



WHY AM I SO LISTLESS?

Second Interview with Ibu Rahayu in 1976: Halimah Polk continues her account of meetings with Ibu Rahayu...

I had been living in Cilandak for about eighteen months, teaching at what was then the Joint Embassy School –since then renamed the Jakarta International School. I was enjoying my work, my life in Indonesia, and was deeply immersed in the spiritual waters of Cilandak at that time.

With no television, I became increasingly devoted to reading literary fiction for my entertainment. The school had an extensive library as did several of the residents on the compound. I was after all an English major at University, so it was like falling off a log to become enamored with great literature again.

From this preoccupation, the desire to write poetry arose and I began reading and writing poetry as well. Coincidentally, during my latihan around this time, I had been saying the word. WRITE, WRITE.

As you can imagine this spurred me to on to more and more writing and I began spending my extra-curricular hours in a “room of my own”, reading and writing poetry, attempting with great sincerity to follow my guidance.

It was around this time that I fell ill and was diagnosed with tropical sprue, a serious intestinal virus that depleted my energy enormously – creating within me a state of lethargy and apathy that was almost alarming. I didn’t want to hurt myself, but I had no interest in living!

So, in the midst of this tropical sprue attack, taking a day off from my teaching duties seemed necessary. And on that day, I found myself aimlessly wandering around the compound.

After a bit, I slipped into the “Big House” where Bapak and the girls lived.

Tuti was there and we were shooting the breeze together. She was curious why I wasn’t at work and wanted to know what ailed me. As I talked about, it dawned on me that something was serious was going on and I asked her if I could talk with Ibu Rahayu – who just happened to be there that morning. Five minutes later Tuti hustled me into see Ibu Rahayu.



Ibu Rahayu at Bapak’s house in Semarang.

“ Not necessary for me to forcibly follow my latihan receiving...”

SUBMISSIONS AND DONATIONS

Submissions to Subud Voice on any aspect of Subud life are welcomed. Send to Harris Smart, subudvoice@gmail.com We rely on donations to keep Subud Voice going. You can donate by going to the PAYMENTS button which is located in the toolbar at the top of the page. www.subudvoice.net

After Ibu and I exchanged pleasantries, I began to talk to her about my writing, my interest in literature and my powerful receivings to WRITE in latihan, and the efforts I had been making to follow this receiving.

I also told her about the state of apathy that had recently come over me.

“It’s as if I don’t care whether I live or die, “ I told her.

Ibu Rahayu had several very interesting things to say about these phenomena and 30 years later I’m still understanding more and more what she may have meant.

One thing she said about my listlessness and apathy was and I’m going to have to paraphrase here was that my inner was becoming too dominant so that these feelings of apathy and listlessness arose from this imbalance.

However, this didn’t seem to concern her. What she focused her attention on was my newfound commitment to following the guidance of my latihan to WRITE. She said to me that it wasn’t necessary for me to forcibly follow my latihan receiving. She explained that we often don’t quite understand what

our receiving actually means and that the relationship between the inner life of the latihan and our outer life was like two separate trains going down a track in the same direction.

So that one’s inner life had its own rhyme and reason and one’s outer life followed its own direction. She said that if my true work was that of a writer, it would simply arise naturally as I followed the course of my work over time.

She then went on to say that at this time of my life to isolate myself in my room and write could be harmful since what really was necessary was for me to be natural and sociable so that I could meet someone and marry. She encouraged me to behave more “normally”, join with other young people on the compound in social activities.

I did follow her advice and gave up intensive reading and writing in my room to join in the social life of the compound.

Soon the apathy and listlessness disappeared, and I was having fun with my friends once again.

Thirty years later in my work as an educational consultant writing proposals, grants, and evaluations I am writing all the time.

So, it’s not as if my receiving of 30 years ago was incorrect, it was my interpretation, my misunderstanding that led to trouble.

What I’ve come to see as I have witnessed the path of the latihan is that sometimes I will receive something years in advance of its manifestation in my outer life. I feel more confident in making decisions in my outer life based on common sense and reason so that what arises is a more natural and organic life trajectory.



Halimah's home in the new guest house at Wisma Subud.



Latihan hall in Wisma Subud.

QUEST COMMUNIVERSITY



The venue is Sine Cera Rainforest Retreat...

Play an Active Part in the Roll-Out of the Exciting New SICA/YES Quest project QUEST COMMUNIVERSITY and join our Facilitator Training Program this January...

The Quest Communiversity will offer a range of ten-day modules at pop-up campuses at our major Subud Centres around the world, open to the general public.

