



# BAHAY TULUYAN PHILIPPINES AUSTRALIA INC. NEWSLETTER

July 2006

*To friends and supporters of Bahay Tuluyan,*

*The recent visit by Lily, Marc, Rachiel and Catherine was very busy and a wonderful success. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way. It was great to have such an enthusiastic and hard working team. Hopefully we will continue to raise awareness of the difficulties faced by so many children in the Philippines. We're confident that with our support Bahay Tuluyan can make a difference.*

## Sydney Tour

By Kerri-Anne Williams

Gradually working their way to warmer weather - Cath, Lily, Rachiel and Marc spent their time in Sydney, enjoying the sunshine, and visiting schools from all corners of the city.

The first day in Sydney was spent soaking up the sunshine and meeting with friends, as we headed over Sydney Harbour to picnic on a beach with past AVI/Bahay Tuluyan Volunteers, as well as some new faces who were keen to learn more about the agency. With the team seeing snow just a few days before, it came as a surprise when the beautiful Sydney day had the harbour full of yachts and us all wishing we had thought to bring a swimming costume.

While the weather remained inviting over the next few days, the time was spent in the car driving to and from the far suburbs of the city to visit schools. (I was definitely glad to be in the car with a group of Filipinos -

who weren't afraid to join me in singing along to the cheezy driving songs as we cruised along).

Though each school group had a different dynamic, a common response was felt by all of the students who learnt more and more about the Philippines and the issues some of the children face. Rachiel and Marc's talks left some speechless, and others wanting to know the ideal question "how can we help?". One young girl was so impressed by the work and activities run by Bahay Tuluyan that she had to ask, "How can I join?".

Over 260 people attended a great evening in support of Bahay Tuluyan with dinner, information sharing and even some auction items to help the cause.

## Kids' View 2006

By Phoebe Hardefeldt

KidsView 2006 saw BTPA organize its first ever conference, focusing on issues facing children around the world including child labor, child trafficking, child abuse, child prostitution, poverty, child detention and street children. The workshop-style event saw around 85 students from Prep to Year 12 involved in debates, sharing stories, games, making recommendations to the UN, and other workshops, to discuss ways of contributing to awareness of social justice issues. Students had a chance to share their ideas, brainstorm ways that they can make a difference to issues which they're concerned

about, and report to the entire group about their decisions. The representatives from each school left with plenty of ideas, plans, and information kits to spread awareness and start projects in their schools. They were also able to talk to their peers about Bahay Tuluyan before the BT team spoke at their school.

Students, teachers, and BT and BTPA volunteers had a fantastic day, and are hoping that more conferences will be held at future events. Thanks to all the volunteers who facilitated the workshops, and to everyone who was involved in organizing the day.

### FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

We are very grateful to those who have sold bags, cards and jewellery. We still have more to sell so if you think you would like some or you know somewhere we can sell them please contact Clare Scerri on 93372124.

We have boxes of chocolates to sell. If you can sell some at your workplace it also helps to introduce Bahay Tuluyan to a wider community please contact Pat Lau.

A movie night is organized for Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July to see:

**Pirates of the Caribbean 2**

**Dead Man's Chest**

at George Cinema, Fitzroy St. St Kilda, 6.30

Tickets \$15

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There may be a few tickets left so contact Phoebe Hardefeldt ASAP

We are also considering obtaining copies of the Bahay Tuluyan book "Youth Pimps of Malate". If you would like a copy please contact Clare.

If you have any other suggestions for fundraising please let us know.

To contact anyone from BTPA regarding these topics please email: [info@aus.bahaytuluyan.org](mailto:info@aus.bahaytuluyan.org) or call Clare Scerri on 9337-2124

## ART SHOW

By Belinda Parker

*Children in Focus* took place April twenty, Amid glorious colour and people aplenty.

The night – both art show and photo exhibition –

With Gram Vikas, India, did come to fruition.

Music abounded; food flowed from the kitchen

Rachiel, Marc, Catherine spoke with conviction.

The photographs (taken by recent youth teams)

Showed laughter and playing and other children's themes;

While wonderful drawings of pencil and crayon

Lit up the walls that they were displayed on.

We thank specially AVI and all attendees as more than \$1000 can now go to BT.

## MORE THAN A DINNER!

By David White

Not only did this wonderful night raise an unexpected \$12,000 but it gave many people new to Bahay Tuluyan an opportunity to learn and understand the great work achieved.

Catherine Scerri opened the evening with an overview of the work achieved while Marc Pequero and Rachiel Neverio shared their personal journey with most informative and heartfelt presentations. Lily Flordelis, Bahay Tuluyan CEO completed the presentation with a summary of the variety and

complexity of the achievements.

Friendship, fun and information mixed with some truly practical support for the organisation was the theme of the night. So many wonderful supporters came together to help and one can't help but reflect on the sense of community and generosity generated by Bahay Tuluyan in Australia.

We would like to thank everyone who gave so generously. Our visitors were overwhelmed by the support and enthusiasm and it gave them renewed courage to go back to the Philippines and continue their work.

Thank you also to the enthusiastic team who helped to set up the hall and tidy up afterwards. Great Effort!!!!

Bahay Tuluyan would also like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their generous support of this event.

- Greg & Cathy Tandy and Nine Darling Street, South Yarra for the pre-dinner platters
- Brian & Joan Keane for the chocolates
- Allen & Tess Fox for the tablecloths
- St Mary's Primary School Ascot Vale; St Columba's College Essendon and Ave Maria College Essendon for equipment
- Our master of ceremonies, Adrian Ferris
- The Hardefeldt family for the door prizes
- Maree Ryan and Roselyn Court Reception Centre, Essendon for the glasses—[www.Roselyncourt.com.au](http://www.Roselyncourt.com.au)
- Yasmin Berrill for the water bottles
- Our jazz musicians: Trent, Steve & Olaf

### Donations for the raffle:

- Exclusive Picture Framers
- Astra Billiards in Dandenong—[www.astrabilliards.com.au](http://www.astrabilliards.com.au)
- Michael Ryan of Fellowe's Australia Pty Ltd—8336 9700
- Andrew's Bookshop—380 Lygon St Carlton
- Liz & Ross Wilkie
- Daniella Fusca
- David Scerri
- Melissa Barbieri

## Contact BTPA:

Email:

[info@aus.bahaytuluyan.org](mailto:info@aus.bahaytuluyan.org)

Phone: 9337-2124 (Clare)

[www.bahaytuluyan.org/au](http://www.bahaytuluyan.org/au)



## The Newsletter

We have a newsletter about 3 or 4 times a year and we can post it out to you. However some people have indicated that they would rather receive it by email. This will also help save printing, handling and postage costs.

Please let us know if:

1. You would like to receive the newsletter by email
2. You no longer wish to receive the newsletter
3. You would like to receive information about fundraising activities via email.

[info@aus.bahaytuluyan.org](mailto:info@aus.bahaytuluyan.org)

The next BTPA AGM will be held on Monday 11 September at 16 Benjamin St, Parkville. 7:00pm.

Everyone welcome!