



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No. 18

March 2015

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to April. How did we get here so fast ?

Our tireless two, Sherryn and Susan have been working as hard as ever. Please see their articles in this newsletter. Susan and Sherryn have both been to Bali this year and have spent time with coordinators, schools and students. They both report good quality outcomes for all, with great gains for Bali schools and students.

Sherryn organized another student visit, another great success. Students, teachers and hosts alike quite exhausted by the time it was over. Well done Sherryn.

Susan organized a visit to WA for Kayan and reports are that he enjoyed his time and everyone found the visit very worthwhile. Thank you Susan.

We continue to grow and change as we move toward succession planning and future proofing AAS. Some things will stay the same, some things will not. Please feel free to let me know your thoughts as we make this journey together. It is important that the committee fully understand how you feel about our decisions. Your input is of great value, and you will have ideas and perspectives that we need to be aware of.

A very big thank you to everyone who is and has been with AAS for a very long time. A very big welcome to the new folk who have joined us over the past year, who are bringing new ideas and enthusiasm. Your contribution is very important in so many ways.

Until we meet again, thank you, AAS simply couldn't do without you,
regards

Kerry-Louise Steele
AAS President



COORDINATORS WORKSHOP

A workshop for all Bali coordinators was held at the Keraton Hotel on Saturday 17th January 2015. Susan and Derek Cromb represented the WA Branch.

It was a fantastic day for the coordinators to share ideas and experiences and make plans for the year ahead. A big thank you to all those who attended.

AAS could not run without our dedicated team in Bali.

SMPN 4 KUTA SELATAN

SMPN 4 Kuta Selatan has had some exciting news of late. The school Principal, Dr. I Wayan Tur Adnyana, was presented a "Widya Kusuma", which is an award for contribution to education, on 14th August 2014 at Bajra Sandi Renon. It was such an incredible moment because the award offered directly by Bali Governor, Made Mangku Pastika.

Also SMPN 4 Kuta Selatan celebrated its 6th anniversary on 4th April 2015. It was conducted at school and there are many invitees from the Education field such as Head of Education Badung, Head of Education South of Kuta District, Committee, etc. This event was recorded by Bali TV and TVRI.



OTHER HAPPENINGS



Students from SD. No. 4 Banyuasri, sister school to Beaconsfield PS, prepare to attend Gabor Dance Contest.



Congratulations to our Singaraja coordinator, Hendra Pemo who married his lovely Bride Kurnia on the 25th March. Several of the AAS Bali Team attended the wedding and reported it was a wonderful celebration.



IN THE NEWS...

Lionel Cranenburgh highlighted how Adopt-A-School are making an impact on the lives of orphaned children in Bali in his article "How schools can give an orphan a chance" on Education HQ.

A WA not-for-profit group of teachers called Adopt-a-School already provides schools in Bali with education and resources. Susan Cromb, chairperson said that the association had found sponsors for several orphans.

"One outstanding example is of a West Australian who sponsored a primary school orphan child that now attends a university in Java. Where once he was a child at risk he now has a bright future," Cromb says.

Read the full article at:

<http://au.educationhq.com/news/15317/how-schools-can-give-an-orphan-a-chance/>

SHERRYN'S BALI VISIT

by Alit Widia

When in Bali Sherryn and her friends from Canada, Terry and Gail had an opportunity to visit some Sister School Projects in some different villages: Kaba-Kaba, Nyambu, Cepaka and Munggu. Her visit was a special one. This time she didn't visit sponsored students, but some projects that funded by Sister Schools.



She began her visit on Friday, 20 February 2015. In SD2 Munggu she officially began communicating with LeeAnn Hanson at Nowra Public School in Sydney, NSW by using Skype. The cost of internet and set up a skype was funded by the two schools. Now the communication between the two schools become easier - it is as if Munggu and Sydney were near. They plan to communicate regularly, every Friday.

The Landsdale Primary school sent some money for SD2 Kaba-Kaba. The fund was spent for furnishing the school library needs i.e. TV-DVD, curtains and grifting iron for windows. Sherryn was honoured to switch on the TV to watch visitors that had a visit to this school before.

In SD4 Kaba-Kaba Sherryn and groups were shown the clean water project. The project was wholly funded by the Aveley Primary School. Now the students do not need to take water from the old school well anymore. They can keep the toilet clean and the garden beautifully green.

The last visit on that day was at SD1 Kaba-Kaba. Sherryn had opportunity to strike the RINDIK, a bamboo music instrument. Lyn and Gary Yeomans from Victoria donated some money for it.



