



# KABAR

## AIA News

### Australia Indonesia Association

April – June 2011

*Established in 1945*

#### President's Message

Hi Everyone,

Last Saturday we were all out voting in the NSW Elections. On the same day we had our AIA Annual General Meeting and elections. While the NSW elections saw a massive shift, and a change in Government, the AIA elections were not so dramatic, with most of the committee continuing as well as a few new members. Many thanks to Bryan O'Loughlan our Treasurer who has moved to Singapore, and to Adrian Vickers and Jamie Vueti for their contributions over the last few years. Welcome also to our new committee members, Tony McMullen, Jennifer Burrige, Andre Iswandy, Ken Geden, Mahsita Sari, and Marilyn Campbell.

A lot has happened since our last edition of 'Kabar' in December. Queensland was hit by disastrous floods followed by Cyclone Yasi which devastated parts of north Queensland. Then we heard the shocking news that Christchurch in New Zealand had been flattened by another earthquake, this time with many fatalities. Then more recently we had the earthquake and tsunami which wreaked havoc in Japan with over 10,000 lives lost and an uncertain situation with regards to the nuclear power station at Fukushima.

African and Middle East countries are shedding their shackles to free themselves of longstanding autocratic and dictatorial rule. Several leaders have stepped down, others are making small concessions, and Gaddafi in Libya is determined to stay in power at all costs.

Apart from all that, life goes on pretty much as usual here in Sydney, although bananas are now at \$14/kg! In December we had a very successful Christmas dinner at the 1945 Dutch East Indies Restaurant in Pymont. We had over 50 people attending, and took the opportunity to hand over a cheque to the Yayasan Anak Sehat Papua from proceeds of our Spring Fair in October.

We followed this with a casual barbecue in January at my place. It took a while for us to get the coals heated so that we could cook the satay, but with some patience and a lot of fanning, we almost got it to the standard of the "tukang sate" in Jakarta.



Pak Gar Jusuf, Ike, Sisi and Eric

Last week we had our annual "Jakarta by Night" dinner at the Jimbaran in Randwick. Great atmosphere with the rain beating on the tin roof, some old Dutch films of "tempoe doeloe", a trivia quiz, great Indonesian food and of course Bir Bintang. The Indonesian Consul General, Pak Gary Jusuf and his wife Sisi were our guests on the night.

In early March the Australia Indonesia Business Council had their conference in Sydney, and attracted over 200 attendees. It was well supported and sponsored, and we had several visitors from Indonesia, including Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono X, Sultan of Yogyakarta and Governor of Yogyakarta, as well as Gita I. Wirjawan, Chairman of BKPM. The Australian Trade Minister Craig Emerson opened the conference and launched a "Doing Business in Indonesia" Guide.

A few days later Indonesian Vice President Boediono, the Trade Minister Mari Pangestu, and the Education Minister visited Sydney and they were guests of honour at a reception at Wisma Indonesia. The Indonesian Consul General took the opportunity to propose an Indonesian Cultural Centre for Sydney. This was well received although no commitment was made. We at the AIA fully support this proposal.

The Indonesian community is very active in Sydney and there have been numerous functions and disaster relief fund raising activities, food festivals, arisans, etc.

Easter and Anzac Day will soon be upon us, and I hope you have a safe and enjoyable time over the holiday period.

Please check out our website [www.australia-indonesia-association.com](http://www.australia-indonesia-association.com) for details of activities and membership. We are also on Facebook.

*Eric de Haas*

April – June 2011

**ECHOES 3 LIBRARY TALK****By Anthony Liem**

On Thursday 3 March, the City of Sydney Library, Haymarket at 744 George St, City, provided a most congenial venue for a lunch hour talk on a little known but politically significant figure in the Sydney Chinese community, Fred Wong (1906-1948). It was part of a series of programs presented for Harmony Month and, in the most pleasant ambience of this restored Federation building, talks were given by Fred Wong's niece, Ms Julie Chong, his daughter Mrs. Helen Liem and Charlotte Clayton Maramis, author of the recently released book on Fred Wong's life, 'Echoes Book Three: Australia-China-Indonesia'.