There will be short courses, including – Preparation for Gap Year – Life Transition – Entrepreneurship – Sustainability – Team Building – Peace Studies – on our Open Program, and

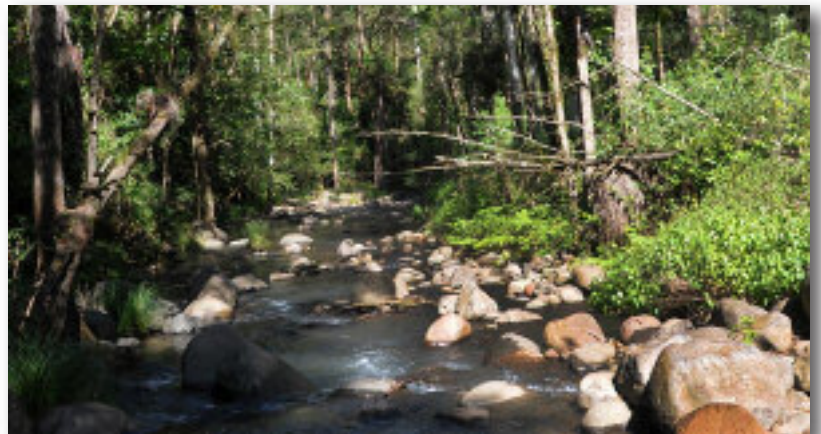
also Quests just for Subud members, including - Centreprise Quests, - Project Quests and the original Yes Quest.

We have a great international organizing team; pop-up campuses are available in Australia, Europe, South America, India and Kalimantan; and program development is well under way.

The next step is to develop an international team of facilitators, and to this end we are offering a Facilitator Training Program beginning on Dec 29th 2018. This will be followed immediately by a classic YES Quest beginning on Jan 3 2019. Participating in this double event will prepare trainees to be a support facilitator on Subud Quests, after which they may wish to apply to become accredited on the Open Program, with the potential to work on a paid basis. Some may even wish to pursue facilitation as a career. The training will be delivered by professional facilitators Marlena Bassler and Roland Fraval.

Facilitator Training at Sine Cera, Northern NSW, starts Dec 29 2018

This training will give participants foundational skills in the Quest facilitation style, including an induction into Quest program structures, training in managing group dynamics, facilitation styles and a database of activities and processes. After completing the Facilitator Training, participants will then experience the Yes Quest which follows, and gain a full understanding of the Quest process. The venue, Sine Cera Rainforest Retreat, located on the edge of the idyllic Border Ranges National Park, is owned by Dharma Care (as Susila Dharma project) and is offering comfortable twin-share accommodation at 50% of the full rate. The cost for the full 13 day double event, inclusive of food, accommodation, program and airport transfers and adventure day is AUD\$2,000.



Sine Cera adjoins the magnificent Border Ranges National Park.

YES Quest – open to all ages – from Jan3 to Jan 11 2019

Not interested in facilitation training? No problem! This mixed-age program will offer participants a deep >

and immersive experience along with the opportunity for inter-generational learning and connection in a stunning natural environment. The Yes Quest format aids in building true self-awareness and lends itself to any life transition such as study to work, career change, marriage, parenthood or retirement and is ideal for those wishing to review and re-set their life goals. The program will challenge participants to truly reflect on their past and current reality while offering tools to create the bridge to their envisioned future. While the program can be intense, most of our participants have found it to be an extremely rewarding and fun experience. Cost for the 8 day Yes Quest, inclusive of twin-share accommodation, food, one-day adventure component and airport transfers is AUD\$1,250.

For an application form for either of these programs, contact: info@yesquest.org (as we already have a number of applications from Europe, US, Australia, India and South America, please act as soon as possible as places are limited)

STARTING OUT IN SUBUD

What is it like to be a young person in Subud these days? I talked to Alina von Hahn, aged 19 and recently opened, originally from Canada but now living in London. She told me...

I was born in Vancouver and grew up in a nearby city called White Rock.

I am third generation Subud member; my grandparents on both sides are in Subud as well as my Mom Delia (née Mount) and my Dad Raynard.

I have three siblings: Adena and Casey who are 23-year-old twins, and Michelle who is 15. We grew up in an atmosphere in which Subud was always a very strong part of our lives. We went to lots of Subud camps of which I have very fond memories.

[I believe you were opened at the Freiburg Congress.](#)

Yes, last year, 2018, was a big year for me. I finished high school and immediately went travelling in Spain.

I travelled around and was fortunate to stay with Subud families wherever I went and to hang out with the children of these families.

It was a very enriching journey full of contrasts. For instance, I stayed in Madrid which is a very lively city and I also stayed in the Subud community in Orgiva which is such a beautiful, secluded and peaceful place.