The next visit was on Friday, 27 February. Sherryn and groups continuing their visit to some other schools in Nyambu and Cepaka. SD1 Nyambu rebuilt the School Sign Board. The South Bunbury Primary School shared the cost of this project. Sherryn was asked to cut a ribbon and then open the cover of the board. It means that the new school sign board is officially used.

We ended our visit at SD Cepaka. The School Committee renovated the school toilets. There are 3 toilets. A Western Style toilet is specially for guests and teachers and the other two are for girl-students and boy-students. The project was funded by the Bletchley Park Primary School.

Sherryn has seen to the spots projects in every schools.

I think she will send a report to every Sister schools in detail. The school principles always involving the school committees in every school activities. Your donations are really very useful. And the only words I can say is: THANK YOU VERY MUCH and KEEP IN TOUCH!

A Visit to SD 2 Nyambu

by Ni Wayan Sekarini (School Coordinator)



When the Sherryn arrived at this school, the school gate was closed. It did not mean that the school didn't allow them came in. But it was specially prepared for Sherryn to open it by herself to symbolize the opening officially. The school gate got funding from Morley Primary School. The fund was also used to buy a grass cutting machine. And the school keeper demonstrated it in front of the guests and all the school members. It seemed that the principle, teachers and the students were very excited for the quests visit. The students looked seriously when Mr. Alit asked them about their age and their class.

SPONSORSHIP REPORT

by Sherryn Reid, Sponsorship Coordinator

I travelled to Bali for two weeks from 18th February 2015 to touch base with the Bali committee and coordinators. The hard working Alit Widia, coordinator for Kaba Kaba, booked a couple of days for visits to the schools in his area.

At SD2 Munggu, sister school to Nowra Public School I was asked to officially open the internet project and connect by Skype to the school in N.S.W.

Outside the library, the children were assembled and were addressed by Terry Langis, an AAS Canadian sponsor who talked to the children about life and weather in Canada. I taught the Munggu children a short song in English, written by a Perth local, Michael Blake, called 'No hat, no play'. When we joined on Skype again with the children at Nowra PS both groups sang their National Anthem, Munggu sang 'No hat, no play' in English and the children at Nowra sang back. Billy from Munggu talked in beautiful English to the children at Nowra and the plan is to have future Skype crossings every Friday between the two schools.

We joined the children in the classrooms and then for recess at their canteen where everyone was served by the retired Principal. They bought fried noodles, rice and cups of tea. The kids were very happy and eager to talk to us.

Our next stop was SDN2 Kaba Kaba, sister school to Landsdale in W.A., where we were met by some very happy students. I was asked to turn on the TV and view the recordings of sister school staff, students and parents visits as well as the projects already funded by Landsdale PS.

Then on to SDN4 Kaba Kaba to inspect the clean water project funded by their sister school, Avey Primary in W.A. Avey PS has commenced funding stage one to renovate two rooms to make one large room for a language laboratory.



Next was SDN1 Kaba Kaba where we were met and given flowers by the Principal Nyoman Suatha and the English teacher Intan who teaches at SD2 as well. I was invited to strike the Rindik with two students to open the music programme of learning rindik.

The instruments were donated by Lyn and Gary Yeomans who are sponsors from Victoria. Later we shared lunch with staff, students and some of the sponsored children. Just love that nasi goreng!

On Saturday we purchased two new bikes on behalf of a sponsor to be donated to their two children who live quite distance from school. Monday was the day to visit SDN2 Kutuh, sister school to Cue Primary School. We were shown books purchased by a donation and much appreciated from Cue Primary, which was raised by the students delivering the yellow pages in Cue. A new desk in the library was a part of the ongoing Levi Sawkins Memorial Library fund and the bikes were delivered to the two 'stunned' brothers.



Tuesday saw us off to the Getakan Kindergarten which is all but completed with the new kitchen, new furniture, three handwashing basins installed and the playground reassembled. One very appreciative parent gave me 24 duck eggs from her duck farm.

From Getakan we went to SMP Kertha Budaya, sister school to Belmont City College, WA, where the talented girls performed a 'welcome dance', we were presented with flowers and met the new Principal and English teacher, Agus. Cards were passed to us to bring back to the students at BCC and we viewed progress on the new library.

At SD1 Nyambu, sister school to South Bunbury Primary School, I met the winners of the local school's dance competition with their Principal I Wayan Suarta, accepted letters for South Bunbury and cut the ribbon to open the new school sign, built with funding from their sister school. I was introduced to the President of the school committee and the English teacher Wayan Widarcyta and met again with Wayan Sukarini from SMP4 Kediri who will be the sister school coordinator for this school.

