

Bali visit June/July 2019. Sherryn Reid-Sponsorship Coordinator AAS.

Vic and I were fortunate to visit Bali while it was very cold and wet in Perth. It was warm, not hot with fairly strong winds blowing each day.

Many of you will remember our Klungkung coordinator, Gaye Clifford, who with Ida Bagus Mantra approached AAS for assistance after the Mount Agung volcano eruption. An AAS appeal provided some much appreciated relief for the volcano refugee centre in Klungkung last year in February. Prior to Christmas, 2018, Gaye came to Perth to seek medical attention at RPH but unfortunately it was not good news and she was placed in Kalamunda Palliative Care where she passed away at Easter. It was Gaye's wish to have her ashes returned home to Bali and be scattered in the ocean in Sanur in view of her beloved Mount Agung. We were able to do that for Gaye and a ceremony was conducted on the 20th June in Sanur. Her partner Ida Bagus Mantra, family from Bali and the Gold Coast and friends were able to attend and say their final goodbyes. A Frangipani tree has been planted in the garden at Kalamunda Palliative Care in Gaye's memory.

RIP Gaye. Selamat Malam.



Putu Risma.

In the last newsletter there was an article about a very bright little boy, turning six in June 2019 and wanting to attend school. He was born with no hand and wrists. AAS has been able to establish a scholarship for 12 years of school. Thank you to 'D Team' at the Police Operations Centre for their contribution which has given Putu Risma a much brighter future and an opportunity to achieve his dream of an education. In addition, with assistance from David Barnsley who works offshore on the Prelude project, a Shell gas ship, and spent much of his off time modifying a bicycle for Putu, Dave at The Kalamunda bike shop, Ride, Repair and Repeat and Air Asia for transport assistance, AAS was able to provide Putu with a means of riding to school to join his friends. Through the Global Village Foundation in Lovina we were able to meet one very excited Putu and his family and present him with the bike, modified helmet and back pack. The Global Village Foundation boys, Kadek and Rudi arranged trainer wheels for extra stability until Putu has mastered riding. There was a small present of mini cars and trucks for Putu's three year old brother and that also was a hit. Thank you to Andy Bracey and the crew at Global Village Foundation who will disburse funds each year for Putu's schooling, monitor Putu and family and maintain the bike.



Bali AAS Committee Meeting 23rd June, 2019.

Present were Eka Widana, President, Ketut Sarmiasih (Yuni) Secretary, Desmaini Sari Dewi Wijendra (Dewi), Desak Rukmini, Sherryn and Vic Reid. We met to discuss the changes to the Bali bank account from the Commonwealth Bank in the original name to be registered in the name of the registered AAS Charity in Bali, Yayasan Komunitas Peduli Pendidikan Bali (Caring for children's education). Unable to attend were Wayan Tur Adnyana, Vice President and Sri Agustini the Treasurer. The bank name change has taken many months. The Yayasan had to be registered through a Notaris in Jakarta, an AKTA and Tax Certificate obtained, Constitution lodged with the Social Department, all committee members registered, a sign erected in front of the registered office in Pecatu and then a visit from the bank to the office. This is as a result of many scams via Yayasanans in Indonesia and the Indonesian Government tightening their laws. Thank you Eka, Yuni and Dewi for the effort you have had to make to bring this to fruition.

Students.

We had the opportunity to meet with coordinators Oka Darmaja, Jati, Gayus and their families for dinner with Ketut and Yuni. It was great to catchup with them and some of the students who have graduated.

Kalianget and Rindikit.

