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LAM FAMILY
REUNION
2026
SAMOA

A celebration of family

Reunion Guide

Every family has a story

This is ours.

Welcome to the Lam Family Reunion 2026.

Whether you've travelled from Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Savai'i or elsewhere around the world, we're so pleased you're here.

This week gives us the chance to slow down, spend time together and reconnect with the people who know our family story best.

Some of us are meeting for the first time. Others haven't seen each other for years. This week is about renewing old friendships, making new ones and sharing moments that will become part of our family's story.

As we gather, we honour our past, celebrate the generations with us today and look ahead to those who will one day continue our family's legacy.

We hope this guide helps you make the most of your time together, from the organised activities to the conversations that happen in between.

Thank you for making the journey.

May this reunion strengthen the bonds we share today and give our children and grandchildren stories they will one day tell as part of their own family history.

We're so glad you're here.

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A Message from the Organising Committee

Dear Lam Family,

Every reunion begins with an idea, but it comes to life because people are willing to give their time, energy and support to make it happen.

Over the past several months, family members in Samoa, New Zealand and Australia have worked together with one shared purpose: **bringing our family together once again.**

Our reunions are more than gatherings. They are an opportunity to reconnect, welcome new generations, honour those who came before us and pass on the stories that help us understand who we are and where we come from.

As you enjoy the week ahead, take the opportunity to meet relatives you may not know, spend time with our elders, encourage our young people to ask questions and don't forget to capture the moments that make family reunions so special. Today's conversations will become tomorrow's family stories.

To everyone who has contributed, whether by serving on a committee, supporting fundraising, volunteering, making donations or simply making the journey to be here, thank you. Every contribution has helped make this reunion possible.

On behalf of the Samoa, New Zealand and Australia Organising Committees, thank you for being part of the Lam Family Reunion 2026. We hope this week leaves you with stronger connections, lasting memories and a renewed appreciation for the family we share.

May God bless our time together, keep our family safe and continue to watch over every generation of the Lam family.

Soifua ma ia manuia.

Our Family Story

Every family has a beginning.

Ours began with one man whose courage, hard work and love for family laid the foundation for the generations that followed.

From those humble beginnings, our family has grown beyond Samoa and across the world. Today, we are connected by more than our name. We are connected by the stories, values and traditions that have been passed from one generation to the next.



Tolupeni Lam

Early years

Our family's history isn't found only in photographs or written records. It also lives in the stories we share, the laughter between cousins, the wisdom of our elders and the memories we create together.

As we gather once again, we honour those who came before us and celebrate the generations who continue to carry our family's story forward.

The pages that follow tell the story of where we began. The week ahead gives each of us the chance to add our own chapter to the Lam family story.

Tolupeni Lam 1888 - 1 Jul 1968

A life that shaped generations.



Tolupeni Lam (also known as Lee Nu Chee Lam Sam Tai) was born in Foochow (now Fuzhou), China. As a young teenager, he travelled to Samoa aboard The Jepson.

His family owned restaurants in the Foochow area, and from an early age he learnt the trade of cooking. At around 15 or 16 years of age, he decided to leave home and follow a friend who was travelling to Samoa. This was during a period when Chinese workers were being recruited to work in Samoa.

Because he was too young to travel, he journeyed under the name Li Nu Chi (another family member's name), as he would not have been permitted to leave China using his own name. Family records also reference this name as Lee Nu Chi. Later, the Chinese Consulate in Samoa advised that his family name should be recorded as **Lam**.

Contrary to popular belief, Lam Sam Tai was not a coolie. During the voyage to Samoa, he worked as a cook, and his reputation and skill earned him a permanent position in Samoa. As a result, he was allowed to remain in the country during the repatriation of Chinese labourers.

Unlike the contracted workers, who were assigned identification numbers, Lam Sam Tai was never issued one. He was therefore not required to return to China when their work contracts ended. Having established a life in Samoa and working as a cook for a German firm, he chose to remain.

He later became a cook at one of Samoa's most prestigious hotels of the early 1900s, the Casino Hotel at Sogi. From there, he went on to open his own restaurant at Matafele in Apia.

It was here that he became affectionately known as **Tolupeni**. His restaurant served what many considered the best meal in town for just three pence. In Samoan, *tolu pene* became Tolupeni and the name remained with him for the rest of his life.

