

From: **Maria Latiada** hazel_mary08@yahoo.com

Subject: Re: An update on AFFLIP

Date: 5 April 2020 at 6:55 pm

To: Australian Foundation for Fostering Learning in the Phillipines Inc. susan.boucher@afflip.com

ML

Thank you so much AFFLIP for always keeping us updated and again our heartfelt thanks for your unending support to the Talomo schools. Be safe everyone..

Mary

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Sun, Apr 5, 2020 at 3:16 PM, Australian Foundation for Fostering Learning in the Phillipines Inc. <susan.boucher@afflip.com> wrote:

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for fostering learning
in the philippines inc.



Dear Maria,

What tumultuous times we live in! We have entered into uncharted territory with the Coronavirus (Covid_19) Pandemic and recognise that this is a challenging time for all of us. We have watched the closing of schools in Talomo District on March 17 and are very concerned about the health and wellbeing of the administrators, teachers, students and their families and are staying in close contact with them - our intention during this time is to continue to communicate and further develop funding proposals for the 2020 - 2021 school year. Future newsletters will contain more details of this planning.

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From the Chair

Incorporated in November 2011, AFFLIP and its Board have achieved a great deal during that time with the fantastic support of its members. Alan Reid led the group with distinction in the first five years and is now one of our patrons joining our inaugural patron Greg Crafter. Susan Boucher did an outstanding job at the helm for three years and fortunately remains on the Board. Our sincere thanks to Susan for the way she managed her significant responsibilities and her professionalism in doing so. It is now my privilege to lead AFFLIP and I look forward to working with a fine committed Board, two exceptional patrons who have contributed so much to education in this country and internationally, and a support base which is approaching four hundred and fifty members.

On February 14th AFFLIP held a most successful dinner at the Adelaide Pavilion which raised in excess of \$24,000 in support of our programs in the Talomo schools. My thanks to all who attended what was a wonderful night in all respects. To the donors of both silent and live auction items, auctioneers Jeff Schell and Russell Brown, the band The Goulash Project, the Adelaide Pavilion, Chris Insinally and Savitas Wines, AFFLIP Board members and in particular convenor Susan Boucher, we say a big Thank You!

Max Greenwood and I have just returned from an evaluation visit to Davao and then for me a couple of days in Manila for meetings with Australian Deputy Ambassador to the Philippines and the Executive Director of The Australian-New Zealand Chamber of Commerce Philippines. Max focused on Literacy and Reading, conducting workshops, meetings and classroom observations. The visit was once again very productive with so many highlights. The values which underpin AFFLIP are based on a continued genuine partnership with our colleagues in the 15 schools of the Talomo District, Davao City. AFFLIP has been built on principles such as mutuality and respect, capacity building and sustainability, transparency and accountability, and learning and empowerment with those elements evident during the visit “in spades”.

The program was busy, extremely well organized and show cased the advances that have been made across the schools of the Talomo District with AFFLIP’s five flagship programs. It involved visits to all schools, meetings with the Talomo administrators, Flagship Program coordinators and their Technical Working Groups. Workshops were also conducted with school-based program coordinators from all flagship programs, which provided great insights into the implementation of the programs in the schools. Meetings with local government officials, Assistant Regional Director, Davao City Division Superintendent and supervisors, University of South-eastern Philippines personnel, and Manila based organisations, provided excellent advocacy opportunities for AFFLIP.







District Supervisor, Marilyn Marcelo and the Talomo school heads did an outstanding job in organising the visit program. The new Schools' Division Superintendent of Davao City, Reynaldo Guillena, has indicated his commitment to promoting AFFLIP programs and plans to hold a Division wide summit showcasing AFFLIP programs early next year to all twenty-two districts.

The special highlight as always, was the opportunity to visit schools and talk to pupils, parents and teachers. The school visits provided a great opportunity to reinforce the importance of focusing on the impact of our programs and discuss the specific needs of each school with the School Heads and their coordinators. Each school presented their own summary of AFFLIP programs over the past year, many of which were most impressive. One came away feeling that the evaluation process had been genuinely shared by all stakeholders.

We were extremely grateful for the warm welcome and complete cooperation which we received over the course of the visit. The participation of our partners was always enthusiastic and purposeful and clearly demonstrated their commitment to the AFFLIP programs as a means of assisting their pupils.

In closing, let me share one story relayed by a teacher of the impact of a scholarship on one of her pupils.

"One scholar comes from a broken family. She lives with her grandmother who is supporting her together with her other cousins. The grandmother has no permanent job and works as a laundry woman. The grandfather also has an irregular income as a golf caddie. It really is an everyday struggle to make ends meet.

She was chosen to be a part of the program because of this situation and her Grade 3 teacher believed that while academically she did well, her performance was affected because of the family's financial issues.

When she became part of the program, the grandmother tried her best to send her to school regularly. On days that she had no lunch her teacher would feed her knowing that she was a scholar. The program makes her experience things she thought she would never be able to do, like going to camp activities because it is not on their budget list. Being in a public school one can't get away with not paying fees and money for supplies , however, since the

scholarship takes care of that she is happy that she can now contribute to classroom and school projects, and has grown so much in her self-esteem as an AFFLIP scholar.”

It makes one feel very humble to know that we are making a difference to the children who are recipients of the scholarships. \$100 goes a long way in helping a child at risk of dropping out, to stay at school and engage with the curriculum and the other learning opportunities which are available.

My warm regards to you all while we weather the current COVID-19 storm.

Alastair Douglas

AFFLIP Chair

Wine Offer for AFFLIP Members

As many of you know, Savitas Wines has been a supporter of the AFFLIP fundraising dinner for the past two years. They have provided product from their local brands “Lost Buoy”, “Incygnes” and “Alainn Fion” for both consumption at the dinner and for donations in the auctions.

