



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 20

May 2016

President's Letter

Welcome to the AAS Newsletter for May 2016. We have had a lot of exciting things happening. Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2016. I have the privilege to have taken the role of President of AdoptASchool and I hope that I can fill the shoes of those that have come before me (big shoes to fill!).



Vicky, our Bali newsletter Editor

You would have all received the first edition of our Bali newsletter. Our Editor in Bali is University student Vicky Pratama N.H. who has done a wonderful job on this first edition.

A special mention to a couple of our schools who have shared their recent fundraising efforts for their sister schools.

- Coolbellup Community College. The chaplain, Jane, visited the school on Australia Day and presented books etc to the school and a lovely art piece was received from the Bali school. Coolbellup P and C wants a SD2 specific fundraiser. Read more about the visit on the next page.
- Dalkeith Primary School did major fundraising and funds have refurbished staff and students showers and toilets at the sister school. The principal purchased an organ for music lessons and the kindy ceiling was repaired.

I had the pleasure of attending an AAS meeting in Bali in February this year, and I was so impressed by the dedication and work ethic of our Co-ordinators and volunteers in Bali. They remain enthusiastic and committed to making a difference to children's education in Bali and are to be highly commended.

I would also like to take the time to extend my thankyou to the dedicated volunteers and schools here in Australia. Many of the schools associated with AdoptASchool have been with us from the very beginning and have made exceptional differences to their sister schools in Bali. Without the continued support of the local schools and our volunteers, we would not be the strong Association that we are today. I hope that we can continue to sustain AdoptASchool's growth over the next year and beyond.

Take care
Deb McEwan

VALE JOY

We would like to acknowledge the passing of Mrs Joy Trainor a sponsor and supporter of AdoptASchool. Joy fought a brave battle against cancer over quite a few years and right to the end was unwavering in her support of AAS. RIP Joy from AAS Australia and the many children you have assisted in Bali. Our sincere condolences to husband Terry and son Ty.

Coolbellup Community School visits SD2 Liligundi on Australia Day 2016

On Australia Day 26 January 2016, our school chaplain Ms Jane Snare and her son Luyando Snare made a trip to visit our sister school SD2 Liligundi. Ms Snare and Luyando were so excited to visit our friends there, and our friends at SD2 Liligundi were just as excited to host them.

Ms. Snare and Luyando were brought around the school to meet the staff members and students of SD2 Liligundi. They were also invited to share a meal of rice and dishes with the members of staff.

Ms. Snare and Luyando presented stationery items such as rubbers, pencils and coloured pencils along with a few English – Bahasa dictionaries for our friends at SD2. This was topped off with a treat of Freddo Frogs for each student, which put huge smiles on the faces of all the students at SD2 Liligundi. Ms. Snare also presented our 'Batik' artwork and introductory letters that the Year 4, 5 and 6 classes of 2015 created and wrote for our Bali friends.



In turn, Coolbellup Community School was presented with a painting of local tropical fruit, created by the Year 3 students of SD2 among smaller plasticine and clay figurines from the other student year levels.

Back in Coolbellup, Luyando on behalf of SD2 Liligundi, presented the art piece to our principal, Mr. Ray Knight at our recent assembly. This art piece will find a home in the front office of our school while the plasticine and clay figurines are being displayed in our Indonesian language classroom.

This is the first of many visits that we have made to SD2 Liligundi. We are organizing our first charitable collection of 2016 for SD2 Liligundi, a colourful event called Rainbow Day (Hari Pelangi) which will see our students dress up in rainbow colours to raise money for SD2 Liligundi. We look forward to the opportunities to assist the students at SD2 Liligundi to reach their learning goals.

Christiana Bain, Languages Teacher

Coolbellup Community School



SPONSORSHIP REPORT

In February I visited Bali for two weeks. I left Perth with a lot of excess baggage which included computers, projector, school uniforms, second hand clothing, resource books, pens, pencils and scissors for the Homework and English Clubs in Kaba Kaba. Also in the luggage was a wheelchair, kindly donated by Wheelchairs for Kids in Wangarra, WA for a twelve year old cerebral palsy girl in the North of Bali in a village near Lovina. I must say a big thank you to Air Asia who were instrumental in assisting me with all that luggage.

You would have laughed had you seen me in Customs at Ngurah Rai Airport where I was quizzed about why I had brought the wheelchair. I showed photos and application forms from my file and in doing so I was asked about the other contents, especially a book on Incy Winsy Spider. 'Why did I bring this book?' I explained about the workshop we were going to have demonstrating to some of the Bali teachers how they can teach English using song, dance and finger plays. But again 'why the book'? So I demonstrated the finger play about Incy Winsy Spider. The Customs man asked if I would repeat the finger play so he could learn it to show his children. By the time this was over there was quite an audience in the Customs area. Needless to say I was sent on my way without having to pay duty on the wheelchair and was very glad to see Ketut, Yuni and kids at the door to assist with all the luggage.

