



AdoptASchool Association Inc,
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5th June 2021

Greetings Sponsors, Sister Schools and Members

Hi everyone,

At last there is a glimmer of hope for Bali. Officials have reported a significant decrease in Covid-19 cases in Sanglah Hospital since the beginning of the Covid-19 vaccination programme in Bali. Only 16 cases were being treated this last week. Cok Ace confirmed that almost 50% of Bali residents have been vaccinated for Covid-19 and they expect to meet the herd immunity target at around 70% vaccination of residents in the not too distant future. Several of the villages in Denpasar area have been confirmed as green zones and are Covid free.

Yuni has continued to distribute rice in Denpasar. Alit and team in Kaba-Kaba reported on the distribution to Kaba Kaba, Mengwi and Nyambu. Oka has again been very busy, with the assistance from people in the communities distributing food aid to banjars in Mambal, South Kuta and another 15 to Benoa. Oka reports some very relieved parents of families who really had nowhere else to turn for assistance. Thanks also to the Principals and others who are assisting Oka to assess the applications from families and offering pick up areas close to where they live. Dharma Ambesa has distributed another round of aid in the Pandek Gede area and Andy Bracey and team have, on the behalf of AAS, distributed 20 parcels in the mountains near Singaraja.



Preparing food aid at Pandek Gede.



Carlos, an appreciate recipient





Our best wishes to Mr Wayan Arasana who has been assisting Oka and is recovering from illness.



Collecting rice from Yuni's house.

Several more of the big hotels in the tourist areas and many smaller ones have been put on the market this last week or so. It is hoped that the borders for tourists to Bali from several countries will be opened next month. Not Australia though at the moment. Many locals had a fright on the night of 21st May when they received a text warning about a magnitude 8.5 quake and tsunami at 22 minutes to midnight. It turned out to be a 'systems error' but caused a lot of panic for a short while. Just what they needed!

The Head of the traditional village of Padangtegal initiated the idea of planting yams and sweet potatoes to feed the long tailed monkeys, (*Macaca Fascicularis*) and subsidize the operational costs of the Ubud Monkey Forest as there are no tourists and the health of the monkeys was being affected. 2 acres were planted with sweet potatoes and 4 acres with yams which would be used to feed the friendly primates.

Another good news story, around 9 or so years ago, Susan and Derek Cromb were in Lovina and were told about a man who had fallen from a tree while harvesting fruit and had broken his neck. When they visited, they discovered he had been lying on a sarong on bed springs for around three years. His pillow was a plastic bag with sand. Two children of school age could not attend school and the baby born three months after his accident was not yet school age. The family was destitute and needed food. Susan was able to enroll the two children in school and kit them out with uniforms and school needs and provide some food. When she returned to Perth, sponsors for the children's education were found. I went to Bali in the next few weeks and was able to take a wheelchair and other forms of aid. I visited, accompanied by long term sponsor, Terry Langis, from Canada who was in Bali at the time. Fast forward some years and many of you will remember previous reports of Komang Budi Martin and his wife Komang who established a viable business, weaving material, making traditional sarongs and painting the material with traditional patterns. Since then Budi has established other workshops, employing local people and branching out to make bedding and other essential items. This last week, the two Komangs have opened a shop as well. Congratulations to you both. You have been exceptional role models for disabled people and demonstrated what can be done with determination and hard work, with just a little assistance in the beginning. From Lynda Marshall at Bali Hearts in Seririt, a longtime friend and supporter of the family, I quote, "from acorns grow".

Again many, many thanks to everyone who has donated to the Food Aid programme. You are keeping this programme going and helping many people who have nothing right now. It is so much appreciated by them all. Also, just a reminder that Educational Sponsorships are due to be paid in Bali this month and all renewals have been sent out.

Regards,

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www.AdoptASchool.org.au