



The Beef

Issue 7

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Welcome to the new Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator... Lauren Cole

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Hi everyone! On the 2nd November 2010, I began work as the Rockhampton Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator.

Originally from Townsville, I was previously working as the part time Townsville Young Christian Students Coordinator, as well as the part time Townsville Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator.

I was only recently fully initiated into the Catholic Church in April 2009 when I completed my Confirmation and First Eucharist. I also completed a university degree in November 2009 with a Bachelor of Social Science majoring in Criminology and Human Services.

I have one older brother named Matthew and a pet rat called Gi-Gi. I love live music, reading, yoga and the beach. I am deeply passionate about empowering young people to be active Christian leaders within their own lives and the wider community.

I am thrilled to have such an amazing opportunity to work with young people in the Rockhampton Diocese and look forward to meeting you all in the up and coming months!!



“We walk by faith, not by sight”

- 2 Corinthians 5:7 -

Email youth@rok.catholic.net.au to subscribe today!

Chanel College East Timor Immersion Experience

A wise man once said, "You can't appreciate something properly until you have experienced it yourself". We six Chanel college students, Will Holden, Dom Ryan, Kirsten Ohl, Marli Gaughan, Bel Moran and Jessica Piper, now have a new found appreciation for absolutely every aspect of our lives. For nine days we lived in Baguia, a village in the mountains of East Timor. There we discovered that the reality of developing countries is very different from what we had always assumed.

From Dili we travelled to Baucau by a microlet, a small van with seats down each side. In Bacau we met with Marist Brother Tony Clarke who briefed us on what we were about to experience. That night we had a local dinner with 15 students from Assumption College in Melbourne who were also on an immersion trip. We were pleased to find that there were other schools who also offered this opportunity.

Teaching in the high schools was confronting. The classrooms had mismatched desks and chairs and little else. The classrooms were small, but usually over 30 people managed to fit into each of them. There was even a classroom smaller than most of ours that had 62 students in it. Going into the classroom was different from going into a classroom in Australia. When we walked in, all the students smiled at us and greeted us warmly because they were very happy to have people take time out to come and be with them. Whatever we taught, they were always happy to learn. They wanted to go to school, although this wasn't a possibility for everyone as many live hours away from a school. Most kids walk a long way to get to school everyday, because they are so keen to learn. In the wet season it is impossible for a lot of kids to go to school as the rivers are too flooded to cross. But instead of being grateful for a day off school like most Australians would be, they are upset that they are missing out on learning.

Part of the immersion experience involved learning about the violent and difficult history of the Timorese people. After leaving Baguia we spent two final days in Dili, the capital city of East Timor. In this time we became truly aware of the hardships that the people of Timor have undergone. Particularly we realized the extent of the horrific experiences most of the people we met had suffered so recently during the 1999 violence surrounding the Indonesian reaction to the independence vote. Considering this, it was amazing to recall the positive, happy nature of the people in Baguia and to witness the optimism of the Timorese people.

Timor, in a nutshell, was a challenge, with various physical and mental strains. However everything went smoothly. The trip gave to each of us, an understanding of a world that many people do not comprehend. And although we lived in poverty stricken areas for two weeks, not one of us regrets the decision to go because we are now so rich in spirit. The people and country of East Timor has truly changed our lives forever, and we would encourage each and every person to seize such opportunities wherever and whenever they arise.

We embarked on this journey to discover something deeper about ourselves. Perhaps we didn't find all of what we were looking for, however the experience opened the door for us to continue our search and planted seeds of change in our hearts. Finally, we wish to thank all those who made this experience possible and the many people who donated materials or assisted with fundraising for the Aleita school.



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Date Claimers ...

Youth Ministry Essentials

17th-21st January 2011

Youth Ministry Essentials is an exciting week-long intensive training program for those involved in ministry with young people. Hosted by the Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane, the program is open to anybody wishing to further develop their skills and knowledge in ministry with young people. For more information contact Lauren Cole on the below email address.

Movers and Shakers 17th April—21st April 2011

Movers and Shakers is back in 2011! This training program has been running since 1990 and is a key strategy in developing young leaders within the Queensland Catholic Community and beyond. The program has been developed to be as experiential as possible and invites young people to reflect on the various activities they will participate in during the week and discover for themselves the learning that emerges. The young people will share in small groups and will be challenged to work together in problem solving situations. For more information contact Lauren Cole on the below email.

ACTS Year 11 Camp 11th—13th May 2011

The Year 11 Camp, *A Chance to Serve*, focuses on how we can be part of recreating our world as the compassionate, just and peaceful world God intended it to be. By examining our own giftedness and the needs we see around us, we can make a difference in our families, with our friends and in our colleges. For more information speak to your School Chaplain or head of the Religious Education Department.



If you have any events or articles you wish to have published in The Beef, please contact Lauren Cole on the below email address.

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World Youth Day 2011 update ...

In 2011, pilgrims from around the Rockhampton Diocese will be travelling as part of the Queensland Pilgrimage. To ensure you do not miss out on your chance to be a part of WYD 2011, please ensure you have registered and made full payment by 15th April 2011. Once registrations have closed, preparation events will be held leading up to Madrid, 2011.

It is anticipated that another information session will be held in the coming months to ensure people have received all the necessary information before registrations close. It is also hoped that by this time, a decision will be made on where the QLD pilgrims will be staying and photographs of this may be made available. More details regarding this information session will be sent out in due course.

For those young people who are unable to attend WYD 2011 in Madrid, there will be local celebrations in the Rockhampton Diocese. Please keep your eye out for further details regarding these events.

For more information regarding WYD 2011 and the official QLD pilgrimage options, please click on the below link.

<http://www.wydtours.com/home.html>



WYD 2011 Expression of Interest Form

Name: _____

Parish/School/Community: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please tick which option you are interested in:

Direct Option (Includes WYD Week and a day trip to Toledo) *Not open to anyone under 18.*
Approx \$5000.00 Approx 13 days

Days in the Diocese (Includes Days in the Diocese and WYD Week). *Not open to anyone under 18.*
Approx \$5000.00 Approx 16 days

Pre-WYD Pilgrimage (Includes an extended pilgrimage and WYD week) *Not open to anyone under 18.*
Approx \$7000.00 Approx 21 days

Local Option (Pilgrimage around the Diocese of Rockhampton). *Pilgrims can join the entire pilgrimage or join the group when it arrives in their local area.*
Price to be advised. Approx 7 days.

Please return forms to DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRIES' OFFICE PO BOX 641 ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4701.

This form can be completed online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HCYX65P>.

Email youth@rok.catholic.net.au to subscribe today!