On Sunday we had 'family picnic day' with Ketut, Yuni, Vicky, Adinda and two of our Canadian sponsors, Gail and Terry Langis.. We travelled to Karangasem and up the hills above Candi Dasa where we visited family and friends with whom Yuni had attended school. We were made most welcome and given snake fruit freshly picked, peanuts still warm from cooking and a Balinese sweet delicacy made from sticky rice We then proceeded to Pondok Bukit Putung, a mountain lookout across to Candi Dasa and Lembongan Island.



Next day, we visited the home of Gayus and his family. You may remember Gayus, one of our coordinators and English Club teachers who was in Perth attending Milner International College of English in October and November 2015 on a scholarship provided by Warren Milner. We were very warmly welcomed by Gayus, his wife Edel and their children and cousin. It was great to see Gayus settled back into life with his lovely little family.

Tuesday brought the scheduled English testing for teachers who are hoping to be awarded the Milner International Scholarship. The teachers were required to sit a written, reading and oral language test.

Wednesday was the opportunity to go further afield, again joined by Gail and Terry and drive through the rice fields to Pandek Gede where we met with the local coordinator, Dharma Ambesa, his wife Therezia and children Andrew, Carla and a very healthy and robust little Yeriel. Dharma had invited three of the newest sponsorship families, who we hadn't met before, to visit and say hello. The children formed a group and entertained us with some songs.

Then it was on to Kaba Kaba, where we met at the home of Alit and Made Widia. We were joined by Wayan Sekarini one of the Kaba Kaba coordinators and homework club teachers. Made cooked a lovely mei goreng and Alit picked fruit – sirsak and pomelo. We had the opportunity to see the classroom setup at Alit's house where both he and Wayan Sekarini will conduct the English and Homework Clubs, which will operate after school hours, and be free to all the students who wish to attend. The resources will be funded with the donation by the **Cottesloe Golf Club Women's General Committee**.

Thursday was an AdoptASchool meeting, organized by the President of AAS in Bali, Gede Eka Widana at SMAN1 Kuta (Senior High School 1, Kuta) fortunately in an airconditioned theatre. Even though it is the school holidays or the Galungan and Kuningan festivities, many of the coordinators travelled long distances to join the group. Deb McEwan the current AAS Australia President and her two sisters attended the meeting.



In the evening I was picked up by Devi Wiguna and her Dad. Devi is the student who has just returned from two and a half years at Kalamunda Senior High, from where she graduated in December. I joined her and her Mum, Made, in their Nusa Dua home, making palm leaf decorations for the Kuningan ceremony.



On Monday I met again with Andy Bracey of the Global Village Foundation and we discussed children in need of both educational and health assistance. Andy works quite a lot with Della Wood of Bali Hearts in the Lovina area and on many occasions our areas of need cross and we assist each other. Andy will also work with Yayasan Solemen who will assist him in some health areas.

In the evening we were joined by Wayan Tur Adnyana the Vice President of AdoptASchool in Bali and the President of Yayasan Pendidikan Peduli Bali, the charity under which AAS operates, and Julie his wife.

Sunday was visitor's day and several of the coordinators and their families came to the Risata Hotel to meet and discuss happenings on their local schools. From what I can gather, AAS is quite well known in Bali now and very well respected. This is in no small way because of the excellent PR work done by the Bali coordinators who work so hard.



On Monday I was invited to meet with Pak Sudikerta, the Vice Governor of Bali. He invited me to renew the proposal for funding for the local school programme to the Bali Safari Park Education Centre and said he would give it favourable consideration. If the funding is approved, the year six students from the local schools will be able to attend the education centre at the Bali Safari Park to learn about endangered wildlife in Indonesia, recycling and environmental issues. On their return to school they will make a presentation and explain to the lower grades what they learned on their excursion. The Bali Safari Park will waive admission and funds will be spent on transport and lunch for the children.

In the evening I joined Gail and Terry Langis, our Canadian sponsors, with coordinator Moses Handoko and the family of Cindy, the girl they sponsor and we all enjoyed much laughter and a wonderful local meal in a different warung.

