



NEWSLETTER

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February 2018. Bali visit.

Vic and I travelled to Bali for the middle two weeks of February to catch up with some of our sponsors and meet with the coordinators. Once again Yuni Sarmiasih our AAS Bali Secretary had set up a meeting and various other visits. She is one super secretary.

Sunday 11th many of the committee and coordinators gathered in Kaba Kaba at the house of Alit and Made Widia. We were joined once again by Gail and Terry Langis, sponsors from Canada. Coordinators presented their reports and many aspects of the policies and running of AAS were discussed. It is invaluable for the Bali coordinators and committee to meet and have the opportunity to network. After the meeting we were able to share a meal and chat. Thank you to Made and Alit, Sri and Wayan Sekarini for all that hard work and preparation.



*Some of the attendees
Sherryn, Sri (Treasurer), Yuni (Secretary), Eka (President)*



We had the opportunity to join with Les and Stephanie Cole, when they met after many years, with Ferdinand, the child they sponsor and his family. We also joined Gail and Terry Langis when they had their annual meet with Cindy and family. Cindy is now in Junior High School and doing very well. It was lovely to see these two families again. Picture – Handoko (Coordinator on left), Terry and Gail and Cindy in blue, and family

We travelled to Bangli to visit a new school. The staff of SDN2 Kubu would be very happy to have a sister school in Australia. We were made very welcome, had a look at the school and then taught some of the children how to play square ball using two new basketballs donated by Air Asia in Perth. A report will be passed to Susan Cromb, the Membership Officer who will deal with the application.



Kubu is situated within the gated village of Penglipuran, which is fast becoming acknowledged as an exciting tourist attraction. All the houses are open and the locals sell their own wares. The local market in Bangli was impressive and we bought some traditional morning tea there.



Nearby was a bamboo forest, through which we were able to drive and had a bit of fun. It was Valentine Day!



In the Forest



One of the older residents with Danta Wiguna



On Saturday night, Yuni had invited some of the coordinators and many of the students and their families who live in Denpasar and have or will graduate this year from University, SMK and SMA to the house for a get together. She pushed the furniture back and put mats on the floor. Everyone enjoyed a dinner of fruit, nuts, snacks and either mei goring or nasi goring, sourced from the night market. Such a fun night.

Anisa will graduate from University Udayana as an Accountant



Raman Sayudi will graduate from Udayana as an Electrical Engineer



Enjoying dinner



A happy meal together Wayan Suwastini next to Dad, graduated as a teacher in July



Lyn and Kadek from SD2 Kutuh

We caught up with Lyn Yeomans, and her sister Helen, two very supportive sponsors from Melbourne. Lyn visited SD2 Kutuh to meet with one of the children, Kadek Widianari on behalf of her new sponsor in Melbourne. Lyn was living on the same side of the tunnel roadworks as SD2 Kutuh and saved us a one and a half hour wait in traffic to return from Jimbaran to near the airport. Thanks heaps Lyn. Photos look good.

Vic and I were able to meet with Beni, who was Orphaned in Junior High School and graduated in July 2017 from tourism school and is now working at Chillhouse Villas in Canggu. He is an independent, sensible young man who looks after his sister and Grandmother. Beni sent hugs and thanks to Melanie Chiswell for her support over several years.



We were able to take clothing and sports equipment for Andy Bracey at Global Village Foundation in Lovina, which will be given to the volcano refugees. Andy and his crew have done a great job over the last few months providing blankets, mattresses, pillows, towels, medicines, food staples, clothing and tarpaulins to the refugee camps in the North. On Monday 19th February, the Government directed everyone home from the camps as the volcano had settled. Next day there were two eruptions and panicked people returned to the camps and safety. How long this disruption will continue is anyone's guess! Thank you to everyone who donated funds and made it possible to give just a little relief to the suffering of these people. For more information, check out the Global Village Bali Facebook page. Thank you Air Asia for all your support and for providing much appreciated long and short-sleeved red shirts and sports equipment.



