



New Zealand Earthquake

A series of powerful earthquakes jolted New Zealand's South Island Monday Nov 14, triggering a tsunami and sending aftershocks across the country that left at least two dead, officials said.

The first event, a 7.8-magnitude quake, struck just after midnight early Monday morning 14 November near the coastal community of Kaikoura, some 93 kilometers (55 miles) northeast of the city of Christchurch, the US Geological Survey reported...since then there have been further earthquakes and aftershocks...

Hammond Peek writes from Christchurch on Tuesday Nov 15...

We're all OK here in Christchurch. Wellington (at the south end of the North Island) got a lot of shakes. One person was killed in Kaikoura a couple of hours north of here, & another inland and north near Mt Lyford.

Lots of quakes throughout the night and continuing today in the north of the South Island & the central part of the country. We've had our coastal tsunami sirens sounding all night, finally stopping here around 8 am.

Lots of people evacuated low lying areas all along the East Coast of both Islands. Friends came up here last night (we live on the hills) from down on the flat.

Kaikoura is cut off by road slips and ruptures to the roads along the coast. All trains in the South Island and the lower North Island have been suspended while they check all the lines. Ferry sailings have been cancelled between the Islands while they check the port facilities.

Everyone here is safe but pretty shaken up. Picton & Blenheim (top of the South Island) got shaken about. Blenheim (our largest wine area) woke up to the smell of wine – a number of vineyard vats had cracked their welds.

Family are all ok, though not much sleep overnight.

Judy Gibb writes...

If you can access stuff.co.nz you can see for yourself some of the chaos in the Wellington area, with seemingly more and more buildings being closed off, in spite of the concerted effort to ensure a good safety level in Wellington buildings after the Christchurch events and subsequent quakes in this area as well.

The major problem, apart from the buildings in the CBD, has been the torrential rain which we have had since, and more is promised for tomorrow together



Debris rises above houses after a cliff collapsed due to the November 2016 earthquake in New Zealand.

“ The land along 110km of the eastern coastline has risen by 0.5 to 2m... ”

with more gale-force winds. The city has been well and truly cut off through flooded roads and slips.

As for our Subud members, there do not appear to have been any major problems for our families or properties, which is great. The only fatalities have been one person in a house in Kaikoura killed by the collapsing house, and another at Mt Lyford who had a heart attack.

It is great that there were few deaths caused, but the blow to the tourism industry there, life-blood of the community, will take a long while to heal. The seal colony resting place and the pool where the pups could be seen playing has gone, and a major problem is caused by the raising of the seabed some two metres.

So boats appear to be almost beached at the wharf, and it has caused the paua (abalone) to be exposed. Apparently it is a painstaking job to remove each one carefully from the rocks and to find a secure place for the shellfish to attach itself afresh. You can't just shovel them up and dump them in the sea to find their own resting place.

So tourists and travellers stranded in the town have been fed crayfish and paua by the locals – some compensation for the inconvenience of no running water, intermittent power, and knocked out sewerage facilities.

More than 400 folk were taken out today by naval landing craft to Canadian navy vessels arrived from the Hauraki Gulf where they were meeting with other commonwealth countries' ships to celebrate the 75th birthday of our national navy! Jolly useful redeployment! They will arrive in Lyttleton about midnight and will be looked after by the local Maori maraes if they have no other recourse. The maraes have been amazing throughout the country providing hundreds of meals in times of trouble, including the homeless in Auckland in recent months.

We have had messages from Hamida (SDIA) within a few hours of the major quake, and from Sri Lanka, California, India, UK and Australia. It is so heartening to know that love and prayers are with us all.

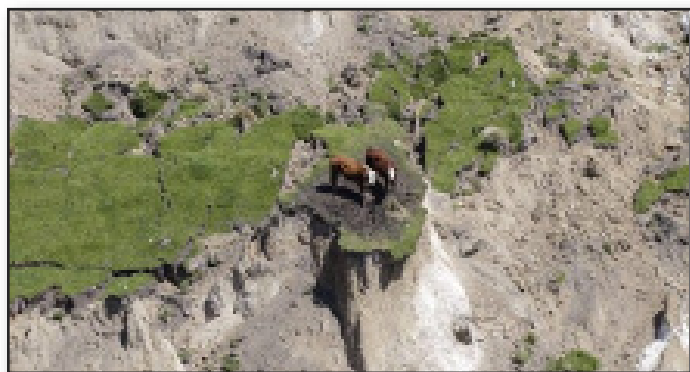
Judy writes again...

Problems continue in the Wellington area because of the heavy rain and storms which have no doubt increased the incidence of slips blocking roads and intensive flooding in many areas.

The major concern now in the capital city is the rising number of buildings which are now deemed unsafe post-quake, in spite of the higher levels of safety and security demanded after the Christchurch quakes.

It is not only the buildings built on reclaimed land that have been victims of the continuing shakes, even some on slightly higher ground, and some relatively new ones. The main thing is that there has not been any loss of life in the area so far directly attributable to the quakes.

And more heavy rain is predicted for tomorrow, together with gale-force winds, this time from the south to replace yesterday's northerlies. And it is final public exam time for students at high schools



*Cows stranded on turf island after earthquake.
They were rescued.*



Paua (abalone) stranded on raised seabed.



Boats appear to be almost beached at the wharf...



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so an unwelcome distraction for all.

Hammond writes again 5 days later on...

The possible 1-2m tsunami warning mainly resulted in some minor tidal fluctuations. No real damage was done except for 1 house on the peninsula out from Christchurch being rather badly damaged.

Things are back to 'normal' in Christchurch

Kaikoura is still cut off by road. The NZ navy, with support from US & Australian naval vessels (here in NZ for 75 year celebrations) continue to lend a hand with bringing in much needed supplies, and evacuating tourists and affected residents. The authorities are talking of taking many months to reopen the coastal highway & railway link. The road damage is just mind-boggling.

One of the strangest sights to witness is the roughly 0.5-2m rise of land along 110kms of that beautiful eastern coastline. This same land also moved 2m north. The tectonic plates have certainly shifted. Hundreds of NZ crayfish (lobster) are left stranded high & dry in isolated pools now some distance from the sea. Acres of seaweed are wilting in the sunshine now lying well above their usual watery home. Paua (abalone) exposed to unfamiliar sunshine and air are dying in their thousands.

Lots of small towns in the upper eastern area of the South Island have experienced over 2,000 aftershocks.

Locals in all the affected areas are trying to be staunch, resilient and stoical about the events... but in all the reports you see in the media, people's raw emotions are still very close to the surface.

All Subud members are safe and well.

Our prayers, thoughts and love go out to all the residents of Kaikoura and the many smaller towns and communities whose lives have been radically & permanently altered by these many earthquakes.

From Judy in Wellington also...

The sun has come out here, the rain has stopped, the roads have been cleared and public transport is mostly running as usual, although there are some buses replacing trains while tracks are fixed. Many public buildings have been temporarily closed for minor repairs and checks, but some in the central business district are marked for demolition and their neighbours are out of bounds until that work can be done. The nearby Cathedral is closed for two weeks as a precaution and the organ there suffered some damage.

Many parking buildings have been damaged, but the main feeling in the city is gratitude for the timing of the quake, just after midnight last Sunday, when public buildings were largely unoccupied and most workers were at home. There would certainly have been some loss of life and serious injury in the damaged buildings during business hours.

So now the detailed assessment of the cordoned-off buildings is going on, and plans to improve the accuracy of the tsunami warning system so that crowds of people are not unnecessarily sent to seek higher ground, which also caused confusion. The heavy rain following the earthquake caused great problems for people trying to leave the city by road or train as roads became impassable.

