



Supporting Subud Centres



Ismanah Schulze-Vorberg, WSA Executive Chair, and Elias Dumit, WSA Chair, in Puebla. (photo by Viktor Boehm)

Elias Dumit, the news WSA Chair writes...

I feel so happy and grateful for the amount of support I have been receiving from my dear brothers and sisters everywhere. As Subud members we are all co-responsible in caring for and nurturing this precious gift we have received from Almighty God through our beloved Bapak.

Perhaps I would feel the utmost support by having a sense that all of us, Subud members, are caring for our groups and caring for each other.

ABOUT MY ROLE: When working as Deputy Chair in the previous term, I focused on Subud Center Support. At some point I could not move forward. I came to realize that support to Subud Centers should be not only a project carried by a small group, but one of the main pillars of our work together. Also, that serving and supporting the Subud members practising the latihan is one of the main reasons why the WSA exists. My conclusion was that we needed to refocus our priorities collectively, and that could only happen at the World Congress.

Indeed, from the support and feedback that I have received during and after the Congress, I believe that people

in general, also the delegations at Congress, feel the same. So this becomes something like a commitment from all of us working together and in collaboration for the same aims.

I hope this can enliven our enthusiasm.

So I believe that supporting the Subud Centers is still my role. I believe that the organization is not an end, but a service. And now I am adding another aspect that has become very vividly present in my awareness, which is helper support. I believe we need to come up with some kind of program to promote helper support. This could include a series of gatherings all over, with this purpose. We could consider local, regional gatherings but also Area gatherings, like the Americas.

First and foremost: the latihan, then the quality of the premises, also to support and nurture the expression of the latihan into the world with the help of our wings.

So I look forward to us working all together in the next four years. In the name of God Almighty.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION: I was opened in 1981 and have been a Helper since 1987 (by Bapak). I've been Brazil Kejiwaan Councillor twice, International Helper, Susila Dharma International Director and WSA Deputy Chairperson. I have degrees in Engineering, Urban Planning and Urban Engineering. Recent work experience in development in the town of Aguas de Sao Pedro, Brazil, and as a member of the planning team of Rungan Sari development, phase two. (Elias divides his time between Brazil and Rungan Sari.)

“ Refocussing priorities ”

KALIMANTAN GOLD SOARS

Kalimantan Gold soars as copper maiden resource exceeds expectations... Ian Lyall writes...

September 26 2014, 10:57am

Shares in Kalimantan Gold (LON:KLG) roared ahead by 500% in morning trade after it posted a maiden resource for the flagship Beruang Kanan prospect in Indonesia.

Its geologists have uncovered a JORC-compliant 47mln tonnes averaging 0.6% copper, or 621.7mln pounds of the metal, that reside in the lower confidence inferred category.

The resource statement is based on assays from 74 drill holes over the Beruang Kanan Main Zone (BKM), which extends north-to-south 1,000 metres and 950 metres east-to-west.

It is a shallow dipping, strongly mineralised system, but is only one of four targets.

The other three - Beruang Kanan South (BKS), Beruang Kanan West (BKW) BKZ Polymetallic (BKZ) – all sit within 1.5km of the main deposit.

Kalimantan's chief executive Faldi Ismail said: "The BKM independent inferred maiden mineral resource estimate for the company's flagship Beruang Kanan copper project is an important milestone which gives the board, potential partners and shareholders confirmation of BKM's potential."

"The board is further encouraged by the fact that the BKM mineralisation is high grade near-surface with a relatively shallow dipping nature, and drilling in 2013 and desktop work confirmed the potential for additional resources to both the west and south.

"The board remains committed to drill testing these further areas and developing the BKM Copper Project with a view to fast tracking the project through to an early development option."

The shares had added 3.41p to 4.13p in by 10am, although VSA Capital reckons the stock has further to climb as it has pitched its price target at 4.8p.

"We believe there is tremendous upside on this particular deposit," the broker said in a note to clients.

"Quite a number of holes are mineralised at the edges of drilling without offset."

Work on the other deposits underlines the potential of the area.

For example a drill hole on BKS intersected 10.5 metres at 0.88% copper.

Kalimantan also found significant outcropping massive sulphide-style mineralisation within BKZ.

One drill hole intersected 16 metres at 5.75% zinc, 2.78% lead, 0.64 grams per tonne of gold and 57.5 grams silver.

VSA said with BK South area 600 metres away, there may be the opportunity to link it with the main deposit.

Meanwhile, the northern portion of the main zone also has stacked mineralisation which is still open ended on lateral limits in the lower zone.

"The independent maiden compliant resource estimate is in line with our initial estimate as the deposit still remains open in several directions," VSA added.

For more news of KGC go to...



Kalimantan's chief executive Faldi Ismail said: "The BKM independent Inferred maiden mineral resource estimate for the company's flagship Beruang Kanan copper project is an important milestone which gives the board, potential partners and shareholders confirmation of BKM's potential."

<http://www.proactiveinvestors.co.uk/companies/news/72653/big-picture-kalimantan-gold-soars-500-as-copper-maiden-resource-exceeds-expectations-72653.html>

Success and the Subud Experience

Speakers from around the world involved in business, the arts, professions and social welfare told their stories about how being in Subud was part of their success – however that was defined. Six sessions of this kind were held, each one involving at least four participants. Each speaker had 15 minutes to tell their story and after all the speakers there was a 30 minute Q&A.