Attendance was very pleasing and the Powerpoint presentation of old, nostalgic Wong family photos, as well as the concluding showing of Joris Ivens's prize-winning documentary film, 'Indonesia Calling', ensured a stimulating and informative hour.

Ms Chong spoke of her grandfather as a man who was a savvy political activist who raised funds for the fight to free China from the strangling yoke of the invading Japanese and who dared to campaign for equal rights among workers of all colours and creeds at a time when the White Australia Policy was strongly

implemented. He was a compassionate man, who provided help to stranded seamen, refugees, the sick and the poor. He was an astute businessman who believed in the independence of all nations. In fact, it was exactly these qualities that prompted Charlotte Maramis to research and write her latest book, which, together with her other books, 'Echoes One' and 'Echoes Two', sold well at the meeting.

Helen Liem-Wong, Fred's daughter, who was only 5 years old when Fred suddenly died, told of the pain and struggle that faced her widowed mother, who was fiercely determined to bring up her three young children to be educated and upright citizens. The fact that she succeeded, in spite of adversity and her own illiteracy, made her a heroine in the eyes of her children.

Anthony Liem introduced the 1946 film 'Indonesia Calling' directed by world-renowned Dutch film director Joris Ivens. This film, set in Sydney Harbour, was about a far-reaching black ban by a large number of influential Sydney unions on the repair and manning of Netherlands Indies ships. They were poised to return to the East Indies (renamed Indonesia in 1945) to "reclaim" the colony of 200 years for the Dutch, after the defeat of the Japanese at the end of World War Two. The Dutch ships carried their military personnel,

soldiers, arms and ammunition. Fred Wong was influential in persuading the unions to adopt his stance of ending Dutch colonialism, as well as the oppression of other colonial governments, such as existed in China and India.

Although not appearing in the film himself, Fred Wong financed the production and it was Fred's closest political associate and best friend, Arthur Chang Gar Locke, who delivered the final rousing call for the unity of all workers and the freedom of all nations. The film concluded with scenes of Aussie diggers, seamen and workers, marching side by side, across the Sydney Harbour Bridge, in unity with their Asian counterparts, to the beat of the Indonesian National Anthem – an unlikely image that ironically, accurately predicted the multiculturalism we would enjoy in Australia six decades later, unbeknown to the victims of the White Australia Policy of that day.

The talks and the film were very well received by the attendees, the Guests of Honour - Pak Kiki and Pak Dani from the Indonesian Consulate - and the former City of Sydney Historian, Shirley Fitzgerald.

**An interlude in Indonesia that changed Australia  
By Neil Smith**

The name John Macarthur is very much associated with the beginning of the wool industry in Australia. He was to become one of the most studied and controversial characters of early colonial Australia. This story is about one of the many aspects of his life, one that involves a brief stopover in Indonesia.

John Macarthur arrived Australia with his wife and child in 1790 as a lieutenant with the newly formed N.S.W Corps. They were sent to Australia to replace the Marine Corps that came with the First Fleet. Conflicts soon arose between Macarthur and Governor King over abuses of power in the colony. Soon the headstrong Macarthur had a major falling out with Colonel Paterson, his superior officer. In 1801 things came to head and, after a series of misunderstandings and slanderous comments, there was a duel between Colonel Patterson and Macarthur.

Macarthur won. For shooting a superior officer Macarthur was court-martialled. After arguing that he would only receive a fair trial in England, Macarthur left for his homeland in November 1801 taking with him samples of merino wool from his own Seven Hills Farm. This was the first Australian wool to make it to England.

