

LAWAMENA INCORPORATED

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Since the last newsletter there have been numerous tumultuous events occurring around the world. As we are reminded of the pain and anguish that people endure we are also refreshed and energised by the opportunity to reach out and help others.

Lawamena means "going forward" and we certainly intend to do that as long as we have the capacity to do so. By going forward and giving to those less advantaged than us our spirit is greatly rewarded and we are enriched in our lives. .

I personally apologise for the delay in our news letter- my excuse is that things have been hectic. Anyway, please enjoy reading the developments of the past months and I extend my greetings and best wishes for the forthcoming Christmas and holiday season...stay safe and rejoice in the beauty of life.

Aretha Kakerissa

President Lawamena Inc.

OUR CURRENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Since our last newsletter there have been an increasing number of people approaching us with offers to sponsor children through Lawamena,

We are now sponsoring up to 34 children. This number is expected to increase by the end of the year and into the 2012 academic year.

In September 2011 we travelled to Ambon for personal reasons and a brief holiday. During this trip we managed to include a visit to two schools supported by Lawamena and met with the children we are sponsoring. This trip also coincided with the annual trip from the Gull Force Association.

Nursing Scholarships

The Nursing Scholarships which commenced in September 2010 continues to operate successfully. Four nurses have been assisted through this project in 2011.

Lawamena and our sponsoring partner Gull Force Association had the opportunity to meet with these four nurses at the Ambon General Hospital during their September visit. These nurses are employees of the hospital and at the time of the visit some of them were very close to completion of their nursing qualification.

On completion of their qualification they will continue their employment at the Ambon General Hospital. The exciting fact is that their qualifications and skill base will have been significantly improved, consequently they can provide an enhanced quality of service to their patients.



(A visit with Gull Force members to the Ambon General Hospital)

Primary School No. 44

During our September trip we had the pleasure of visiting Primary School No. 44 in Batu Koneng in Ambon with Rob McDougall (Gull Force) and his sisters Chris and Marianne. Rob is a member of Wendouree Rotary Club which sponsors three children at the school. Their visit to the school was topped off by generous donations of stationery and teaching materials to the Principal of the school by Rob and his sisters.



Ashburton Baptist Church

In June this year, 10 kilograms of stationery were sent to Ambon largely due to the generosity of Ashburton Baptist Church. These stationery packs were donated by families at Ashburton Baptist Church for 22 Ambonese children sponsored by Lawamena. The donations coincided with the new school year. The children were very excited to receive new stationery which was accompanied with their scholarships for the year.



2011 - A Successful Fundraising Year For Lawamena

- a. A Tupperware Party sponsored by Wendy Neilson was held on 6 May 2011. The proceeds of this event were donated to Lawamena. A sincere thank you to Wendy and other supporters for making this a successful event.
- b. The Lawamena Fundraising Dinner was held on 16 July 2011. It was a superb night of friendship and socialising and was further enriched by the live music entertainment provided by Matt Sharpe and Bryan Anderson.
- c. A Playful Market fundraising event sponsored by Ashburton Baptist Church was held on 13 August 2011. Lawamena received a very generous donation of the proceeds from Ashburton- we thank ABC for their kindness, generosity and support.

Student Profile

Ivona < last name withheld for privacy purposes >

Ivona's parents have had a marital breakdown.

The parents have left Ivona and her three year old sister to be cared by her grandmother.

Ivona's grandmother earns a meagre living by growing vegetables which she sells at the market.

Sometimes her grandmother can earn up to \$A6 a day. On bad days she may not earn anything if the market is very slow.

Ivona has to walk up to 10 kms to access public transport to take her to school.



Ivona (2nd from the right) and her school friends who are sponsored by Lawamena.