But the main feeling in this area would be one of gratitude for the lack of fatalities, and heightened resolution to make sure we all do as much as possible to make sure of our own preparedness for >



*Main highway and rail-link just north of Kaikoura
(Asher Trafford).*

coping with such emergencies, both at home and in the workplace. As has been pointed out, in NZ there have been fewer than 500 deaths from earthquakes (landslides, rockfalls and building collapses) since 1848.

“ *Blow to the tourism industry, life-blood of the community.* ”

A wonderful item in today's Dominion Post highlighted the service of the Kaikoura GP who, in spite of the continuing shocks and the danger of moving beams and broken glass, had managed to rescue the 100 year old lady from the ruins of the historic Elms Homestead in the town, although he was unable to save her 70yr old son. The same Dr Chris Henry had been crawling in the rubble of the CTV building in Christchurch in search of the victims of that catastrophic building collapse! A true hero on the spot!

Aid for the immediate needs of the badly hit areas of North Canterbury is being assembled in centres all around the country. Collections of home-baking from suburban Auckland are being flown in, a convoy of heavy military trucks has just made its way over land but there is no access yet for private vehicles, supplies are being brought in by sea from Christchurch, and those locals who are desperate to leave the area are being taken out by sea.

The government has committed financial aid, weekly support, to the businesses of the area for a defined period, so it is hoped that all will be able to work positively towards the recovery of tourism in the area, once the immediate basic needs of clean water, full power and a safe sewerage service can be established. We certainly ask for God's blessing on all those who have been so severely affected as they try to pick up the pieces of their lives and work. May they be given strength to carry on and enabled to live in peace and to share again with others the natural wonders of this corner of our beautiful country.

See mainstream news outlets for latest updates or stuff.co.nz

For more information please contact:
Wayne & Amalya Lertigo
wlerigo@gmail.com
amalyalertigo@gmail.com

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Susila Dharma is Latihan in Practice

Rosanna Hille writes...

Working for Susila Dharma, we are sometimes asked why we are legally separated from other Subud organizations. A few people even assume we are no longer connected with Subud as a result!

There are practical reasons for the legal separation of Subud and its charitable wing Susila Dharma, and SICA, its cultural wing; but we are all working towards the same end. As I see it, the aim of all organizations created by Subud members is the healthy flourishing of Subud as a spiritual movement, both for current and future individuals interested in practicing the latihan, and also the reputation of



What do we, as Subud members, care about?

Subud in the wider society as a community that engages and gives back. We are a community of people that demonstrates through our actions the meaning of Susila, Budhi and Dharma.

The reason we sometimes legally separate these functions is because each has a different mandate. Subud organizations, such as national Subud committees and World Subud Association take care of and protect the spiritual and practical needs and interests of Subud members. Taking care of the welfare of our own Subud members specifically is the role of Subud organizations, and that is why Care Support or Almoners' Funds are created.

Susila Dharma organizations, like the 23 Susila Dharma national organizations and Susila Dharma International (SDIA), support humanitarian and social initiatives that involve Subud members in some way. These individual projects provide a range of services to local communities wherever inspired members see a need. Donors who are not Subud members entrust their money to us for humanitarian work and do not want their donations used to promote the spread of Subud – and that is reasonable.

For me, Subud organizations look after the needs of our own community, while Susila Dharma organizations look towards the needs of the wider society. We were never created to be in competition with each other. Both functions are important to the credibility and long-term reputation of Subud as a spiritual association.

Just as the Ismaili Community is admired for the very high quality of development work done by the Aga Khan Foundation, and the Mennonites are highly respected for their work under the Mennonite Central Committee, the Subud Community can become respected for how we take actions to create a better world through Susila Dharma. Last year SDIA was rated 312th out of the 500 top International NGOs in the world by Geneva-based NGO Advisor, so we are moving in the right direction.

In countries where Subud members have started innovative and successful social projects working sincerely with the latihan, the reputation of Subud has been enhanced. In Cuba, legal registration of Subud was forbidden for over 45 years. Social work done by Subud members on a very small scale with the support of people like us from around the world, led to the legal registration of Subud Cuba in 2015. This was a direct result

of the good impression the authorities had of Susila Dharma.

In D.R. Congo the government is now asking

“ Successful social projects have enhanced the reputation of Subud... ”

to work with Susila Dharma Congo to build community health clinics because they are so impressed with the quality of our projects. In In-



How do we want to make our mark in the world?



Indonesia the leading media write very positively about the charitable work of our successful Indonesian Susila Dharma projects. Here in Vancouver, Susila Dharma Canada is supporting an indigenous organization called Warriors Against Violence, which fosters healthy urban communities to heal and unify First Nations families suffering from the damaging legacy of residential schools.

At a Development Conference in Vancouver recently, I gave my SDIA business card to an Indonesian woman who is not a Subud member. Before I could tell her anything about what we do, she looked at the name Susila Dharma and exclaimed “Ohh – Subud! I have so much respect for Bapak and the charitable work of Susila Dharma!” That is just the kind of reputation we want Subud and Susila Dharma to have.

So I ask you to consider, what do we as Subud members care about? How do we want to make our mark on the world? How can we work together to make Subud stronger? ●

Building a Charity in Australia

Irwan Wyllie, CEO of Morningside C.A.R.E. writes...

Australia has only one registered charity established by Subud members, Morningside C.A.R.E. Inc. (MCI). This is partly because establishing a charity in Australia is difficult and getting tax deductibility for donations even harder.

MCI was created over thirty years ago. It has had a long and, at times, complicated history. Over the years it has been wrestled with, nurtured, placed on life support, and resurrected from the dead by a great many Subud and non-Subud people moved by what it might achieve. It has been a survivor.

From the early nineties, MCI had been focused on its only asset, Sine Cera Rainforest Retreat – a 100-bed facility located in New South Wales amidst some of the world’s most famous national parks. Forests in this area have survived since Australia was part of the ancient supercontinent of Gondwana that formed 510 million years ago.

Sine Cera

Sine Cera is a remarkable place. Its Latin name is the origin of the word sincere. Its 200 acres straddles dense rainforest gullies and dramatic steep ridges. For those willing to trek up near-vertical ridges, the rewards are spectacular – views for hundreds of miles. Sine Cera’s unique flora and fauna include rare and endangered species lovingly cared for by various government-funded conservation agencies.

In June 2015, however, the decision was made to sell Sine Cera. After twenty years of little use, deteriorating infrastructure and difficulties managing such an isolated site, there was a feeling that more could be done to further MCI’s charitable aims with the proceeds from a sale. For some this was a huge relief; for others it was a nerve-wracking experience to let go of this irreplaceable and valuable property.

However, Sine Cera had yet another life to reveal. After seven months of intense promotion and over one hundred enquiries, not a single funded offer was received. Not surprisingly, from a relatively high level, bookings dropped to almost zero during this period because no one was willing to book a venue with such an uncertain future. In May 2016, after much consideration, the decision was made to remove Sine Cera from the property market.

During the months Sine Cera was for sale, the Board undertook a very detailed analysis of Australia’s charity sector, possible revenue



Our overseas projects also now have the benefit of tax deductibility...



sources, MCI's constitutional aims and the complex legal framework in which MCI operates. A new array of possibilities became apparent.

It became clear that with changes to the way Sine Cera was managed, it could not only provide a source of revenue for MCI, but also fulfill our charitable obligations by offering the venue to other charities at cost.

