



# KABAR

## AIA News

### Australia Indonesia Association

September - November 2010

*Established in 1945*

#### President's Message

Hi Everyone,

What a cliffhanger! Almost two weeks after the election and we still don't know whether we will have a Labor or Liberal Government. Hopefully, with the Independents holding the balance of power, we will see a moderate government, with less divisiveness. Whichever way it goes, the emphasis over the next few years will probably be on domestic issues and less involvement in the region. The AIA will continue to lobby the Government for increased levels of activity to foster friendship and understanding between Australians and Indonesians.

Still no news on the visit by President Barack Obama to Indonesia and Australia. The oil spill in the Gulf and the continuing economic difficulties in the US have focussed his attentions there.

The World Cup provided some exciting viewing in June and July, as well as some late nights and early mornings! Australia had done well to make the World Cup finals, but the 6 – 0 loss to Germany sealed our fate. We can always look forward to the next one. Indonesia still struggles to field a world class football team, and as Tom Allard in Jakarta pointed out, they will need to improve their management if they want to play on the world stage.

The exciting event for the AIA has been the 65th Anniversary Cocktail Evening held in July. The AIA was founded in July 1945, more than one month before Soekarno declared Independence for Indonesia on 17 August 1945, so we are older than Indonesia itself! For the event we published a series of photos and documents including Minutes of the first meeting of the AIA.

Many thanks to Lottie, Anthony and Neil for their work in bringing this together. Laurie Ferguson, the Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs and Settlement Services, and a supporter of AIA, spoke at the event, which was attended by over 100 members and friends of AIA, including Helen Anderson – President of AIA Victoria and Bill Rhemrev – President of AIA Canberra, as well as Ms Zoe Reynolds – representing the National Secretary of the Maritime Union of Australia, Mrs Judith Fergin – Consul General of the United States of America, and of course Pak Siuaji Raja - Consul, representing Pak Primo Alui Julianto-Indonesian Ambassador for Indonesia. Pak Raja has been very supportive of the AIA, for which we are very thankful. Many thanks to Garuda and to ShangriLa Hotel for their support and sponsorship of the event.



*Helen Anderson(AIA Vic) wins a ticket to Jakarta*

September - November 2010



*Charlotte Maramis, Ambassador Primo Alui Julianto,  
Consul General Sudaryomo Hartosudarmo  
Photo courtesy of Ravotti Asikin Natanegara*

Pak Sudaryomo Hartosudarmo, our Consul General, was unable to be present on the night as he has recently been promoted as Ambassador to Brazil, and was in Jakarta for briefings. Nevertheless there were several farewell functions for Pak Soedaryomo and his wife Tri. The Indonesia Community Council organised a dinner at Canterbury Leagues Club, attended by over 300 people wanting to thank him for his service to the Indonesian community. Another farewell was organised by the Consulate, held at the John Clancy Auditorium at UNSW. On both occasions I was asked to say a few words on behalf of the AIA and of the Australian community in general.

We say farewell to Pak Sudaryomo and his wife Ibu Tri, and thank them for all their support and friendship over the last few years. They have been an integral part not only of the local Indonesian community and have reached out to the wider Australian community. They have opened their hearts and opened their home to the AIA on several occasions, such as our Spring Fairs held in October each year.



*Nadia Fatchani Putri, Fauzia Emeraldityas, Tri  
Pangestuti, Sudaryomo Hartosudarmo  
Photo courtesy of Ravotti Asikin Natanegara*

They have been regular attendees at various AIA functions and dinners. On a personal level they have been to our home on several occasions and celebrated birthdays and Christmases and of course the regular *arisans*. Their children will remain in Sydney to complete their studies, so they will be visiting Sydney from time to time. We will miss them, but look forward to working with the new Consul General on his arrival in Sydney shortly.

In August the AIA participated in the Festival Indonesia held at Tumbalong Park, Darling Harbour. Attendance was well up on previous events, and we had the opportunity to meet many people and talk about AIA and our activities. Several new members joined as a result.