Macarthur's son and daughter sailed with him from Port Jackson. They were to return to England to finish their schooling. The ship sailed up the east coast of Australia, around Cape York then onto the Arafura Sea. As the ship manoeuvred through the Arafura Sea they passed through a cyclone that severely damaged the ship. The ship made its way to Ambon where there was a British trading post. Here Macarthur met the current Resident (senior administrator) Robert Farquhar. Young Robert Farquhar was the son of Sir Walter Farquhar, a friend and physician to the Prince of Wales as well a leading member of the Whigs in Government. As the story goes, Macarthur offered Farquhar some important advice which led to him

to be recommended for Governor of Penang. In return, Farquhar wrote a letter in defence of Macarthur to assist with his upcoming court-martial. He also provided Macarthur with some important contacts in London.

When Macarthur arrived in London in 1802 his case was overturned as crucial documents had gone missing. Macarthur then used his time in England to promote his merino wool. With a list of powerful contacts including Walter Farquhar, Macarthur successfully lobbied to expand his sheep farm interests back in NSW. The new Secretary for the Colonies was Lord Camden whose private secretary was George Watson, Farquhar's cousin. Macarthur was granted concessions to more prime farming land near Parramatta and given convict labour to run his project. With 8 quality merinos from the royal flock



***Our future trade with Indonesia looks promising with almost 250,000 people wanting many primary products from Australia, including Brahman cattle.***

*BY HC Jagers*

Indonesia is the largest Muslim country in the world and the fourth largest nation in the world. The rapid growth of the now red meat-eating people of Indonesia augers well our Brahman cattle exports. Coupled with the other Australian rural product exports to Indonesia, Australian farmers are in the box seat.

While cattle exports have fallen in recent years, we certainly have a lucrative trading partner in Indonesia. I learned more about cattle exports from my grandson Alexander Jacob (21) of Moree NSW. He spent approximately 10 months in 2010 working as a stockman, mustering cattle from different stations in the Northern Territory for export to Indonesia.

The mustering period, for cattle to be exported Indonesia, is carried out mainly by young stockmen and stockwomen for 7 days a week during the monsoon season.

Mustering can take place on stations as large as 300km<sup>2</sup> located in the Northern Territory and other northern states. Naturally because of the massive grazing areas, very light helicopters are necessary for mustering with the aid of the stockmen on the ground. Young itinerant workers from all over Australia work as stockmen and women. They work in the rather hostile environment of cattle stations. Apart from the high temperatures one must endure there are

crocodiles, snakes, mosquitoes and sand flies. The relatively high wages of the workers is, therefore, understandable.

Macarthur was granted 5000 acres which he named Camden Park. From here he built a wool industry that was to become the envy of the world. Macarthur and his daughter Elizabeth are buried at Camden Park. The old home is still there and visitors are welcome. The older home of Elizabeth Farm (1793) is open to the public at Harris Park.

Reference: 'Man of Honour'  
Michael Duffy

It's also a hazardous flying life for the helicopter pilot who assists with the muster. Often they are forced to fly like daredevils. In the territory alone in 2010 there were 8 helicopter crashes with one human fatality, to my knowledge. On the ground there would be many minor injuries from working with wild cattle. Even trucking cattle from the various stations to the shipping port can be hazardous with the very fine dust known as bull dust, that can cloud other drivers vision, and thus sometimes cause fatal incidents to humans caught in the dust cloud.

Cattle exports to Indonesia numbered over 520,000 in 2010. Breeding-wise it would be possible to take 1-2 years to reach the statutory weight of under 350kgs for shipping to Indonesian buyers. Today the Indonesian government only allows the statutory weight as the buyers can obtain a higher by fattening the cattle locally.

One of the larger cattle stations could have up to a consignment of 70,000 Brahman in one year shipped to Indonesia. Some of the stations rely completely on this trade with Indonesia. It is not just the Northern Territory but the whole of the Australian cattle industry that benefits from this trade.

\* Alexander Jagers being an ex-Moree country boy who grew up working part-time, mainly on cotton plantations. At the completion of his degree in Business Management at Queensland University, received for his outstanding academic achievement the honour of his name being placed on the Dean's Roll of Honour.