I went straight from Spain to the Congress in Freiberg and, yes, there I was opened.

[What prompted the move to London?](#)

After Freiburg, I came back home to Canada somewhat uncertain about what I would do next. I knew I didn't want to go to university and during my second latihan after being home, I had a very strong feeling that I should go to the British Congress.

I knew this was an authentic feeling because it was the same deep inner connection I had had when I decided to be opened. So, I was only home for a week and then I went to the British Congress.

At the British Congress I tested with some helpers about what I should do next. It seemed like I was at a crossroads with various options and I couldn't choose between them. Should I go back to Canada? Should I do more travelling? But what came out of the testing was that it would be good for me to stay in England



Alina (foreground) at Basara. A life-changing experience...

and find work in the fashion industry.

Because of my mother's English background, I have lots of relatives and connections in England. One of my mother's friends helped me find an excellent job as an intern at a wholesale fashion company.

How is Subud life for you in London? Are there other young people?

My Subud life is good. I go regularly to latihan and I'm getting to know the members at the Subud Central London group. There are a few young Subud members in London. However, most of the members are 20 or 30 years older than me. Of course, it is good to mix with older members, but it would also be nice to have more younger members.



Alina at Suka Mulia, Indonesia after visiting Bapak's grave...

There are other young people in Subud in England, but we are rather spread out around the country. Still, fortunately, we have managed to get together once or twice over the past year. In the last few months we have met up in a park in London and at Loudwater Farm.

Last week I went to a Subud camp in Wales which was truly wonderful. We had so much fun. We did many activities like hiking and swimming and surfing. It was great to be in nature and to have latihan every day.

Why do you think that some children of Subud parents do not come into Subud?

There are many reasons that I hear about when I talk to my peers. There is sometimes an attitude amongst young people like "Oh, that is their thing. That's a grown-up's thing, not for us!"

Another attitude is that there is a conflict between being in Subud and living a normal, young person's life. That is, having fun, going to parties, enjoying life and all that sort of thing.

Some people say to me, "I can't join Subud because I like going to parties." Or "I like my life as it is, I don't want to change and if I went into Subud I would have to change."

My attitude is that Subud is not there to stop you from doing things. To me it is a guidance. I can still go to parties and have fun, but Subud has given me better self-awareness of what my boundaries are.

I remember meeting you at Basara in Kalimantan. What was your experience there?

I went to Basara with my two older siblings, Adena and Casey. We had a great time. The whole experience was so good. Heading out into the world by ourselves. It opened my awareness of what Subud is like internationally.

I also became aware of the special nature of Indonesia, and particularly of Kalimantan. The whole journey was full of so many exciting experiences and visiting exotic places.

I learned so much about how other people live. For instance, we arrived there in time for Christmas and I saw that it is possible to celebrate Christmas in a completely different way from what I am used to.

At Christmas, everyone opened up their houses and provided wonderful meals, and you could just go from house to house meeting people and sharing food.

Of course, for me there was also a lot of spiritual stuff going on. I felt very strongly how rich and intense the spiritual life is in Indonesia.

What do you mean by "spiritual stuff"?

I have always been sensitive to presences and can sometimes see ghosts. In Kalimantan I was aware of the djinn. One night my sister and I were coming home, and I

“ To me Subud is guidance; I have to maintain self-awareness... ”

was aware there was a djinn following us, so we had to stop and pray.

I remembered Bapak's advice that when you come to Kalimantan you should state, "I am a child of Bapak", and the spiritual beings will know that you are there for a purpose and not to harm them. You have to be polite and respectful, and then they will leave you alone.

After Basara I remember seeing you in Jakarta and in particular when we all went to visit Bapak's mausoleum.



Alina modelling a top and leggings designed and made by her mother Delia.

Yes, that was a very big experience for me. We had to leave Wisma Subud at 2:30 am and travel through the night. We then arrived at this extraordinary place that was so peaceful.

It felt like another world, so secluded and quiet, listening to the sound of birds chirping.

I went around and prayed before each of the graves that is in in the mausoleum and at each one, I received some particular message.

For example, I have been thinking for a long time about setting up my own fashion business and when I prayed in front of one of the graves, I don't remember which one, I received very clearly this message: "Just do it!" It was like there was no problem. I just had to do it. I just had to check it off the list.

And when I was in front of Bapak's grave, I received the message: "You are being a bit too serious. Just relax. Have a good time."

What are your plans and dreams for the future?