Over the years we have reported about Komang Budi Martin, who was paralyzed after breaking his neck when he fell from a tree whilst harvesting coffee. AAS was able to assist with the children's education costs through the sponsorship programme and private donations. Down the track we bought a weaving loom as Komang thought he and his wife, also Komang, could manage to weave and earn income. Life has not been easy but fast forward through seven years - one loom, assistance from family and locals, tie dying, learning to paint traditional patters for ceremonial sarongs, hiring more staff, buying more looms, buying and modifying an electric wheelchair, buying a second hand car and having it modified for disabled driving, building a second workshop in Rindikit (nearby village) in partnership with a local land owner and now employing thirty local people, with many more looms making top class material. He is also assisting young, poor people pay their way through Junior High School. How is that for overcoming major obstacles and giving back when able? Komang's wife has to lift him into the car, lift his wheelchair into the back, and reverse the whole thing when home. He worries about the physical strain on her and is hoping to obtain some sort of mechanical lift in the near future. None of this would have been possible without the little assistance given in the early days by AAS and Rotary through Wayan Tur Adnyana. Congratulations and full marks to Komang and the support from his family and local community which has made all of this possible. How hard he and the family have worked!



The young lass has just graduated from Elementary School and came to ask Komang about working for him, sweeping or doing anything in the school holidays to earn money so she can continue to Junior High School. She is twelve years old. She is learning to weave and he is paying her. There is also a fourteen year old in similar circumstances. We will endeavor to get a sponsor for them as they are very keen to gain an education. If anyone is interested in assisting, please contact me.

Kaba Kaba visit.

We caught up with several coordinators at Alit and Made Widia's house in Kaba Kaba. Once again I was given reports to bring back to Perth. The English and Homework Clubs are running well and we will further resource that centre in the near future. We caught up with Mesy Dwimantari, coordinator for SD1 Kapal and other schools, her sister Widna who is the coordinator for Yanchep Lagoon's sister school and Dharma Ambesa from Pandek Gede. Made Sudarmawan, who was sponsored in his later years at University, is teaching in Dalung and has offered to be the Editor for the Bai AAS Newsletter. Thank you Made. I hear there could be wedding bells soon. Congratulations. We look forward to reading your first edition of the Bali AAS newsletter. Thank you Vicky Pratama for your previous efforts. Once again we enjoyed a lovely Balinese lunch, which was delicious – enak sukali!! Mesy you have really mastered the spring rolls. We visited the home of Wayan Sekarini who was one of our previous TESOL Scholarship graduates where we received a huge surprise. Her parents in law have built her a small classroom in the front of their property and she tutors ten year one children from SD Cepaka after hours. Those ten children ranked 1-10 in their final year one exams in May 2019. We were accompanied by long term AAS supporters Sue and Brian Appleyard from Dunsborough.

Widna is the coordinator for SD3 Kekeran and the sister school Yanchep Beach Primary School. She sat the English writing, reading and speaking test for Milner International College of English and will be the next scholarship recipient, attending the TESOL certificate course for six weeks from October 14th, 2019.



Dharma, Mesy, Widna, Wayan Sekarini, Made Sudarmawan



Made and Alit Widia.

SDN4 Kuta.

Ketut Armini who was one of the coordinators at SD11 Jimbaran has been appointed Principal at SD4 Kuta and her school has recently become a sister school to East Waikiki Primary School. She invited Vic and I to the ceremony for the official opening of their library and their 'Future of Education Learning Space' that will in time provide IT experiences for the students. Bear in mind, it is the long break school holidays in Indonesia where the children have a holiday but the staff are still working readying for the new school year. It was a wonderful ceremony with a few speeches, singing, video clips of the work that has been done and of course the wonderful food served to all. Congratulations to Mr Sultan from Canada, a promoter of Linguistic teaching, Ketut Armini and your wonderful staff at SD4.



Agung Sumanadi .

We had a visit from Agung Sumanadi our Pelaga, Petang coordinator and his wife. They brought student letters for me to bring to Perth and distribute. Mrs Sumanadi has been very unwell and we wish her a speedy recovery.

So another Bali trip has ended and once again, I am amazed at the outcomes due to the generosity of so many of our sponsors and schools. Over the next few weeks AAS will be receiving reports and some letters from the graduating students and they will be forwarded to the sponsors in due course. Thank you all for being part of this charity which is giving so many students and families a good outlook for the future.

Kind regards,

Sherryn Reid, Sponsorship Coordinator, AAS