Funding Projects Overseas

Through a stroke of luck, a court decision involving another charity also made it possible for MCI to cooperate with and fund projects overseas. Donors to our overseas projects also now have the benefit of tax deductibility. This was a game changer.

It was clear that Sine Cera should not be considered the main game but the financial base from which to undertake charitable activities in our local region and overseas. It also had the significant advantage of its SDIA affiliation whereby MCI could quickly identify overseas projects in need of support.

We set some targets, prepared hair-raising cash-flows, and hoped we could get through the lean period while rebuilding Sine Cera as a business and implementing these other plans. With the generous help of a Subud brother, we were able to get Sine Cera operational again, accept a steady stream of bookings and start undertaking much needed renovations.

Making a Difference Locally and Abroad

Since May this year, when we removed Sine Cera from the market, MCI members have funded projects in Congo, Kalimantan, Java, and Nepal. Two other projects are in the pipeline. Locally, we are intimately involved with the community and state and federal governments in re-establishing a domestic and family violence unit in our region.

We have also been invited to contribute the International Child Development Program (ICDP) to assist in early childhood programs in our region. In addition, we were appointed to a planning team implementing local family programs funded by the Vincent Fairfax Foundation – one of Australia's most respected charities. And, Sine Cera already has bookings from five very grateful charities.

As one Subud brother put it, it was almost as if we had to be prepared to let go of Sine Cera, truly surrender it in the face of such uncertainty, in order to have it returned to us – this time fulfilling a different role within MCI.

It is early days on this new journey. We are only too aware of the responsibility we have in marrying professionalism with guidance to develop this valuable charity in Australia. But there is great joy in knowing that these small efforts by MCI are already making a difference both locally and abroad.



“ Identifying projects with clearly defined, achievable goals...” ”

MCI Projects Overseas

MCI works with SDIA and charitable Subud projects around the world to identify projects that have a clearly defined, achievable goal that aligns with our constitutional objectives and can be met from our limited resources. Projects complete a funding application that enables MCI to undertake due diligence to ensure it is meeting its constitutional, state and federal legal responsibilities.

Once a project has Board approval, donations are sought from MCI members. Regular reports from projects are circulated to the MCI Board, MCI members and donors.

Since January 2016, the following projects have been funded, are under consideration or are being prepared:

Applicant/Principal	Project Name	Project Aims	Funding	Status
SDIA / DS Congo / Centre de Développement Rural Intégré (CEDERI-Madimba) (nonprofit development NGO)	CEDERI (Congo) Clean Water Project	Installing water access points in villages in <u>Madimba</u> territory, to provide clean water, setting up mechanisms for management of pumps by villagers & raising awareness around sanitation.	AUD3,000	Fully funded
Yayasan Permaculture Kalimantan (YPK)/ Frederik <u>Paem</u>	Family Education, Recreation & Livelihood Sustainability Program	Engage vulnerable & impoverished youth in region through providing positive recreational activities; raise environmental awareness & solutions for local communities, families & youth & entries into sustainable livelihoods.	AUD2,292	Fully funded
SDIA / Hamilton <u>Pevec</u>	<u>Banpale</u> Reconstruction Project 2016: A Himalayan Yogini Community Outreach Effort	To build three more earthquake-proof homes & reliable water sources for a small Nepalese village devastated by recent earthquakes.	AUD2,700	Fully funded
Yayasan Usaha Mulla (YUM)	Local Health Post for Elderly in <u>Cepanus</u> , Indonesia	Increasing knowledge of health among the elderly. Improving nutritional status & lifestyle of the elderly. Developing affection & caring for each other.	AUD3,600	Fund-raising
Borneo Football International Federation/ <u>Bachrun Bustillo</u>	Facilities & educational services development	To serve underprivileged children & youth through football & education. To provide education & support in health & nutrition, basic English & to encourage parents to pursue their children's education through different incentives. To provide participating youth with life skills & intellectual & moral character development that will enable them to achieve educational & career success.	TBD	Initial Planning

WSA Archives – What? Why? How?

The World Subud Association Archives are like a family treasure, something that is of great value to the family (in this case, to all Subud members) which is worthy of looking after in the best possible way. This article follows on from our recent report on the WSC Meeting in Spain.

The WSA Archives team writes....

What?

There are two aspects to the archives, both of which Bapak stressed the importance of when the topic of archives first came up. Firstly, all the guidance and explanations that Bapak gave us in written or spoken form, to which we can now add Ibu Rahayu's talks and explanations, which enable us to better understand our own latihan process and gives us a glimpse into the much bigger picture.

Secondly, the records that show how the latihan kejiwaan of Subud came into, and spread around the world; the effects of the latihan on us; and how we have strived to put our receiving into practice in our lives in the world.

Together these strands form the twin focus for both collection and preservation of records of Subud for generations to come.

Ongoing preservation of Bapak's talks continues on a day to day basis. We have completed the large project to re-master the original recordings of Bapak's talks to today's technological standards. The original recordings and new digital files are being managed in the WSA Archive in Canberra where ongoing preservation of the original recordings is being carried out. One aspect of this is the provision of the new files to the transcription unit in Indonesia.

This has been a long process and is worthy of a separate article.

Why?

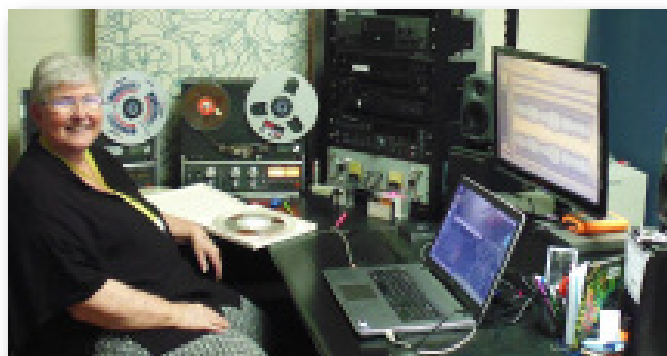
We have the opportunity to "preserve the works of Bapak and Ibu in their purest form for future generations". Future generations, and indeed this generation, do not need to rely on people's memories or understandings; we have the original material and can go back to the source. (As someone recently commented, "wouldn't the great religions be in a different place today if they had been able to record what happened at the time?")

How?

Archiving is a skill set that has to be learned. It is a multi-faceted profession and covers all types of records – sound, film, video, paper, digital, appropriate storage and handling conditions, data systems, access management etc. It is a fast-moving discipline and our archivists continue to enhance their knowledge and skills in many ways, including attending archival conferences to ensure that they are aware of the latest developments.

Archives are a very long term project and require long term commitment from the people working on them. Three of the people whose dedication over many years has been crucial in the development of the WSA Archives include Amalijah Thompson (Australia), Daniela Moneta (USA) and Farlan Williams (Indonesia) as well as others in those early days who helped to lay the foundation we continue to build on now. More recently the group of Subud members acting as and supporting the WSAA has grown so that we now have a strong international WSA Archives team that meets regularly (via Skype).

“ Archives are like a family treasure...”



Amalijah Thompson at work on the preservation of Bapak's talks in Canberra.

One of the main issues faced by the archives is the lack of continuity within our international organisation, including the four yearly turn around at World Congress. At the Puebla World Congress, the WSA Archives team was given the task of working with the WSA Executive to develop an Operating Charter outlining the relationship and operating structure between WSA and the WSA Archives; this is to be submitted to the World Congress in 2018. So the aim of the charter is to make this turnaround in officers as un-disturbing and un-disruptive as possible to the long term work that is archives.



