FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members,

I am thrilled to be able to announce our new Management Committee. My sincere thanks to Kerry Steele for agreeing to take on the role of President and to Sheila Hay who will be our new Vice President. Shane Scott will continue as Treasurer with MaryJo Harris as our Secretary. Sherryn Reid will continue as Sponsorship Officer with Deb McEwan as assistant and I will be managing the Membership portfolio. We’ll also have Lis Turner to manage our website, Cathy Hopper as newsletter editor and Andrew Rowe will oversee IT (Wiki and Dropbox). We are all looking forward to a new era and sincerely hope that you are part of it.

Speaking of the website, please send articles and photos (separately) to lis.turner@education.wa.edu.au for posting on your school page within our website www.adoptaschool.org.au

Our next networking event will take place on Friday 14th November, 4.00-6.00pm at Siena’s Restaurant in Oxford St Leederville. Keep an eye out for the invitation. This is an open invitation to all members and friends to come and share your stories about your contact with Bali. Pizzas will be provided, buy your own drinks.

As this is the last newsletter article I’ll be writing as President, I’d like to take this opportunity to send a very big THANK YOU to all who supported AdoptASchool along its 12 year journey. We have been so successful in changing lives and enhancing educational opportunities for students in Bali...there is much of which to be proud. I am confident that our good work will continue through our new committee and I am looking forward to spending some time in the passenger’s seat!

Susan Cromb
President
18.10.14

11 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP COMMEMORATED

Students from Dalkeith Primary School sent their sister school a special gift to celebrate and acknowledge their 11 year relationship. It is an old school bell which is engraved with the words ‘To our sister school SD No.2 Pegadungan in recognition of Celebrating Our Successes together, from Dalkeith Primary School’. Congratulations to Dalkeith Primary for coming up with such a meaningful gift for your sister school.
SPONSORSHIP REPORT
by Sherryn Reid, Sponsorship Coordinator.
It was a busy but rewarding trip to Bali in July/August.
With my husband Vic, I was fortunate to meet with sponsors from the Eastern States, present scholarships, visit some of the remote families, attend an Idul Fitri Ceremony in Denpasar, visit schools, attend the Graduation Ceremony of IKIP PGRI University where Made Sudarmawaran from Kaba Kaba was the first AAS sponsored University graduate, present the final funding to complete the building of the Getakan Village Kindergarten, meet with staff at the Bali Safari and Marine Park to further our association, enjoy dinner at the home of the AAS Bali Secretary, Wahyuni and her family, attend the AdoptASchool meeting where Mr Gede Eka Widana was elected the new President of AAS in Bali, catch up with the committee and coordinators and enjoy the birthday party for Wayan Tur Adnyana our Vice President in Bali. In addition we did have a few social engagements and a whirlwind tour of the North of the Island with Wayan and Julie Adnyana where we enjoyed an overnight stay in a traditional Balinese house on the beach at Lovina.

We visited Komang and his family in Kalianget. The children are doing well in school and he and his wife, also Komang, are continuing to make a success of the venture into weaving. Due to his restricted hand movement, Komang has adapted his brush hold and is painting beautiful designs on the materials they weave on the loom.

If you haven’t already heard about it, visit the Facebook page of Eric Grattan, - AdoptASchool Beardathon Man. Eric has been growing a beard all year and being sponsored to raise funds for children’s education in Bali. In August, Eric together with his partner Bianca and Mother Lyn, presented a high school scholarship to Ni Kadek Dian Saraswati at her school, SMP4 Kediri. He is on track with his goal to sponsor a girl from Karangasem to University next July.

Thank you Eric, well done and thank you to all our sponsors who currently assist with the Educational costs of almost 300 children through AAS.

2015 will see several Balinese school visits to W.A. In Harmony Week, SMAN1 Kuta plans to visit Kent Street Senior High School. SMPN4 Kuta Selatan will visit Cecil Andrews Senior High School and a Principals Study Tour is being planned.

Once again I would like to commend every one of our volunteer committee and coordinators in Bali. They all do such a great job for AAS and the children of Bali by contributing many hours and racking up many miles in the execution of their duties. Also thanks must go to the many wonderful friends we have made in Bali who continue to assist us in many ways.