\*\* Harry Jagers is a lifetime AIA member. For decades he has urged the Federal Government to establish a national water conservation plan. Last year a compilation of his essays were published in 'Tell Me No More Lies'. To obtain this book call Harry on 97183101.

## Indonesian Arts in Action at Ferncourt

By Melanie Morrison



The rhythmic beats of the Acehnese 'Ratoh Duek' dance can be heard in the corridors of Ferncourt Public School as a group of 21 students rehearse for their first performance. 'Satu, dua, tiga, empat' ... they repeat as they slap their bodies and clap their hands.

It's nearing the end of lunchtime and while the rest of the students are running about in the playground, these year 5 and 6 students are in the arts room, concentrating on getting their dance moves right. Dance teacher Alfira O'Sullivan and drummer Murtala are pleased with their progress. "They've only had a couple of lessons, by May they'll be great," Murtala says.

This group will perform at Ferncourt's May Fair in the first of a series of public performances planned under the school's "Becoming Asia Literate" project.

Ferncourt, located in Marrickville, is one of 42 schools in NSW to be selected in the 2011 round of the National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program. This program is designed to expose school students to the languages and cultures of Australia's key regional neighbours, namely China, Indonesia, Japan and Korea. The government has committed to this 4-year \$62.4 million program in an attempt to reverse the steady decline in the numbers of students studying about Asia.

Ferncourt's Indonesian 'Arts in Action' project, as the name would suggest, is focused on the dance and music of Indonesia. Alfira and Murtala from Suara Indonesia Dance, will teach all students at Ferncourt traditional dances from Sumatra and Java as well as 'angklung' and 'wayang'. Ferncourt's creative arts teacher Bonnie Kay will work with them, ensuring that the program will continue beyond the funding period.

This years Indonesia related activities also go beyond the creative arts. Ferncourt teacher Mathew McPherson and Sydney University geography lecturer Jeff Neilson, who is

also a parent at the school, are developing a series of Indonesian social science and environment study units. Later in the year students will exchange short films about their lives with a sister school in Jakarta. And, quite spontaneously, an Asian garden has sprung up in Ferncourt's eco-learning area.

Back in the arts room there are smiles all around as the tempo for the Acehnese dance becomes even more vigorous and rhythmic. Then the bell goes and the rehearsal comes to an end.

"Lunch felt like 2 minutes!" 10-year-old Eden exclaims as he slowly packs up the floor mats.

"We've been practicing at home and with friends. It's great fun," says Hannah.

*These students will perform on May 14 at Ferncourt Public School's May Fair. All welcome (74 Premier Street Marrickville).*

### FOCUS ON BOOKS

#### Indonesia Political Pulse 2010 by the Castle Group

Every week CastleAsia's team of experienced analysts produces timely commentary on important political events in Indonesia. Senior executives from over 125 leading companies in Indonesia subscribe to these authoritative reports which cover changes in Indonesian politics and news highlights. *Indonesia: Political Pulse 2010* offers focused, common-sense analysis of the latest political and policy developments in Indonesia. The alert is written for business executives who need a more comprehensive understanding of Indonesia's political complexities and provides an insider's view of the facts behind the headlines. At the end of each year these concise briefs are compiled into a compact book that provides a detailed summary and trend line of important developments that is essential reading for business executives, scholars and anyone with a professional interest in one of the world's fastest-growing economies. The CastleAsia team is led by James Castle and Andri Manuwoto. Mr. Castle has been producing regular reports on Indonesia since 1980. Mr. Manuwoto has been CastleAsia's senior political and economic analyst since 2002.

AIA members receive a 25 percent discount on books from Equinox Publishing. A full list of titles can be found on <http://www.equinoxpublishing.com>

If you wish to purchase this or any of the other Equinox book/s, please contact Melanie Morrison at [melaniemorrison@bigpond.com](mailto:melaniemorrison@bigpond.com).