Manuka Arts Centre Canberra where the WSA has a studio for carrying out the current work on Bapak's talks and the WSA audio visual archive.

At the WSC meeting in Salobrena in September 2016, through testing, reports and workshops, it was very clear to all Council members just how important the WSA Archives are for our association.

The work on the charter to date was presented and accepted. In addition, it was recommended and agreed by the Council:

1. That the WSA Archives be written into the by-laws of WSA, thus giving it a permanent, constitutional place in our organisation; the final version to be submitted to the Council before the WSC meeting in 2017, for ratification at the World Congress in 2018.

2. In order to try and bridge the total change every four years of international officers, including any liaison/ co-ordination role between the WSA Archives and the WSA Executive, it was agreed that this person would be appointed mid-way between the World Congresses. It should mean that the person appointed would then be well acquainted with all the intricacies of the WSA Archives when the WSA Executive and WSC all change. Council decided to put that into immediate effect rather than wait until 2020.

(As an aside, Council decided to also apply this change in the timing of the appointment of other coordinators, for translations and care support. The IT coordinator had only recently been appointed.)

A major component of how is \$\$\$\$\$. Archives are service providers, they are not income generators, and as such require stability in funding, for both current work and the long term. WSA supports the work of the WSA Archives, with some funds contributed by MSF for that purpose. However, when donations to WSA fall, the work programs and development goals of the WSA Archives also fall and given the ongoing nature of the work, this is disruptive and frustrating.

If you have sound recordings, film and video footage or records relating to an international Subud function you have held, please contact Amalijah Thompson at the WSA Archive in Australia at amalijah_wsaarchives@subud.org

If you would like to help financially, please make a donation to WSA making it clear that this should go to the WSA Archives and contact our WSA Treasurer, Hilaria Dette at:

hilaria.wsaexec@subud.org



WSA Archives dewan – from l to r Dahliani, Hilaria, Daniela, Armand, Anwar, Farlan, Ismanah, Amalijah, Matthew, Audrey. Missing from the photo are Ashadi, Solihin and Asmaniah.

GEARING UP FOR BASARA

*Basara... My Subud, My Life, My Future
December 29 to January 7 in Rungan Sari
Kalimantan*

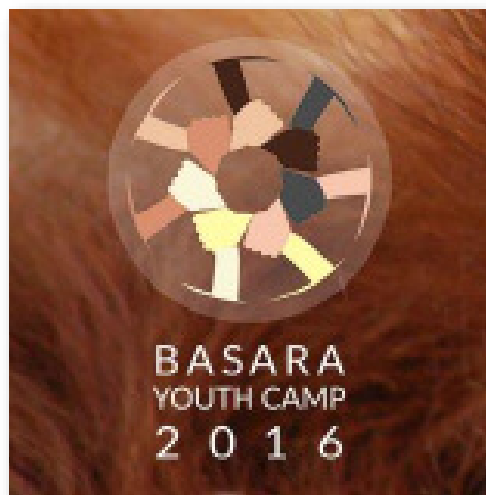
Basara now has a website – www.basarayouthcamp.com – please visit it to find all information about Basara and REGISTRATION.

Basara really is shaping up like the experience of a lifetime, so make sure you don't miss out on your opportunity to be part of this (most likely) historic event. Book now on the web site.

More than 100 young people have already registered.

Don't get left behind or left out. Registration closes at the end of this month October. Don't miss out. Register Now.

Lots of people have already registered. Please visit our Facebook page to see the participants' profiles and some demographics information <https://www.facebook.com/basarayouthcamp>



***A whole new world is waiting for you in Basara – Magic carpet style...
by Guillaume Sanchez...***

When people want to find out more about Indonesia, I often feel they want to hear about some kind of paradise where you can drink coconut water under a warm sun while a soft breeze caresses your face, but to be honest, that is not what I see when I think of Central Kalimantan.

Last year I was lucky enough to spend 10 days over there with the purpose to immerse myself in the culture. I lived a journey of self-discovery beyond anything I had experienced and my honest feeling is that Central Kalimantan is one of the last remaining places where the essence of native philosophy is still present, a philosophy full of wisdom and appreciation for one's self and the world we live in. As the original Dayak Tribes lived surrounded by millions of hectares of rainforests, they had no choice but to be constantly confronted with themselves and to coexist with the natural world.

This way of life is now gone obviously, but there is no doubt the spirit of it all is still alive – and I can tell you, once you've settled, you quickly feel it!

What I want you to understand is that Basara will not be your average Subud event. Sure it will be fun, full of activities and social bonding – but more importantly it's going to be a personal journey. The same kind of journey I lived when I participated in the Yes Quest program in Mexico, one that eventually took me further than I had ever dreamed of.

On this journey you will have the chance to face both your strengths and weaknesses. If you are truly committed, you'll be able to learn about your own potential and you might just discover what it is you want to give to this World – and the best part of it, you'll be doing it with over 100 youths from around the globe.

I was meant to write an inspiring message and this is it... Maybe not my most fun and exciting piece, but in the end I truly believe that Subud is an organisation that helps people nurture their potential – and because of its location and program, I have no doubt that Basara will be a powerful experience for anyone who gets involved. If you're not sure, just check out what's waiting for you.

<http://basarayouthcamp.com/program>

From Zone 3 & 4 Youth newsletter.



*Basara will not be your
average Subud event...*



Islam in Oxford

As a response to two articles about Islam in Oxford which I recently wrote for Subud Voice, I've had several Subud members, who used to study in Oxford in the past, asking me for more information.

For those who are interested in the subject, please have a look at the website which I run for the local Muslim community:

<http://islamoxford.weebly.com>



Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.

The Big Picture

Ilaina Lennard reflects on life as an isolated member...

These days my life has changed very much. When I was SV's editor I travelled a lot and met some wonderful people. But nowadays I am an isolated member. More or less. So I know both ends of the spectrum.

I live quite a solitary life, though every now and then I go to latihan with my friendly local group. We don't often meet, because when testing if I should do more latihans, they always receive that it is no, not yet. It seems to be too much.

Actually this restriction is no problem for me, because I was an only child, and am used to being alone. I feel thankful, at 83, just to be well, though not as strong as I was.

As for human company, I can still enjoy an e-mail chat or an outing with a friend. Or sometimes beloved family members, now mostly living far away, come to visit. And as well, each evening's TV is a godsend; British TV is the best in the world. I just love the documentaries and learn so much about the lives of people I will never meet.

I also feel so thankful that I still have enough to do, which can be a problem for many elderly people. I'm now happiest when every day, chores done, I can get to my computer and do some proofreading, editing, or more compiling for the next *THEY WERE THERE*. The second volume is just out (see the advert in this issue), and I hope that its stories will be of special interest to new members needing background – after all, I reflect, maybe they never heard of ANUGRAHA – or even KALIMANTAN?

ISOLATION – HAS IT CHANGED MY PERCEPTION OF SUBUD?

Just 'KEEPING FAITH' is for me nowadays, the most important element, and I often remind myself that not only is this amazing Subud process here to help people like me, but that also, given time and God's Grace, it will later be here for the whole world and its needs. And then I remember 1961, the year of my opening. In those days, as a young woman, I often wondered how I could do my bit for the world, what was my special contribution, how could I best be of use somewhere? I did not know.

And then one day my husband Lawrence and I went to a talk in London, given by a man called John Bennett. It was about Subud. We were hooked, though we seemed to be the only people in the room who were attracted to it. But we were sure. And three months later we were opened and our new lives began.