Each year the AIA sponsors the "Kompetisi Siswa" for NSW schoolchildren, and some of our committee are involved in the judging. Many thanks to Sally and John Luxton, Mike Kramer and Anthony Liem for their participation.

Plans are well under way for our Spring Fair to be held on Sat 23 October at Wisma Indonesia in Rose Bay. We are showcasing to the Australian public the foods, music and dancing of Indonesia. The proceeds from this event go to two charities yet to be selected and our own Seymour Shaw Fund for the promotion of Indonesian studies in NSW schools. Please come along and bring your friends.

The Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) are celebrating the role of the union in Australia's history, including the blockade of Dutch shipping to Indonesia in 1946. This will include a march across the Pyrmont Bridge followed by lunch at the Maritime Museum. If you would like to take part, please contact Neil Smith (email [neilsmith418@hotmail.com](mailto:neilsmith418@hotmail.com)).

The Indonesian Film Festival was held over the last few days in Sydney, following on from the Festival in Melbourne. I understand attendances could have been better, but it was well organised and hopefully will become an annual feature in Sydney.

My wife and I recently returned from a short holiday to Indonesia visiting family and friends in Jakarta before heading to parts of Indonesia we had not previously visited. First stop was Makassar, a bustling city with a modern airport, and the next day was an all day (11 hours) drive to Tanah Torajah in Central Sulawesi. The culture revolves around its burial practices, in cliff faces, rocks, and trees, and the ceremonies that take place. When someone dies, the body is kept in the family home until the family can get together and they can afford the ceremony. This can take

years, with the body (suitably embalmed) in the midst of family activities! We also saw pink (yes pink) buffalo which are highly valued and hand fed only the best food. Very interesting. There were only a handful of tourists around, mostly Dutch and French, and no Australians.

After the trip back to Makassar we flew to Ambon, where my wife's mother's family came from. We were fortunate to be there at the time of the Darwin to Ambon yacht race, and were invited to the Presentation night. There is a sister city relationship between Darwin and Ambon, and the Darwin mayor was there for the event. The Indonesian Government is promoting "Sail Banda" which has a series of events to promote the islands in the Banda region.

There were many ministers in Ambon for the occasion, but only a handful of tourists. Tourism was impacted by the turmoil in Ambon from 1999 until around 2003. There is visibly little evidence remaining of those difficult years, and the Ambonese seem to have moved on and are at peace with one another again. We were present for a ceremony called "Patita", where each local community were provided with rice and fish, and proceeded to cook up their favourite recipes. These were all on display and judged before being offered to the local people who consumed everything immediately. We understand that this is the first Patita since before the troubles occurred, and everyone seemed to enjoy it. Wherever we went, we were surrounded by students asking for interviews and for photos, so we felt like celebrities. The local organiser of the Yacht race is keen to see more tourists and is trying to encourage cruise ships to visit Ambon.

Enough of my travelogue. Back in Sydney I have met with Pak Galang from Gadjadara University who has been visiting Melbourne where they have an arrangement with AIA Victoria for student exchange programs and for "immersion courses" in Yogyakarta for Australians wishing to enhance their Bahasa and live in the local community. We will be working with AIA Victoria on this.

See you at the Spring Fair!

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.

## THE AUSTRALIA INDONESIA ASSOCIATION 65<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

*Rugged up on a cold Sydney evening on Saturday July 10, 2010 the Australia Indonesia Association Founding in 1945 exactly 65 years ago was celebrated. How and why did all this happen? Anthony Liem explains.*

At the start of the 2<sup>ND</sup> World War in 1942, Indonesia was conquered by the Japanese, ending the Netherlands East Indies' (NEI) 350 years of colonial rule. The obvious and only escape route was Australia, who became home of the NEI civil administration, commercial shipping and armed forces. This included many thousands of Indonesians. They also brought 500 political prisoners and their families, who ended up in the Cowra concentration camp. Australian Foreign Minister Herbert Evatt was notified about these strange looking prisoners coming from the steamy tropical swamps of Upper Digul or Tanah Merah concentration camp in West New Guinea, wearing only flimsy shirts and sarongs. These Indonesians were released from Cowra six months later after 13 of them died from pneumonia and malaria

The freed Indonesians worked and mixed freely among the Australian community, but did not lose their appetite for their country's Independence or Merdeka. They came in contact with like minded Australians, who were curious about these different looking people, who came from a country somewhere up north from Australia.