Tolupeni raised twenty-one children through his unions with three Samoan women from the Toilolo family of Savai'i: **Luluga**, **Pele** and **Siniva**. Today, his legacy lives on through the generations of the Lam family across Samoa and around the world.

More than a century after his arrival in Samoa, the values of courage, hard work and family that shaped Tolupeni's life continue to unite the generations that follow.

Our Family Today

Every reunion is a reminder of just how far our family has grown.

What began with one courageous journey has grown into generations of families across Samoa and around the world.

Though we may live in different countries, speak with different accents and our shared family story.

Lam Family Reunion • Samoa • 2023



Every reunion adds another page to our family's story.

Remembered with Love

Every family carries the memories of those who came before us.

Though they are no longer with us, their love, wisdom and legacy continue to shape who we are today.

As we gather once again, we honour them with gratitude, remembering that they live on through every generation of the Lam family.

Oli Sina Tivalu

22 May 1959– 21 Apr 2024



Oliver Fong

20 Feb 1944 – 26 Apr 2024

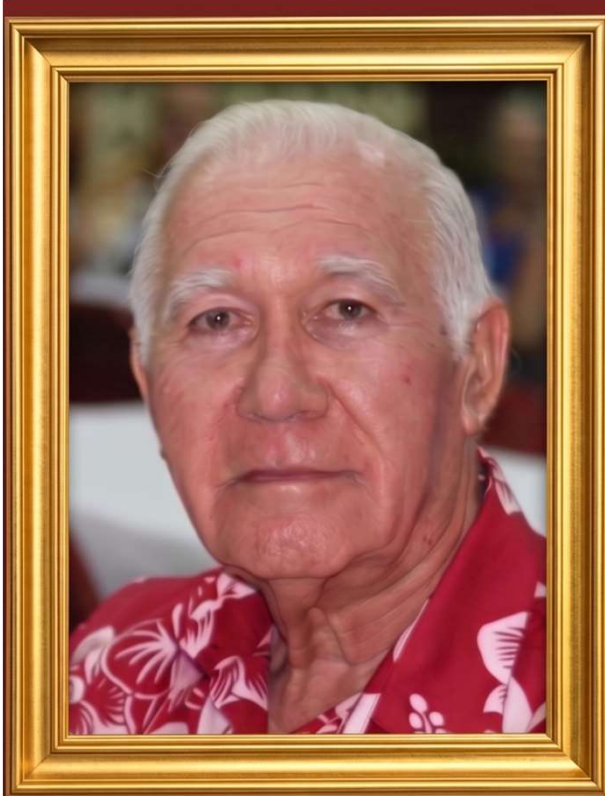


Arthur Stuart Malcolm

15 Apr 1943 – 25 Jun 2024

Remembered with Love...cont

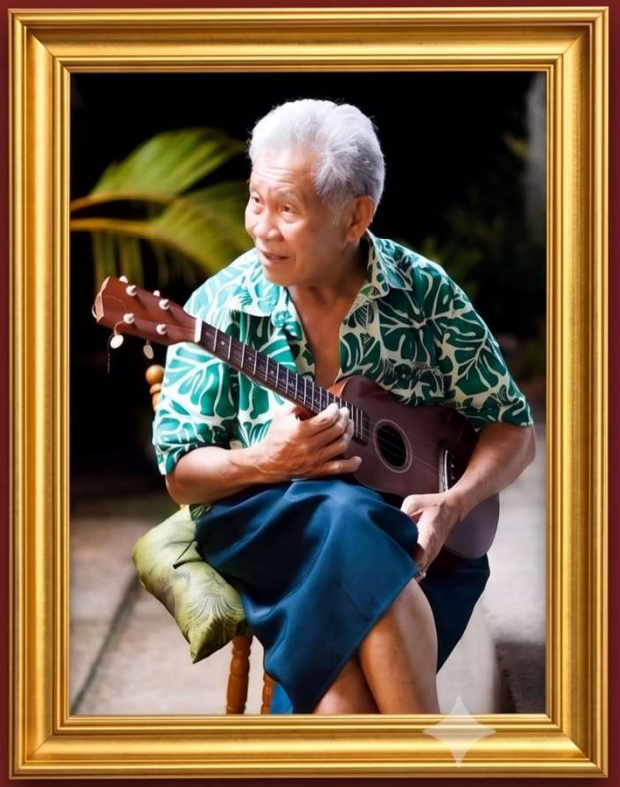
Klaus Kurt Stünzner
27 Feb 1937 – 01 Jun 2025