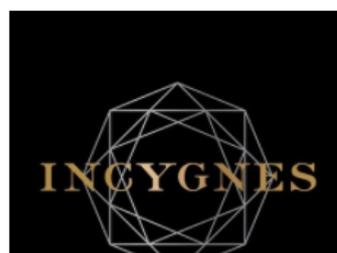
AFFLIP is partnering with Savitas Wines by offering our members a Home Shopping Wine Sale for anyone looking to purchase some wine for the coming weeks without leaving your home.

You can purchase wine directly from www.savitaswines.com and by entering the coupon code “AFFLIP” Savitas Wines has offered a 20% discount off the purchase price with free home delivery and committed a further 10% of sales as a donation to AFFLIP.

Whilst we realise this is a tough time financially for many we encourage those members looking to purchase wine at this time to support this sale as a way of supporting both AFFLIP and Savitas Wines.

Savitas Wines is a small local South Australian business that has seen almost all of their sales channels disappear as a result of the Coronavirus impacts and restrictions and would be extremely grateful of your support. Despite this they continue to support AFFLIP with the commitment of a generous donation on every sale made.

Let’s support each other and stay safe.





2020 Fundraising Dinner

AFFLIP's major fundraiser for 2020 was held on Friday 14th February 2020 with 170 AFFLIP members and guests gathered at the Adelaide Pavilion, Veale Gardens to help raise funds to support the Foundation's flagship programs. I was delighted when we reached capacity and could announce to the AFFLIP Board that we had a "Full House". It made my day!

On behalf of the AFFLIP Board a huge thank you to members and friends for coming together and generously supporting AFFLIP's work and enthusiastically bidding on the many and varied auction items. Auctioneers on the night were Geoff Schell Principal & Auctioneer, Ray White Rural South Australia ably supported by AFFLIP supporter Russell Brown. This dynamic duo set the scene for an excellent evening and the auctions raised in excess of \$24,000 - a very good result. These funds will make a significant contribution to AFFLIP's education programs in the Talomo District for the 2020 – 2021 school year.

The Adelaide Pavilion provided a great venue, the food was generously proportioned and delicious, and a well-trained and efficient staff further added to the joyful and happy occasion. Savitas Wines supplied some really enjoyable wines and I thank Chris Insanally for once again providing such generous support to AFFLIP.

There were many wonderful donations made for both the live and silent auction and I thank everyone who donated for their generosity and support. Special thanks to The Hon Greg Crafter AO for two more personally hosted Parliament House dinners and to Mintaro artist Jen McDonald for her fabulous and large artwork – I was tempted.





Thank you, Tim and Di Ryan, Charlie and Sile Legoe (Helloworld Travel, Naracoorte), Andrew and Carolyn Dowling (Ann's Place, Robe) Ali and Robbie Douglas, and Tessa Lvinge and Gordon Wynn and the Robe Golf Club for wonderful and varied accommodation offerings across South Australia (Encounter Lakes, Robe and Punyelroo).

Beloved children's author Mem Fox is another long-time AFFLIP supporter – her acclaimed books including Possum Magic, Ducks Away and Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge are always snapped up by enthusiastic and caring parents and grandparents. Thank you too Lyn Wilkinson for making this happen and donating even more of Mem's books to the cause.

As always, our members love good wine and the wines offered at the auction did not disappoint. Thank you, Andrew and Cathy Pike and Pikes Winery and Brewery, Chris Insanally and Savitas Wines, David Hickenbotham, Ali Kerr, winedirect.com.au and Pattriti Wines and Sparkling Juice.

The cornucopia of gift baskets overflowing with an array of beauty products, gourmet and other treats and items were donated by Alan and Liz Reid, Alister Haigh (Haigh's Chocolates), Salon Style, Jeanette Emery and Irene Rowe – thank you all.

Last but by no means least to Tony Harris and Budget Car Rentals for the car hire voucher, Peter Wilson for the fine works of art 'Gloved Hand' by Catherine Moore and Cheryl Bridgart's beautiful freehand machine embroidery 'Oh so chic', Alan and Liz Reid for several lovely prints and Jane Mellows and Pat Maloney for a delightful and eclectic range of art – thank you for your ongoing support.

The Goulash Project provided the musical entertainment to round off the evening. With dessert came the dancing and the band were quick to

encourage everyone to show their moves on the dance floor. I thank you to Todd Williams, Sam Vickery and Justin Tiller.

In closing, my thanks to the AFFLIP Board for being willing to undertake a range of tasks in the lead up to and on the night of the dinner. Thank you

- Max Greenwood, Master of Ceremonies for hosting the evening and keeping things flowing smoothly throughout the night;
- Alastair Douglas, AFFLIP Chair for your welcoming words and passionate description of the work that AFFLIP is involved in;
- Lyn Wilkinson, Pat Maloney, Yvonne Zeegers and Miriam Cocking for running a tight ship with the Silent Auction;
- Tim Jackson, Mario Trinidad, Jeanette Emery and Irene Rowe for your ability to manage a lively auction and track down enthusiastic bidders with ease;
- John Erskine and Roger Saunders for running a very impressive 'AFFLIP Bank'; and
- Trevor Tiller Band Manager and on the night donations organiser.

Thanks also to Lyn Wilkinson and Marilyn Erskine for the beautiful flowers and table decorations and to Pat Maloney and Ali and Robbie Douglas for lugging the donated auction items to the venue.

For those who were unable to join us on the night we are always happy to receive donations. By clicking on <https://www.afflip.com/getting-involved> you will be able to find out more about making a donation (credit card, direct debit and by cheque) that will be directed to the range of educational programs we support in the Philippines.

Please stay physically isolated but socially connected during this difficult time.
Susan Boucher



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