Milner International College of English in Perth has been donating scholarships through AAS for teachers in Bali to undertake the TESOL course resulting in a certificate for those who participate and graduate. In recent years several of the Bali teachers have returned to Bali and been promoted due to gaining this certificate. Currently, Desak Rukmini from SMP2 Kuta is in Perth attending Milner. Further testing was undertaken in Bali with three teachers to ascertain if their level of English is high enough to enable them to cope with the course. Milner will mark the three tests – writing, reading and speaking and the results will be known fairly soon.

Three candidates- Wayan Suadra from Baturiti, Sri Agustini from Tabanan Education Office and Trisna from Mengwi.

We also caught up briefly with Gaye Clifford the Klungkung coordinator in Sanur where we all had lunch on the beach after some particularly heavy rain. Many of the volcano refugees have left Klungkung, but those whose houses have been levelled due to the constant earthquakes and their crops destroyed around the volcano, have nowhere to go and many are still in the refugee centres. Gaye is monitoring them for assistance needs.

Gail, Gaye, Vic, Sherryn and Terry in Sanur



During a walk along the beach path, we came across a celebration similar to the colour throwing in India. They all looked to be having a lot of fun.



I will leave you with the view from our balcony, of our resort pool at the Risata in Tuban. We did manage a couple of days by the pool. Sherryn Reid.



Note to Self-The importance of staying in touch – By Susan Cromb, Membership Officer

I hear lots of success stories from teachers about their enduring relationships with their sister schools and I believe it all comes down to one thing...an absolute commitment to stay in touch with their fellow coordinators. Social media has paved the way for this to happen. With free apps such as “whatsapp”, we can call and text with ease. So if your school is having trouble kick starting the relationship with your sister school, why not phone and have a chat with the coordinator. It helps to break down the barriers and is a quick way to get the message across that you’re available and interested in seeing the relationship progress. Friendships are forged through shared experiences so why not start today!



Wayan Tur Adnyana (Vice President AAS Bali) with a student at Bullsbrook College

Hosts needed for AAS's Dedicated Balinese Treasurer.



Our fabulously committed Bali Treasurer, Ms Sri Agustini, has won a Milner International College of English scholarship and will be undertaking the 5 week TESOL course in October/ November this year. We need 2 hosts to look after Sri for 2 weeks each. Sri will catch public transport to College so the host house will need to be near a bus /train route. If you'd like more information, please contact Susan Cromb email cromb@tpg.com.au Mobile 0402 914 521.

Graduation Day

A huge big thank you to Warren Milner and Milner International College of English for the opportunity given to Desak Rukmini, a Balinese English teacher from SMPN2 Kuta, who was awarded a scholarship to complete the TESOL Certificate (Teaching English to speakers of other languages). Desak has been studying at Milner for the last five weeks and will now spend next week at Belmont City College for experience in one of our schools, before returning to Bali, her family and school on 18th March. Congratulations Desak on your excellent attainment.



Warren Milner, Felicity (Teacher) Desak, Sherryn and Vic



The very happy graduating students

TESOL Course in Milner International College of English

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr Milner and all Adopt A School of Western Australian members for giving me opportunity to attend TESOL (refers to Teaching English to speakers of other languages) course in Milner International College of English. I attended TESOL course for five weeks starting from 5th February to 9th March. Then one week working with children in Belmont City College and Cecil Andrews High School.

Joining TESOL course gave me a great experience because as it was a great chance to learn new things about teaching an ESL classroom. It was about gaining comprehensive knowledge of teaching techniques and strategies that were related to teaching process. I learned about best practices and teaching methods that were specifically designed for working with non-English speakers. Thus it was about sharpening skills related to the task of listening, reading, speaking and writing. It further covers the lesson plans, classroom management and other techniques applicable at all levels of language learning for all ages of students-adults as well as young learners.