Richard Lio-Willie
30 Sep 1958 – 3 Sep 2025



Dennis Lam
29 Jul 1976 – 15 Mar 2026



Lutovi'o Lam
22 Aug 1940 – 12 May 2026

Honouring our elders

Our elders are the living bridge between our family's past and future.

Through their memories, wisdom and quiet example, they have preserved the stories, traditions and values that continue to shape every generation of the Lam family.

This reunion is an opportunity to spend time with them, listen to their stories and honour the legacy they continue to share with us.

With love, gratitude and respect, we celebrate our elders and thank them for keeping our family story alive.

Lam Family Reunion • Samoa • 2023



The greatest inheritance we receive is the wisdom of those who walked before us.

The Lam Family Song

Family is forever
It's nice that we're together
The more we spend with each other
We grow stronger

Chorus

And we're here now
Let's celebrate
Like we use to, everyday
We are nothing, but family
The Lam Family

You can choose your friends
But you cannot choose your family
Day in and day out
We get closer

Chorus

And we're here now
Let's celebrate
Like we use to, everyday
We are nothing, but family
The Lam Family

Welcome to Samoa

Whether this is your first visit or you've returned many times before, we're delighted to welcome you to the beautiful islands of Samoa.

For many of us, Samoa is more than a destination. It is the home of our family's history, where generations have lived, loved and built the legacy we celebrate today.

During your stay, embrace the warmth of Samoan hospitality, enjoy the slower pace of island life and make the most of every opportunity to connect with family.

The pages that follow contain everything you need for the week ahead, including the reunion programme, clan information and helpful tips to make your stay enjoyable.

Afio mai. Welcome home.



Meet the Clans

Every reunion brings together branches of our growing family. Each clan has been assigned a colour to wear throughout the week, making it easy to find your team, celebrate together and enjoy a little friendly competition along the way.

Find your clan below and wear your colours with pride.

CLAN	COLOUR
Aisa	Lavender
Sisifo	White
Tupa'i	Baby Pink
Patrick	Baby Blue
Jack	Gold
Bill	Steel Grey
Slim	Brown
Cowley	Purple
Liliau	Turquoise
Martha	Hot Pink
Sylvia	Teal
Olivia	Mint Green
Bernadette	Emerald Green
Links	Maroon
Emily	Apricot
Ingrid	Red
Asemi	Yellow
Misimoa	Royal Blue
Rhonda	Orange
Yettie	Black

What to bring

Samoa is warm, welcoming and relaxed, but a little preparation will help you enjoy the week to the fullest.

To help you prepare, we recommend bringing:

- Passport and travel documents
- Airline tickets and accommodation details
- Comfortable clothing for warm weather
- Clan colours and reunion T-shirts
- Formal/Smart attire for the Family Gala Ball
- Church-appropriate clothing and footwear
- Comfortable walking shoes or sandals
- Reef shoes (recommended for water activities)
- Swimwear and a towel
- Sunscreen, sunglasses and a hat
- Insect repellent
- Personal medications
- Reusable water bottle
- Phone charger and power bank
- Cash for markets and small purchases
- Any prescription medications (bring enough for your entire stay)

Most importantly, bring your sense of humour, your camera and plenty of enthusiasm.

The memories you make this week will last a lifetime.

Before You Travel

A few simple tips will help you enjoy your time in Samoa and make the most of your reunion experience.

Respect local customs

Samoaan culture is built on respect, family and community. Dressing modestly when visiting villages and attending church is appreciated.

Be prepared for cash purchases

Some local markets and smaller businesses operate on a cash basis, so it's helpful to carry some cash

Health and wellbeing

Your health and wellbeing is important.

Stay hydrated

Water stations will be available throughout the week. Use your water bottle and refill regularly.

Protect yourself from the sun

Bring sunscreen, wear a hat and seek shade during the hottest part of the day.