These sessions were very well attended, extremely entertaining and extremely enlightening.

It is impossible to summarise the richness and diversity of experience which was presented in this series. Fortunately, the sessions were filmed and I understand that these will be made available on Youtube.

Rahman Connelly, one of the organisers of the series, writes...”The Success Panels were well received at Congress; perhaps reflecting that Subud is in ‘transition’, part of which involves reflecting on our founder’s advice that Subud will grow through tangible evidence that the latihan has utilitarian value.

“There was, in fact, an enormous amount of positive verbal feedback at Congress from people whose names we don’t know or for whom we don’t have contact details. Please send any comments to the editor of Subud Voice at subudvoice@gmail.com.”



Immanuel Bryson-Haynes

The series included some younger Subud members. **Immanuel Bryson-Haynes** (currently based in Indonesia) was a particularly interesting speaker as he outlined his journey to a successful partnership in the founding of the film company Borneo Productions International. He spoke candidly of various difficulties and disasters which had to be dealt with along the way. He was dyslexic at school.

Things picked up in his early 20s when he became a successful entrepreneur and got engaged to a Russian tennis star he met on a plane. But when that all came tumbling down, he got hit by a car while crossing a London street. Picked himself up, dusted himself off, and got a high-paying job in Amsterdam. Things were going well but he had always wanted to be a racing car driver until he failed to take a corner at 200 kms an hour. And so the story went. It was funny, it was honest, it was instructive, it was encouraging, it was hopeful and reassuring.

It is interesting how often getting hit by a car comes up in Subud success stories. Simon Guerrand was inspired to set up the Guerrand Hermes Foundation for Peace after being involved in a near fatal head-on collision. However, you can’t try and get hit by a car in order to be a success. It has to be a genuine “accident”. Being dyslexic also seems to help as it comes up a lot in both Subud and non-Subud success stories.

However, there were many other lessons to be learned from this excellent series which shows how conventional and Subud elements combine in the stories of successful Subud members.

FROM SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS

Anwar Lowther (Australia)

It has always been a prominent yet vague question - what does enterprise mean? When asked, I as a Subud member agree with many that it is simply our talents formed into a career - and therefore whether it generates an income or not is not the point. The goal is to be doing your own personal enterprise based on your talent.

However in a more worldly sense the word enterprise can often be translated to mean business, and whenever I hear the term "businessman" or "businesswoman" what straight away comes to mind is a rather flamboyant character driving the latest Mercedes Benz. In essence, what comes to my mind is wealth.. But do any of these people exist in Subud? The answer is clearly “yes”.

The men and women who spoke at the Subud Success Panels were a few examples of those business-minded individuals who have hit the nail on the head in terms of what it means to be in a successful business.

What I found most valuable from the conference was everyone's personal struggle when establishing their yet to be successful enterprise and the role Subud had in the process, such as Andrew Holloway's story of how he turned his talent for timber and the built form into an award-winning architectural construction enterprise.

Eyang Ismana Haryono explains the role of Subud in her life when starting the now over 390 student multinational school Cita Buana from only seven students in 1995. Rahman Connelly recounted his journey from a DHL courier driver to the co-founder and CEO of Connelly Temple and told how surrender and fasting played a role in this journey.

The Subud Success Panels would prove to not only be a show-case, but a true lesson for those entrepreneurs in Subud who ever wanted a first-hand example of how Subud and business work can work hand in hand.



Hamid da Silva

Hamid da Silva (Portugal)

I was a bit worried before the presentation but had a wonderful time in my panel. It became one of the most spiritual events of the Congress.....

Some of the people attending seemed to be very impressed with the amazing combination of material and spiritual stuff this panel amassed. Everybody seemed enriched.

The initiative is far reaching, provides good intense and practical lessons for everybody, sometimes extraordinary examples to be followed.

Just a few, very descriptive slides, could add colour and information to the verbal speech. I enjoyed Hammond's and Immanuel's presentations for being both

visual and oral, and even humorous, with balance. Thank you for the initiative.

Rosanna Hille (Canada) was a member of the Success Panel planning team.

It seems to me in Subud we tend to be reluctant to tell the story of how being Subud members impacts our daily lives. When we talk to friends or applicants about Subud it is usually about what is the latihan, where did it come from, how do we do it and why is it important in terms of spiritual options?

What interested me to help with planning the Success and the Subud Experience Panels at Congress was the opportunity to capture some real life stories about the practical value of the latihan. I believe we each need to learn how to assess the influence being in Subud has on our daily lives and the people in our communities.

Thank you to all the panellists who were willing to step back and take a closer look at their lives and to share their stories of discovery and experience with clarity, sincerity, humility and humour. I feel so grateful and learned a lot. You caused me to reflect on my own experience of doing the latihan all these years and to ask, "What evidence of guidance is there in my life choices?"

One of the most touching and affirming moments for me was when a good friend explained her experience as an audience member. She had gone to the Success Panels with her husband who is not a Subud member and felt so happy with the outcome.

This was a fabulous way, she explained, to demonstrate the reasons we choose Subud as our spiritual path... providing concrete examples of how to navigate life challenges, crisis, incorporate inspiration, find courage, hold inner awareness, make decision and build relationships.

I hope we can all learn how to share with others, in the correct way, how we use the latihan in combination with our outer skills and personal resources "to make our life come good." >

...to make our life come good.