Early in 1987, the year of Bapak's death, I began to get a feeling that there should be a little newsletter to

“ *I feel thankful that I have so much to do...* ”

draw Subud members worldwide more together. So when on June 23rd, Bapak actually died, I was already somewhat prepared. The first issue of SUBUD VOICE carried the news of his death, and I became SV's editor. And I am so thankful that Harris Smart with all his talent, and Marcus Bolt with his wonderful lay-out expertise, were there to take over later, when the work became too much for me.

I remember how, all those years ago when I was first opened, I had joined Subud not just to find out if its Grace was real, but because I understood that with Subud, something new had been given that could one day bless the whole world.

To me it seemed that the ever compassionate Almighty Power had now decided to give us help through this mysterious, very simple spiritual action that I was able to feel, but that no one can explain. And I believed – and do still believe – that the healing brought by Subud will not always be limited to the small group of members that we are now, but that when we are ready, it will reach far and wide.

So today – despite my present isolation, I still carry hope in my heart, because indeed, I cannot deny that the latihan of Subud is real. It exists as a constant vibration, it's right there inside me. And I have faith that in Bapak's words, the latihan could heal all our present world's problems, which are caused by a sickness of the soul. He puts it like this:

A sickness of the soul

“In this exercise we truly experience things that human beings in general cannot or do not experience, which lead to a change, an improvement, a correction or repair to our character. And this repair is something that can only be done by the power of Almighty God. For example: if you have a person who lacks a feeling of love for his fellow human beings, this lack – which is a flaw in his character – is truly what is called a sickness of the soul. This is the deep sickness we all worry about – the real sickness which is that inability of a person to love other people and to feel compassion for other people.

“Now it is this lack that can be cured by the latihan exercise and this is something that generally is not possible for a human being, to cure or heal his or her character. Brothers and sisters, at this moment this illness of the character that Bapak has described is playing havoc with the world, without people in general being aware of it. The world in this situation cannot be brought to a state of peace unless this illness of the character can be cured. This is why this latihan is so important, so crucial for mankind today, because it enables to change something within ourselves that cannot be changed in the normal course of events.”

Los Angeles July 25 1981

THE BIGGER PICTURE

What are the signs that Subud is really working in us? We must have the courage to ask. Certainly I see it in how the faces of my Subud friends gradually become more beautiful. But is there now a golden thread of latihan running through our entire lives and in what we do? Bapak stressed so often that for Subud to grow strong, and for us to deeply feel the latihan action in ourselves, we must be active, do enterprises.



In the days before online, Ilaina used to receive enormous faxes.

Of course there are thousands of enterprises outside of Subud that are much to be admired, but to get the bigger picture of what's happening within our present Subud community, I went through each issue of SUBUD VOICE 2016.

“ *The latihan could heal all our present world problems* ”

In the January issue we will publish Ilaina's round up of what she found to be the most inspiring stories in Subud Voice in 2016.

Ilaina Lennard, contact details: Tel (+44) (0)1242 707701 ilaine.l@blueyonder.co.uk

SICA SECTION

The Birth of Colour

The idea was born many moons ago... The Birth of Color – A Marriage of Darkness and Light. Laurien van Noortwijk describes the première of Honora and Dahlan Foah's project, The Birth of Color...

Last year I had the pleasure to be the translator for Honora and Dahlan Foah and Maestro Sapszon Ferenc and his wonderful Cantate chorus. We arrived in Budapest, to the Kodály Zoltán Chorus School, where we met at the top of the beautiful institute to start the rehearsals for The Birth of Color.

I remember standing there thinking, this is something I won't even try to understand, but I will open my heart to whatever may come. I was wondering, do Maestro Sapszon and the chorus feel similarly? After doing my best to translate and do justice to what Honora had visualized and explained, I thought, "Oh dear, I wonder how that came across?!".

At the time, we only got one response. It was from the Maestro himself and all he said was, "Let's begin." Without further ado, off they went. I couldn't believe my eyes. The Maestro was waving his hands through the air more like a tai chi master in full flow than a conductor.

It was mesmerising and I couldn't take my eyes off him. He could hear every individual's voice and every single sound in the room. He would stop and start the chorus at any given time if a note was off. You could see the chorus couldn't take their eyes off him either.

Full of respect and love they waited eagerly to see where he would lead them next. This day was followed by a couple of weeks of intense rehearsals, preparing for a recording session that would take place in a famous studio in town.

Skipping forward a year to present day. Honora and Dahlan Foah, Lucio Ivaldi, Harlan Cockburn



World Premiere of The Birth of Color – A Marriage of Darkness and Light. Kiscelli Museum Chapel, Budapest, Hungary. (Photos by Andrew Daneman)

and everyone involved arrive in Budapest to start the immense preparations for the première of The Birth of Color. It takes place in The Kiscelli Museum, a former baroque monastery and church complex on the hillside above Óbuda.



An incredible journey... and unforgettable experience



Premiere Night

It's première night, the first of three performances to come. The place is packed with people from all over the world. Before we enter, everyone is given a single rose petal. We are lead down a spiral staircase into a crypt. It is completely dark, except for small candles lit and placed carefully to guide us to the next room. It truly feels like the beginning of a journey into the unknown.

It is blissfully quiet and very exciting. We arrive at a vast space, with long strips of transparent material crossing the large ceiling and a giant, circular glass pool filled with water set in the middle of the room. On one side a stand for where Maestro Sapszon and the chorus will perform and on the opposite side, an array of crystal bowls ready to be played.

Everyone finds their place and settles. It starts in complete darkness with two English and two Hungarian speaking narrators telling the story of Darkness and Light. How at first there was nothing, and from nothing came Darkness and Light. How they fell in love and their children, the colours were born.

The chorus of about 50 men and women enter with Maestro Sapszon closely behind them. They take their places and begin to sing. An exquisite light show is projected onto the walls and the ceiling while the chorus and the musicians perform this beautiful piece. It is like a rebirth, because of how pure it feels and how humbling it is. I feel like I am seeing colours for the very first time. Many people are moved to tears.

What I had felt at the very beginning, how I hadn't tried to understand what I was seeing or hearing became very relevant again. Like the latihan, it takes me on a beautiful exploration. The performance ends and the sound of synchronized clapping fills the room.

As a Subud sister who practices the latihan kejiwaan I am familiar with the feeling of being overwhelmed with unexplainable experiences. I can see many people are very moved and shaken, not quite understanding what has just happened. The reactions are clearly emotional and very positive.



An exquisite light show is projected onto the walls and the ceiling.

The Final Performance

After three full house nights, on Sunday evening the final performance ended and the room filled with emotions and clapping yet again. The whole team, who worked tirelessly to create this beautiful work of art, stood in the middle surrounded by the applauding audience. I think everyone was very tired at that point, that this incredible journey had come to an end, and also feeling very humbled by all the reactions.

My heart and soul are full of gratitude that I could experience this and I hope it travels to many more places for people to see. Thank You Honora for your brilliant mind and everyone's persistence who worked so hard in making it happen. A truly unforgettable experience!

Chatting with Salamah *Part 2*

Luthfiah continues her conversation with Salamah Stewart, potter and artist from Australia. In the interview we published last month, we found out how Salamah was opened. This time we find out about how she discovered her talent and how her career in art developed from that. This interview has been collected as part of the SICA project, Our Subud Story, founded by International Helper, Isti Jenkins...

Vision of Bapak

After I'd been opened a couple of years, Bapak came to Australia. I think he was doing a world tour but he came to Sydney, he didn't come to Brisbane.

