

# AFFLIP NEWS

## FROM THE CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

It seems hard to believe that AFFLIP is now into its second year of operation. So much has been achieved in such a short space of time. This Newsletter No. 3 sets out some of these achievements and describes our plans for the coming year.

If you have read our philosophy statement (see our website – [www.afflip.com](http://www.afflip.com) ) you will know that we have deliberately designed AFFLIP's approach to ensure that our work is not based on a patronising 'helping hand' philosophy. Rather we see the Foundation and the schools in the Philippines as collaborating partners, working together to foster learning. This has been the approach with the first group of 15 elementary schools in the Talomo District of Davao City, Mindanao.

One structural way in which this approach is realised is through the interaction between the Board of AFFLIP and a group of educators based in Mindanao who comprise the AFFLIP Technical Working Group (TWG). In Australia we would know it as an advisory group to the AFFLIP Board. Both parties work together on problems and issues.

Each year the 15 schools identify their perceived needs in one or more of the areas of curriculum, resources or student well-being and these are aggregated by the TWG. Two AFFLIP Board members then travel to the Philippines to work with the TWG and individual schools to discuss the plans.

continued on page 2



*Alan and Ali are shown the results of a vegetable garden program*

## Student scholarships awarded

AFFLIP has provided scholarships to students from impoverished backgrounds, in the Talomo School District of Davao City, who are at risk of dropping out of school. The grants are designed to encourage students to stay in school and to develop their full potential.

Scholarships, which are worth seventy dollars (A\$70) per school year, are handled and administered by each school under the supervision of the District Scholarships Coordinating committee. They cover basic school needs and charges such as school fees, club membership, uniforms, shoes, notebooks, pencils/ballpoint pens, bag, ruler, papers, and other important school materials.

In the school year 2013/14 there are 30 scholarships for Grade 4 students. It is expected that under normal circumstances the recipients will continue with the scholarships through Grades 5 and 6. An additional 30 Grade 4 scholarships will be made available in the school year 2014-2015 with an extra 30 Grade 4 scholarships in the school year 2015-2016, making a combined total of 90 scholarships by the 2015-16 school year.

Early in the school year, scholarship sponsors are provided with details about the student they are sponsoring, and receive a report on the student's progress at the end of the school year.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, go to [www.afflip.com](http://www.afflip.com).



# From the Chair and Deputy Chair (cont.)

This work includes assessing the extent and type of resources needed, the status of initiatives being implemented under flagship programs, the expected outcomes and evaluation methods to be used, and the overall contribution that the achievement of the identified needs will make to fostering learning.

The Board members leave the Philippines with a tentative agreement and report this to the AFFLIP Board. We have found that this interactive and iterative approach ensures that the schools are not mendicants of AFFLIP, while at the same time guarding against AFFLIP simply carrying out the wishes of the schools without question. It also means that the precious funds raised in Australia are used to address the most urgent needs in the most rigorous ways in our budgetary and implementation processes.

In March 2013, AFFLIP Chair, Alan Reid and Deputy Chair, Ali Douglas, visited Talomo District for ten days to work with the TWG to establish the AFFLIP strategic plan for 2013/14. Our visit involved visiting the 15 schools, meeting with the various sub-committee groups, evaluating the effect of our programs so far, identifying emerging needs, and meeting key individuals such as the local Congressman, Mayor, and Regional Director. It was an exhausting schedule, but a rare privilege to work with the Talomo

educators who are such a committed group, working against the odds in incredibly under resourced schools. They are so appreciative of the Foundation's work.

Some of the outcomes from the visit included:

- the restructuring of the composition of the Davao-based TWG, and the establishment of program coordinators and sub-committees in each the Flagship portfolio areas;
- the development of a Draft Strategic Plan for 2013-2014 with the TWG;
- the Review of current programs and initiatives, particularly relating to Curriculum Resources and Health and Nutrition, during visits to all schools and through meetings with coordinators and sub-committees for each flagship program area;
- developing and extending AFFLIP relationships with DepEd Regional and Divisional personnel, the Mayor's Office and the Congressman;
- establishing a working relationship with the Dean of Education at the University of the South Eastern Philippines and his staff as a platform for a future partnership in supporting Talomo District

with teacher professional development activities in Literacy;

- providing further advocacy for AFFLIP with Davao based media representatives and Davao West Rotary Club;
- re-establishing relationships with suppliers of hardware equipment for AFFLIP gardening and aquaculture programs;
- further enhancing and developing the relationship between the AFFLIP Board and the School Leaders of Talomo.

We presented the draft strategic plan for 2013/14 to the AFFLIP Board in April, and the plan has now been approved and costed. You can see it represented in the way our Flagship programs are described on the website ([www.afflip.com](http://www.afflip.com)).