Steven Bryson-Haynes
(photo by Livingston Armytage)



Kenneth Clark
(photo by Livingston Armytage)



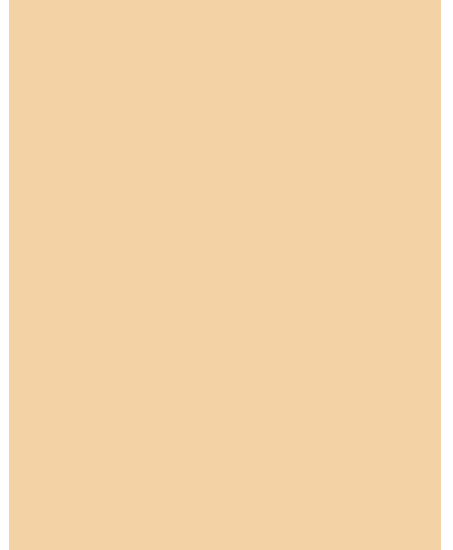
Dorothea Gillim
(photo by Livingston Armytage)



Isaac Goff
(photo by Livingston Armytage)



Hammond Peek
(photo by Livingston Armytage)



Steven Bryson-Haynes (Australia), youngest member of the Success organising team.

Kenneth Clark (USA) was one of the organisers of the series and also spoke about his personal journey to become a leading litigation lawyer.

Isaac Goff (USA) has been working in enterprise since the 1860s and now his company Dharma Trading supports a range of social welfare projects in Bolivia.

Dorothea Gillim (USA) one of the women who presented her story, told how the latihan had contributed to her success as an Emmy-award winning TV Producer.

Multi-Oscar winning **Hammond Peek** (New Zealand) advised, “Just begin.”

Organise you own Success Panels?

If anyone has an interest in organising a similar event at their National Congress/Regional Gathering, the Success Team can provide some organisational notes & speakers guidelines to assist in the process. Email rahman.connelly@medicalinovation.com.au

Viva SICA!

What can you say about SICA? There was so much SICA at this Congress it was mind-blowing. Films, concerts, workshops, music, there was no end to it, an explosion of talent. We can only touch on a few of the highlights.

1. One highlight was certainly the program held at the Teatro, the grand classic theatre of Puebla...
2. The Teatro series included a chamber music performance. On another occasion there was the performance “Creativity in Captivity” based on music and stories composed in concentration camps and POW camps.
3. “Conversations in Music” included jazz and popular music at the Teatro.
4. Also at the Teatro “The Legend of the Half Boy”, a puppet play directed by Erica Sapir.
5. SICA photo exhibition in a Puebla shopping mall.
6. Tuppenny Opera, one of many music acts which performed at Congress.
7. Frances Madden from Sydney Australia, singer, piano player and songwriter shared the US\$10,000 SICA prize for a young artist. She shared the prize with Mahalia Ward from the USA who is with the Joffrey Ballet.
8. SICA installation in the Puebla Mall. A tree suddenly sprouted balloons thanks to Alica Bryson-Haynes and her helpers.
9. Seattle Poet Paul Nelson says you can write poems by eavesdropping on what people say at Congress e.g. “I’m Colombian by birth, Mexican at heart, but my stomach is gringo.”



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ANGEL OF PEACE SCULPTURE... OUR GIFT TO PUEBLA

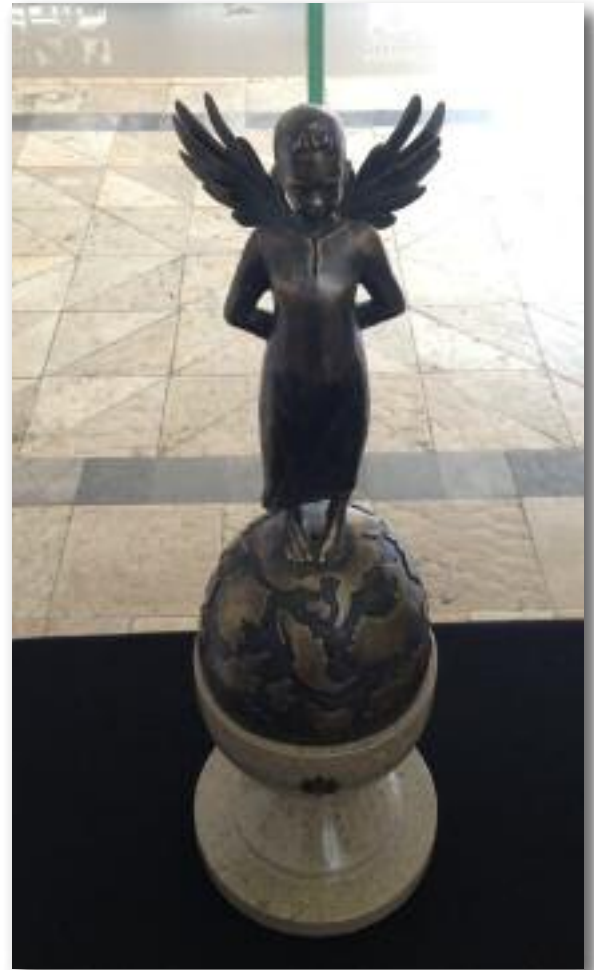
Lithuanian sculptor, Viktoras Tunkevicius, won the SICA sculpture prize for an Angel of Peace to be installed in a park in Puebla. The sculpture depicts a child, a boy of about six, a symbol of peace. He stands on an egg, representing the world. I believe our Congress was just such an egg from which many things will be hatched..

