



Klibur Domin has once again been a hive of activity with numerous volunteers contributing to the administration and gradual improvement of facilities over the last three months. The main TB Ward (Cottage 4) and the second MDR-TB Ward have been completed and furnished, and patients now occupy both buildings. Kerbing has been done on all the internal roadways – just waiting on contractors coming to do final sealing of roads. The old Director’s house, just inside the front gate, is being renovated and expanded to accommodate 10 young persons with disabilities, many of them attending the Convent School over the road.

Recent volunteers have appreciated the upgraded facilities in the Volunteer House and the new Volunteer Cottage, with a large outdoor “verandah” area. However, the few hours in the middle of the day are still HOT!!

The Ministry of Health would like to see the facilities at Klibur Domin expanded to provide for Mental Health patients, PLUS extend the area of KD’s reach in providing for TB support services. However, negotiations are still at an early stage. An

application has also been submitted for an Australian Aid Friendship Grant to purchase a second GeneXpert machine, this one to be located at Viqueque on the south coast.

Unfortunately, General Manager Fabiola will soon be leaving KD, having won a scholarship to study for her Masters in Indonesia. **All the best Fabiola.**

Staff at the Dental Clinic are not exactly over-run with patients (surprisingly) so they have started a campaign to go out into local schools and with the CBR Teams up into the mountains to both provide a service for inspections and to “spread the word”.

The biggest event in recent times was the celebration of our inaugural Founder’s Day, recognising the contribution of Lady Sue Ryder and Lord Leonard Cheshire on Wednesday 5 September. The whole compound looked spick and span with all staff contributing many, many hours on preparation activities. After the formalities, there was feasting and dancing. There will no doubt be a full report in the next Red Feather Newsletter.

Rotary Australia Worldwide Community Service Volunteer Teams



The second of our 2018 Volunteer Teams was another Dental Team, led by regular visitor Patricia McDonnell from Canberra. The Team included Dr John Denton (second visit) and dental support staff Lyn Carman and Jodie Billinger, all from Adelaide. This group not only mentored our Timor dental staff Luis, Effie and Maria, but also took the opportunity to

liaise with dental professionals in Timor-Leste, including a visit to the facility at Balibo. We thank this dedicated group for their very welcome contribution.

Some comments from Dr Denton:

“These young people are local Timor-Leste Dental Nurses (what we might call dental therapists in Australia). Luis and Maria

graduated from the 3-year dental course at Dili University, and Efi did a similar course in Indonesia. Their training enables them to perform simple diagnosis and treatment of dental diseases, including fillings, extractions, Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) use, scalings and oral hygiene instruction (OHI).

Dr Ian Ridley and I were very pleased when these local clinicians came on board the KD Dental Clinic Project, with the implementation of the cooperation between Maluk Timor and KD. It immediately jumped the KD Dental Project 3 or 4 years



ahead of our projections for the clinic. Our Australian Volunteer Dental Team's roles have changed from, us doing everything, to doing some of the operating and much more mentoring. A role we found very satisfactory and satisfying."

We also salute the dedication of young Jodie Billinger. Again a comment from Dr Denton:

"With the help of Jodie's crowd funding exercise for the KD Dental Clinic Project, Patricia, Marty and Joaquim purchased a larger fridge to help store dental consumables and the local anaesthetic (LA) we were able to bring from Australia, 1000 doses of Articaine.

Jodie raised some \$650 Aus. and wants to put it toward the cost of the new fridge in the dental clinic and some of the cost of the LA. **Well done Jodie!**"

And from Lyn Carman:

"I personally gained so much from our visit and was very pleased to see the fabulous facility which is Klibur Domin. The opportunity to meet and spend time with the team, other volunteers and the Management Team was certainly a highlight. We were very well taken care of, and I will return! Kind regards, Lyn Carman "

The next two Teams had a completely different focus – predominantly preparation of a landscape plan, initiating the planting of fruit and other edible trees, and the first stage of establishing a Kitchen Garden. With Klibur Domin soon able to accommodate some 85 patients and residents, plus up to 16 volunteers, you can imagine the shopping process, not just in \$\$ spent, but the physical logistics of purchasing (twice per week), transporting and storing the food required!!! Having a good supply of fresh fruit and veg right outside the kitchen door (well almost), will be a great advantage.

Team Three

So, Team Three was a five person Team headed by Therese Crollick (following up on her visit last year) and Broni Carthew from Ballina and Paul and Shirley Talay and Tony Mewburn from Casterton. Here is an extract from their Report:



"After selecting a suitable site, four, 3 metre wide by 0.5m deep raised circular beds were erected, using old discarded water tanks cut to size, with polythene pipe cut to cover any sharp edges where patients working in the garden may possibly cut themselves.

As there was no suitable soil on site, all filling was imported at first from the Tibar dumpsite, where all organic waste is being composted as part of a recycling project. KD Director was concerned that the cost was too high, so composted soil which was a mixture of coffee pulp/husk, animal manure, and organic matter was imported from coffee processors in Tibar, and from village compost sites. Some even contributed by staff at KD." Paul Talay.

And a comment from Team Member Tony Mewburn:

"I would just like to say that I enjoyed the trip so much my wife and I are planning to go again next year. I was so impressed with the general courteous, friendly and happy nature of the people we met and the pride they showed in themselves.