Molly Warner was one of these Australians, who met with members of the Council of Churches, Civil Rights Groups, University and Trade Unions in November 1944 to form the Australia Indonesia Association. This Association held its first meeting at the Oddfellows Hall in Castlereagh Street on July 3, 1945. some 5 weeks before the surrender of the Japanese and the end of World War 2 and some 6 weeks prior to The Indonesian Independence Declaration.

The Association upheld the Atlantic Charter drawn up by leaders of the US and UK in 1942, It believes in the rights of all people to freedom and self determination and in this case of the Indonesian people's Independence. This Charter became the founding charter of the United Nations in 1945.

The AIA aims to cultivate friendly, social relations through lectures, interchange of visits of students and cultural programs of arts, music and dance. Sydney University's first Professor of Anthropology A P Elkin became the first President and among its Vice Presidents was the Church of England Bishop Cranswick. Another Vice President was Clarie Campbell, businessman,

trade union leader, founder of the ill fated Asian Airlines, you name it and Clarie was involved. His paint company in Alexandria was used as the AIA's first correspondence address. Mollie Warner was the Honorary Secretary and thanks to her we have a report on the proceedings of that first meeting. Later in the 1950's Mollie became President Sukarno's English speech writer and was in charge of Radio Indonesia's English Broadcasts. Another Counsellor was Gerald Peel, grandson of the British Prime Minister Robert Peel, who would turn in his grave if he knew what his grandson was up to.

And guess who was sitting on the cold wooden benches among the Councillors at that first meeting Elsie Reid and her teenage daughter Charlotte Reid. Charlotte now in her eighties is the present AIA Patron, still very active as an author and charity worker. Charlotte also known as Tante Lottie amongst her many Indonesian friends was shown in a picture on the screen as a radiant 17 year old girl in a white dress watching 2 Indonesian traditional dancers. This function was one of the first AIA events 65 years ago.

In fact all the photographs that were shown on the screen are taken from a 1946 film 'Indonesia Calling' produced by world famous Dutch film director Joris Ivens.

This film is about a ban by Australian Unions on NEI shipping in Sydney Harbour in support of the Indonesian Independence. It also provides a good record of AIA activities. The opening scene of the film shows the first repatriation of the Indonesians back to Indonesia. The day before this departure the AIA called a meeting at Sydney Townhall in support of the welfare and unpaid wages owing to the departing Indonesians. Among the crowd farewelling the Indonesians was Tante Lottie's mother Elsie, a scene in the 1946 film.

The departure of all the 5000 or so Indonesians and Mollie Warner move to Brisbane meant that interest and membership of the AIA dropped and it struggled to survive until the 1960's with the arrival of the Colombo Plan students. But on that night of July 10, watching the large crowd of Australians and Indonesians enjoying a chat over delicious Indonesian snacks washed down by Bir Bintang, this Anniversary function is a true testament to the fact, that the Australia Indonesia Association is alive and well and has a great future!

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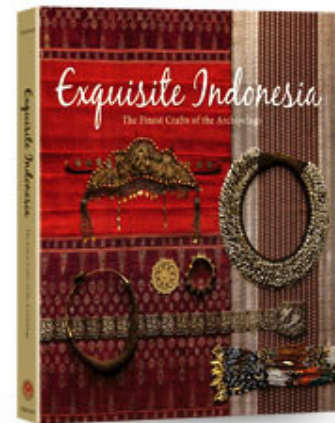
**Focus on Books:  
Exquisite Indonesia**

Hand-crafting has been part of human life since the dawn of civilization. In the beginning shells, stones, and bones were turned into simple but useful objects, cave walls were decorated with drawings of animal and human figures, and bodies were prettified with meaningful tatoos. Then clay and fibers were worked to provide containers for cooking, carrying, and storing food and water, as well as body covering and personal adornment. Bamboo and wood were carved and stained with colour, pots and fabrics patterned with intricate designs, metal forged into jewellery, knives, and sacred figures.