**Rempeyek Katjang**

*An Indonesian peanut snack which is delicious as a snack with your aperitif as well as a small side dish with your meal.*

**Ingredients:**

200 gr. Rice Flour  
½ Tsp. Baking powder  
250 ml. Coconut milk  
½ Tsp. Coriander (ground)  
½ Tsp. Salt 1 Clove Garlic (chopped) Pinch of Cumin (ground)  
Pinch of Turmeric (ground)  
1 Candle Nut (grated)  
100 gr. Raw Peanuts  
Oil for frying

**Preparation:**

Mix the Rice flour with baking powder and coconut milk, then add Coriander, Cumin, Turmeric, Garlic and Candle nut. Mix well. Now add the slightly crushed Peanuts and Stir well. This will give you a slightly runny batter mix. Heat oil in shallow pan and fry batter by the tablespoon. Drain on absorbent paper.

**Indonesian Language classes**

Learn Indonesian and the WEA, the only organisation that continuously conducts an Indonesian Language course in Sydney

- Indonesian Beginners 1 starting on Wednesday May 4, 2011 at 5.30 - 7.30pm
- Indonesian Beginners 2, starting on Wednesday May 4, 2011 at 7.30 - 9.00pm
- Indonesian Conversation and Grammar 1 starting Monday May 2, 2011 at 5.30 - 7.30pm

All courses cost \$194 or \$175 concession

Pak Stephanus Dharmanto is an experienced and dynamic teacher and he provides all course materials.

WEA  
72 BATHURST ST SYDNEY 2000 behind  
Townhall Station  
ph 9264 2781 or [www.weasydney.nsw.edu.au](http://www.weasydney.nsw.edu.au)

**FOR THE DIARY:**

**Indonesian Dance at Ferncourt's May Fair  
14 May 2011 11am – 4pm**

74 Premier St, Marrickville. Contact Melanie for further information 0401 996 451.

**Indonesian Multicultural Festival 2011  
Saturday, 14 May 2011 (11.00 am - 10.00 pm)**

Sydney Portugal Community Club  
Frazer Park, 100 Marrickville Rd. Marrickville, NSW  
For Jon Soemarjono 0412 396 964

**Indonesian Multicultural Night 2011  
Saturday, 25 June 2011 (7.00 - 11.00 pm)**

North Ryde Community Centre  
201 Cox's Rd. North Ryde, NSW  
For enquiries: Jon Soemarjono: 9878 4450, 0412 396 964 [jonsoemarjono@hotmail.com](mailto:jonsoemarjono@hotmail.com)  
Nia: 9644 5152,  
0431179 500 [nia.pi@techemail.com](mailto:nia.pi@techemail.com)

Get ready Adelaide - INDOfest 2011 is on its way!

On **Sunday April 10th, 2011** Adelaide's **Rymill Park** will once again transformed into hub of Indonesian activity - from cooking demonstrations, non-stop entertainment, free music and dance workshops, children's games, a host of delicious food stalls, and range of beautiful crafts for sale.

<http://www.indofest.com.au/Home.html>

**Bali Hati Foundation – Entertainment Book  
2010/2011 Fundraiser.**

Paulette Kay is raising money for the school in Bali through the sale of the Entertainment Book. For more information contact Paulette on [paulettkay49@hotmail.com](mailto:paulettkay49@hotmail.com).