It is now over to the Foundation to raise the money and design the programs to make sure it happens. And this is where you come in. As you know, our programs in the Philippines depend so heavily on the financial and volunteer support and generosity of our Board members, donors, AFFLIP members and event participants in South Australia. We want to thank you sincerely for this support and hope fervently that it continues in 2013/14.

Alan Reid (AFFLIP Chairperson)  
Ali Douglas (AFFLIP Deputy Chair).

Meeting with District and Division leaders



Grade 4 pupils at A. Mabini Elementary School greet the AFFLIP visitors



Vegetable garden at A. Mabini Elementary School



AFFLIP Patron: Hon. Greg Crafter

Board Members: Professor Alan Reid (Chair), Mr Alastair Douglas (Deputy Chair), Dr Jenny Barnett, Ms Miriam Cocking, Ms Caroline Green, Mr Max Greenwood, Mr Jock McFarlane, Mr Michael O'Donoghue, Mr Roger Saunders, Mr Trevor Tiller, Ms Lyn Wilkinson, Mr John Younger (Treasurer).



# Highlights from the 2012/13 year

- We have completed all the "red tape" associated with becoming an incorporated not-for-profit foundation, established a twelve-person Board and sub-committee structure, formed a Technical Working Group and sub-committee structure to support each flagship program in Davao, and can now boast a membership of over 100 people.
- We have developed an explicit philosophical basis for AFFLIP along with a well-defined structure for operation, both of which can be found on the website [www.afflip.com](http://www.afflip.com).
- We have established two main portfolio groupings – AFFLIP Flagship Programs, and Administration and Finance. The five major flagship programs are Curriculum Learning Resources, Health and Nutrition, Scholarships, Schools Networking and Teacher Professional Development. These are supported by the eight portfolios of Administration, Finance, Advocacy and Publicity, Liaison with the Filipino Community, Communications and those with a fundraising focus of Membership and Donations, Grant Applications and Sponsorships, and Event Management. Each portfolio is led by a Board member and many are supported by sub-committees.
- AFFLIP has landed two shipments of Curriculum Resources in Davao which have been distributed to the schools. We are now working on our third shipment!
- Gardening tools have been provided to all schools to assist them with the growing of vegetables to supplement their school feeding program. Several

schools have also embarked on aquaculture programs which we are supporting. These initiatives contribute to our Health and Nutrition program where we also plan to provide basic medical equipment and first aid supplies to each school when our resources allow.



- The AFFLIP Scholarships program has been established and this year we will sponsor thirty Grade 4 students from impoverished backgrounds who are at risk of dropping out of school. In the next two years these numbers will increase to ninety students who will be sponsored for the final three years of their elementary education to Grade 6. For the cost of \$70 per year we can purchase school uniforms and shoes, and pay school fees and club memberships for our AFFLIP scholars. A number of members have indicated their desire to sponsor a student and there is a spot on the attached membership renewal notice to do just that.
- We have now identified the first six schools in both SA and Talomo to be

the pioneers in our Schools Network program and communications between those schools has commenced.

- The Board has been active on the fundraising front with a most exciting launch held in February where the Chief Executive of DECD Mr Keith Bartley officially launched AFFLIP with 300 members and friends in attendance. The fundraising sub-committee has also conducted two other very successful events one a barbecue at a beautiful hills property and the second a film afternoon to view *The Great Gatsby*.
- We have appreciated the financial support of many generous individuals and service clubs including the Maitland, Bordertown and Adelaide Rotary Clubs and the Maitland Apex Club; and substantial donations (greater than \$500) from Mr Arn Doan, Mr Robert Schulze, Mr Peter Wilkinson and Ms Judy Will. Our target this year is to raise \$25,000 to support our flagship programs and activities.

In March this year two Board members visited Davao and worked with the Talomo principals to review the activities of the past year and plan for 2013/2014. The visit once again emphasised that AFFLIP is a partnership and that our colleagues are working extremely hard to make the most of the opportunities which AFFLIP is providing for their schools and also for schools in South Australia. Very shortly another two Board members will visit Davao to establish our Professional Development program in Literacy for teachers.

## AFFLIP Officially Launched

The official launch of AFFLIP was held on February 8th, 2013 at the Pavilion (corner of South Terrace and Peacock Rd, Adelaide, South Australia) with over 300 people in attendance. The highly successful cocktail party was enjoyed by all, many of whom danced the night away to the sounds of the band Smoke and Mirrors.

Master of Ceremonies Mr. Ali Douglas introduced Board Chairman Emeritus Professor Alan Reid, who provided the background of the Foundation, and Mr. Keith Bartley, Chief Executive of the Department of Education and Child Development, South Australia, who officially launched the Foundation.

The silent auction was wonderfully supported, and together with the profits from the tickets and donations, will provide a firm financial base for many of the Foundation's activities in 2013. A huge thank you goes to all those who generously donated items for the auction.