I was living in Brisbane and Miriam Dixon said, "Oh, I am so sorry that you won't be able to come down and meet Bapak" because I had 3 small children, and no means to get there.

I said, "Well that's OK", but three days later Bapak would have still been in Sydney, and it is still so clear in my mind, I put the children to bed and was just about to retire myself, when the latihan just became so strong and Bapak just stood beside me. (I can cry now) and he said, "You never have to worry, God/Bapak will always be with you", and I was just full up, is all that I can say.



Salamah with her daughter, Hadijah.

Testing with Bapak

I think the only other experience that I had, was when Bapak came to Brisbane; this was quite a few years later. I was a helper and Bapak said, "I just want the Helpers and Committee."

I love the way he just did things like that!

So we said OK. So there were just the helpers and committee and he gave a talk and he said, "I want to show you just how much you can see with the latihan, I want 3 men and then 3 women."

"It was Louisa Toogood, Miriam Dixon's husband, Lemuel Dixon, and Leonard Parker (They were both in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.) Then he tested a couple of women, and that was fine, he really showed them how to receive and then he said, "Somebody else."

Miriam Dixon dug me in the ribs and I stood up and he said, "ja, ja, ja," and if you have ever been tested in front of Bapak, when he is just about in your face, it is quite an experience. So of course the first thing I do is I cry, don't I, and it just poured out, and he just sits there with a great big grin going, "Ja, ja, ja," (*more chuckles*) and then he said, "Tell me a bit about your life."

And I said, "3 children, divorced" and whatever I was working at.

Hadijah, my daughter, was down in Melbourne and she said it was quite interesting (we have never found the recording ever again but it was played in Melbourne and she heard it). Hadijah was sitting up the back all by herself and Bapak said, "You have 3 children, your daughter loves you very much."

Hadijah said she heard that and was very moved.

Bapak said, "Your children love you very much and eventually you will find peace."

He said a whole lot of other things, ups and downs, but really quite true. It has taken nearly 40 years to get there, but again it is that quiet inside that is important.

So it was twice that I have been very close to Bapak and he has just stayed there always, even at the 1971 Congress."

Finding Talent

I have always drawn and painted and I have used pen and ink. First of all I started pottery and in Brisbane, I had moved up to Brisbane and I think one of the Helpers said, "What is your true talent?"

Because that was the thing to do at that time, and she said, "Write down 5 things" and for the last one I just stuck down pottery and we went through the list and of course when we came to the last one, pottery they said, "Well that's it."

I said, "OK."

The Nature of Education

Lorna Mitchell and I decided we would both go to college, I lasted 12 months and I thought (sigh) this is driving me mad because it was theory but you didn't actually do any work.

My understanding is that if you want to know something, you'll go and find out. If you don't want to know, it won't mean anything, so it's useless, (Humph!) the lack of education gives you this understanding, I have never been educated because I went to about 25 different schools between the age of 5 and 15. I gave up on that.

So you learn. As my father said, "If something you want to know interests you, you look it up and find out about it. School will not help you."

Being a Potter

You seem to bump into people who give you the help that you need and my next door neighbours at the time, Helen & Chris who are still quite friendly, said, "Salamah you need to do something."

I said, "Well I need a kiln."

Helen said, "I will loan you the money to buy a kiln and wheel and you can pay me back with the sale your pots."

In those days she loaned me \$500 and 30 years later I sold the kiln (a small electric one) for \$1000 which was more than she gave me.

Then I started potting.

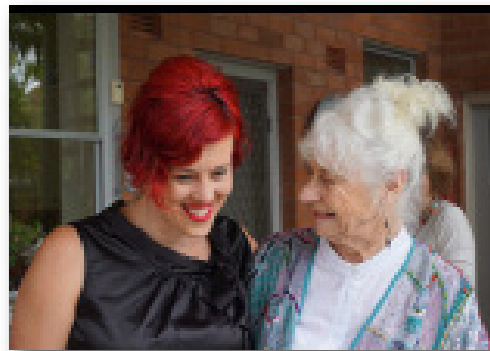
Helen said, "OK, Salamah we will make the date for your first exhibition to be held at my home. And we will have it in November."

Helen lived in a huge Queensland house with a veranda all round. She invited the people from a gift shop and the Queensland Potter's Association, members from all around, and I sold almost everything.

From then I supplied the shops for as long as I was in Brisbane and I would go to workshops and I learned from that, different methods and different ways, for example how to fire and it just went on.

The Difference between Drawing and Painting

I have always drawn and painted, I drew on my pots and even when I was in Christchurch when everything blew up! (the earthquake) Ibu Rahayu tested our true talent and during



Salamah with her granddaughter, Brianna.



Salamah at work. She knows the difference between painting and drawing.

the testing I just painted these enormous paintings (Huge sweeps of the arms). And I thought, the feeling is so good.

Luthfiah: Salamah is indicating huge, so she was shown she must stop working small.

I came back and bought acrylics and I just started and then one of the ladies where I used to teach pottery and her daughter who was also a teacher said, "Salamah you are drawing not painting" and that was really the beginning of knowing the difference between drawing and painting.

Luthfiah: Your dad trained you in drawing and painting and to set the record straight?

My mother was one of 3 sisters. The closest sister to Wanda was Erica who had two daughters one of whom was Hermia, who was known for her bronze sculptors and her beautiful etchings." Hermia is my cousin and she was married to David Boyd, brother to the well-known Arthur Boyd.

Luthfiah: In a sense it would be true to say that you had art on both sides of your family.

Yes, in a sense because even though my mother didn't draw, her understanding and her reading and her poetry and her two sisters all did something. That ability to see and also to be able to put down what they could see. Hermia followed through with her art, but the others enjoyed it and never followed through.

Luthfiah: What is the connection with Ray Crook in Far North Queensland?

When we came back from overseas, we lived in Brisbane. My husband needed a pair of glasses so he went to see an optometrist in an arcade. They got to talking, and became friends. His wife Beryl became my really good friend. (I had no children at that stage.)

They invited us to dinner and they knew another chap who was another friend who was an absolutely marvellous painter who had nowhere to stay, so the friend of a friend and his wife ended up staying with James and me. In time they had 3 children the same age as mine and that friendship has lasted all our lives. So you bump into people, you don't look for it but it comes to you.

Luthfiah: And now, here we are in Sydney and Harris was asking how I met you, that will be the story from here on. Round about 2003 Michele Von Royk started emailing Ibu Rahayu's talks to me and I kept reading them. Eventually I thought, yes, I can go back to the group now. I had been inactive in Subud for some time.

I was driving along to the Pymble Hall, it was the end of Ramadan and listening to the call to prayer, which for some reason was on the radio, and that is how I got to know Salamah and Hadijah and all the members of the North Shore Group. I had sort of vaguely met you and Hadijah in the past but that was from Bapak's visit many years ago in Melbourne.

Then I started attending Salamah's wonderful lunches with fresh herbs and veggies from the garden, and often various Subud ladies were there as well, and we would solve the problems of the world. Special times! And that went on for a few years and until we all spun off in different directions as people tend to do.

It is worth mentioning that we had such fun doing our recipe book "The Enak" and also the >



Bushscape by Salamah.



Bowl by Salamah.

50th Celebration at the Mount Colah Hall.

(To Salamah) You masterminded the many coloured rug which was raffled at Christchurch. Yes, Glory knows what the next thing is.

Luthfiah: Well you have just prepared for your next exhibition and I have just reorganised my garden. So we have had these connections and a lot of fun. We have done a bit.

It is literally like with each new experience you shed another overcoat and you think, yes, the sun is shining."