MT HAWTHORN CAKE SALE RAISES $506
Seven year old Maysie Ogden is in Year Two at Mt Hawthorn Primary School and she decided that she wanted to do something to help the kids at her sister school in Bali.

So she started planning a cake stall. She jumped thru all the hoops to get permission. She invited all the children in her class to bring a homemade cake to school to sell to the parents and students after the Friday Assembly. The children in her class were very happy to help. All the cakes were sold raising a grand total of $506.

Well done Maysie and the Year Two class! – what an amazing effort and result.
MY VISIT TO PERTH
by Alit Widia

AAS Committee in WA invited me and arranged my visit to Perth. I realise that it was hard to collect such a lot of money, but you all worked hard in getting such a lot of funds. By having a fundraising concert at Derek & Susan’s house, having a stall at the Mt. Hawthorn P.S and other efforts you collected enough money for my travel requirements: passport, airfares, travel and medical insurances, visa application, meals, transportation and something needed for the purposes. Unlimited thanks to AAS Committee and to Donators, because of you, your generosity I could visit and see a part of Western Australia. I was really happy my dream for visiting WA became true and could see closely how schools in Western Australia are.

When I was in WA I didn’t stay in a hotel but I stayed with Australian families. One or two days stayed with one family and the other days with different families. Everything was provided by my host families. I felt I liked a part of their family. They fed me well. They sometimes took me out for dinner, for site seeing and other activities. Now I know some interesting places in WA and Australian life style. My special thanks to all my host families, you had taken care of me.

I visited schools that had Indonesian classes. I dressed some students with the Balinese Costumes. Students were interested in wearing them. Students asked me many questions about schools in Bali, about the school uniforms, language studied in Bali schools, what do you have for meals, why the teeth file, transportation and many others.

What the differences?

I found that schools in Western Australia have better school facilities, the school buildings are big, large school yards complete with sport utensils, so students feel free to move. Every school has a library, music room, Art room, school hall, the school canteen, etc.

There are no more than 20 students in one class. Classrooms activities are characterised with lots of interactive and communicative activities. Students are able to practise. Various group discussions and communicative games are specially designed to facilitate students to use Indonesian. Not all schools in WA choose Indonesian as their language other than English. There are computers in every class.

Students not just study in their classrooms, but also outside their classrooms. Students enjoy this so much as they can feel the fresh air. The classes, which run from Monday to Friday, normally start at eight in the morning and finish at three o’clock in the afternoon. Students have to bring their lunch or they can buy it at the school canteen. Some students go to school by school bus, some go to school with their parents and some go to school by bicycles.

Thank you

Alit would like to extend a special thank you to following:

For their support and hospitality during his visit:

Susan & Derek Cromb, Sherryn & Vic Reid, Sue & David Elliott, Jan & Fred Morgan, Raja Pitts & Family, Lyn & Gary Tapper, Erlina Indrayani & John Bass.

To the Principals, teachers and students of the following schools for welcoming him to visit:

Alit Widia visited six Geraldton schools in March 2014 as part of his tour to WA. Students in local primary schools and John Willcock College were delighted with his visit and Indonesian lessons. Harmony Week was a real highlight of the week which was coordinated by government schools in collaboration with the local Midwest Multicultural Society. Allendale Primary School enjoys having a strong relationship with SD1 Kaba Kaba with staff, parents and students visiting the Bali school over the last five years. Principal Lisa Criddle will return to Bali to visit Allendale’s sister school in July 2014. Thank you Alit for your visit!

Geraldton Harmony Day 2014

Congratulations to Wayan Tur Adnyana for his recent award win.

Wayan was the overall winner in Bali of an award which recognize “the one who cares and acts through non-formal and formal education”. The award was presented by the Governor of Bali at a prestigious ceremony.

Wayan acknowledged the opportunities being Vice President of AAS had afforded him to practice his social work. He invited Sri and Yuni to attend the ceremony, at which he acknowledged their contributions as well. His work was featured in five separate articles in the Bali newspaper.