At SD2 Nyambu, sister school to Morley primary School, I was asked to unlock the new gate and view the whipper snipper being used by the gardener, bought with funds from their sister school. Children presented art works for me to bring back to Morley PS.



At SD Cepaka who will have a new sister school this week, we opened the new toilet block, funded by Bletchley Park Primary School, enjoyed a demonstration dance utilising the new masks made by the children, looked at children's work in classes and had a wonderful lunch with the staff.



We had a meeting at the Bali Safari and Marine Park to finalise arrangements for visiting Balinese school groups to the park commencing in August. Year six's from 10 different schools will have a day learning about conservation, recycling and animals and then will return to school to make a presentation about their visit to show to the other classes in their school. Many thanks to the Vice Governor of Bali, Mr Sudikerta, for funding this project.

I met with the staff and students at SMAN1 Kuta to finalise arrangements for their visit to Perth next month during Harmony Week. They will attend Belmont City College. There were meetings with the committee, Gede Eka Widana, President, Wayan Tur Adnyana Vice President, Sri Agustini Treasurer, Wahyuni Sarmiasih Secretary and many of the coordinators. Sponsors from Canada and Australia were able to meet their sponsored children.

A meeting with Ibu Tjokorda Istri Agung, Head of the Department of Education in Bali was the final meeting. She was very impressed with the accomplishments of AAS and has instructed Wayan Tur Adnyana to make the presentation direct to the Governor of Bali.

As you know, AAS is purely a voluntary association, both in Australia and Bali. The benefits to the schools and children could not be realised in Bali without the wonderful, voluntary cooperation and hard work of the committee, coordinators, school staff and sponsors in both places. To everyone, we say a huge big 'Thank You'.



UPDATE ON YERIEL



For those of you who remember Yeriel, the baby who was born over four years ago with hydro-encephalitis, we have an update. Sherryn was able to visit the family and was overjoyed to see this happy, heathy, intelligent little boy enjoying his sister Carla's 12th birthday.

WELCOME SD CEPAKA



SD Cepaka School is located in Bali, Tabanan Regency. Cepaka School consist of six classes and one teacher's room and headmaster's room. They have one library and one health room. In Cepaka School there are 168 students, from first grade until sixth grade. Cepaka is the name of the village and in this village there is only one elementary school. The principal is I ketut Nambreg.



SPONSOR VISITS

by Alit Widia

Many sponsors visit their sponsored students not just at their schools, but also directly to their houses. By doing this they can closely see the real situation and condition of the families. They can talk freely about what they want to do for their future. They are ready to give some extra money for attending some extra lessons or courses to achieve their ideas. The Morgans visited some sponsored students on March 1st.

Candra is Meggie Morgan's sponsored student. He wants to work in a tourism activity. At home he breeds 15 ducks. The family can consume their eggs or sell them for Candra's pocket money.



Damayanti is Jane & Fred Morgan's sponsored student. Damayanti wants to be a teacher. At home she diligently helps her mother making "canangs" (daily offerings).



Juni Arta is Jane's sponsored student. He is a strong boy. He wants to be a professional athlete. He took part in Tabanan Regency championship and he got a runner up.



Eka Budiarta is Fred's sponsored student. He wants to be a nurse. His hobby is flying kites. When the kite season comes he always participates in the kite contest.



Setyawati is Suzanne Love's sponsored student. She is good at Mathematics. She wants to be a Mathematics teacher. At home she helps her mother making daily offerings.



In 2014 the Yeomans from Victoria visited Bali 3 times, in April, August and December. They feel Bali is their second home.



But recently Lyn Yeomans came with her friends, LeeAnne Mitchel and Lloyd Jung-hans. On April 2nd Lyn visited Putra. Putra is an orphan boy and now lives with



his grandmother. Lyn bought Putra a new bicycle. He rides his bicycle happily to school.

LeeAnn Mitchel visited Maesa and family. LeeAnn met Maesa's grandmother, mother and father except Edi. Edi was at school. LeeAnn gave Maesa a bag of something and some money to her mother. LeeAnn signed up to have Edi as her sponsored student. Edi and Maesa are brother and sister.

LAPTOP THANK YOU FOR WAGGRAKINE PS



A big thank you to Waggrakine PS who donated 20 laptops in response to our request. They are being distributed to the Bali coordinators and a couple are already in use.

Wayan Sekarini teaches English at SMP4 Kediri and is coordinator for SD1 and 2 Nyambu and SD2 Buwit and is very thankful for her new tool.

AAS also received the following note from Pak Darmaja who teaches English at SD9 Benoa, "I just want to say my happiness and big thank for notebook, I took it yesterday, and will be very useful for me."