Luthfiah: One thing that stays in my memory... it was when Michele was still around and I was providing our transport to Newtown for Ibu Rahayu's visit. You took half a forest with you for decoration of the hall, and as we drove along, I remember your face peering out from between the leaves. (Gales of laughter).

I don't know about you but I am keeping the space open to see what happens next. ●

“Emmanuel Aronie, tell me about you and your life...”

Iaina Lennard interviews the man who first brought Subud to the Ukraine...

At the time Emmanuel wrote: “Do you know how it feels to suddenly get a constantly available energy to do something? Well, that year it was, and still is, about Russian for me.”

What are you doing now, Emmanuel, and where are you living? Do you have a local Subud group nearby?

Now? What am I doing? I had a rather strong unusual latihan on Wednesday, seems like it heralded a new kind of era. I don't know what kind, but when the latihan is different and freer somehow, it makes you think something new is coming.

For money, I work at a toy and tool company, run by my cousins, and do all kinds of things, from PR to sales to filling orders. Then, on the side, I have this insane hobby of painting houses for people I like – but, if you ask how you can do this hard physical work, well, besides this, I swim in a local pool 4 or 5 times a week, about a kilometre, to keep in shape.

Your background – when and where were you born, parents etc. What do you think you inherited from them and others?

Background: all of my grandparents came from approximately within 300 miles of each other, in northeast Poland, northwest Ukraine and various places in Lithuania.

I was born May 3, 1946, Polish Constitution Day; I found that out once, when I showed up in Chicago on my birthday. (But I am forever trying to escape on my birthday, so this was typical. I came out of an underground to the sounds of a parade. What I inherited – Hmmm difficult to know! My sense of adventure, curiosity, care for others, hardworking characteristics, love of all kinds of art.

Are you married?

Married? Not yet. I happened upon a fortune teller one day, when I was in my early 20s. She said I would be married 3 times. That scared me a bit, I think. But she was a little muddled. She was a tarot card reader and said that "all the kings came out" – and that had never happened to her before. She thought I might be rich in some way. Well, I feel rich – maybe that's enough.

How did you find Subud? Did it always mean a lot to you even before you went to Ukraine and Russian? Any special experiences?

Subud. Well, it happened kind of naturally, meeting people, feeling the latihan. I met this Swiss >



Emmanuel Aronie likes to paint the houses of people he likes.

woman named Monique. She had the latihan in spades, and I felt this – it ultimately led me to find it in Albuquerque, NM, and I got opened in Boston. Subud healed me of a very deep wound. And slowly opened me up to the world in and outside myself.

Of course, there are many experiences, and the latihan, if it deepens inside you and you can somehow manifest this in the world, it can be really great and touch you and others.

[Can you speak other languages? Anything you would like to say about those trips to the Ukraine, seen from where you are in your life now?](#)

Yes, I speak Russian, better after I lived in Ukraine for three years. And now, I go back quite often, usually twice a year, to visit. It's a rich country, with qualities I really like. Of course, the official language in Ukraine is Ukrainian – and my knowledge of that is not great, although I can often understand it, a bit. My thoughts about the time in Ukraine? Well, it just seems nourishing for me – that's why I return.

[What is your training? What do you consider to be your talents? Did you have any ambitions for your life, before you got involved with Ukraine and Russia?](#)

Training: not much training. I vowed to not go further with my education after graduating from Amherst College, with a major in Psychology and a minor in Russian. I didn't think these people could teach me what I wanted to know – in a broader sense – so, I had no wish to be a lawyer or a doctor or any kind of professional. My talents. I'm drawing a blank! Maybe something to do with people, maybe helping people understand each other.

[What is your work now, what are your special skills? Do you like your present work? Do you have any plans as to your life when retired?](#)

Well, I've described my work, above, it's okay, satisfying at times. And I like the people I work with, we have fun, joking around. Plans after retirement – maybe write a book or two. I have some ideas. I have even thought, if I ever go blind, I would really like to learn the piano better.

I had a couple of beautiful experiences playing the piano, so maybe there is something there to grow. I also write poetry – the poems are everywhere scattered around. God help the person who has to pick up after me!

[Your favourite kind of music, do you play an instrument? Do you sing? Special books, food? Inspirational people etc.](#)

Earlier on in my life I played piano and sang with a guitar player named Djalma. We called ourselves the Bodachesky Brothers – but it didn't last too long. I also wrote a small operetta for children called *A Kid's Play*. It was performed on stage in Austin, Texas, I also wrote a radio play for children called *The Blue Bonnet*, about a world that turns blue and what happened.

Favorite kinds of music? So many kinds. Satie, Chopin, Talking Heads, Police, Stones, Beatles, Fleetwood Mac. Bach. Inspirational people..?? Bapak ..

[Anything else you would like to say?](#)

You ask if there is anything else. There is always that...

But, one thing that came up the other night might be interesting to add.

One of our members, actually Suzanne (Renna, a current International Helper) and her daughter



Emmanuel Aronie with Patricia Lacey.



Subud healed me of a very deep wound...



came to latihan, and somehow, as we were leaving the Temple (Beth Israel) where we have done our latihan for many years now, she mentioned that she had played a copy of one of my most memorable videos, a comedy video I made about 20 years ago, *The Seven Simple Steps of Seduction*, and that she showed it to a couple of young men.

She said they laughed and laughed and said this was the first time a Subud person had done something that really interested them in Subud, which I found to be a curious comment. She said they wanted to meet me. I laughed.

(The video starts with a photo I took in Barcelona, of a woman at a phone booth, when they still had those things, and it goes on to be a satire on love and romance. This was something I had created for a comedy group in Austin, Texas but they had rejected it and said they only did their own material. But I persevered and made it into a 30 minute video, finishing it in New York City, actually.)



Emmanuel with Michelle and Sasha making latihan slippers.



*Well, I feel rich, maybe that's
enough...*



A Very Full Life

Part 2 of an article by Howard Raimbach about his life in Subud...

In Part 1 he described how a childhood prophecy of change in his life was fulfilled when he retired from the Bank of England...

The Bank made me such a generous early-retirement pension offer, I felt unable to refuse, so after 26 years service, I made the great escape.

But to where? I was already a qualified Scout and Youth Leader, so I naturally applied to like-minded training colleges – already full.

This was August and vacancies were filling up fast for the September term. However, one of my Southend Group friends was a retired principal of an Oxford Teacher Training College, whilst another Subud friend was the Chief Probation Officer for Oxfordshire. Between them, I had two stunning references and the two 'A-Level' requirements were waived in favour of my Matriculation, and I secured the very last available vacancy in college for that year.

In the event, this apparent great domestic upheaval ran surprisingly smoothly. Temporarily, I left our car with the family in Essex, whilst I wrestled with a newly acquired motorbike to get me first to my dear mother-in-law in Oxford from where I intended to commute to Culham College, which was reasonably close by.

At college, I had to adjust to a new set of fellow students of the 'mature' category (I was older than the Principal) whilst simultaneously negotiating the sale of our Essex house and acquiring a bungalow closer to the college. These transactions were completed without a hitch, and we were installed in our new home by Christmas.

Compared with the fraught Bank routine, commuting by motorbike to a relaxed 2-year teacher training course, set in the Oxfordshire countryside was akin to a rest cure.

Our younger daughter already had a steady job and prospective husband in Essex, where she remained, whilst our remaining three children came to Grove to live with us. Michael, aged seven, was packed off grumbling to the local Primary School, whilst our two eldest sons soon found

jobs, and spouses, locally.

