

# Friends of Suai news



Friday 16 May 2025

## Message from the Chair

Dear friends and supporters of Friends of Suai Covalima,

We are delighted to share with you the Friends of Suai Annual Report for the financial year 2023/24.

The presentation of the report to Council had been delayed due to the Council election held in October 2024. As this reports on activities and achievements from some time ago, it was decided not to hold an annual meeting following Council accepting the report at its meeting on March 19, 2025. Instead we are circulating the Annual Report to all members and supporters. I hope you find it interesting reading!

[Access the Friends of Suai Annual Report here](#)

I would like to mention a few highlights from the report including a successful Study Tour to Timor Leste conducted in June 2024, which visited a range of organisations and places of interest in Dili and in Covalima. We spent time in Suai with the Community Centre staff to learn more about their work and visited some projects in an around Suai to see the outcomes. The important scholarship program and IT Social Enterprise continue to provide opportunities for many young people there.

Here in Port Phillip we held another successful fundraising Trivia Night and revised the Strategic Plan to take account of our reduced resources. The committee is determined to keep up our efforts and to continue support to our partners and friends in Suai.

I want to pay tribute to Carlene Harlock who was the Coordinator for Friends of Suai for over seven years until she finished in December last year. She made a significant difference and together with previous coordinators, a huge contribution to the success of this Friendship.

Megs Alston

Chair Friends of Suai Covalima

[Donate to Friends of Suai via Give Now](#)

## Stay connected

The friendship between the Port Phillip and Covalima communities is a relationship that goes beyond the usual concept of financial aid. It connects the community in the City of Port Phillip with the community of Suai/Covalima in order to enrich and enhance the lives of all involved. The participation of the community is key to the success of the friendship.

Get involved by volunteering your time, making a donation or attending our events. All are welcome.



## Making donations

All funds raised will ensure the Covalima Community Centre in Suai can continue to implement community development programs. Donations can be made via the following methods:

### Direct deposit (preferred method)

Commonwealth Bank account  
Acct Name: Friends of Suai Donations  
BSB: 063 243  
Acct: 1034 3552

### Online via the Friends of Suai Covalima

 [giventow.com.au/cause1266](https://giventow.com.au/cause1266)  
(fees apply)

## Bequests

You can make a bequest in your will to the Covalima Community Centre in Suai as it is an incorporated body (unlike Friends of Suai). This is a wonderful way to make a lasting impact to benefit future generations. You can obtain advice from your legal adviser about doing this, and for general information please email [friendsofsuai@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:friendsofsuai@portphillip.vic.gov.au)

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