KAYAN'S VISIT TO MANDURAH

by Mrs Gwen Evans

Principal, Meadow Springs Education Support Centre

Kayan Budi Santosa was our guest in Mandurah from the 22nd to the 25th of March. He spent 3 days at Meadow Springs Primary and Education Support Centre. In the 3 days he visited 13 different classrooms from Year 1 to Year 6. In each class he showed some pictures of traditional dress and various ceremonies, he taught some simple Balinese songs and dressed a couple of students in traditional dress. He brought with him letters from our sister school SD N1 Pecatu. Our students wrote letters back which Kayan will give out when he returns to Bali. It was a very positive experience for both the staff and students at our schools as well as for Kayan. I have included a summary from one of my teachers who has described Kayan's visit to her class from the students point of view.

Visit from Mr Kayan, M3 Monday March 23rd

As soon as Mr Kayan entered the room everyone in the class fell silent. Mr Kayan was wearing traditional Balinese dress, and looked very regal and like a Prince. The students all thought he was a very important person!

Mr Kayan introduced himself in a very quiet voice, which meant everyone stayed quiet so that they could hear him. Our class were fascinated by his Balinese headwear, and he took it off and showed us how it was made. Then he put a lot of photos onto the Interactive Board for us to see. The first set of pictures showed his 2 children, both quite young, but beautifully made up in Balinese costumes and traditional make up for one of their festival ceremonies. Then he showed us a photo of them WITHOUT the costumes and make up, and they looked just like us!

Some of the photographs Mr Kayan showed us next were of different ceremonies celebrated in Indonesia, including a cremation. We could see the special animal that they built for the coffin, and we saw the whole thing burning. It looked quite scary!!

Some of the photographs Mr Kayan showed us next were of different ceremonies celebrated in Indonesia, including a cremation. We could see the special animal that they built for the coffin, and we saw the whole thing burning. It looked quite scary!!

Mr Kayan then taught us a Balinese song about some cats chasing some big fat rats, and we all had a go at singing it in Indonesian. Finally we got to dress up in traditional costume, and that was cool!

Thanks Mr Kayan for spending some time with us

From M3 (Meadow Springs ESC Year 4/5 Students)



SEEKING OLD SMART PHONES

If anyone has a used smartphone which they would like to donate to AAS for our Bali coordinators we would really appreciate it. If our coordinators in Bali each had a smartphone, then they could download Viber or What's App and our sms and calls would be free. This would make the communication between Aussie and Bali coordinators much more immediate and efficient. Please contact Susan Cromb, Membership Officer at cromb@tpg.com.au

APPRECIATION FOR SUPPORT TO AAS GOES TO:

Consulate of the Republic of Indonesia, Past Consul General **Syarief Syamsuri** and staff for their continued support.

Garuda Indonesia, Mr Ronald Tobing for continuing to provide an excess baggage allowance when flying to Indonesia. He is ably assisted by June Dunstan.

Metropolitan Omnibus Company, Bob Pearce. For bus hire rates phone 0418 337 302.

Milner's International College of English, Warren Milner provides scholarships to Bali teachers.

Also to our corporate sponsors:

Alfa Enterprises, Welshpool.

Westplan Design and Construction, Rockingham.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Visiting Bali? You could carry up donations of books, such as discarded reading or library books, or other school resources. We can apply for a 5kg extra baggage allowance with Garuda.

Contact Susan Cromb: 0402 914 521 (A/H); Sherryn Reid: 9355 5505.

HOW CAN I JOIN?

Membership details are as follows:

Corporate Membership - \$100 minimum per annum.

Private Membership - \$10 first year. (Includes certificate.)

- \$10 annual renewal.

School Membership - \$30 per annum. (Includes certificate.)

All members receive AAS newsletters.

COMMITTEE

President - Kerry Steele

Vice-President - Sheila Hay

Minutes Secretary - MaryJo Harris

Membership Officer – Susan Cromb

Newsletter – Cathy Hopper

Sponsorship Co-ordinator – Sherryn Reid, Sponsorship Assistant - Deb McEwan

Web Administrators – Lis Turner

Treasurer - Shane Scott

Wiki Co-ordinator – Andrew Rowe

For further information contact Kerry Steele - kerry.louise@hotmail.com

USEFUL WEBSITES

www.adoptaschool.org.au - our official website with current information.

www.facebook.com/balihearts - Bali Hearts have been raising funds for their projects for more than 10 years and are still working in the Singaraja area in the North of Bali.

www.acara.edu.au/ - Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is responsible for a national curriculum from K - Yr 12. Information about teaching and assessment of Indonesian language in schools.