Asmaniah Fraval, Subud Australia chair, was present at the installation of the sculpture in Puebla

On the last day of Congress, the sculpture of the Angel of Peace was unveiled in the presence of the governor at a new recreation park, called Park del Arte. It was a beautiful sunny day and many of us piled into taxis for the 20 minute ride to the park.

The statue was already installed in the designated lake, safely bolted to its plinth, but was covered by a black cloth held by the same crane that had placed the statue on the plinth. Elias, Maxwell, Ismanah and Latifah were told where to stand by the governor's men so when he arrived all was set for the photo opportunity as the cloth was lifted.

The governor seemed genuinely delighted at the gift to the city. Just nearby is the children's hospital and they have constructed a ramp so children can access the park.



The story behind this sculpture is worth sharing. Viktoras Tunkevicius was a banker in Lithuania when he joined Subud. Through the latihan he came to understand that he should be a sculptor rather than a banker and so he followed his receiving which caused him and his family much financial hardship, losing his house and then having to move to the UK to live with his daughter.

So the fact that the sculpture donated by SICA/WSA now sitting in a Puebla park is the outcome of a latihan transformational process is indeed very fitting.

“ The Governor of Puebla was delighted...”

THE NEW SICA CHAIR

Sebastian Flynn writes...

I currently work with MDA Ltd (Multicultural Development Association) - Queensland's leading settlement agency (NGO) for every refugee and asylum seeker arriving in Queensland. The organisation is largely supported by the federal government to deliver this work.

Our brief in the Corporate Communications team is to promote and support MDA's programs via cultural events including World Refugee Day Community Festival, Zillmere Festival and Luminous Lantern Parade.

In this arena I use my experience of programming and directing culturally diverse events such as Queensland Multicultural Festival, as well as my programming experience with Brisbane Multicultural Arts Centre (BEMAC) over many years, so this role brings together the different elements of my experience.

It is also a great pleasure working in an area that satisfies my interest in diverse cultural performance, especially music, but also has a direct and tangible human benefit.



Sebastian Flynn, new SICA chair at the Sydney Opera House.

MOVING FORWARD WITH SICA

Sebastian Flynn, the new international SICA Chair, writes..

The tireless and dedicated work of outgoing SICA Chair, Latifah Taorminah, and her Board has brought SICA to a place where it can now use its well-developed structure to initiate a series of enterprise-orientated creative projects that will be both remunerative and also help to create a tangible profile for SICA and Subud in the world.

Whilst most arts-orientated organisations (although SICA is broader in its remit than solely the arts) rely to some degree on grant support, a major outcome of the SICA summit in Cilandak in March and our further discussions at World Congress, was agreement on the development of some degree of financial independence and resourcefulness through an enterprise-orientated approach to cultural projects (contributing financially to SICA) as well as the development of a SICA Foundation.

So the Board's principal aim will be the fostering and development of cultural enterprise encouraging financial independence for SICA - and an entrepreneurial approach amongst project leaders. This will in turn enable SICA to better service those in need of its support.

The SICA board will also be developing broad representation to embrace extensive activity across the World Areas - as well as encouraging legal affiliation in other countries (SICA is currently affiliated in four countries).

We also aim to have broad sector and genre representation on the Board, including Arts, Health (SIHA), Youth (SYAI), Kejiwaan (IH), Education and SD (Community Cultural Development projects).

There will be development and permanent establishment of the SICA Prize - with further awards made in 2018 as a result of artistic development and achievement over the next four years.

SICA will also develop its 'Cultural Capitals of the World' Project - initiated at World Congress - with Russia, UK (Lewes), US (Seattle and New York), India (Chennai), Suriname, Mexico (Puebla) and Australia (Uki, NSW) becoming 'Cultural Capitals' with whom SICA will work closely to develop creative projects - including programs for the next World Congress.

The Board will meet in late September to commence plans for its strategic projects and liaison with project leaders.

Look out for news of emerging cultural projects!

"Experience the Intersection of Creativity and Spirituality" will be the new tag line for SICA online.

“ Experience the intersection of creativity and spirituality ”



MDA Ensemble Diaspora

PERFORMING AT THE G20 SUMMIT

Sebastian Flynn, the new SICA Chair, works for MDA (Multicultural Development Association) an organisation in Australia concerned with Refugees and Asylum Seekers. Ensemble Diaspora is a cultural expression of this work. The musicians all met via the work with MDA Ensemble Diaspora has been selected to perform at the G20 Summit in Brisbane - in late October - included in an international program of cultural events celebrating the economic gathering of world leaders in Brisbane.

We are very excited to be performing a program we devised called 'The Book of Rhythm' featuring readings from the world's diverse literature - with music from each country's cultural tradition.

Actor Lee Heather of Subud Brisbane group is one of the community readers creating the atmosphere of each country through inspiring recitations blended with the ensemble's incisive rhythms and haunting melodies - with new compositions and improvisation juxtaposed with readings from Indigenous Australian, Russian, Lebanese, Irish, Chinese, Indian (Sikh), Persian, English and Jewish literature.