There were twelve students all together in my TESOL class. They came from different countries, such as; Japan, Korea, Brazil, Taiwan, Columbia, Portugal, Mauritius and Bali, Indonesia of course. Besides learning about TESOL, we also learned about each other culture especially about education. It was interesting to know about cultures of different countries which could give us a broader insight into other cultures. We felt very lucky that we have a great teacher, Felicity. She is a professional teacher who trained us very well in TESOL course. She provided us with useful activities to train us in teaching students, and we carried out practice teaching every week. It was very useful for us, we learned the theory then practiced it.

One week working with children both in Belmont City College and Cecil Andrews High School gave me great experiences. I did classroom observation and also helped some students who had learning difficulties. Therefore classroom observation presented an opportunity to see real-life teachers in real-life teaching situations. Through class observation, I gained lots of benefits, such as (1) observing new techniques, strategies, ideas and resources, (2) observing student reactions from a different perspective, (3) helping us create a professional learning community with the best interests of the students in mind.

Written by

Desak Made Rukmini



Graduation day with Mr. Milner



Graduation day with Vic and Sherryn Reid



Letters from two very appreciative sponsorship recipients.

Letter from - Komang Sudama

Hi. My name is Komang Sudama, from Pegadungan village, Bali; I was very lucky to get a sponsorship from AAS since in Primary school. I graduated from SMK, (Senior High Technical) and then graduated from MONARCH school where I studied food and beverages for one year. This is the first year I am working at Main Schiff 5, which is the company that belongs to the Germany Company with Malta flag. This cruise ship has a capacity of 2000 passengers. I am working as a restaurant utility and have responsibility to keep the buffet area clean and take care of all drinking stations in the restaurant. I enjoy my job.

This ship will go around Europe but in winter it will go to United Arab Emirates.

I have had great experience while working here. I can see many beautiful places, different country with different colour, culture, etc. All looks great.

We have many facilities like German lessons (most of the passengers are from Germany), cabin, gym and a crew mess that is open 24 hours. We also have many friends from other countries. Our different nationality and culture does not make us different, we are all doing our job as a good team.

I have a good communication by Whatapps with my family in Bali. I just think of my mother, as she is alone at home. Great thanks for AdoptASchool and my sponsor Mrs Terri Ingleton and her family. You like the morning sun, gives a hope to reach our dream from a small village.

Thank you.

Best regards,
Komang Sudama



Letter from – Kadek Itha



Dear Adopt ASchool,

I am Kadek Itha Komariah Dewi. My nickname is Kadek Itha. I am one of students from Pegadungan who was very lucky to get a sponsorship from AAS starting in Primary school and continuing until I graduated from SMK and was then I was able to attend the SPA course for one year.

Now I am working in an MNC cruise ship, as a beauty therapist. I am very happy I can work here so that I can see and visit other countries, many beautiful places, meet people with different nationalities even learn their languages. It's such a big experience for me and I feel very excited.

With good salary now I can help my family, so they have a bit better life and can provide the things they need. I feel very happy when I see my family happy. I love my job...and always enjoy my time here. This is my second year working on the cruise ship.

Great thanks for Adopt ASchool and my sponsor, Matt Sheminant and his family in Perth. Your kindly help makes my dream come true. I have an education and a job. I am the first lady in my village that works out of my country.

I feel proud of myself. Money for living and my family life have always been my priority, but now I can travel and see the world, it is a great thing that ever has happened in my life.

Thank you Adopt ASchool and Matt and the Sheminant family.

Best regards, Kadek Itha.

Sponsors Catch Up - Stephanie and Les Cole



On holiday in Bali last month, we were delighted to catch up for dinner with our sponsored family, the Lei-Gabas. We have been sponsoring Ferdinand's schooling since primary school and he's now in high school. His little sister, Laurensia, started school this year so we're helping her out as well.