The best products were reserved for worship and royalty, while religious fervour and a desire to display greatness spurred constantly increasing quality and great beauty. Indonesia has been fortunate in that handicrafts have continued to play an

important role in everyday life, ensuring that the skills were not lost, but grew with time.

*Exquisite Indonesia - The Finest Crafts of the Archipelago* is testament to this with a timeless and priceless display of more than 200 hand-worked objects and insightful text by anthropologist-author Judi Achjadi. Carefully selected from all over Indonesia and sensitively photographed by the well-known photographer Kurniawan Wigena, these objects represent the best of Indonesia's handicrafts and an innate sense of beauty and elegance.



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).

ISBN: 978-979-3780-72-6  
 Author: Judi Achjadi  
 Pages: 248  
 Format: Hardcover  
 Publication Year: 2009

### Restaurant Review

#### Lotus Asian Restaurant, Marrickville

Lotus is a new addition to the Marrickville dining scene. Broadly advertised as an Asian restaurant, the menu contains dishes ranging from Indonesian rendang, to Thai fish cakes and Malaysian Laksa.

The delightful Thai-Vietnamese owners were full of smiles and keen to show off the new restaurant. It's been tastefully decorated in vibrant red and orange, with brand spanking new décor. On a busy night I should imagine Lotus would be somewhat funky. We dined on a Tuesday night, so it was a little more subdued.

For entrée we ordered fish cakes, salt and pepper squid and Vietnamese spring rolls. For mains we had the rendang, Thai fish curry, pad Thai and prawns in a spicy sambal. Those of us who didn't feel completely over-indulged opted for lychee, mango and lemon sorbets for dessert. The food was fresh, nicely spiced and stylishly presented. Especially good were the sambal prawn, salt and pepper squid and fish curry. One of our dining companions also raved about the rendang.

Located amongst Marrickville's popular and more casual Vietnamese restaurants, it was refreshing to dine in a slightly more upmarket restaurant – a bit of a rarity in these parts. The staff were efficient and eager to please. It is also very reasonably priced and from memory the bill came to less than \$100 for five people.

It's a welcome new dining establishment. We'll be going back to Lotus.

Lotus Restaurant  
393 Illawarra Rd  
Marrickville NSW 2204  
**Phone** (02) 9559 8895

### Honey & soy prawns on bok choy



#### Ingredients (serves 4)

- 1 tbs fish sauce
- 1 tbs honey
- 2 tbs kecap manis
- 1 tsp finely grated fresh ginger
- 1 lime, rind finely grated, juiced
- 20 medium green prawns, peeled, deveined, leaving tails intact
- 1 large bunch bok choy, halved lengthways,
- 2 tsp sesame seeds
- 1 tbs peanut oil

#### Method

1. Combine the fish sauce, honey, kecap manis, ginger, lime rind and juice in a glass bowl. Add the prawns and coat. Set aside for 20 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, separate the bok choy leaves from the stem section. Cut the stem section in half lengthways. Heat a wok or large deep frying pan over a medium-high heat. Add the sesame seeds and cook for 1-2 minutes until golden. Remove and set aside.
3. Heat 2 tsp oil and heat over a high heat. Add the stems. Stir-fry for 4 minutes. Add the leaves and stir fry for 1-2 minutes or until tender. Transfer to a platter. Cover with foil.
4. Remove the prawns from the marinade. Heat the remaining oil in the wok over a high heat. Add the prawns and cook, for 2 minutes each side or until golden. Add the marinade and cook for 1-2 minutes or until reduces slightly. Spoon the prawns and sauce over the bok choy and scatter with sesame seeds.

Selamat menikmati!