The project is something that SICA Chair Sebastian Flynn is looking to develop as part of an educational touring program enterprise. He says, "What I am hoping for is to develop it into a kind of tourable educational unit that presents a profile of countries and cultures via the range of diverse instruments, readings and music performance. Hoping it could be presented in schools and places like the Smithsonian."

*“ Incisive rhythms and
haunting melodies ”*

Youth!

Thank God for youth. Sometimes when we are back in our groups it seems there may be only us, old and grey. This Congress was proof that there is youth in Subud, vibrant, creative youth. Youth provided much of the volunteer effort that enabled this Congress to run. Many of them are already active and doing well in their careers and in their work for many aspects of the Subud organisation. There is hope for us old ones.



Dance and music performance by young people.



This painting was done by three young artists from different countries in the course of an evening devoted to presenting the Subud Youth Association.

TABLA POSICIONES (WEDNESDAY 15)			
PLACE	TEAMS	POINTS	G.D.
1	BUSTILLOS	6	+3
2	EUROPE + REST OF WORLD	3	-2
3	CHILE + AMÉRICA	1	-1
4	AUSTRALIA	1	-1

Futball was a major youth occupation but it seemed that not even the rest of the world could beat the Bustillo family.

YOUTH WAS PRESENT!



*Fresh and exciting fashions by Liora Lassalle.
A youthful contribution to Congress. (Photo by Isti Jenkins)*

From Asmaniah Fraval, Subud Australia Chair, from one of her dispatches back home...

The SYAI team gave a great presentation to the full plenary. Besides the YES Quest, the Human Force camp has now run a project for the past 5 years in a variety of countries, with Subud and non Subud members. The SYAI team set up the Subud Youth Fellowship Fund and gave 3 grants of \$2,000 each to young people with a viable project: a T shirt printing enterprise operating in Indonesia and Portugal, a cultural website and a young person dedicated to the re-development of Bucelas.

The T shirt enterprise created the congress T shirts and not only covered costs, but went beyond that! The IYTF (international youth travel fund) has enabled many young people to attend world congresses, human force camps, Subud gatherings and volunteer opportunities.

Some of the young people who had been helped to this congress shared the work they were doing out in the world and we learned that many have gone on to become helpers, national, wing and local chairs, treasurers. Nearly all of the outgoing and incoming youth coordinators were helped to this congress. In the run-up to congress, the various fund raising activities raised \$56,958 which enabled more than 60 people to be given some assistance that enabled them to come to congress.

The last team, Roland, Lucinda, Alexandra and Markus, have done a great job in creating real opportunities for young people to become involved: the new team will need our support, particularly financial, to continue and develop this further and the younger members need to be given encouragement and support to become involved, and to take on positions.

“ Youth was so present
and involved... ”

MUHAMMAD SUBUH FOUNDATION

www.msubuhfoundation.org

MISSION

MSF is the vehicle that helps the long term development of Subud and at present its main objectives are to help Subud groups all over the world to purchase their own Subud houses and to support the travel of the International Helpers who help the development and unity of Subud in the world.

MSF RESULTS AT THE PUEBLA WORLD CONGRESS 2014

- MSF was able to give three grants:
 1. Subud group Puebla in Mexico to increase the size of their latihan premises
 2. Subud group Istmina in Colombia to install kitchen equipment and services for an outreach project
 3. Subud Group Lisbon in Portugal to help the repayment of their mortgage.

The total value of these grants was \$ 37,500

- In November of this year we will decide on further grants for 2014 of up to \$ 64,000
- Some groups had problems repaying their loans to MSF and, after careful deliberation, we decided to convert these loans to grants for the Subud groups in:
 1. Kinshasa and Matadi in Congo
 2. Washington DC in USA
 3. Tlaxcala in Mexico
 4. Mina Clavero in Argentina
 5. Popayan in Colombia
 6. YMS/ Adi Puri in Indonesia

The total value of these conversions to grants was US \$ 70,000.

- For 2015 the total funding available for Subud houses is increased to \$ 200,000
- For grant applications please write to Lillian Shulman as indicated on the above website of MSF.
- Also the travel cost of the International Helpers was supported again with a grant to WSA of \$ 30,000



(Photo: Puebla Subud Hall, grant recipient.)

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- We would urge all Subud members to support the international development of Subud by giving donations now and making bequests in their Last Wills and Testaments to MSF. The necessary information is again on our website.
 - More news will follow in our next Quarterly eNews.

Many thanks to our supporters and donors!

MSF: SUBMISSIONS FOR GRANTS FOR SUBUD HOUSES

Muhammad Subuh Foundation (MSF) Call for Grant Proposals #3 - application submission deadline September 30

The trustees of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation decided at Puebla to add an extra Call for Proposals for grants and/or loans for the ownership/purchase/construction/renovation of Subud houses.

You may find an application for a Subud house grant/loan at our website

www.msubuhfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/MSF_GrantLoan_House_Application_Fill-in_form_2014.doc

or contact Lillian Shulman, MSF Administrator, for an application and for any questions, lillianshulman@netscape.net

The submission deadline for applications is September 30.

MSF SEEKS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Muhammad Subuh Foundation (MSF) seeks new Executive Director - application submission deadline: October 5, 2014

If you are interested in this position and have the skills/experience required, including excellent time management, organizational and communication skills, as well as English language fluency, please submit a letter of interest, your CV and the names of 2 Subud references to:

Rasjidah Franklin (rasjidahfranklin@yahoo.com), MSF trustee, by October 5.