We achieved most of the tasks on our agenda. There are still many things left to be done and to complete the place will take many years. The accommodation was good and the food was great. The staff were very helpful. The babies were gorgeous, their carers were beautiful and happy. There was such a vibrant vibe about the place.

After speaking with the young people, I have been sourcing musical instruments to send to KD and researching ways to make drums over there.

I would recommend the trip to everyone. Just to see the things East Timorese don't have but are still so happy. It might change the attitude of some who live in this lucky country."

NB. As a postscript, Tony arranged for a large box containing two guitars, two ukuleles, guitar parts (topped up with more linen, schools books etc – total weight 17kg!!!) to go over with a returning AVI Volunteer. THANK YOU Tony, and Dale Cleves Music in Mt Gambier.

Team Four

Team 4 have only just returned, the group comprising Team Leader John Kirby and Sheila Neill from Mt Gambier, and Nancy Matner from Penola. Apart from extending the number of kitchen garden beds, constructing and filling



compost and fertilizer bins and planting out numerous trees and seedlings, the ladies also distributed some 110 Days For Girls kits to the Convent School over the road. They followed this up with some sewing lessons both at K D and at the school. Some comments from Sheila and Nancy:

"On deciding to join you on this trip we looked forward to an adventure as we didn't know what to expect. We gathered all of the information that we could but still felt the excitement of the unknown. We were collected from the airport by KD's Director, Joaquim and from that moment on we were treated with warmth and kindness. It was not hard to reciprocate the feeling.

We were fortunate to arrive at a time when the founding members of Klibur Domin came together to help celebrate the foundation of KD some 18 years earlier. It was a great privilege for us to be part of the festivities and traditions of those who use the services provided by Klibur Domin.

Every day we greeted our new friends challenging ourselves to learn language and it soon became a daily ritual to share our language with each other both in English and Tetun. We both developed great respect for the people of Timor - Leste, their strength in the face of adversity, their ability to forgive wrongs done to them and most of all their faith both in God and in humanity itself.

Our journey has been emotional in the nicest way and we are grateful for the opportunity to have taken part in the project."

More Volunteers

Klibur Domin is very appreciative of a constant flow of other self-funded Volunteers, some for a short period, and some for much longer such as Japanese physio Manato – about 24 months, and part time assistance from US Peace Corps volunteer Marta. Others include nurse Joy Thyer from the Gold Coast and Kim Butler, school principal on 12 months leave from Ballarat, who has been providing extremely valuable admin support to Director Joaquim Soares in preparing various submissions for both continuing funding and new projects.

If Joy wasn't on "nursing" duties she could be found watering new plants, collating donated linen and other goods or creating a "home made" First Aid kit for all the vehicles, and more!!!

Team 4 were also privileged to enjoy the company and insight into Klibur Domin from the initial instigator in 2000, former Air Commodore, Peter Newton, together with long-time supporters, Helen Newton and Fr Ted Burns. It was extremely appropriate that Peter Newton was present for Founders' Day. The Newtons and Father Ted make an annual trip to K D to confirm Ryder-Cheshire Australia's continuing long-term strong commitment to Klibur Domin and its facility, services and staff.

Peter Newton's comment:

"On behalf of Fr Burns, Helen and myself, thank you very much for looking after us so well for the past week and for hosting such a successful Founders' Day on 5 Sept. We had a great week and were delighted to see the progress made at KD in the past year with Cottage 4, MDR-TB 2, the Volunteers' Cottage, the students' Cottage, the roadway edges and the start made with the landscaping of KD.



We know just how much effort has gone into all of this, and particularly over the past several weeks to prepare for such a successful Founders' Day. Congratulations to everyone involved. With all the time pressures, we were unable to hold a meeting with the staff where I could have thanked them all personally, so I ask that you convey our congratulations and the thanks of the three of us.

The landscaping is coming along nicely, with excellent work being done by the Rotary teams, both past and present. John, Nancy and Sheila are working very hard in hot and uncomfortable conditions and achieving excellent results. Plantings done over the past couple of years are now giving an excellent indication of just how attractive KD will look in years to come. The new gardener on KD staff should be able to continue this work when there are no volunteers at KD. Also residents and patients should be encouraged to work in the garden under the gardener's supervision."

Since the Newtons and Rotary Team 4 have left, K D has been blessed with another batch of volunteers, to keep Manato and Kim company.

As mentioned previously, there are 6000 cases of TB detected and treated each year, with 3 deaths per day, on average. For more information about KD's role in fighting this disease, plus the other programs, don't forget to look up the website. Further, if you don't have the time, health or resources to travel to Timor-Leste to be a volunteer, then a donation, whether it be big or small, one-off or ongoing, would be greatly appreciated.

Thank You

Again thank you to the many schools and community groups who continually raise funds to help keep Klibur Domin going, plus to the regular sponsors.

If you would like someone to speak to your Club, Society or Support Group, then many of our past volunteers would be only too happy to address your group. There are past volunteers located throughout the country, although we suggest first contact be through either:

Susie Mackerras, Ryder-Cheshire's Overseas Volunteers' Co-ordinator rydercheshirevolunteersaust@gmail.com

Peter Newton, Ryder Cheshire's Timor-Leste Project Officer, phnewton@ryder-cheshire.org.

John Kirby in SA jktimor17@hotmail.com

If you know of anyone who would like to be added to the emailing list, or if you would like to be removed, then please let us know at jktimor17@hotmail.com.

John Kirby, Editor

