

## RAI KALAN NAROMAN

Rai kalan naroman  
Hodi fulan nia lakan  
Mai fila ha'u nia laran  
Tanbá nia mos sei nakukun.

Ita hako'ak, iha sumasu,  
Neon tomak  
La hanoin tan buat seluk.  
Ita hako'ak iha sumasu,  
Timor oan tomak  
La hanoin tan buat seluk.

## A MOONLIT NIGHT

A moonlit night.  
The brightness of the moon  
comes and lights me up  
as I am still in the dark.

We hold on tight to our pillows,  
all our thoughts  
on nothing else  
but our country.

A moonlit night. I think and think.

Support from this Reunion will go to:  
\*the Mary MacKillop Music School "Hadahur"  
and Literacy Program  
\*St Elias' Church, Ashcroft  
\*Arte Moris, Dili

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Photos: the Choir with Cornélio Cruz, and the Seminarians.  
Luisa C. Marques, Lourdes X. Sarmento, Jacinta C. Joaquim.  
Front: Graça S. Soares.  
Sunrise photo: Julian Langton RSJ  
Brochure design: Susan Connelly RSJ

# CORO LORO SA'E

*Reunion*  
December 2008

Timor oan tomak  
La hanoin tan buat seluk

## REMEMBERING CORO LORO SA'E

In 1975 most of the East Timorese who had escaped to West Timor went to Portugal. Although cold, muddy and wet, with poor sanitation, there were no complaints of hunger or cold or sickness but instead a bond of friendship emerged, especially among the young ones.

Maestro Cornélio Vianey da Cruz gathered a group of young people to join some seminarians and together we formed a choir known as **Coro Loro Sa'e** (Sunrise Choir). About forty young people, aged 8 to 15 years, met three to four times a week to rehearse in Maestro Cornélio's tiny dwelling. Soon after **Coro Loro Sa'e** became known among the Portuguese community, invitations started to pour in, seeking the choir's performances.

**Coro Loro Sa'e** travelled throughout Portugal to perform, expressing our Timorese culture, our identity, and to some extent our struggle. In 1977, we made a recording, sponsored by the Red Cross.

To most of us, the choir was a significant part of our childhood lives. It helped us to overcome the upheaval that took us from our home, East Timor. It helped us to overcome our fear and gave us laughter and contentment. But most of all, **Coro Loro Sa'e** became the family that most of us were forced to leave behind in our beloved East Timor.

Over the years members left the choir one by one, as the need to migrate to Australia became a vital part of each one's life.

Today, many are settled throughout Australia, in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Darwin and Perth. Some still reside in Portugal and some have returned to East Timor.

**Thirty years after the foundation of *Coro Loro Sa'e*, a reunion of its original members, including Maestro Cornélio, will be held in December 2008 to once again relive the memories of our childhood in the choir.**



## PROGRAMME

### CHRISTMAS MASS

**December 24 2008 9:00 pm**

St Elias' Church

Cnr Elizabeth Drive and Maxwells Avenue,  
Ashcroft NSW

### REUNION CONCERT

**December 26**

All Saints' Church, George St, Liverpool NSW

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 3:00-5:00 pm      | Display of Memorabilia<br>Powerpoint Presentation                               |
| 5:30-8:30 pm      | Welcoming Tebe (Lemorai)<br>Introduction<br>Concert<br>(Refreshments available) |
| 8:30 pm 'til late | Dinner and Party<br><i>Reggae Temptation</i><br><i>New Pop Orchestra</i>        |

### Tickets for Concert, Dinner and Party

8-15 years.....\$15

15 years and over.....\$25

### SOCCER MATCH

**December 27**

from 9:30 am

Bamfield Park

Cnr Elizabeth Drive and Maxwells Avenue,  
Ashcroft NSW