On my last full day in Bali, I met with Sri Agustini the AAS Bali Treasurer, who motor biked it from Kediri (near Tabanan) to provide financial reports and discuss the record keeping. Sri has always done an excellent job and with the circle of accountability that was introduced a couple of years back, the records are straight forward, very accountable and easily explained. Congratulations to Sri for an excellent effort for AAS. Sri is the mother of three small children and works full time for the Department of Education as a trainer. Thank you to Budi her husband for the support he gives by looking after the children on so many occasions to enable Sri to continue her position with AAS.

In the afternoon I went to Denpasar to join our very competent AAS Secretary Yuni and her family for dinner at their home. We finalized several things and Yuni and Ketut's son Vicky is well on the way to completing the first AAS Bali newsletter. Thank you to all the coordinators who have provided articles to launch this project. A huge big thank you to Yuni for the hours she puts in to provide support for AAS and her local children and coordinators.

Again I am really encouraged by the support and dedication of the AAS Bali committee and coordinators and would like to give them all a huge vote of thanks for all they accomplish.

Regards,

Sherryn Reid, Sponsorship Coordinator

NEW ARRIVAL FOR PAK SUDIKERTA AND FAMILY

Pak Sudikerta, the Vice Governor of Bali, has recently welcomed a son to his family. He was about to commence a meeting with Sherryn, our AAS sponsorship coordinator when he was called to the Maternity Hospital where his wife had unexpectedly gone into early labour. Despite his busy day Sherryn was invited to meet with him at the hospital where in a very casual meeting he was updated on various activities of AdoptASchool. Later in the day Pak and Ibu Sudikerta welcomed the early arrival of a healthy, new son to add to their family of two daughters. We wish the family all the best.



PROGRAM TO ENABLE DISABLED CHILDREN TO ATTEND SCHOOL

By Sherryn Reid

Recently, AAS has had several requests for wheelchairs and educational sponsorships for disabled children to enable them to attend school. In my dealings acquiring the chairs from Wheelchairs for Kids, it was suggested I contact and meet with the Yayasan (charity) Solemen in Bali. I met with Sarah Chapman from Solemen and Andy Bracey from the Global Village Foundation, Lovina at the Solemen office in Legian.

Solemen provide health related support for the communities and have an Outreach programme provided by nursing staff and the support is offered to adults and children alike, with continued follow ups as long as required. I was very impressed with their organisation and the dedication of their staff. At the meeting it was suggested that Solemen handle all of the wheelchair applications for AAS as there are many different sizes, shapes and types of wheelchairs and the most appropriate fit needs to be provided for each case. Solemen have the expertise and the support mechanisms for readjusting straps and fittings on a chair as a child grows or a person's necessities changes. AAS will in future submit all applications for wheelchairs to Solemen.

Solemen have staff that are trained in assembling and adjusting of wheelchairs that are purpose built by WFK's for children. On occasions, Solemen may have a family who needs financial assistance for a child's education and that will be directed to AAS for sponsorship. What I need to do now is visit the Consul General of the Republik of Indonesia in Perth to acquire the paper work for immediate clearance at Denpasar (Ngurah Rai) Airport. Once that is finalised, anyone travelling to Bali who is prepared to take a wheelchair in kit form, boxed and sealed by WFK's may like to contact me. This transport method to Bali should be short lived as WFK's are negotiating for a container full of chairs to be sent to Solemen and hopeful it will be cleared by the Social Department in Jakarta to happen in the next few months.



UPDATE FROM AN ADOPTASCHOOL SUCCESS STORY

Komang Sudama has recently graduated with a certificate in food and beverage and is now working in a hotel in Bali. Please find below the letter he sent to his sponsor which shows the big impact an education and some support can make for an individual.

“I am so happy when I can send a letter for you. Right now I was graduated by my campus and then I got good mark here. Beside that, I already got a job in Raddison Hotel Bali as a daily worker in restaurant. I am happy and can help the financials of my family, always dreaming and hoping to be a successful person in my future. Maybe next year I will apply some job in cruise line to get better career and salary.

I want to say thank you very much to you and your family because your help changed my life to be better and I appreciate that. I can't say anything but big thanks and are always wanting for you to come to Bali.”

Congratulation Komang.

CAN YOU HELP?

AdoptASchool Association has several programmes, one of which is the sister school relationship which your school is a member. In addition, AAS has a sponsorship programme whereby one person or one family sponsors a particular child through school. The children on the AAS sponsorship list are from very needy backgrounds and the family must meet strict criteria for a child to be accepted onto the programme. Families are assessed by our coordinators in Bali and an application is sent to AAS in Perth. These children all deserve the opportunity for an education but are often denied due to the financial situation of their family.

If you or your family would like to sponsor a child's education, there are many children on the AAS waiting list who would benefit. The cost for a year for an elementary school child is \$100 and when they graduate to High School it is approximately \$200. If you visit Bali on holiday, there is an opportunity for you to meet the coordinator and sponsored child and their family and this can easily be arranged.

