

SALAM Children's Home Newsletter

November 2007

www.salambali.com

Today we bid farewell to our volunteers Jonathan and Meri Ford, who have served the Children's Home for more than 12 months now. We are grateful for what they have done to help SALAM. They will go home to Canada, then later they have plans to set up in an aid capacity in Toraja with a possibility of some time in Papua New Guinea along the way. Any email correspondence can now be directed to Matthew or Alicia Trevatt. We will do our best to answer your queries but please be aware there may be some delay.



A huge thank you to Ibu Anita who has arranged weekly singing and guitar tuition for the kids.

Our own SALAM boy band - consisting of Wayan Tyson (keyboard), Redika and Toni (guitars), Hari (drums) and Herman (vocal) - performed at a local Parade at Hardy's, Tabanan. It was a good experience and great exposure for them.

Thanks to all those who have been involved in donating musical equipment. It is a real hit and we have some natural singers and musicians here. If anybody has the inclination, the kids could really do with an effects pedal!

The children have been quite busy as they have end of semester testing in all the grades soon. There is a reasonable amount of academic pressure associated with Indonesian schooling and they spend a lot of time on homework, projects and tutorials after school hours.



With Christmas just around the corner we have been preparing some music and dance items which the children will be performing for various groups booked to visit SALAM. They have also been invited to perform at two five star hotels. They have both contemporary/ creative dance and traditional Balinese dance on the agenda along with a variety of musical performances. Drop us a line if you are interested in joining a Christmas event at SALAM.

Other news: Congratulations to Adam who recently ran a 10 km marathon in Tanah Lot and won 2nd place and a cash prize!

Poor Abi spent three weeks at Bali Kids Clinic while he was sick with typhoid fever. He is now recovered and back at school. We would like to extend our thanks to the staff and supporters of Bali Kids for their care.

Our brand new Baby section has already seen some action. We had one very little boy born earlier this month. He spent some extra time in hospital as he needed treatment for jaundice but both Mum and bub are doing well now. The recently donated baby clothes are being put to good use! This facility is still in its infancy and at present we simply aim to provide a refuge and some support for needy single or teen Mums who would otherwise be treated harshly in their own communities.

It is always a challenge in Bali to change mindsets but we plan to set up a rubbish recycling and composting programme shortly. With the help of funds donated by the Pollett family we will be separating organic and non-organic waste and items made of paper, plastic, metal and glass will be pegged for reuse. We hope this will raise awareness and promote more responsible rubbish disposal throughout the greater community.

As of now we have 19 of 45 kids fully sponsored. This is an improvement! We still need to pool the funds at this stage though, to distribute as fairly as possible amongst all the children. Some family members have come forward to help where they can with fees but many have no way of contributing, and this is obvious in the case of those kids who originally came from remote islands far from Bali. Many have no contact with their families of origin. If you or anyone you know would be interested in sponsoring a child we would love to hear from you. You can contact us at salambali@gmail.com

WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS! Here we are at our last Christmas Party. More pics to come in the New Year!



Warmest regards, Matthew and Alicia Trevatt for SCH.