



Trade Winds Tea & Coffee Pty Ltd
P.O. Box 3424 Sydney, NSW 2001
Tel: 02 9252 5265
Fax: 02 9251 4542
E-mail: info@tradewinds.org.au
Web: http://www.tradewinds.org.au

December 2008

Dear supporter,

Season's greetings. Here's an update about what's been happening in Tradewinds circles recently.

We have an exciting new product range. You might have heard that, in response to requests from our supporters, we have introduced new tea products for our Teas of Integrity range. All of these products are fair trade organic and are from our Sri Lankan growers and producers we have worked with for the last 30 years. Our teas are **value added** in Sri Lanka.

The new products available in stock now are, first, a new catering pack of fair trade organic 500 enveloped black teabags priced at \$38. This replaces the old string and tag catering pack but the new pack contains the same delicious high quality tea from Sri Lanka. Second, we have a new catering pack of fair trade organic 500 enveloped Sri Lankan green teabags priced at \$42. Third, there is a new consumer pack of 25 enveloped fair trade organic green teabags priced at \$4.85. And fourth, we are offering a new consumer pack of 100 gram fair trade organic green leaf tea for \$4.95.

We have developed further our already strong commitment to our near neighbour, East Timor. Tradewinds is always on the lookout for ways that jobs can be provided in societies like that in East Timor where there is such a high rate of unemployment. So when the opportunity came up to not only buy coffee beans grown in East Timor, which we have been doing, but also invest in manufacturing those beans there, thus providing employment to locals, Tradewinds was interested. In pursuit of this interest, Jill Finnane visited there earlier this year and provided an insight into East Timor society and its needs.



Jill visited Family Hope orphanage in Gleno in East Timor where Tradewinds' relationship with the country begins. The children of East Timor have experienced trauma and dislocation yet they hope for a better future and they hope we will help them achieve it. They want to develop their skills and they want to be able to work when they grow up – perhaps in the coffee industry, perhaps elsewhere.

How could we help these children to find work? Could we help East Timor export its products after processing them and give some help in providing employment for its young people?

Jill found out more about problems in East Timor that need solutions. The country has a short rainy season and a long dry season. Coffee trees need 70% shade. Shade trees planted by the Portuguese are now so old they are diseased. Coffee trees are also old and need replacing. Current practice is to propagate new coffee bushes and shade trees in the wet season and then plant them out in the dry season. This means many plants die because of the length of the dry season.



Southern Cross University in Australia, East Timor Coffee Academy (ETICA) and Tradewinds plan to initiate a small project at Gleno to help the renewal and diversity of coffee plantations. With a constant water supply, East Timorese will be able to propagate their coffee plants during the dry season. There is an aquifer underground from which water can be pumped. When the ETICA staff and students cleared the ground around the old nursery, they discovered a large water tank. All it needs is a source of water. The first step is to set up a solar pump that will take enough but not too much water from the aquifer. Then propagation can take place in the dry season and planting out at the beginning of the wet season. They need help to buy a bore, solar pump (*shown left*), poly pipe and sprays for the one hectare nursery. Tradewinds is raising money for this project.

Jill saw this as one small step in a longer-term project that plans to bring permaculture training to ETICA, introduce value-adding of coffee, improve sustainability of East Timor and provide more employment opportunities.

We hope to develop our website further next year. Our dream is to make this website a means of putting you in touch with our producers at a far more personal level than in the past by passing on greetings and stories from our partners in Sri Lanka, East Timor and Papua New Guinea. We also hope to use the site to streamline ordering product so that our service to our partners can be as pleasant as possible. So watch this space.

We look forward to working with you next year as we bring to you top quality product that does so much good around the globe.

Ken Goodlet

Chair
Trade Winds Tea & Coffee