Fee for service is US \$1,500 per month. Start date is October 16 which includes a training period from October 16-31.

For job description contact Rasjidah.

Celebrations on the Sunshine Coast

Arif Matthee reports...

After many years of patience and hard work there were many happy faces on the 31st of August when the group on the Sunshine Coast (north of Brisbane, Australia) hosted some 50 local and interstate members and visitors for latihan, lunch and the planting of a tree to celebrate their new premises.

Perhaps I should start from the beginning which was in 1991 when at the Subud Australia Congress, it was agreed that members of Subud, living on the Sunshine Coast, join together and form a group, the nearest group at the time in Brisbane.

Since then the group has rented premises in different locations and has grown steadily with many members now retired or near retirement.

The group also set up and grew its own building fund in the hope that one day this could be used for a deposit for their own premises and perhaps a type of “retirement community”



The Sunshine Coast group at their new property.

Buying the Property

Well on the 1st of May, Renee Goetz, a Subud member from Brisbane came to visit the group and together with some local members had a look at some properties. When it came to the third one she sat quietly in the back of the car and asked “Please God give us what we need”.

The next moment they arrived at a property in North Arm with a house, a large shed, a swimming pool and a hall suitable for doing latihan on 10 acres of land. It also turned out to be central for most local members!

To Renee this was a gift from God, so they went straight to the real estate agent and told him confidently “I want that property!”.

The agent replied “I will do my best.”

So the next morning they went straight back to the agent’s office and bought the property before another party turned up in the afternoon who also wanted to purchase it and this is how the group came to own this semi rural property in late July.

It was fortunate that the National Helpers had already planned a visit around the time the property was found and Asmaniah, the Australian Chairperson, and her husband, Maxwell, visited shortly afterwards.

Renee is very grateful for this gift and hopes to join the group later in the year and built her own home there as well.

Tireless Work

Since taking possession at the end of July, members of the group worked tirelessly to get the property in a presentable state. Large trees were cut, concrete poured to prevent flooding around the house and latihan hall and signs erected (*see photo*).

The house is now rented to Muhsin and Leonora Raven (who is chairperson of the group). Their house has an annex which has two rooms which can be used for testing and to meet applicants. The locally employed plumber and carpenter helped out whenever they could. Work that normally takes a year was done in five weeks.

The concept of “Open Table Meetings” was developed where members could openly bring up issues without fear and everybody feels they are being heard. This has enabled the group to work together more harmoniously and deal with the material forces responsibly.

Amazingly three new applicants have come out of the blue, including the carpenter who helped with the repairs and noticed the difference in the “state” of the hall after the group had done some latihans there!

Let Me Be A Wayang

Renee says she has always been guided by God. Some time ago her E-mail address was affected by a security issue and she needed a new name to change it. She recalls very well how she walked up the stairs and



suddenly remembered about the book she made about Wayangs after she had been in Indonesia. So she went to her library, opened her book and found the following prayer which helped finding a new E-mail address:

“Lord God – Let me be a Wayang in your hands – I can be a hero, or a demon, a king, or a simple man, a tree, a plant or an animal, just let me be a Wayang in your hands”

And so on the 31st of August the day arrived to show many members including some from Wollongong, Brisbane, Northern NSW, Canberra, Melbourne and New Zealand the new premises.

We all had wonderful latihans. Some of them may well decide to join the group as the Sunshine Coast has so much to offer. Very settled weather most of the year, a region promising significant growth, a good regional hospital. In short, an excellent place to retire! Perhaps overseas readers might be enticed too. After all Australia is still a lucky country with a strong Subud presence both in member numbers and Subud properties owned. ●

MELBOURNE'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

Isabelle Alexander writes...

Subud Melbourne in Clarinda is fortunate enough to have a very large property. We have Subud members who rent the 2 residences on the property. We also have our latihan hall. But, the majority of the property is beautiful open space.

For many years, Subud Melbourne members have examined various options of how to develop the property as a whole. Some interesting ideas were put forward. However, now that the space has been nominated as “green wedge”, the best option seemed to develop a community garden.

Well, that set a team of enthusiastic Subud “greenies” into action. We formed an action group of gardening enthusiasts. Two of our members have become licensed beekeepers. One is a permaculture expert.

Between them, they are creating a magnificent organic, permaculture environment which supports beehives, an orchard, vegetable boxes, and options for education in all of those areas. We have recently planted over 100 fruit trees, many of which are rare natives.

It soon became obvious that our acreage was far too large for us to manage, and we felt it important to open it up to the public. We have successfully applied for and received grants from the local council to assist us with some of the expenses.

We now feel that we are really taking the latihan into the world. We are working with a local TAFE (Technical and Further Education), which teaches horticulture, our next door neighbours, and many more Subud and non-Subud members. The local Earth care and environmental groups were amongst those who attended our first Open Day. It was a very special occasion for us all. We feel that we can do so much good in the community through our garden space.

We invite you to see our Facebook; Clarinda Community Gardens and Artspace, and the website;
<http://clarindacommunitygardens.wordpress.com>



Simone Melder and Latifah Slade inspect healthy growth in the Community Garden..

“ Doing good for
the community ”

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN LEWES?

Many Subud members around the world will have already heard about the controversy surrounding the St Anne's Project in Lewes, UK.

Lewes has for many years been a standout Subud group. Situated in the south of England, it has been noticeable for its stability and vitality. Members here have generated substantial projects of great interest such as the enterprise Pelham House and the Lewes New school.