Sherryn Reid, AAS Sponsorship ASCN sent me the students list and funds recently. Now there are 23 sponsored students and there will be $2 450 going to the Kaba-Kaba schools. This really lightens the parents’ burden.

On behalf of sponsored students, their parents and the schools and I personally would like to express our sincerely thanks to sponsors, AAS and others who obviously care deeply about the education of those children. Without your assistance they may drop out of school.

The New School Year 2014-2015 commenced on 14 July. New School Year usually brings unhappiness for some parents. They wonder where they will get the money for the school expenses. One child will enter Primary School and the others will enter high schools. This become a problem every year.

Alit teaching a Year 3 class some Indonesian culture and language
A VISIT TO OUR SISTER SCHOOL IN BALI
by Samanatha McLaren

We (myself, my husband Nathan and son Aidan from Aveley Primary School) were invited to visit SD4 Kaba Kaba School in Bali while on holiday. Ibu Yang (the Indonesian teacher at Aveley Primary) made contact with Alit (the English teacher at SD4 Kaba Kaba) in the hope that we could visit at a suitable time. Alit was very pleased to arrange a visit on a Saturday morning (the students go to school 6 days a week!!!) when the students were not completing exams.

We drove for about an hour from Kuta to a small community. When we arrived, the whole school including students, teachers and the Principal were standing to greet us with a gorgeous handmade frangipani necklace each. The students were so excited. Aidan was introduced to a young boy named Yudi who spoke English very well. Yudi then started showing us around the school. Nathan took photos that everybody wanted to be in! Many of the senior students were eager to practice their English with a real English speaking person and they did a fantastic job. The classrooms are very neat with small wooden desks (they do not have puzzles, games etc to play with).

After a tour of the small and beautiful school ground and classrooms we were invited to meet with the Principal and teachers for morning tea. We learnt that there is no running water in the school. This is a main concern for the welfare of the students. There are also only two old computers for staff to use so the students are not able to use them for studies.

We made a donation to the school and presented the Principal with a Steve Parish book about Western Australia. We signed the visitor book, promising to return when we could. Alit made it very clear that visitors from Aveley Primary School are most welcome. The students are looking forward to trying out their English skills on anyone who has time to get there.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Thanks to Debrah & Jeff Martin who visited SD 3 Abianbase with a special mention to Annette & Brad Myles for recommending people visit the school.

Mr.Umberto Valenti, his wife Serafina and friends (Aldo and Domonica) visited SD1 Kaba-Kaba on Tuesday, 3 June and donated 15 kg of clothing to the students.
STUDY TOUR VISIT TO PERTH BY SMAN1 KUTA STUDENTS AND STAFF

by Sherryn Reid

SMAN1 Kuta students and staff were able to visit their sister school for Harmony Week. Last year Kent Street Senior High school provided the programme and this year the SMAN1 students reciprocated. In addition, two Education Officers from the Bali Safari and Marine Park made presentations about Endangered Wildlife in Indonesia, particularly the Bali Mynah Bird and the Orangutans.

The Bali Safari girls arrived first and spent Tuesday in two schools, Alinjarra and Mount Hawthorn Primary Schools. Their presentation on Endangered Wildlife in Indonesia was well accepted by the pupils and staff in these schools. In the afternoon, they met with the SMAN1 Kuta group at the hotel, who had been bussed from the airport by Barry of the Metropolitan Omnibus Company. Together they attended an official welcome by the Consul General for the Republik of Indonesia at the Consulate Office. The visit got off to a great start with a Welcome Dinner at the wonderful Corner Café provided by Sina Chon and his wonderful staff.

Wednesday morning was spent at Kent Street SHS and afternoon at Belmont City College. For Harmony Week and the cultural exchange between schools, the Bali students presented the Kecak Dance and demonstrated how to make traditional Canang from palm fronds. Our local students really enjoyed participating. The BS&MP girls made their presentations on Endangered Wildlife in Indonesia.