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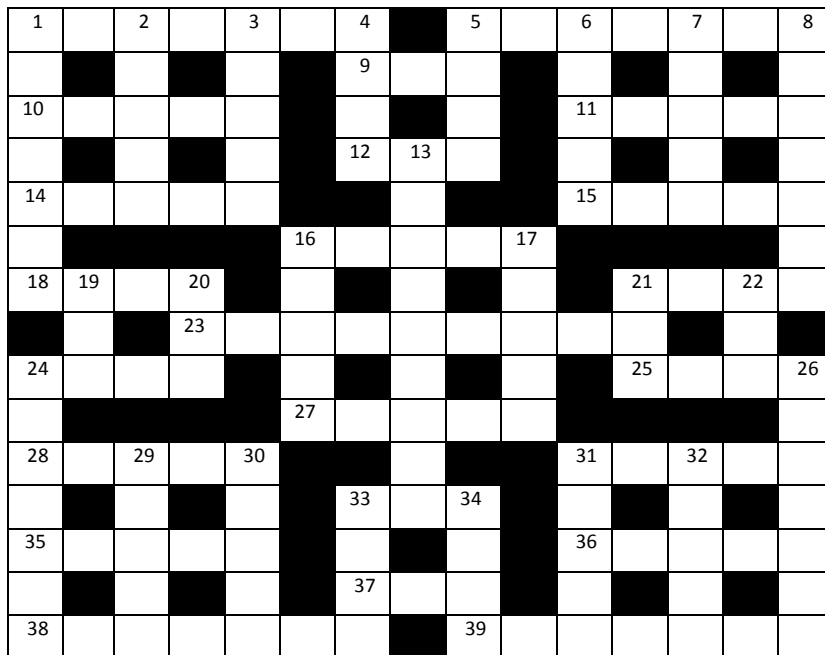
**Contributions to Kabar**

We are interested in any contributions to *Kabar* from both members and non-members. If you have recently been to Indonesia, eaten at an Indonesian restaurant, read a book or attended an Indonesia related event, please feel free to write an article including photos. Send all material to Melanie at [melaniemorrison@bigpond.com](mailto:melaniemorrison@bigpond.com).

**CROSSWORD**

Created by Helen Anderson, AIA Victoria

Answers on the following page (no peeking)



**Across**

- 1. Popular
- 5. Possible
- 9. There is, there are
- 10. Regret
- 11. Night
- 12. I, me, my
- 14. Write
- 15. Naughty
- 16. Insult
- 18. Phase
- 21. Random
- 23. Mistake
- 24. Transitory, fleeting
- 25. Saying
- 27. Item (in a list)
- 28. Valid, genuine
- 31. Strong will, resolve
- 33. This
- 35. Know by heart, memorize
- 36. Marriage
- 37. That
- 38. Article
- 39. Skilled, competent

**Down**

- 1. Positive
- 2. Paragraph
- 3. Pass a test, graduate
- 4 & 5. Feel embarrassed
- 6. However
- 7. Later
- 8. Position o.s.
- 13. Difficulty
- 16. Fate
- 17. End
- 19. There is, there are
- 20. One, single
- 21. Whatchumacallit
- 22. What
- 24. Eloquence
- 26. Whereas, besides
- 29. Know by heart, memorize
- 30. Refined
- 31. Question, inquire
- 32. Large-scale (firm or operation)
- 33. Permission
- 34. Follow, go along

Answers

P	O	P	U	L	E	R		M	U	N	G	K	I	N		
O		A		U		A	D	A		A		E		E		
S	E	S	A	L		S		L		M	A	L	A	M		
I		A		U		A	K	U		U		A		P		
T	U	L	I	S		E				N	A	K	A	L		
I						N	I	S	T	A				O		
F	A	S	E			A		U		K		A	C	A	K	
	D		K	E	S	A	L	A	H	A	N		P			
F	A	N	A			I		I		I		U	C	A	P	
A						B	U	T	I	R					A	
S	A	H	I	H				A				T	E	K	A	D
I		A		A			I	N	I			A		A		A
H	A	F	A	L			Z		K			N	I	K	A	H
A		A		U			I	T	U			Y		A		A
T	U	L	I	S	A	N				T	R	A	M	P	I	L



Pak Kiki and Eric de Haas



Pak Gary Yusuf and Sisca Hunt

The AIA Newsletter is produced by the Australia Indonesia Association. Statements made in this publication do not necessarily represent the view of the Association or its members. For editorial, distribution, advertising and membership contact the AIA secretariat. The next deadline is 25 June 2011.

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**To foster and promote friendship, understanding and good relations between the peoples of Indonesia and Australia**

**Bercita-cita membina persahabatan, saling pengertian dan hubungan antar-masyarakat yang erat antara Indonesia dan Australia**