AAS, with the cooperation of the Education Department of Bali, has developed a financial circle of accountability whereby all sponsorship funds are paid via our coordinators directly to schools and not families. Receipts are issued, signed and stamped by the schools and returned to AAS Perth for confirmation of funds paid.

For more information please go to www.adoptaschool.org.au and click on the 'Sponsorship' tab. If you are interested in assisting a child gain an education there is an application form at the bottom of the information.



Queries can be directed to me on 9355.5505 or my email: sherrynreid@hotmail.com



GAYUS'S AUSTRALIA SCHOLARSHIP EXPERIENCE

by Gayus Pridudua

Milner International College of English in East Perth provided a scholarship for one of the AAS English teachers in Bali to enable him to increase his understanding and knowledge of the English language. My name is Sotergayus Pridudua, I am an English teacher at SDN24 Pemecutan, Denpasar, coordinator of the sister school programme with Endeavour Primary School at Port Kennedy and a coordinator for the educational sponsorship programme in Denpasar area.

I arrived in Perth on 9th October, 2015 and attended Milner for five weeks and then spend the time for couple days at Endeavour Primary School.

In October 12th, 2015, I started to study at Milner International College of English. I met lots of students from all over the world come to study English at Milner College. All The Milner College staffs are very familiar. They had good service both inside and outside the class room. The teacher taught us Grammar and speaking. I have morning class and afternoon class. Morning class started from nine O'clock until twelve O'clock. Afternoon class started from one o'clock to three o'clock. Both morning class teacher Ms.Ash and afternoon class teacher Mr. Andre are very kind. They tough me in different way.

As an English teacher in Bali, I like the way of their teaching. I found every things from this course so I could improve my speaking, reading, listening, writing and pronunciation as well. I could meet with new people from all over the world, they are very kind and very familiar. We shared our country life style each others, I found many different things each countries life style.



In November 12th, 2015, I Graduated from the Milner international College of English. As an English teacher in Bali-Indonesia, I am lucky that I get the best way of teaching. I met a lots of students from all over the world. In afternoon class especially in speaking, we shared something about our Nationality, the way of life and lots difference.

Many thanks for Mr. Warren Milner as the owner of Milner International College of English who gave and allowed me to join the Course, and Many thanks also for all the staffs of Milner International College of English. I am lucky getting the scholarship.

PLACES I VISITED

King Park - On the first day I arrived, I went to visit **Kings Park**. The Park and Botanical garden 400 hectare large can be said as the soul of Perth City. From the grass with located enough high can be seen the panorama of the tallest building f Perth by side of the Panorama of blue river swan. In Kings Park, we can choose the relax activity Picnic while enjoy the beautiful view. In Kings Park, there is also The Bali Memorial was commissioned in honor of the victims of the terrorist bombing in Bali and those individuals and institutions that provided help and care during the aftermath of the tragic event.

Caversham and Wildlife Park -This place is a lovely place and lots of animals live in this area in the Zoo. Lots of people from all over the world come to this place to see the beautiful view, Zoo, and attraction. There are lots of kinds of animal I found in this area, like Kangaroo, Koala Wombat, Birds, snake crocodile and many others. There is a local market there for shopping the Australian souvenir. There is also an old train, and old cars. Many people come there for holidays, and having lunch by make barbecue.

Capital Radio Perth -This Capital Radio are employed by the people as volunteers. The news and Music are very fantastic.

VISTING SCHOOLS

Thank you to the following schools for hosting me: Guildford Primary School (our sister school), Kewdale Primary School, Yokine Primary School, Charthouse Primary School, Endeavour Primary School.

A big thank you to the following for your support of my visit - Mr Warren Milner, AdoptASchool, Sherryn & Vic Reid, Sheila and Ted Hay, Robyn and John Darroch, Sue Lily and Ian Abdullah, Susan and Derek Cromb, Amanda Anscombe, Kadek, Mr Desh and Ms Pet.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Appreciation for support to AAS goes to:

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

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.

ROC Computers, 212 Fulham Street, Cloverdale - 9277.3688 for all the assistance and support with computers donated to AAS.

Michael and Jo Keil of Michael Kiel Real Estate, Rivervale for their support.

Also to our corporate sponsors:

Alfa Enterprises, Welshpool.

Westplan Design and Construction, Rockingham.

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 - Deb McEwan

Vice-President - Sheila Hay

Minutes Secretary - MaryJo Harris

Membership Officer – Susan Cromb

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 Deb McEwan - meggsmerrily@optusnet.com.au