



# Help And Nurture Developing Societies (H.A.N.D.S.) Incorporated

FROM THE CHAIR,

Number 20

December 2011



Hello to all the HANDS supporters.

I would like to take this opportunity to raise a few things in this newsletter: Firstly, we wish John and Ali all the very best as they re-locate to Timor-Leste for the next couple of years. Please keep John and Ali in your prayers. We will try and provide regular reports from Timor-Leste so that you can all hear about the 'behind the scenes' work which goes on while the teams are still in Australia.

Please remember to check out our website every now and again for updates regarding fundraising, as well as other methods of support. We are also in the process of arranging child sponsorship for the students at the Kids Ark Hera School. Once finalised, we will post a link on our webpage. If anyone would like to purchase a 2012 HANDS desk calendar, please contact me on M.0411 796 139, as we have a few left. These make a great year-round gift for those people who already have enough 'stuff'.

And finally, thank you for your continued support and prayers, and the commitment to assisting the people of Timor-Leste through Health and Education over the past 12 months. Please continue to pray as we make plans to begin the 'Centre for People with Disabilities' in 2012. Thanks also to the Board Members who make the difficult decisions on a regular basis to ensure that we remain in a position of healthy finances and can continue to provide support in Timor-Leste.

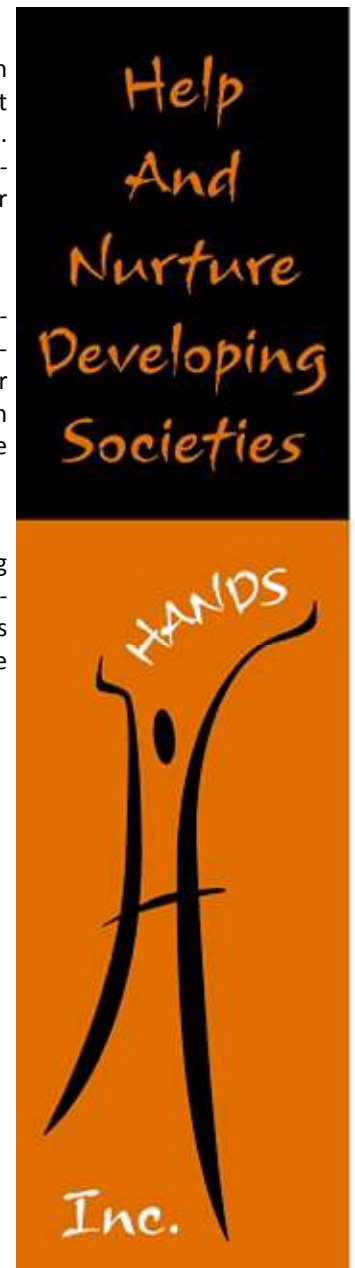
Please enjoy this festive season, stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

God Bless

Lauren

## MEMBERSHIP

If you have friends or family that would like to be part of our work please give them our contact details. We need members to continue with our work. All membership fees go to pay our bills so we do not have to keep donated money from the intended purpose. We are proud to say 100% of the donated money goes to the project. Help us continue this work spread the word.





## FROM DISTANT SHORES

Well this is Timor, Hot and Sunny, hot and muggy, hot and wet. Beautiful one day and even better the next. A day in Timor can be like a week in Australia. In one day we experienced the fumbling of an infant government to get things right for their people and failing miserably, having their elderly and disabled people waiting all day, standing in water, in the heat and sun, to collect their six monthly pension and not even getting the office doors open. To saying a disabled person does not exist as there are no baptism papers in the church, calling her a pagan and refusing to take her photo. This is when we are trying to get a photo for her Id Card so she can get her pension. The Timorese people owe a lot to Branca for standing up to stupidity and prejudice. After some strong words we were able to get the photo and papers done.

Timor is changing, so many of the building materials we could not get when we first started coming are now available. Many of the hardware shops have changed in what they stock. You can now get building grade steel and tube from various hardware shops. This will mean we will have to find out what is available here before we send things over in a container, as we need to support local business. Even if the Chinese own a lot of the businesses they do employ Timorese people.

In the last week we have heard of the death of a baby, and experienced the death of a mother, who worshipped in the Sidara church. There is so much more work to be done, even though the government is working in this area and many others, it is a mammoth task and even the little bit we do does help. Things we need to consider, is the sponsorship of teachers and nursing people, the sponsorship of students, especially those from the very poor families (the money goes to the school for resources and food). Although much improved health and medicines are still a bit issue. We only hear about the fish oil and glucosamine, but things like asthma medications and the accessories that make the medication work more effectively, things that non medical people know very little about.

So much happens here that changes and challenges us, as I write so many things come to mind that I could write for a long time.

God has put Timor Leste and her people on our hearts and the hearts of many from throughout the world and together we can help these people to help themselves.

This is from your Timor correspondents, in Hera, Timor Leste, Alison and John.

Our organisation comprises more than the giving of ourselves—time, talents and resources. Regular income is needed to achieve our vision. You may not be able to participate in the field, but would like to support HANDS, and so **we encourage you to give through monthly Direct Debits**. You set the amount you are comfortable with. The children of the world will grow with your help. **NOTE THE CHANGE OF BANKS: WESTPAC BANKING CORP. MT BARKER. SA.**

**BSB : 035-094**

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**An Australian Aid Organisation**

### VISION STATEMENT

To help and nurture developing societies by assisting missions and communities in their efforts to improve, and show the love of Jesus in all that we do.

*"HANDS Inc  
will only  
grow with  
your help"*