

The story begins with a journey to East Timor



East Timor

- is one of our closest neighbours
- is one of the world's newest nations, gaining independence in 1999
- has a population of 1.2 million with 41% below the age of 15 years
- is one of the poorest nations in the world, with enormous problems in health care, nutrition & sanitation

A visit to Bakhita Medical Centre









Bahkita Centre

- Timorese Initiated Community Centre
- Provides education (language, computer skills, sewing, hygiene)
- Health..ambulance, clinic service, primary care, vaccinations, visiting dental care
- Supported by Australian funding but moving to establish economic independence with vegetables, chickens & coffee
- Managed by a very special Timorese man Eddie De Pina





The need becomes evident







- With the realisation that access to clean safe water was limited in rural East Timor
- Many children walk kilometres to collect water for the household before going to school
- Almost one in two of the rural population of East Timor lack access to clean water.
- WHO estimates 88% of diarrhea is attributed to unsafe water supply
- 21% of the population have access to good toilets

The plan takes shape

- With the mention of a spring owned by the Chief which may be accessible for the village water supply
- A big birthday & generous friends & family
- The skills of Bob Handby
- Support from Warrnambool East Rotary
- Some generous tradies who didn't mind a bit of hard work







The job gets underway Eraulo village water goes from this -



To This

The first pipeline brings clean safe water to 400 villagers



Eraulo villagers extend the pipeline









So now

1200 people have clean safe water & no-one walks far to a tap





The Pipeline lives on

- A small stipend is paid to a trained community member to maintain the system and teach others
- The community has selected members male & female to act as water carers. They inspect the system regularly and report problems and repair needs
- The community has collected a sum of money from each household to ensure the water continues to flow







With the assistance of Warrnambool East Rotary other water projects are undertaken at Letefoho to take the water supply from this -



To This





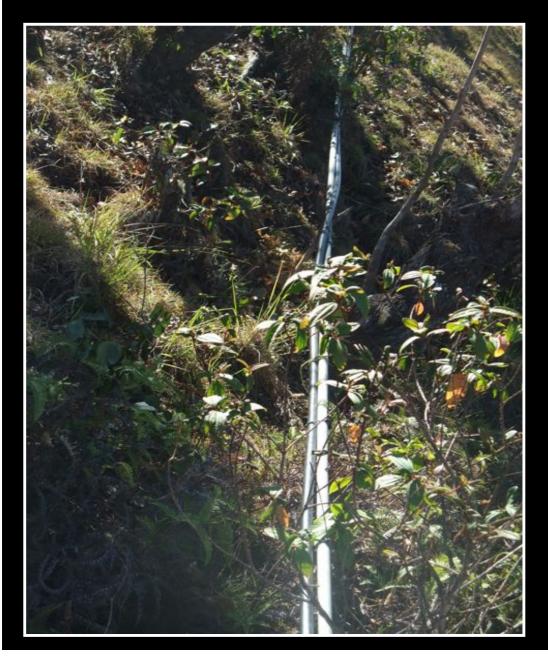


With the assistance of Warrnambool East Rotary other water projects are undertaken at Fatubulu to take the water supply from this -





To This







Where to from here? The road isn't always easy



Four villages in the Eraulo district identified as needing water

The Future

Form an association Water East Timor (WET) to plan, develop, fund & undertake water projects in East Timor



Thanks to Warrnambool East Rotary for their past & ongoing support