



NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2005

Sunday, August 14, 2005

Hello everyone and welcome to the first official newsletter of the Salam Children's Home!

Steering Committee

SALAM Children's home has undergone a dramatic change in the last year. One of these changes was the reintroduction of a steering committee. The Steering Committee was started when it was perceived that the current staff was struggling with the demands of running a home at a standard that satisfied the requirements of international organizations. The Steering Committee is also functioning officially as the interim governing body with the original Founders' blessing and is actively arranging a replacement Yayasan (Board of Governors). This will leave the Founding Members in an advisory capacity.

Renovations



SALAM Children's home is also undergoing urgently needed renovations which commenced with the demolition of the boys dormitory. A new facility is being constructed in its place. The boys are currently sleeping in the workshop and library, and upon completion of the dormitories will be exchanging domiciles with the girls. This is because the girls dormitories will have a greater capacity than the new building and at the moment we are housing a lot more boys than girls. Everyone is happy with the girls inheriting the new sleeping quarters and the boys will finally have their much needed space.

Pigs business



We will be saying goodbye to the pigs. The pigs are supplied by the Indonesian government as a way to raise money and are housed at the bottom of our property. The funds raised through this venture are not high, the biogas unit that treats the manure needs repair and the land could be better used for a play area. The latest bird flu scare in Indonesia (transmitted through birds and pigs) has tipped the scale and we will bid them a final farewell in a few months when they will easily sell for the festivities of Galungan, the Hindu Balinese equivalent of Christmas.

Seminars

We have recently commenced a series of seminar presentations, the first of which was Hygiene and Nutrition. Thank you Ibu Masta! Next on the list is First Aid.

Volunteers

We owe a big thanks to Vicky and Claire from the UK who recently spent two weeks last month at the Home playing with the kids, tidying the grounds, cleaning and repainting the kitchen. You guys really left your mark. Thank you for your enthusiasm and generosity.

Best Regards,

Matthew Trevatt
SCH Steering Committee