Reunion information

Registration

Please ensure any outstanding reunion fees are settled before arrival where possible.

All fees in Samoan tālā (WST)

Age group	Samoa & New Zealand	All other countries
1-3 yrs	\$150	\$300
4-11 yrs	\$300	\$600
12+ yrs	\$600	\$1200
70+ yrs	\$350	\$700

Day rate \$400

Facilities/Services on site

Restaurant and Bar You can purchase food and drinks outside of those provided.

Swimming pool Open till 10pm – You must supervise your children.

Towel hire \$10 per towel.

*Towels can be replaced at Reception at no extra charge.

Laundry on site

Wash and dry \$50 tala/load

Wash only \$30

Bed Linen

Fresh bed linen can be arranged every third day. If you would like this service, please contact Reception.

For your peace of mind, we recommend keeping valuables in a secure place or with you while your room is being serviced. The accommodation provider cannot accept responsibility for lost or unattended personal belongings.

Reunion at a Glance

This overview highlights the key events for each day of the reunion. Full programme details can be found on the following pages.

Day	Highlights
Saturday	Arrival • Registration • Clan Introductions • Welcome Dinner
Sunday	• Thanksgiving Mass • Clan photos • Family To'onai • Heritage Evening
Monday	• Sports Day • Bingo Night • Karaoke
Tuesday	• Arts & Crafts • Dinner and Cultural Show at Siva Afi
Wednesday	• Beach Day • Kids' Disco • Cousins Night Out
Thursday	• Family Meeting • Family Gala Ball
Friday	• Breakfast • Farewell

Please check the daily programme for meeting times, locations and any changes throughout the week.

Most importantly...

- Spend time with your family.
- Take the photos.
- Ask your elders the questions you've always wanted to ask.
- Laugh often.

These are the moments you'll remember long after the reunion is over.

Saturday 4 Jul 2026

Arrival & Welcome

Welcome to the beginning of Lam Family Reunion 2026!
Today is all about arriving safely, settling in, reconnecting with family and getting ready for an unforgettable week together.

What to wear: Casual

What to bring: Reunion guide and your biggest smile

TIME	Activity	Location	HOST COUNTRY
1-30 pm	Registrations & check-in St Therese	Dinning Hall	ALL
6-11.00 pm	Clan introductions & Welcome Dinner		SAMOA

Sunday 5 Jul 2026

What to wear: Appropriate for church and Clan colours\uniform for photos

What to bring: Singing voice for church • Big appetite for to'onai

TIME	Activity	Location	HOST COUNTRY
8.30 am	Mass	Poolside	SAMOA
9.30 am	Up-lift pre-packed breakfast		
11.00 am	Clan photos		
12.30 pm	Family To'onai		
6.00 pm	Light tea & refreshments		
7.00 pm	Heritage Evening	Dinning Hall	

Monday 6 Jul 2026

What to wear: Comfortable sports clothing • Sunscreen

What to bring: Sportsmanship • "A" game • Loads of fun

TIME	<u>Activity</u>	Location	HOST COUNTRY
7.00 - 9.00 am	Breakfast	Dinning Hall	NZ
9.30 am	Sports	Malae	
12.00 - 1.00 pm	Lunch	Dinning Hall	
1.30 - 3.30 pm	Sports cont.	Malae	
6.00 pm	Dinner	Dinning Hall	
8.00 pm	Bingo and Karaoke	Dinning Hall	

Tuesday 7 Jul 2026

What to bring: Your own singlet • t-shirt • White lava to tie-dye

TIME	<u>Activity</u>	Location	HOST COUNTRY
7.00 - 9.00 am	Breakfast	Dinning Hall	NZ
9.30 am	Arts and Crafts Massages	Dinning Hall	
12.00 - 1.00 pm	Lunch	Dinning Hall	
1.30 - 3.30 pm	Massages cont	Dinning Hall	
6.30 pm	Dinner • Cultural Show	Siva Afi	