On Thursday the BS&MP girls had an education day at Perth Zoo. The group went with John and Robin Darroch to Caversham Wildlife, for a train ride on Bennett Brook Railway at Whiteman Park, a cultural exchange visit to Pinnaroo Memorial Park and Cemetery and then to Hillarys Marina before returning to the hotel along the beaches. Feeding the lambs, kangaroos, watching the shearing and whip cracking, catching a steam train and being able to touch a koala, wombat and other animals, were all highlights for the group.

Rosemary and Ian Robertson, with the assistance of Susan and Derek Cromb, held a BBQ in the evening which was enjoyed by all, after which we made a stop at Kings Park to pray at the Bali Bombing Memorial.

Friday was a fun day. We caught the train from Perth Station to Fremantle. Many of the students had not been on an electric train before. After a short rest back at the hotel, everyone gathered at ‘Q’Lebanese Restaurant. It was a new experience all round to eat a delicious variety of food provided by Ihab Husseini and his staff. Here we had much frivolity during the presentation of certificates by Susan.

There were many new friendships made between the visitors and the locals and many arrangements made to ‘meet in Bali’.

One of the schools from here involved in this year’s visit has expressed interest in visiting their Bali sister school next year. Now that the Education Department has lifted the embargo on WA schools visits to Bali, it may well happen. It has been a very successful visit to Perth and we look forward to continuing in this trend in the years to come.
OUR VISIT TO PEGADUNGAN SD2
by Isabella and Grace Mizera (Year 8 and 11 PLC)

This year our family was fortunate to be able to go to Bali for a week in the July / August school holidays. Our parents only decided to go a week before we left. Mum gave us the opportunity to visit our sister school from when we were at Dalkeith Primary school. The two of us were really keen to go and meet the students and especially two students Jioti and Oki whom our family has sponsored since they were in primary school, who are now in high school. We contacted Sue Elliot and before you knew it we were stuffing books and clothes into every bag possible to pass onto an Adopt a school representative in Bali.

Luckily Jati who used to live in Pegadungan accompanied us on our journey. We met her husband Ketut and her gorgeous son Donny. The trip took about three hours to the school. The countryside ranged from rice paddies to steep winding roads through mountainous vistas.

On arrival we were greeted at the gate by the entire school. We were escorted into the main hall where the English teacher held a welcoming ceremony. Some of the girls performed traditional Balinese dance and the boys sang an entertaining version of Que Sera in very good English. After various speeches and the giving of gifts we all enjoyed afternoon tea. Isabella played soccer with some of the students and Grace was cuddled and kept busy by many young girls. The concrete basketball court that was paid for by Dalkeith Primary School was where we all hung out.

We’re really glad that we decided to visit Pegadungan. It was very rewarding to finally meet and see everyone and everything we had heard about whilst we were at Dalkeith P.S. The school is nowhere near as well kept or resourced as Perth schools but the students and teachers still share the same enthusiasm for learning. Pegadungan is a rural village and the standard of living compares to nothing in Perth.

The children have left warm and happy impressions on both of us. We would love to return and spend more time with all the students. Hopefully other families will be able to experience the joy this opportunity offers.

Isabella and Grace Mizera (Year 8 and 11 PLC)

CONDOLENCES
Our sympathies are with AAS Pacung area coordinator, Wayan Suadra whose wife died suddenly earlier this year. She leaves behind two young children. Alinjarra PS (thru Donna Ivicevich and Andrew Rowe) are setting up sponsorship for them. AAS has also paid $200 to Suadra from the Future Sponsorship Fund to help pay for educational expenses for his children.
UPCOMING EVENTS
Friday 14th November, 4.00-6.00pm at Siena’s Restaurant in Oxford St Leederville. Invitations have been sent. This is an open invitation to all members and friends to come and share your stories about your contact with Bali. Pizzas will be provided, buy your own drinks.

APPRECIATION FOR SUPPORT TO AAS GOES TO:
Consulate of the Republic of Indonesia, 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.

Do you have a working unused laptop available which you are happy to donate to a new home. Our Coordinators and Sister Schools in Bali are in need of technology so please contact Susan Cromb 0402 914 521 or cromb@tpg.com.au

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.
http://www.balihearts.org/ - 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.