Most recently, Subud members made a submission to the local council for the development of a project called the St Anne's Project. Their excellent submission was selected as the winning project but it immediately ran into a lot of criticism and opposition by others in the community, particularly other groups which had also bid but lost.

The situation has put forth a whole range of issues which are not only important in Lewes at the moment, but which are of general importance in Subud. Perhaps Lewes is a forerunner of a process which will be repeated as Subud becomes increasingly active and noticeable in the world. Perhaps Lewes is indeed a cutting-edge group. The issues arising in Lewes are bound to occur elsewhere. Indeed, I have heard a report of a situation in California which has some similarities.

It is all about Subud coming into the world and to some degree, the world may be accepting, but in other ways it resists. At the same time, the situation has shown a disjunction between attitudes and laws current in our communities which may seem to be in conflict with things that Bapak said, for instance. The situation invites us to look at our own culture and to see what our priorities are. How do we handle the situation is the question.

Many, many issues. We are very fortunate that Annabella Ashby, chair of Lewes, has written a very concise clear and interesting report of the situation as it is at the moment. No doubt we are going to be hearing much much more about all of this. (Thank you for soliciting this article, Ilaina Lennard.) Annabella writes...

For the past two and a half years the Lewes Subud group have been planning to move from their present halls in Station Street, the very centre of town, to a site slightly further outside called St Anne's. The group has been growing and at 150 members is seeking larger premises and closer links to the community.

The St Anne's site is a 4 acre sloping terraced area with the buildings of a former school facing south to the beautiful South Downs. It is for sale (now being changed to 999 year lease) as a 'community asset transfer' which means that whoever buys it can have it at under market value but must offer valuable community services on the site and maintain public access.

The very slow bidding process with East Sussex County Council (ESCC) started in late 2012 and in October we were notified that we had won the bid despite a challenge from Lewes Community Land Trust, who were also bidders.

Our phased plans are to build two halls, a meeting room, and offices for social enterprises, a community café with performance and gallery space, and an 'Eco-lodge' for low priced accommodation for visitors to Lewes. In the halls we plan to carry on with hiring to various groups for yoga etc, children's music classes, and for life events like weddings, christenings, bar mitzvahs, memorials. These projects and other activities will be in partnership with other members of the Lewes community, and would be impossible without that aspect of the project.

Phase one will be to build a hall and some office space and a meeting room. This will allow us to continue to do simultaneous latihan and also start the hall hire business which will be essential for the financial viability of the project. Money is tight and we are seeking soft loans, donations or even possibly investors. The main funding will come from the sale of the Lewes Subud Centre and a loan from Triados bank. The other phases are dependent on local partners and investors.

The process of agreeing Heads of Terms has taken the council a very long ten months. We are at the start of the drawing up of a contract but the process is on hold pending a council review of the bidding process.

The Opposition - what has been happening which eclipses the St Anne's Project

Subud Lewes has had its premises in busy, central, Station Street for 36 years and we thought that we were a welcome part of the community. Our halls and meeting room are booked out for 80% of the available time by many different teachers, therapists and groups.

An internet forum called Lewes Forum started an attack upon the ESCC and Subud saying that the St Anne's site should be for housing and that nobody knew who these weird Subuds were nor what they were going to do with the land they had



bought cheap. And we were caught up in a vitriolic storm of accusations which seems to have a political motive. The purpose of the accusations seems to be to discomfort the Conservative led ESCC by discrediting Subud as successful bidders for the site and making a case that ESCC handled the bidding process badly.

Articles were written in the local press

Challenge on Religious Ground. The original bid was challenged by the Lewes Community Land Trust on the grounds that we were a religious organisation and that was proscribed in the Councils rules. However, the Council reviewed the process and came to the conclusion that their rules were discriminatory and that they would change the rules to include religious organisations. They refuse the challenge and upheld our bid.

A public meeting was called, it is not clear who called it or who hired the hall. The purpose of the meeting was to call ESCC to account for the transparency of the process by which the St Anne's site had been sold. An accusation that Subud was a homophobic organisation was repeated at that meeting which had previously been made on the Lewes Forum.

David Anderson led an impressively calm and well reasoned representation of Subud Lewes. Many Subud members attended the meeting. The final decision was that the bidding process for the St Anne's site was not transparent. This was then wrongly reported in the local newspaper as 'the bidding process was unfair' which made it appear that Subud had some sort of advantage. There were yet more reports in the paper.

Homophobia

The smears and ridicule heaped upon Subud on the forum have been painful and shocking. But the one that hurt most was fully justified. A local gay pub landlord, Tony Leonard found online a copy of Bapak's Advice and Guidance to Helpers with a piece of advice which stated that homosexuality was a sin against God, was an abuse of the body and might be 'changed' by the latihan.

An article was written by Tony Leonard in 'GayScene' a local online gay journal, and then shortly afterwards an open letter to ESCC in 'The Gay UK' a national gay newspaper. The articles accused Subud of institutional homophobia. I spoke in reply to Mr Leonard on local radio one morning. I feared that a national newspaper could get hold of the story at any time. The PR group wrote statements in reply to both articles.

