the Basis of Union, to work for God globally. He spoke of the challenges and blessings that come from living the Christian life.



► Samaria

Benjamin continues to work with Filomena in record keeping and paperwork associated with Samaria. He is a great asset to her and gives us confidence in reporting to our donors that the organisation is well run. They reported earlier this year that they have purchased the mattresses and bedding, have finished the work on the kitchen and have employed someone to assist Filomena with cleaning and washing. Our continual thanks to Catharina van Klinken who translates reports and keeps us up to date with this project.