They are such a lovely family and Dad, Emanuel and Mum, Maria were very happy and excited to see us again. Even though language was a barrier, we could see how grateful they were, and we were very touched to receive a beautiful shawl from Maria as a gift. Little Sergio is the newest addition to the family so we were pleased to meet him too! After dinner the whole family hopped onto a motorbike and drove home clinging to each other for safety.

Thanks to Sherryn for organising this lovely night for us.

Global Village Foundation. Bali.

Pak Nengah is 76 years old, and is originally from a Village high on the slopes of Mount Agung. 55 years ago he had to literally run for his life when Lava & Ash rained down on his Village in the big 1963 eruption of Mount Agung. His village was destroyed, and he was relocated to Gerogak in North Bali to start anew. To survive He began making simple Raffia Floor mats to sell. 55 years later he is making them again, joined now by his son, and Grandson. 10 years ago he had a stroke, which left him paralysed. Weaving the mats was the perfect therapy to get the feeling back into both arms, and his upper body recovered well, but he remained unable to walk. When Global village first visited a few months ago, his zest for life was undiminished. He asked that we find him a strong wheelchair that he can push himself to keep his arms strong, but also to use to visit his friends nearby. Last week the perfect wheelchair arrived. Given by a very kind person in Australia to the 'Wheelchairs for Kids' Foundation in Perth with one other. the two wheelchairs were then donated on to the Global Village Foundation. Collected from the WFK workshop by Sherryn Reid of Adopt a School in Perth, and delivered to Perth Airport, from where they were flown direct to Bali free of charge by Air Asia, After a

very long ten year wait, Pak Nengah finally received his first wheelchair at his home, in a remote village in North Bali. Something he thought would never happen. He was a very happy man!. Global Village say Thank you to everyone involved getting the Wheelchair to him; To the original donors of the 2 wheelchairs, To Don at Wheelchairs for Kids, To Sherryn at Adopt a School (Bali & Perth) To Della Wood of Bali Hearts Lovina, and Sylvia Hulme for escorting the chairs on their flight through from Perth to Bali, And especially to Air Asia for providing the air freight free of charge from Perth to Bali, and making the whole operation viable. Thank you. & Suksma. Om shanti shanti shanti om.

The 2nd wheelchair will be gifted later this week.
More on that later.....



Message to sponsors.

As you know there was chaos last year until the issue of sponsorship funds being paid to schools was sorted with the Education Department in Bali following the Indonesian Governments change of rules. Requests by AAS for renewals of sponsorships by sponsors were delayed until it was sorted and payments to AAS were late which resulted in many coordinators receiving only semester one fees initially. This funding was delivered to schools and in September when semester two fees were transferred to Bali, the coordinators were required to visit all the schools for a second time. As you know the coordinators are all working people, are voluntary and this resulted in a lot of extra work for them. Not one complained, but I am very conscious of not wanting to repeat the extra workload for them this year.

I will be sending out sponsorship renewal notices in April and would ask that if possible, all amounts be remitted by the due date to ensure that funds can be delivered to schools in Bali for the commencement of the new school year in July. Of course there is a process of recording and checking here in Perth prior to authorization by the Accountant to forward the funds to Bali and this all takes time. Your cooperation will be much appreciated. Many thanks in advance. Sherryn Reid.

The two Presidents



Sheila Hay, President of AAS in Perth hosted lunch when Gede Eka Widana President of AAS Bali came to Perth recently, for a flying visit to catch up with friends and travel home with his wife who has been studying in Perth. Great to see you Eka and thanks for the fruitful meeting.

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.

Consul General of Republic of Indonesia in Perth is Mrs. Dewi Gustina Tobing.

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

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

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

Also to our corporate sponsors, 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 - Sheila Hay

Vice-President - Kerry Steele

Minutes Secretary - Danella Brown

Membership Officer – Susan Cromb

Sponsorship Co-coordinator – Sherryn Reid

IT Administrators – Andrew Rowe

Treasurer - Shane Scott

Wiki Co-coordinator – Andrew Rowe

Editor – Jessica Trahar