**FOR THE DIARY:**

**September 9/10 – Idul Fitri**

**September 18, Pesta Kampung 2010**

Indonesian Student Association of NSW, in conjunction with the Consulate General for the Republic of Indonesia in Sydney, proudly present: Pesta Kampung 2010: "Rendezvous in Old Batavia". This year's event will be held on **Saturday 18 September, 10 am - 5 pm, at Sydney Park, St Peters.**

Pesta Kampung 2010: "Rendezvous in Old Batavia" will give an opportunity for everyone in Sydney to celebrate Indonesia by 'revisiting' the past, specifically the old Batavia. This free-of-charge event will consist of: Food festival, Performances by up-and-coming Indonesian music acts, Traditional dance shows, Workshops, Fun games (eg, Tarik Tambang dan Lomba Makan Kerupuk), and many more! For more information see:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=125788037435554>

**September 28, 2010: WORLD MARITIME DAY: Indonesian remembrance march.** The Maritime Union is organising a march in Darling Harbour and an Hanafi an Indonesian trade union leader will be invited as part of the commemoration of the ban on NEI ships in Sydney Harbour 65 years ago.

**All welcome. Meet at 12 midday on the city side of the old Glebe Island Bridge that spans the city and the Maritime Museum.**

A jazz band will lead the march at 12.30 across the bridge. We have a lot of old merchant mariners, many who served during the war come along. Speakers: Paul McAleer and (to be confirmed) Mick Doleman, Maritime Union of Australia, Hanafi Rustandi, KPI (Kesatuan Pelaut Indonesia) and chair of the International Transport Workers' Federation Asia Pacific as special guest and will be inviting the Indonesian consul.

For more information contact Neil Smith [neilsmith418@hotmail.com](mailto:neilsmith418@hotmail.com).

**23 October – (Date to be confirmed) SPRING FAIR at Wisma Indonesia.**

Anyone who would like to help, donate a prize and/or hold a stall please contact Eric de Haas [president@australia-indonesia-association.com](mailto:president@australia-indonesia-association.com).



*Pak Kiki, Sally Luxton, Anthony Liem and John Luxton judging the Kompetisi Siswa*



*Eric de Haas, Ambon*



*A pink buffalo, Toraja*

**CROSSWORD**

Created by Helen Anderson, AIA Victoria

Answers on the following page (no peeking)

1	2	3		4	5		6		7	8		
	9							10				
11				12			13		14		15	
		16	17				18		19			
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		35			36		37			38		
39	40			41					42	43		
	44							45				
46				47					48			

**Across**

- 1. That
- 4. Accompany
- 7. Mother
- 9. Age
- 10. Praise
- 11. Know
- 12. Minus (*Math.*)
- 14. Contents
- 16. Go to school (-----*sekolah*)
- 18. Diligent
- 20. Bus fare (-----*bis*)
- 22. Busy
- 24. Plus (*Math.*)
- 25. Multiplication (*Math.*)
- 26. Text book (*buku*-----)
- 27. Good, fine
- 29. Class
- 31. Wage, salary
- 33. Patient
- 34. Must
- 35. Efficient
- 37. Diligent
- 39. What
- 41. Routine
- 42. Fire
- 44. Study
- 45. Same
- 46. Hope
- 47. Blackboard (-----*tulis*)
- 48. Hope

**Down**

- 2. Old
- 3. Public
- 5. Be promoted in school (----*kelas*)
- 6. Arrange
- 7. Permission
- 8. Bus
- 11. Close
- 12. Pupil
- 13. Christian cross (*Bib.*)
- 15. Snot
- 17. Above
- 19. Go along
- 20. Write
- 21. Show off
- 22. Wrong
- 23. Class
- 27. Usual
- 28. Times (*Math.*)
- 29. News
- 30. Offering of flowers or food (*Rel.*)
- 31. Teacher
- 32. Illusion
- 35. Only
- 36. Likewise, as well
- 37. Arrive
- 38. Name
- 40. Exactly
- 43. Exactly

## ANSWERS

I	T	U			A	N	T	A	R			I	B	U
	U	M	U	R		A		T		P	U	J	I	
T	A	U			M	I	N	U	S			I	S	I
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		L				M			L				L	
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A			L		B				J		R			U
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	A	J	A	R		L		B		S	A	M	A	
A	S	A			P	A	P	A	N			A	S	A

**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).

*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 November 2010.*

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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***