Our PR Response

We knew we had to respond positively to these accusations, and be seen to respond throughout the organisation. We felt that it was time to get help from outside Lewes because this was not just an attack on the St Anne's project but an attack on Subud itself. I got in touch with Elias Dumit, WSA Chair and Ismanah Schultz-Vorberg WSA Executive Chair, to let them know what was happening and to work on how we could address the situation. They listened and took our concerns on board. What I thought might be difficult was like pushing on an open door.

Up until now all the responses to the media had been going to the St Anne's Core Management Team, but after the public meeting members stepped up to help. A Public Relations team with Sue Fleming, Amanda Bolt and Roger Van Der Matten led by Dahlan Lassalle worked effectively to produce statements to counter the bad press and worked on the forum to answer factual errors.

A positive article, written by Lorna Collins, was published by the local newspaper. We have printed leaflets explaining what we plan for St Anne's and given them out at the Public meeting and elsewhere. Three Open Meetings at the Subud Centre have been arranged and publicised to meet and talk to concerned people and to show our plans in more detail. We will also talk about what Subud is. Leaflets have been distributed in the streets around the St Anne's site.

Beyond PR

The further challenge is how we make Subud acceptable both to ourselves and to our communities. If we want to be in the world, we have to be of the modern world, and not part of a culture that existed forty years and more ago. How do we challenge Bapak's view on homosexuality and indeed gender equality while keeping our deep respect and love for all that he has given us? Who are we to judge?

The views below can therefore, only express our present opinions, whilst allowing for these to change as our understanding of Bapak's guidance grows.

For instance, a view such as that expressed in the Helpers Handbook is against our Equality and Diversity laws in Britain.



Not only that, it hurts and offends members of our community, members of Subud and members' families. The WSA have written an equality and diversity statement for themselves. I can't tell you how much I appreciate the quick understanding of the need for action from the WSA and the support they have given. Subud Lewes have also written an equalities statement which some members feel is more in line with current practice.

“We have been sleeping,
let us wake up...”

It is also the view of members of the Lewes group and the proposal of the Subud Britain wings to our National Council, that Bapak's Advice and Guidance to Helpers should be withdrawn and helpers in Britain should be instructed not to use it until further discussion and pending legal consultations.

There will be further reviews of materials, and challenges to many old fashioned views of women, e.g. having to ask their husbands if they can join Subud whereas men don't have to ask their wives. We all know that in the West we no longer obey this advice, so why do we keep it in the book? We have been sleeping Brothers and Sisters, let us wake up.

What we learned about ourselves

From the outside, to the non-believer, Subud can look like a bunch of wierdos following a dangerous practice that might harm children and the mentally vulnerable. Apparently we eat lots of vegetables so that we can take them to heaven. This does Subud a disservice. Bapak's talk about this should not be online.

Minutes of meetings should also not be online. Journals should not be online unless password protected. People on the Lewes Forum have had great fun portraying Subud as a power-crazed organisation which regards the St Anne's project as a 'flagship project' which will bring in more members, even though we say we do not proselytise. When folks are really against you, they will say anything.

We cannot, however, allow ourselves to be bullied by the largely anonymous vitriol of a small forum. We need to work together on our presentation and improve it.

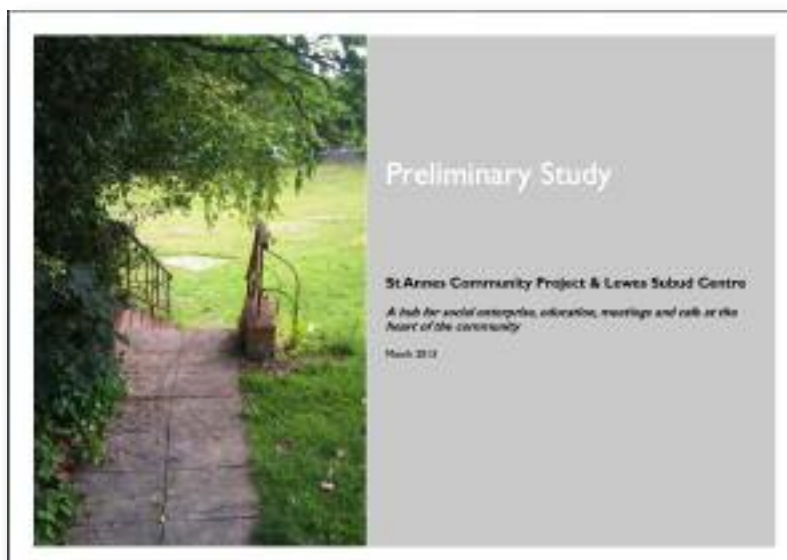
The Hard Bit

The real work however comes to all Subud members to examine their hearts to see what prejudices they hold against other people in the world. We need to seek to love everyone in the world just as we seek in Subud to be inclusive of all religions and faiths and those with no religious faith.

This does not mean a witch-hunt of all non-politically correct opinions held by members of our groups, which is as oppressive as the holding of rigid conservative views. It means that we open our hearts to each other and to our communities whatever views they hold and seek to keep all men and women as equal, without judgement and as worthy of our love. That is our challenge.

Finally, thank you to the many people who have helped and supported us. We had support from the Chair of US, Daniel Stralberg and the California group in taking the Helpers Handbook from the web. Also Kenneth Clark has been giving great support in advice on PR campaigns and with various documents. He has raised the issues in the California group.

For more info go to <http://www.lewessubudcentre.co.uk/st-annes-project> and see many other web sites discussing the situation.



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