



# YAYASAN GUNUNGAN



## THE GREAT BEACH TRIP

3rd Quarter 2008

### Latest News

Yayasan Gunung has been in contact with an American charity called "The Asia Project" regarding a project to provide books and school supplies to Asian children in need. We plan to work closely with this Charity to hopefully build a strong partnership relationship, possibly resulting in setting up library facilities in the city.

An English gentleman has asked if Yayasan Gunung might be able to print and supply T-shirts to sell to the members of an organisation in UK. This will be a very good way to help raise funds for the Children's Refuge as well as spread the name of the Organisation. If anyone has any other fundraising ideas we would be very pleased to hear them.



A trip to the beach had been promised, as part of the Organisation's 2 year anniversary on 21 June. When the Solo Expats Association announced that they were arranging a weekend outing to the nearby beach of Pacitan, everyone was overjoyed to make it a joint trip with the Children's Refuge. This was a great opportunity to welcome the new children at the Refuge, make new friends and have some fun. Michael and Rob from the Solo Expats generously offered to provide the accommodation and an evening barbeque. So on Saturday 26 July a very excited group of kids boarded a bus bound for the beach. (continued on page 2)

### Inside this issue:

The Great Beach Trip	2
Independence Day	3
Independence Day 2	4
Breaking the Fast	5
Contact	6

### Please Remember:

We need all the support we can get.

There are only a few regular Donors and the current monthly Refuge costs are not yet being met. If we are to expand and provide a home for 50 - 100 children then we really need help to do this.

If you know anyone who might be interested in helping to support this project please pass on our contact details.

Thank you very much.

## Ibu Muljani Retires



After a lifetime in the service of orphaned, abused, destitute and abandoned children, Ibu Muljani officially retired from the Solo Government Social Department on 1 September 2008. She is now concentrating her time fully on her role as 'Head of the Gunung Children's Refuge'. Ibu Muljani has a wealth of experience not only with children but also with people with disabilities, HIV & AIDS sufferers, sex workers and drug addicts. We are very grateful to have her working with us.

## The Great Beach Trip (continued from front page)



Excited setting off on the 3 hour journey to the beach.



Finally arrived at 'Happy Bay Bungalows' just as the sun was setting.



The Solo Expats (SEA) provided a marquee tent for the children to sleep under.



That evening everyone enjoyed a barbecue on the beach with live music.



Homemade hamburgers from an open fire, rice and chili sauce - love it!



Night soccer on the beach.



Can't wait for the sun to rise before going to play in the sea.



Legend has it the Queen of the South Seas will claim anyone wearing green.



Luckily no-one was.



Hanging out at the Marquee Tent.



Lunch time - fresh fish of course.



Time to leave - many thanks to Michael and Rob from SEA for a great trip.

# Independence Day

17 August is Indonesia's independence day. To celebrate, competitions were held at the Refuge.



Marble and Spoon Race.  
Winner : Chandra



Thread the Needle.  
Winner : Mira



Eat Prawn Cracker with No Hands.  
Winner : Ngatno



Get the Pencil in the Bottle.  
Winner : Chandra



Soccer in Sarongs:  
Winner : Ngatno, Lilis & Uki



Transfer Water by Spoon Race.  
Winner : Chandra



Hit Water & Flour Balloons Blindfolded.  
Winner : Siti



Find the Coins in Flour using only Mouth.  
Winner : The one with the most cash



Ngatno just checking to see if any coins have been missed.

## Independence Day - 2

A second day of competitions was added, taking place on 23 August.



Poetry reading - a moving piece of prose describing the struggle for Independence and Freedom. Winner : Lilis



The audience/competitors - providing helpful and supportive comments, whilst mentally preparing themselves for the challenge ahead.



Karaoke - The Indonesian National Anthem and then a pop song of your choice. Winner : Ngatno

## Breaking the Fast

The Gunungan Organisation and Children's Refuge have no religious affiliations. The Children at the Refuge are free to follow whatever religion they wish. In Indonesia, approximately 90% of the population are Muslim and this is also currently reflected in the spread of religions at the Refuge. The Muslim holy month of Ramadan fell during September this year and the Muslim children at the Refuge followed the practice of fasting from sunrise to sunset during this month. It is traditional to break the fast in the evening with some sweet drinks and special food, often as a group event. This year the children were invited to attend a few fast breaking events.

The first event was a combined fast breaking and birthday party. A local lady, Mbak Ida, wished to celebrate her birthday with the children at the Refuge. She arrived early evening with a group of her friends and then after a few speeches and prayers everyone dived in to sweet mixed fruit drinks and then a selection of snacks, chicken rice and fresh fruit.



The Second was a kind invitation from the local Ibis and Novotel hotels in Solo. On 12 September two Novotel buses pulled up at the Refuge door to bring the children to the Ibis hotel. A small ceremony was held and the children were given fast breaking food and drink, and then some gifts to take home. Many thanks to the Manager and Staff of the Novotel and Ibis hotels for the event.



The third was another birthday, this time Ibu Muljani's twin sons, Yoga and Yogi had their 12th birthday party with a fast breaking ceremony at the Refuge on 13 September. Ibu Mul cooked her special meat balls for the event which everyone enjoyed very much, and little Putri (far left) entertained everyone with an example of the dancing that won her first place at her village competition day.



The last was an invitation from 'Danar Hadi', a local Batik clothing manufacturer, to join a large fast breaking event attended by almost 2000 children from orphanages across the region. Each child was given food, drink and Rp60,000 (approx US\$ 6.00).



# Contact



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With Many Thanks From:

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Treasurer : Ibu Suratni

**Staff:**

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Refuge Care Giver : Asih Kusumastuti  
Refuge Care Giver : Anik Rustiyana  
Refuge Care Giver : Simulyono  
Refuge Cook : Ibu Yayuk Sartini

**Advisors:**

Bo Lauritzen  
Russell Cullinane  
Michael Micklem

**Children:**

Chandra Nico Uki  
Lilys Nita Vina  
Mira Sri Widoyo  
Ngatno Siti