Obtained my Teaching Diploma

Eventually, my course ended and I acquired my teaching diploma. I was then invited to fill a vacant teaching post at a private Primary School in High Wycombe, run (and owned) by Subud member Laurence Clark, the Headmaster. Aged 53, I very soon discovered that teaching was tiring, sometimes exhausting, but generally rewarding. The main problem was the parents!

It was at Crown House School that I met a life-long friend, Marcus Bolt, whose classroom was opposite to mine. Often we compared notes and became comrades in adversity!

Commuting to High Wycombe from Grove was time consuming (the M4 motorway was incomplete) so we bought another house closer to work.

Eventually we found and bought a delightful semi in a quiet cul de sac with panoramic views over the Wye Valley. It was minutes away from school and ideal.

Meanwhile in Subud...

My recollection of Subud events at this time is hazy, but I do clearly remember the first children's camp at Kenfield Hall, which was hectic for the organisers, but idyllic for the children and their families. However, the generous gift to Subud of this mansion and extensive grounds proved to be beyond our human resources to maintain properly – I'm not sure of its eventual demise.

Then there was the Anugraha fiasco, which translated, ironically, into 'an unexpected gift'. This episode cascaded

into utter disillusion for some and financial ruin for the unfortunates who ignored the mantra 'Never invest more than you are prepared to lose'. Michelle and I were National Helpers at that time and present when Bapak was there for the inaugural testing for project administrators. I clearly remember his comment that the right applicants for these posts were not present – we shall have to make do. No wonder it went pear-shaped!

Wardens at Loudwater Farm

I was by now approaching retirement age from teaching when Michelle and I received urgent invitations to become Wardens at Loudwater Farm. This was a good time to retire from Crown House School, but I wasn't too sure about the Wardens job. To cut a long story short, we made a host of good, kind friends and well-wishers.

Nevertheless, a vociferous minority eventually prompted us to make a bruising exit. One lesson we learned was that when offered full time paid employment by Subud, first get a clear job description, followed by a legal contract of employment, and above all, if you own a house, under any circumstances, don't sell it.

When we left, we discovered, to our immense relief, that we had sufficient funds to get back into the property market, albeit downsizing considerably.



Howard, now 92, with seven of his great grandchildren.

“ *Get a clear job description...* ”

Flying Saucers

We weren't idle for long, because we soon received a job offer from Gordon Creighton and his wife who were co-owners of a magazine called 'The Flying Saucer Review'. They were getting old and needed help with running a then thriving publication with global coverage (copies to Buckingham Palace, The Science Museum and the Houses of Parliament).

We had some very intriguing meetings with many interesting people (and some decidedly quirky) so we acquired a different world view to put it mildly. Gordon was a highly intelligent character with a colourful background formed by his war experience with the Japanese in the Far East. He always had a wealth of stories to tell and kept us all spellbound. However, if a job required a hammer and a screwdriver, he asked me!

We continued to visit the Review's HQ at the Creighton's house near Rickmansworth (not far from Loudwater), but managed most of the paperwork from our 'downsized' home in High Wycombe.

Still Busy...

We were now in our mid-seventies and found a voluntary part-time job in the local Oxfam shop set in a dodgy neighbourhood known as 'Injun country'. We had to deal with troublesome winos staggering in from the off-licence nearby, petty theft and on one marvellous occasion, a murder outside the shop door.

“ *Making toys for my great grandchildren...* ”

Michelle began to deteriorate alarmingly and the hospital diagnosed a cancer, with a few weeks to live. The family rallied around and rescued her from a hospital bed to the comfort of her own home, where we nursed her until she died in 1999.

I spent the next few years supporting the then Failing FSR until its ultimate demise with the deaths of both the Creightons. The magazine never recovered and is long gone. I left the Oxfam shop as treasurer when they found a youthful successor and for a few years I supported the National Trust at Hughendon Manor (Disraeli's home). With a teaching diploma and CRB I was recruited onto their Educational Team. Demanding, but extremely satisfying.

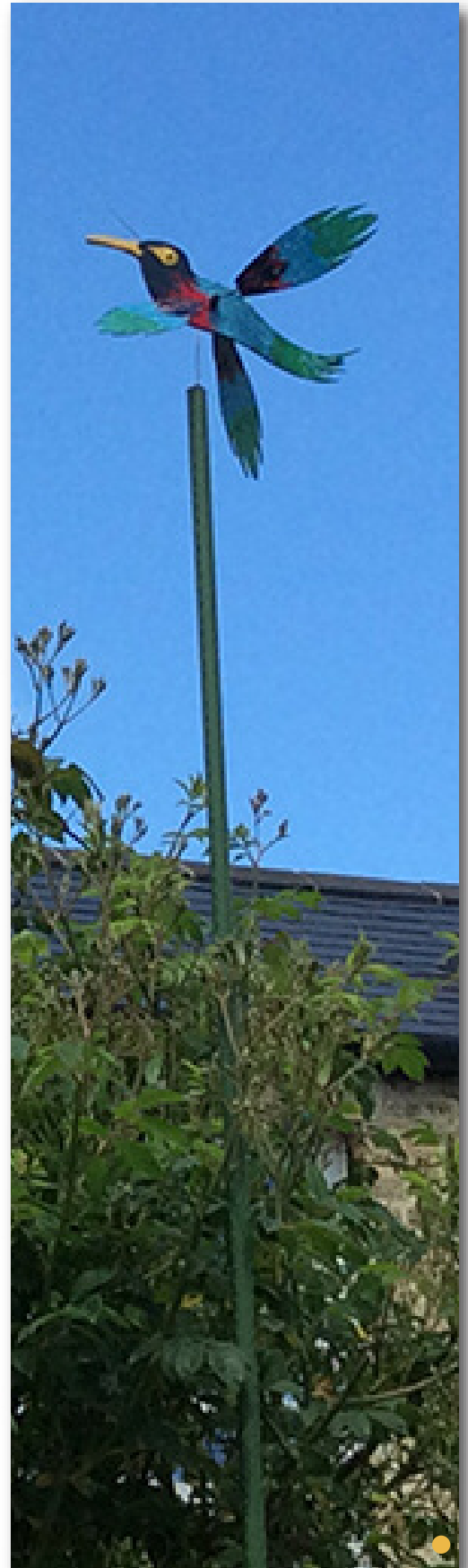
I was by now well over 80 and wearying of hoovering a near empty house. My children felt likewise and most of them lived in Wantage, close by the glorious Lambourne Downs. They found me a comfortable ground floor flat in a retirement home with all mod cons, views over the school



Above and over page – some of the toys and models Howard makes for his great grandchildren...

playing fields and a short walk to Waitrose supermarket for the shopping.

At our local museum close by I volunteered to escort school visits on their various projects, then I was recruited to photograph and catalogue every artefact in the building. This took me the best part of five years. When I was 90 I packed it in, got rid of my car, reluctantly gave up two allotments and am now making toys for my great grandchildren.



IBU RAHAYU'S REPLY TO QUESTIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL HELPER ISTI JENKINS

This recent answer from Ibu Rahayu includes the following topics.

- Concerning advice for homosexual candidates.
- Concerning married couples doing latihan together.
- Concerning opening someone by Skype.
- Concerning playing Bapak's talks on the same night as the latihan.

Click <http://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/IBU-IstiJenkins.pdf> to download ●

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For full info contact Robiyan at robiyan@gmail.com
or Harina at harinoula@gmail.com



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Send articles, photos, cartoons etc. to Harris Smart,
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Go to www.subudlibrary.net

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On April 8, 2012, Ibu
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