



AFFLIP is a South Australian-based not-for-profit organisation which provides educational support to 15 public elementary schools, with more than 20,000 students. The schools form a school District called the Talomo District which is on the southern edge of Davao City, in Mindanao - one of the poorest parts of the Philippines. We have gift deductibility status through the Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme.

Message from the Chair

Mabuhay and welcome to the first AFFLIP newsletter for 2017.

AFFLIP has now been operating for five years. It has a board of 13 South Australian educators and our two Patrons are prominent South Australians, the Hon Greg Crafter, former Minister of Education in the Bannon Labor Government; and the Hon Stephen Baker, former Treasurer and Deputy Premier in the Brown Liberal Government.

AFFLIP has no paid employees but plenty of willing volunteers who have been working tirelessly over the past few months to ensure the successful running of the Schools Network Visit (Nov 2016), AGM (Dec 2016), the annual evaluation visit to Talomo District (Feb 2017) and the well-attended Dinner Dance (Feb 2017).

Our next fundraiser is planned for Sunday 14th May (Mother's Day). Join with us at 6.00 pm at the Capri Theatre 141 Goodwood Road Goodwood for The Zookeeper's Wife. You can make a booking online at www.afflip.yapsody.com.

Warm regards

Susan Boucher

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Alan Reid and Alastair Douglas

On behalf of everyone associated with AFFLIP thank you Alan Reid and Alastair Douglas for your vision and dedication in the formation and establishment of AFFLIP.

Alan is Emeritus Professor at the University of South Australia and a prominent Australian educator who has received many national awards recognising his distinguished contributions to education. Ali, previously a principal in the Department of Education and Children's Services in South Australia, has worked extensively as a consultant in education internationally over the last 15 years, including the Philippines.

More than five years ago and with a keen desire to make a difference Alan and Ali set about shaping an organisation that is focused on learning. Under their stewardship AFFLIP has been characterised by innovative ideas, strategic thinking and tireless effort to increase credibility and visibility that has led to a strong and robust Australian charity that is making a difference to the fifteen schools, 500 teachers and 20,000 students in Mindanao.

Under their watch AFFLIP has flourished and grown. A strong support base, healthy membership growth, transparent practices and a sound philosophical belief about the role of a Civil Society Organisation based in an affluent country whose purpose it is to assist educational development in a less affluent country AFFLIP is no longer a fledgling organisation.

Alan and Ali have now stepped down from their roles as Chair and Deputy Chair respectively. Fortunately, they remain active and committed board members and I look forward to working closely with them over the coming year.



Susan Boucher acknowledging the significant, ground breaking work undertaken by Alastair Douglas and Alan Reid at the recent Dinner Dance Fundraiser.

Talomo District Visit

Lyn Wilkinson and I have just returned from a most successful visit to Talomo District, Davao City. The trip's major purpose was to undertake an audit of progress in AFFLIP during the 2016 - 2017 school year.

Our visit entailed visiting each of the schools, meeting with and interviewing principals and the school based coordinators responsible for each of the AFFLIP programs. The work that was undertaken by each school to prepare for our visit was significant as was the warmth, generosity and transparency displayed at each site.

The Philippines Department of Education is a great supporter of AFFLIP and I thank Dr Ines Asuncion, Division Superintendent, Ms Marilyn Marcelo, Superintendent of Special Programs and Ms Adeline Go, District Supervisor Talomo District in supporting a true and equitable partnership.

The evaluation we undertook clearly established yet again that the funds being sent to the 15 schools are used for the purposes negotiated and the partnership transparent and accountable. Talomo District Principals and teachers have much to be proud of.

AFFLIP Fundraiser

On Friday, February 24th 160 AFFLIP members and guests gathered at the Adelaide Pavilion, Veale Gardens to help raise funds to support the Foundation's flagship programs.

Major sponsors the Clare Valley Winemakers represented at the dinner by President Andrew Pike and Cathy Pike donated the premium wines served. Thanks must go to the twenty-five winemakers across the region who generously provided wines from their museum stock and to Executive Officer Tania Matz for all she did to make it happen.

Thanks also to Andrew Blackman (Underbelly, Barracuda) who donated his time to MC the evening and the awesome father and son team of Geoff and Daniel Schell (Ray White Real Estate, Clare Valley) our auctioneers for the evening.

The scene was set for an excellent evening resulting in over \$18,000 being raised to support the five flagship programs in Talomo District.



Clare Valley Winemakers Inc.
The Heart of Australian Riesling



Twenty-five winemakers from the Clare Valley region donated the premium wines that were consumed on the night.



MC Andrew Blackman with Board Members Karen Church and Caroline Green and AFFLIP supporter Maria Wight

Professional Development Literacy Support

AFFLIP has supported 85 literacy teachers through a professional development program related to reading. The literacy coordinators in each school are using this knowledge to collaborate in writing, illustrating and producing reading resources for year 4 – 6 students in English, Filipino and mother tongue. They are using a photo-copier and laminating machines provided by AFFLIP to print off multiple copies of each book to supply to all schools. That is, rather than providing text books from Australia, the schools are producing much needed local context and culture related texts – even while the process is providing powerful professional learning.

Coordinators: Max Greenwood and Lyn Wilkinson



Board members Alan Reid and Caroline Green with Principal Glen Pardillo during the turn- over of laminating machines to Talomo District Schools.

Schools Network

In October 2016 AFFLIP sponsored 10 educators from 5 of the elementary schools in Davao, led by Marilyn Marcelo from the Regional Office in Davao, to visit South Australia. The goal was to deepen the educational outcomes from the twinned school arrangement, particularly through Filipino and South Australian teachers planning and teaching a common unit of work, enabling students in these two different cultures to share their learning. The visit was an outstanding success and ideas are now being disseminated across the Talomo schools. We plan to bring another contingent in 2018.

Coordinators: Trevor Tiller, Michael O'Donoghue and Pat Maloney



Talomo District educators visiting South Australian Primary Schools in late 2016

Scholarships

This portfolio provides 90 scholarships to students from impoverished backgrounds, in the Talomo School District of Davao City, who are at risk of dropping out of school. The grants are designed to encourage students to stay in school and to develop their full potential and cover basic school needs. Scholarships, which are worth one hundred dollars (A\$100) per school year, are handled and administered by each school under the supervision of the District Scholarships Coordinating committee.

Coordinators: Roger Saunders and John Erskine



Dona Soledad Dolor Elementary School Grade 4, 5 and 6 scholars Glyza, Angel, Desiree, Julienne, Kathyren and Arjay (Feb 2017)

Health and Nutrition

Health and nutrition are central to learning. The focus of this portfolio is the immediate needs of the many students who present at school as malnourished and the importance of learning about approaches to healthy living. AFFLIP provides support for agriculture and aquaculture activities to help sustain each school's feeding program, and to assist in developing approaches to build them into teaching programs.

Coordinators: Alastair Douglas



Talomo Central Elementary School's Container gardening project funded by AFFLIP

Learning through the Outdoor Environment

Funded by the Di Harris Memorial Education Fund this portfolio focuses on the concept of using the outdoor environment to enhance student learning through the formal and informal curriculum. AFFLIP is working with the A. Bonifacio ES community to research, design, implement and evaluate the development of the outdoor areas of the school for learning. As a result of the Schools Network visit to SA last year a further five schools are starting to work in this space.

Coordinators: Pat Maloney and Alan Reid



A Bonifacio Elementary School 'learning through the outdoor environment' pilot