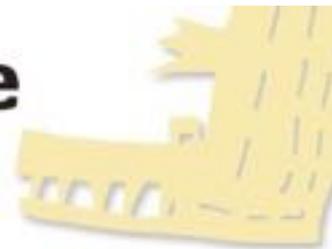




Australia Timor-Leste Advancement Society



ATLAS visits Timor-Leste



Big celebrations for Carmelite Sisters



Vitál de Jesus working solidly in his workshop

Vitál Woodwork

Chris writes:

"Vital and I continued to work on his electric tools with me deciding that his circular saws were beyond repair and ordering a new one from Australia which will be bought over at the end of the month. Good quality trade power tools in Timor Leste are about twice as dear as Australia and the cheaper Chinese ones are not up to the volume of work Vital does. The circular saw he bought in Dili only lasted one week.

"Vitál and I continued to repair equipment and this time success getting an airless spray gun working again. I seem clever but it is my being able to understand the English instructions given by Mr Google that has been our aid. On Saturday Vitál, Francisca and I just talked about Francisca being able to learn office skills to help Vitál run the Woodwork Business.

We enrolled Vital's wife in a computer course which she starts soon. This will be followed by an admin and finance course to improve her business skills so she can look after the paperwork part of Vitál Woodwork while Vitál focuses on making and selling products.

TIMOR TIME

Come along and support ALTAS works!

Sunday August 20 at **Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club** from 11:30 a.m. sharp to 2:00 p.m. sharp

Bookings: 9833 8152

Time in Timor

Rayella writes:

A further "invasion", this time by three humble visitors to a small country, Timor-Leste. Our nearest neighbour only 600 odd kilometres from Darwin across the Timor Sea.

This being a first visit for one of the three, a tour of Dili's CBD was in order. Remnants of withdrawal by Indonesia in '99 were still very evident in the form of burnt out business districts, schools, homes & churches. Or, it seems anything that could catch fire leaving very little for the Timorese people to use.

These proud people are very resilient by nature and have made a valiant attempt to restore many sites so as to begin life again. Worship seems to be the mainstay of their culture, with church services beginning each day at 6.30am. Full congregation each day as these people say "yes" to the Lord's love and are thankful for the things they have.

The main purpose of the visit was to familiarise ATLAS members with the target of its work which is support to the Carmelite Sisters in running the orphanage at St Therese's in Maubara, a three hour drive from Dili.

Delight would be an understatement at the reception we were given there. The children were wonderful and all showed signs of being healthy and happy with the sisters.

Time in Timor *continued*

A further meeting was arranged with Sr. Inacia in charge of expenses and distribution of funds, especially for the education of twelve senior students boarding with the sisters in Fatuhada. This project is going well with one girl moving into Dental care training, and prospects for another two.

It was an extra pleasantry to meet & eat with Father Guil , the parish priest in Becora, a suburb of Dili. His devotion to his parishioners is very noticeable as his support for his parish is strong and encouraging to these people under his spiritual care.

Our man on the ground, Chris Scharf, was able to meet with the group in Dili to share some new project possibilities.

“TIME in TIMOR” seemed too short as Air North winged our group home to Australia leaving behind a promise to return again next year.

Rayella Haines

People making a difference

Recent fundraising efforts by stalwart ATLAS supporters brought in much needed fund for the projects. Rayella Haines, an ATLAS member and parishioner of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St Marys, ran a stall to raise funds for the children at Maubara orphanage. The stall was very well stocked with mostly new gifts such as cosmetics, perfumes, jewellery, fine china, other crockery and attractive items all at very reasonable prices. Thanks to generous priests and parishioners, the proceeds amounted to \$520.80.

The members of the Craft Group at St Marys generate funds through the sale of their lovely craft products and through coin collections made at each meeting. Recently, \$800 was raised at the big morning tea and craft sale held in the Parish Hall. The children from Maubara orphanage will benefit.

Pat Fitzpatrick and Judy Ward organised the event, their generous efforts remembering Annette Walsh RIP, whose open-hearted giving touched the lives of so many.

Josephine Mitchell



Rayella Haines



Stalwart supporters

**Don't forget
Timor Time!**

Donation Form

231 Newbridge Road, Chipping Norton, NSW 2170

www.atlaseasttimor.com.au

ABN 12 165 033205

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Expiry Date:/.....

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