

THE EAST • WEST OVERSEAS AID FOUNDATION

Newsletter

Issue 26, December 2018

www.tewoaf.org.au

TEWOAF's Day Sponsorship Program underpins the whole of the Foundation's activities on the ground.

The money received goes some way to cover the running costs of the Uluru Children's Home, which cares for a particularly vulnerable group of children, providing them with a safe and caring environment. The funds also support the community education, development and environmental programs the Foundation runs.

The Day Sponsorship donors have played a key role in assisting the Foundation to keep operating over the years and we would love to have 365 days fully covered.

Day Sponsorship cards are included in the Newsletter.

Please consider joining the Foundation Day Sponsor 'family', or perhaps sign up on behalf of a family member or dear friend as a Christmas gift.

We thank Seasol once again for generously continuing to cover the administration costs for this program.

Please make a difference Sponsor a Day



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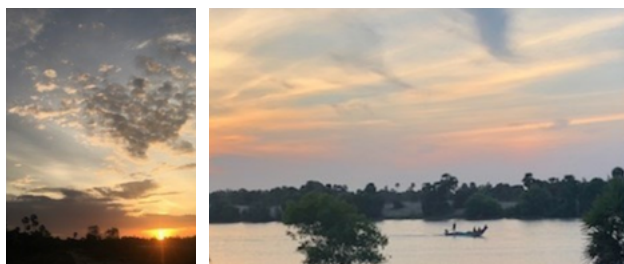


ULURU UNLIMITED MUSINGS FOR OUR ULURU FAMILY

The time has come again to catch you up on all the happenings here in Uluru and in the process I have been thinking a lot recently about impact. I think this has come about because the phrase “social impact” is one of those liberally thrown about the not-for-profit world. As a foundation, we obviously strive to have a positive impact in the lives of those we seek to help and support. We work to improve and enrich the health, education, employability and happiness of our children and communities. At the same time, we seek to lessen our impact on our environment -to minimize our footprint and work within what nature provides to find a sustainable way of existing here. To strike a perfect balance.

As I write this I am watching one of the fishing boats gliding by. It is a tranquil, picturesque portrait. In reality, however, the lives of many of the members of these communities is far removed from this peaceful scene. What is beautiful though, is to spend time here and see how the ceaseless work we do with these communities helps to bring the reality of their everyday lives more and more in line with the idyllic picture out there on the water.

That is impact.



And now for the latest and greatest from Uluru....

ULURU HEALTH CARE CENTRE GENERAL CHECK UP HEALTH CAMP



Once again, UHCC provided a wonderful service to the community by conducting a health camp providing comprehensive and thorough general health check up including extensive blood work, ECGs and more at a fraction of the cost of these services.

The program was conducted in partnership with Thyrocare and they commented on how well and seamlessly the event was conducted. It was also the first time they had conducted a program like this where not one sample needed repeating or discarding – our staff did a meticulous job with a lot of care.

Preparation for the day started quite some time in advance. Sangesh produced some great posters about the day



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and our social workers went village to village promoting the event in the week leading up to it.



I was very proud of how well it was organized and how all the staff came together to make it a very successful day.

Our clinic was looking beautiful and the day went very well after a lot of hard work from Dr Premnath and his team.

Thanks must also go to Sangesh, Raja and other members of staff including VSeEC and the children who helped out. I was also thrilled that so many of our staff members and their family members took part and got a thorough check up thanks to this event.

The camp has been invaluable in identifying areas of concern for patients and bringing in new patients for care. The clinic has been extremely busy this week conducting the follow up consultations with patients regarding the results which was all included for them. I sat down with the Dr to go through a sample of one patient's results and I must say the check up was incredibly comprehensive and impressive.

Congratulations to Dr Premnath, our nurses and our social workers on the success of this event and thanks to everyone for their incredibly hard work.



ULURU CHILDREN'S HOME MUSINGS ANNA SALAI UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' VISIT

Every year around this time our children get treated to a Sunday full of fun and games courtesy of students of the well known Anna Salai University in Chennai.



It was great to meet these kind and enterprising young souls. They take time out of their busy schedules and come all the way from the 'big smoke' to engage the hearts and minds of our children.

The students perform some educational skits, do some improvements, impressions, speeches and dancing and encourage our children to join in. This is followed by general activities, mentoring, playing games and sports. Our children clearly had a wonderful time and look forward to this visit every year.

It was wonderful to see them interacting with the children and has certainly inspired me to look at the world the way I once did as a uni student – as an amazing place filled with endless possibilities and opportunities for growth and exploration with the self assuredness in one's own abilities to tackle whatever comes your way and learn from it. I definitely sense some of that confidence and ease in our UCH children and it makes me happy and proud.

I want to be sure that we are continuously nourishing their belief in themselves, their natural curiosity and interest in the world around them.



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ULURU CHILDREN'S HOME KARATE - 9TH ALAN THILAK INTER SCHOOL KARATE TOURNAMENT

This weekend was absolutely packed with exciting events for the foundation and one of those was the participation by our Uluru children in the 9th Annual Alan Thilak Inter School Karate Tournament.

This prestigious regional competition is invitation only and is a competition between well regarded karate schools in the region. Our Uluru Children's Home Karate school happened to be one of them!

Our classes are held twice a week and recently underwent some program changes along with the rest of the children's after school program. These changes have been great and included moving classes to the roof of the school and splitting the classes into two groups according to age and skill level.

The UCH School of Karate has produced 37 black belts and at present 13 of our children have black belts. When we began UCH as a home for abandoned girls, I had suggested including karate in their extra curricular program particularly because my own (much shorter) experience with it was very positive and built confidence, discipline and strength along with a very helpful self defense component.