Wednesday 8 Jul 2026

What to wear: Beachwear • Lavalava • Sunscreen

What to bring: Beach towel • Suntan lotions/protection

TIME	Activity	Location	HOST COUNTRY
6.00am	Zumba	Malae	
7.00 - 9.00 am	Breakfast	Dinning Hall	AUST
9.30 - 3.00 pm	Beach Day	Faimafili Beach	
6.00 pm	Light dinner for aunties and uncles	Dinning Hall	AUST
6.00 – 10.00 pm	Kids disco	Dinning Hall	
5.30 – 7.30pm	Cousins pre drinks	Poolside	
7.30 pm	Cousins night out – Transport departs		

Thursday 9 Jul 2026

What to wear: Formalwear for Ball

What to bring: Ideas for meeting • Energy to party

TIME	Activity	Location	HOST COUNTRY
6.00am	Zumba	Malae	
7.00 - 9.00 am	Breakfast	Dinning Hall	AUST
9.00 – 10.30 am	Family Meeting	Dinning Hall	
11.30 am	Ball Set up	Poolside	ALL
1.00pm	Lunch	Dinning Hall	AUST
6.00 pm – Midnight	Family Gala Ball Theme – Formal	Poolside	

Friday 10 Jul 2026

TIME	Activity	Location	HOST COUNTRY
8.00am	Farewell Breakfast	Dinning Hall	
	Check out by 10.30 am		
	Breakfast	Dinning hall	NZ
	Clean-Up		AUST
	Pack and sell left over items/clear rubbish		SAMOA

Safe Travels

As our reunion comes to a close, thank you for being part of Lam Family Reunion 2026.

We hope you leave with treasured memories, renewed friendships and an even deeper appreciation for the family we share.

Wherever your journey takes you next, travel safely, stay connected and keep our family story alive.



Important Contacts

Whether you need assistance during the reunion or in an emergency, the following contacts are here to help.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to a member of the organising committee if you need support.

Organising team

Name	Phone number
Afoa Francis Lesa	759 1213
Alani Stünzner	777 3808
Asiata Henry Williams	777 7030
Dane Fabricius	755 7921
Elvera Michelle Lam	757 6964
Emil Fabricius	762 8580
Ilse Stünzner-Avia	777 2311
Olsen Fabricius	Messenger
Sally Tuioti	7324563
Sarah Lio-Willie	Messenger
Seiuli Ashley & Fatima Lam	757 9095
Tertia Ryan	777 7516
Toilolo Misimoa & Rosemary Lam	717 4884
Toilolo Klaus Stünzner	757 9090
Trude Stünzner-Clarke	752 2217
Tutasi Lam	717 8302
Tyson Scanlan	760 6382

Useful Contacts

Emergency Numbers	<u>Phone number</u>
Police • Ambulance • Fire	911
St Therese Front Desk	42412
Medical Doctors	
Toilolo Dr Misimoa Lam	717 4884
Dr Joe Enosa	778 5067
Dr Belladonna Potoi	21652
Ah Leong Doctors – Leauva’a	762 5700
Hairdressers	
Leisha’s – Alafua	774 0583
Peata – Tamaligi	728 2039
Donna’s – Lotemau Centre	23277
Taxis	
Tuvao Taxi – Leauva’a	840 0841
Samoa Island Taxi	27236
Travel & Relaxation	
Global Travel – Jackie	777 4767
Janie Rasmussen - Travel	21361
Haven Massage	751 9576

Acknowledgements

A reunion like this doesn't happen on its own. It is made possible by the generosity, commitment and countless hours given by people who simply wanted to bring our family together.

To our organising committees in Samoa, New Zealand and Australia, thank you for your vision, dedication and the many hours spent planning every detail of this reunion.

To our volunteers, sponsors, families and friends, thank you for your support, generosity and willingness to lend a hand whenever it was needed. Every contribution, no matter how big or small, has helped make this reunion possible.

Most importantly, thank you to every member of the Lam family who travelled from near and far to be here. Your presence is what has made this reunion so special.

Together, we have celebrated our heritage, strengthened family bonds and created memories that will stay with us for years to come.

Fa'afetai tele lava.



Until We Meet Again

Every family has a story.

This week, we have added another chapter to ours. May the stories shared, the laughter heard and the memories made continue to bring us together for generations to come.

Until we meet again, may we remain connected by the values, love and family that have always united us.

Soifua ma ia manuia.

Moments from Lam Family Reunion 2023