## TWO OF AFFLIP'S SCHOLARSHIP GRANTEES

**Mikyla Taripe**



**Age: 9 Grade: 4**

**Background:** Mikyla was nominated for an AFFLIP scholarship by her principal, Mr. Ronald Mangmang, based on her outstanding attitude to her schooling and her consistently high achievement levels.

**Roderick Canubas**



**Age: 9 Grade: 4**

**Background:** Roderick was nominated for an AFFLIP scholarship by his Principal, Ms. Elena Meralles, because of his recent academic achievement and outstanding potential.

AFFLIP wishes Mikyla and Roderick every success and is proud to support these outstanding young pupils.

## 6 SCHOOLS NOW NETWORKED

...

It is good to be able to report that the process of linking schools in South Australia with those in Talomo is well underway.

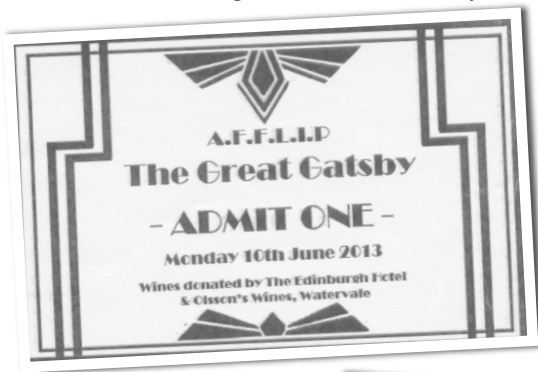
Six SA schools have met and discussed the project and enthusiastically committed to it. They have now been twinned with schools in Talomo and will be contacting their twinned schools over the coming weeks (see list below). Many ideas about potential links principal to principal, teachers to teachers and students to students have been suggested and will develop as the relationships between the schools mature. Trevor Tiller and Michael O'Donoghue are coordinating the network at the South Australian end.

Talomo Schools	South Australian Schools
Talomo Cent. Elementary School	Basket Range Primary School
A. Bonifacio Elementary School	St. Leonards Primary School
A. Mabini Elementary School	Elizabeth Downs Primary School
Catalunan Pequeño Elementary School	Alberton Primary School
Catalunan Grande Elementary School	Maitland Area School
Bago Elementary School	Hillcrest Primary School

## THE GREAT GATSBY

### A Roaring Fundraising Success!

The Great Gatsby film fundraiser at the fabulous art deco Capri Cinema on Monday 10th June was a 'roaring success' with an abundance of delicious canapés and variety of great wines – courtesy of Olssens Wines and the Edinburgh Hotel. Some of the 180 guests even dressed to the occasion and every-one got into the spirit of things. A special surprise highlight was the Wurlitzer organ to open the show.



Funds from this event alone will provide agricultural equipment for the 15 schools for another year, which is a great achievement. Congratulations to all involved and thanks for your support. Stay tuned for another AFFLIP film event later in the year.



#### BECOME AN AFFLIP MEMBERSHIP, DONOR OR SPONSOR

If you would like to help the Foundation in its endeavours, we would greatly appreciate your generosity. Go to our website at <http://www.afflip.com> to see how you might be able to help.



**Australian Foundation for Fostering Learning in the Philippines Inc.**

ABN: 70 078 683 534

**AFFLIP Membership (2013-14 Financial Year)**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First M.I.*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Postal Address*

\_\_\_\_\_

*City State Post Code*

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Subscription	\$ 20 . 00
Scholarship Sponsorship (\$70/student)	_____
Donation in addition to subscription	_____
<b>Total</b>	_____

Please indicate your method of payment:      Cheque / Cash / Direct to AFFLIP Bank Account

1. If paying by **cheque or cash** post the subscription and this Membership Form to:

Max Greenwood    18 Childers St North Adelaide SA 5006

2. If making your **subscription payment directly** to the AFFLIP bank account, use the account details below, and then either email this Membership Form to Max Greenwood at [maxgreenwood47@gmail.com](mailto:maxgreenwood47@gmail.com) or post it to Max's address above.

Bank Name:      Macquarie Bank Limited

Account Name:    Australian Foundation for Fostering Learning in the Philippines Inc.

BSB: 182 512      Account Nos.: 961 931 862

*Please note that both membership subscriptions and donations are tax deductible*

Kindly advise us of any skills/interests you have and would like to use to assist AFFLIP

***Thank you for supporting AFFLIP.***

AFFLIP Patron: Hon. Greg Crafter

Board Members: Professor Alan Reid (Chair), Mr Alastair Douglas (Deputy Chair), Dr Jenny Barnett, Ms Miriam Cocking, Ms Caroline Green, Mr Max Greenwood, Mr Jock McFarlane, Mr Michael O'Donoghue, Mr Roger Saunders, Mr Trevor Tiller, Ms Lyn Wilkinson, Mr John Younger (Treasurer).