

GOYA Newsletter



DIARY DATES

Please make a note of these events in your diary and we will send you an update with further details closer to the event

May Function

A casual evening where you will have the opportunity to meet the Committee and learn more about your Foundation.

A Wine and Cheese Evening to be held on the 22nd May 7.00pm-9.00pm at QPO restaurant, cnr High St and Cotham Rd Kew. A \$10-00 donation includes wine tastings sponsored by Austins of Barabool and cheeses from Will Studd at the Calendar Cheese company. We encourage you to attend and to bring along like minded friends who are interested in making a difference to the lives of women.

AGM

Wednesday the 26th July at 7.30 pm – 10.30pm Guest Speaker Dr Hamish Ewing who will talk about his experiences as a volunteer surgeon in Dili hospital Timor Leste.

Welcome to our GOYA Foundation newsletter!

We will be sending these to our members and posting them on our website on a seasonal basis in order to keep you informed about how our projects are developing, bring you news of our communities in Timor and PNG and to invite and encourage you and others to attend our functions.

Last year was very busy, with visits to our communities in Timor, a tour of MLC students and teachers, the Humanitarian Awards, the formation of the GOYA Youth Group and a fund-raising lunch at MLC!

In January, Jennifer Mondia from PNG paid us a surprise visit and it was fabulous for those committee members who were in Melbourne to meet with her and discuss her vision for assisting those in the Highlands of PNG to achieve healthier, happier, more stable lives. We were humbled and reminded of our own good fortune when she commented after a dinner with the committee that a woman in PNG would never be able to experience or afford to eat in a restaurant or share a bottle of

wine with friends. She brought us samples of the beautiful craft work completed by the women and we hope to be able to create a market for such products amongst our community.

Our Projects Today and your Donations at Work.....

The Little Brother and Sisters Institute, was founded and is operated by Sister Lourdes de Cruz or Manalu, has just completed a hospice or 'Open House' for the very poor at Tibar which is situated approximately fifteen kilometres outside of Dili. The Timorese can go there to recuperate from illness and be nursed and members of their family can stay with them. It provides a shelter for those who cannot look after themselves because they have a mental illness or those who have been shunned because the village can no longer assist them. Manalu hopes to develop these centres of caring in every province of Timor. We visited Manalu last year in June when we

took a group of students from MLC to visit our projects. The students were inspired by her work and her selfless dedication to the welfare of her people. MLC continues to contribute to the work of Manalu and just recently held a fundraising breakfast for International Women's Day where Ildi Amon, a past student of MLC and GOYA member and Youth Leader was a guest speaker. In 2005 Manalu was featured on the ABC Compass program

Canossia Pre Primaria – Kinder operated by Sister Aurora.

We are establishing a garden program with Sr Aurora so that children learn the importance of planting, gardening and preparing food as a valuable part of self-sufficiency, nutrition and survival. We are also assisting to bring some senior teachers to Australia in September for four weeks training. These teachers are the supervisors that will be responsible for the development of the Kinder process for the whole of Timor Leste, which is an enormous task for them. We will be providing airfares, some accommodation and hopefully gain support of local kinders in which they can observe and learn.

ETDA – East Timor Development Agency

Directed by Palmira Pires provides training for unemployed adults that cannot afford more formal education. We are assisting in the provision of teaching materials.

HIAM – Health

Is operated by Rosaria de Cruz and we have offered to assist her in gaining further qualifications that will assist her in her work in providing assistance to mothers and babies. See website for link to Hiam Health proposal

Office of Status for Women (Highlands Region) PNG

Was founded and operated by Jennifer Mondia and pictured here with her new vehicle provided by a donation made to the GOYA Foundation. Jennifer is solely dependent upon us for the survival of the office.

I would like to appeal to our members to let us know if there is an organization or school that you feel would like to get behind this most worthwhile project

Development of Scholarship Program

We will soon be developing a Scholarship program wherein young people who wish to work in Timor with our communities can apply for assistance to the Foun-

datation to enable them to travel to Timor Leste and live and work for a period of time.

New Look Website!

We are presently working on our website so please take the time to have a look www.goyafoundation.org and provide us with feedback.

You will see that you can purchase cards for every occasion, gift certificates, GOYA caps (which are currently being seen in the hills and streets of Timor Leste!) make donations or give the gift of membership. Don't forget, that you can contact us directly by email or telephone!





DIARY DATES

Gala Dinner and Auction

1st September 7.00pm-11.00pm
with Special Guest speaker
Stephanie Alexander, 'Gardens
for Life'.

Christmas Breakfast

In the beautiful gardens of
Strathcona's 'Tay Creggan' in
Hawthorn, further details
TBA

GOYA Youth

Gala Function at Melbourne
Aquarium – "Splash of Compas-
sion" on the 26th February
2007 from 7.00pm – details on
the website

'Her Name is Elia'

A Poem by Tenille Rickard...Timor Tour 2005

This little girls name is Elia;
she is eleven years old and
came from Bacau, but now
lives in Dare.

That's the hard thing with
these situations, a whole
nation has been destroyed
but never does anybody
take the time to individual-
ise the victims.

This is one girl. One out of
800,000 people whose lives
you can change.

I changed Elia's life one
night by making her that
book. She came by the
house we were staying at
in Dare and we wrote down
English-Tetum translations.
Often she would stumble
over words but when she

got it right she would look
at me and then...just smile.

I hope that one day she will
have clean water to drink.

I hope that one day she
won't have to labour from
dawn until dusk in order to
survive

I hope that one day she
can eat three meals a day
I hope that one day she will
have medicine to help her
when she gets sick

I hope that one day her
children will have vaccines
to prevent them from get-
ting sick

I hope that one day her
children and her grand
children can go to school
But most of all I have faith
that this can happen.

The nation of East Timor
was destroyed, one third of
its citizens were murdered
and thousands more were

tortured, raped and
stripped of all possessions.
None of us here today can
change what happened
over the past thirty years in
East Timor.

But through the burnt out
buildings, the poverty
stricken people and the un-
sanitary conditions, you can
see a small glimmer of
hope that lies with the chil-
dren of East Timor.

The children to me were an
inspiration, their smiles
shone through the face of
poverty.

East Timor changed my life
by witnessing the way in
which other people live by
everyday.

The thing is today, you're
not just changing one life
you're rebuilding a whole
nation.

I would like to remind everyone to please send their dues of \$20-00 and/or donation to the GOYA Foundation Secretary P.O.Box 2368, Hawthorn, 3122

Please attach this form with your payment of \$10-00 per person for the Wine and Cheese Evening, or your dues/donation and forward to:

GOYA Wine and Cheese Evening P.O. Box 2368, Hawthorn, 3122

Name:
Address:
Email:
Contact No:
No of Persons attending:
Dues:
AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

**Your continued support is vital to the continuation of all our projects
and we thank you for your commitment.**