I am very proud of our karate program. Our thirteen black belts were invited to participate in the tournament this year. I suggested that all the children may enjoy a day out and our black belts could use the moral support. So we made a day of it.

A very nice and unexpected surprise was that TEWFI and the UCH karate school were honored by way of a plaque and presentation which I received on the stage on behalf of the foundation with Devi.

The results were just beyond what I could have imagined. At the end of the day fourteen of our



children ended up competing and between them they collected an astounding 21 medals!

Of our children who competed eight were girls. This made UCH a great gender equality representative for the competition this year which registered a record number of 45 of the 250+ children participating this year being girls.

Well done to all of our children – we are so incredibly proud of you!



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ULURU CHILDREN'S HOME NEW UCH ADMISSIONS

We have been lucky enough to welcome two new boys to UCH in the last few weeks.

Subinеш and Emmanuel, both fourteen, have come to us from different places and backgrounds but are quickly becoming part of the UCH family.

ULURU CHILDREN'S HOME TERTIARY ADMISSIONS

Since your last update, our four recent Year 12 grads have now officially moved on and been admitted into their university and further education courses. Kalpana, Sindhu and Saranraj have all begun their classes at Perambakkam College of Arts & Sciences in Chennai and all three are settling in really well and enjoying themselves.

Kalpana and Sindhu came back for the weekend and came along to support their brothers and sisters at the Karate tournament – they themselves being extremely accomplished martial artists with high praise from the Karate master. It was really wonderful to see them.

Naveen has also settled into SVRCC and the hostel there and I'm looking forward to his next visit to hear all about it. From all reports he's enjoying it and it's great that he is following his dream career.

We wish them all the best in their new endeavors.

Till next time, here's to Uluru and our unlimited potential!

With much love,

Aditi



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TEWOAF 2018 ANNUAL GALA DINNER

On Saturday 13 October 2018 The East West Overseas Aid Foundation 26th Gala Dinner was held at the Manningham Function Centre in Doncaster. Pre-dinner drinks were served to guests in this attractive setting overlooking the Dandenongs and while they mingled and chatted many took the opportunity to place bids at the Silent Auction and Uluru Craft tables where a wonderful variety of items was displayed, some having been made by the children from the Uluru Childrens Home.

After everyone was seated our very able Master of Ceremonies John Prince reminded us of the important focus of the evening, which was to raise funds from Day Sponsorships and to inform people how vital these funds were in covering the day to day running of the Foundation in India.

Following a delicious entrée the entertainers for the evening, the Iyer Brothers, were introduced. Ramnath and Gopinath play Carnatic music which as was explained is one of the world's oldest and richest musical traditions and we thank them for their generosity in performing for us.

Our speaker Natteri Chandran preceded his presentation by showing a film taken at Uluru narrated by Lisa Boyd of Seasol, again focusing on the need for Day Sponsorships. Chandran followed

on with a practical talk of facts and figures detailing what has been achieved so far and pointing out the money needed annually to keep these achievements going.

Arch Staver our Auctioneer then took over creating some brisk bidding in our Live Auction. This was followed by the Raffle draw. Our MC had great fun making a game of it, holding guests in suspense over who had the winning tickets.

Thankyou to all who attended and to the donors of the auction items. It is due to your amazing generosity that the Foundation can continue with its good works.

Thankyou also to the Gala Dinner Committee for their time and hard work in putting on the event.

The evening was a great financial success with its net earnings from ticket sales, raffle and auction items, Day Sponsorships and special donations. \$33,000.00 was banked from the night and an additional \$27,500 was given in pledges.

**We look forward to
seeing you again in 2019
for the 27th Gala event.**

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The impact of your giving... Where are they now?



- * **Your donation** of time, money and expertise has enabled these girls and many children since then to have a safe, caring environment, an education that provides them with a hopeful future, food and clothing, and has given them choices in life that otherwise they would have been denied.
- * **Three of the children pictured have graduated from tertiary education** and are now employed in fashion technology, computer engineering and medical reception roles.
- * **Sixteen of the others are currently following various courses** including economics, stenography and engineering.
- * **One is married** with a young child.
- * The remainder are either still **completing their secondary schooling or have been reunited with family members.**

None of this – giving young people a future - would have been possible without your support.

Thank you from the 125 children who have been cared for at Uluru Children's Home.

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SAVE THE DATE: TEWOAF 11th ANNUAL GOLF DAY



Friday March 8th, 2019 at Southern Golf Club

Enjoy a game at Southern Golf Club's magnificent course and assist the Foundation with its next major fundraising initiative.

Come with a group or by yourself and join us for a great day at one of Melbourne's most prestigious golf courses.

If you are not a golfer there are other ways you could help out, for example by becoming a Golf Day supporter through a tax deductible donation which will be recognised at the event.

Sponsorship packages are also available, with benefits including:

- Company Logo to appear on the Golf Day entry form
- Prominent signage at the golf course on the day
- Either a banner provided by your company or signs can be provided by TEWOAF
- Recognition at the club house award presentation
- Business brochures can also be distributed at the event

Sponsors for 2017 included Jellis Craig, Ladbrokes, Nelson Alexander, Radisson on Flagstaff, Seasol International and ULR Landrover.

We would be delighted to have your involvement and assistance

Please contact a Golf Day Committee Representative for further information

**John Shuster 0419 887 295 Judy Nutbean 0402 324 557 Gwenda Flintoff 0402 413 978
or Sue Kennedy at The East West Overseas Aid Foundation Office on 03 9650 0514**