

# Friends of Aileu

A partnership established in 2000

Building Strong Communities in Timor-Leste and Australia

UPDATE No. 50

October 2018

## Dates for Your Diary:

**November METAC Welcome Dinner sponsored by Friends of Aileu**

7 pm Friday 2 November  
Broadmeadows Community Hub  
182 Widford Street  
Broadmeadows

**Heart Beats for Timor Wild Timor Coffee music fundraiser for community-led revegetation project in Lequidoe, Aileu**

7 pm Friday 16 November  
Yorkshire Stingo Hotel  
corner of Hoddle Street and Langridge Street,  
Abbotsford

**Friends of Aileu Community Committee final meeting for 2018:**

6 – 8.30 pm Tuesday 4 December  
Hume Global Learning Centre  
corner Pascoe Vale Road and Tanderrum Way  
Broadmeadows

**For more about these events or other activities of Friends of Aileu:**

See:

[moreland.vic.gov.au/friends-of-aileu](http://moreland.vic.gov.au/friends-of-aileu)

[facebook.com/friendsofaileu](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofaileu)

Send a Message:

[moreland.vic.gov.au/send-message](http://moreland.vic.gov.au/send-message)

Contact Friends of Aileu Project Officer on:

[cadams@moreland.vic.gov.au](mailto:cadams@moreland.vic.gov.au)

Tel: 9240 1111

## CERES Global community engagement: permaculture and Timor-Leste gardening and agricultural practices

Over two weeks during June-July, a CERES Global group of seven people from around Australia, continued the shared learning engagements with the Aileu Resource and Training Centre (ARTC) and NaTerra NGO, building on previous visits in 2015 and 2016.

The group was guided by CERES and Friends of Aileu facilitators and friends including NaTerra's Fernando, ARTC's Joaquinho, Aileu Rotaract's Domingos, dental nurse Ana and PERMATIL staff and volunteers.



Kadalak Dame peace garden working bee

Highlights included:

- Working bees with a group of village leaders and catechists making a start on implementing the concept plan previously developed for the ARTC's Kadalak Dame Peace Garden
- The visits to several innovative agriculture projects of NaTerra and its partner farming families in Baucau, Venilale and Atacru on Atauro island.



Atacru hospitality, Atauro

## School garden program and school to school links

The CERES global group also spent time with staff and students of Dom Baumeta Central School and the Aileu Reference (CAFÉ) School and a group of Year 12 students engaged in an extra-curriculum Vida Saudeval (Healthy Living) class.



CERES group at Aileu Reference School

Issues discussed included the possibility of facilitating relationships with Australian schools, providing further support for development of school gardens, and a plan to refurbish the spring-fed water supply system serving Dom Baumeta school and two adjacent sub-villages in Suku Liurai.



The spring feeding Dom Baumeta school

## Other activities in Aileu

The Project Officer also met with the Municipal Administrator, representatives of government departments and members of the Aileu Relationship Commission and the Aileu Anan Association.

Amongst the topics of discussion was the university scholarship program and plans to interview past recipients to help evaluate and improve the program, while contributing to a municipality-wide inventory of human resources.



Moreland City Council



## 2018 Trivia Quiz for Aileu University Scholarship program

The 2018 Trivia Quiz, this year with Brunswick's Mr Barry Morgan as MC, brought together over 125 people for a fun night which raised over \$8,500 to support tertiary education opportunities for Aileu's younger generation.

Previous beneficiaries of the program are already making substantial contributions to the welfare and development of their families and communities.



Barry Morgan spruiking the Trivia Quiz

Barry, along with Nick and friends from the Theatre Organ Society of Victoria, gave the Coburg Town Hall's historic pipe organ a good workout as well.

Thanks to all especially the individuals, local community organisations and business who generously donated prizes and raffle items.

## A visit by Gisele and Eduardo from Projeto Montanha

Friends of Aileu, CERES, METAC (Melbourne East Timorese Activity Centre) and Finbar Neighbourhood House Richmond, were privileged to welcome Gisele and Eduardo Trucco, the founders and driving force of Projeto Montanha, during their brief visit to Melbourne early October.



Jane Burns, Eduardo and Gisele at CERES

The Project Officer and CERES Global participants also visited Projeto Montanha youth training centre, Rui Sarmento's organic family farm, the Aileu Resource and Training Centre, the Uma Ita Nian Clinic and its St Francis Assisi Disability Workshop, Aileu Youth Centre, the Leublora Green School and Pousada in Maubisse and PERMATIL in Dili.



Ai-Kleu, the symbol of Aileu

Another highlight of the time in Aileu was a visit to the sacred and historic Ai-Kleu site in Suku Liurai, and the chance meeting there with local elder Mr Clementino, who explained the site's significance and introduced us to aspects of the Aileu origin story and continuing traditions.

## Aileu Science, Math and Reading Contest 2018

The Aileu Resource and Training Centre continues to develop the annual Science, Mathematics and Reading Contest, which this year included the participation of several of the Reference Schools from nearby municipalities as well as the 70 plus Aileu schools.



Reading contest finals – a full house

The three-month long annual program is increasingly being used in conjunction with local education authorities as a tool to monitor and assess progress with teaching and learning.

Projeto Montanha serves youth in the interior of Timor-Leste, providing conditions for their self-development with training in areas including arts, cultural and employment.

## November METAC Dinner at Broadmeadows Community Hub, Widford Street

On 2 November, Friends of Aileu will again partner with METAC to bring their monthly community welcome dinner to the northern suburbs.



These informal get-togethers are a great way to connect communities and build friendships.

## Heart Beats for Timor music event at the Yorkshire Hotel, Abbotsford

Wild Timor Coffee and Friends of Aileu invite you to a relaxed night of music with Peter Sonic and Mystic Trio, 6pm Friday 16 November at the Yorkshire Hotel, corner of Hoddle and Langridge Streets Abbotsford.

A fun night beckons with a few opportunities to dig deep to support a community-led reforestation project to protect spring-fed water supply to several rural villages in Lequidoe.



Lequidoe community planning meeting

The project's agro-forestry design provides an income source through sustainably managed timber harvesting and increases the availability and diversity of food crops in this drier, more remote, mountainous area of Aileu, where nutrition and food security are an ongoing challenge.