I definitely want to set up my own business in fashion. At the moment I am learning so much from my internship and, on the side, I am helping my mother Delia set up her clothing company. I help her with the marketing and I am also the model. She sends me the garments and I get photographs done.

What is important to me in the future is to create a sustainable fashion company. I want to create products that do not harm the environment, so only using natural materials such as natural dyes, and also making sure of that people are paid fairly for their labour.

As everybody knows, there is a lot of exploitation in the fashion industry, and I want to make sure that everything is fair and equitable even if this makes the cost of clothes more expensive. Because the price of a garment should reflect the real costs required to produce it.

What do you do for fun?

In London I lead a very active life. I do hot yoga about four times a week, Ultimate Frisbee once a week and dance. I used to dance up to 13 classes per week, but now



Standing in El Retiro Park, Madrid, wearing an outfit made by her mother Delia.



I want to help create a sustainable fashion industry...



I do it recreationally.

I better let you go then. Thank you, Alina very nice to talk to you. All the best with everything.

Thank you. Nice to talk to you too.

See the designs in bamboo fabrics by Delia von Hahn at: <https://www.balodana.com/designers/delia-von-hahn-shop>

PEACE DAY AUSTIN PRESENTS ANNUAL POEMS FOR PEACE AT UMLAUF AFTER DARK

WHO: Peace Day Austin and Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum

WHAT: Poems for Peace – an evening of poetry, inspiration and unity

WHEN: Tuesday, September 3rd, 6:00-8:00 pm

WHERE: Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum 605 Azie Morton Rd, Austin, TX 78704

TICKETS: \$5 donation at the door for non-members; free for Umlauf members – no RSVP required



Austin, TX – Peace Day Austin will host the 6th annual Poems for Peace on Tuesday, September 3 at the Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum, 605 Azie Morton Road from 6:00-8:00pm, as part of “Umlauf After Dark”. There is a \$5 donation for non-Umlauf members to attend but both are open to the public.

Poems for Peace will be an evening of impassioned poets, actors, and advocates sharing inspiring works of original poetry and published works in the tranquil twilight environment of the UMLAUF Sculpture Garden. Hear what inspired their selections on Peace as we look towards celebrating Peace Day throughout Austin in September. The event will be hosted by KMFA Classical 89.5’s Dianne Donovan.

Participants this year include:

- Robert Faires, Austin Chronicle
- Katherine Catmull, Writer, Playwright and Actor
- Steve Moore, American Playwright and Co-founder of Physical Plant Theatre Company
- Taisia Kitaiskaia, Russian-American Poet and Writer
- Paul Beutel, Retired Arts Advocate
- Simone Talma Flowers, Executive Director at Interfaith Action of Central Texas (iACT)

UMLAUF After Dark happens every first Tuesday of the month, offering UMLAUF visitors a chance to experience the special evening environment of the sculpture garden and featured gallery exhibitions, in addition to the activities and entertainment. Poems for Peace is hosted by Peace Day Austin and is one of many unique citywide events held in September prior to International Peace Day, September 21. Peace Day Austin is a local initiative made up of various organizations that encourage participation in, and observance of, International Peace Day, which was established by a United Nations resolution in 1981 and adopted as an annual day of nonviolence in 2001.

As an initiative of SICA (Subud International Cultural Association), Poems for Peace was spearheaded in Austin by Latifah Taormina, prior member of the Austin Arts Commission and former executive director of the Austin Creative Alliance. Taormina also founded Peace Day Austin and has been joined by a growing number of organizations including Global Austin – a diplomacy non-profit that serves the international exchange community.

Poems for Peace events take place throughout the United States and Europe. Austinites will join millions around the world participating in Peace Day activities, events, concerts, and festivals.

“Poems for Peace is really about expressing one’s love of peace through poetry. Poems live in our music, our holy books and in our hearts. There is no better time to talk about dignity and acceptance; be it race, class, culture or within one’s self, than in today’s current climate.” expressed Taormina.

Peace Day Austin encourages everyone to celebrate Peace Day in their individual ways as well, which could include anything from writing a poem, taking a selfie, singing a song or reciting poetry through flash mobs, parties, slams, performances, workshops, exhibits, classes, concerts and games in honor of Peace Day. There are many different ideas on ways to celebrate listed on the Peace Day Austin website, as well as a full list of activities and participating organizations, www.peacedayaustin.org, <http://www.twitter.com/PeaceDayAustin>

#PeaceDayATX #PeaceDayAustin <https://www.facebook.com/PeaceDayAustin>

ABOUT PEACE DAY AUSTIN – Peace Day Austin grew out of the work the Subud International Cultural Association (SICA) was doing with Poems for Peace— which was inspired by the passion and dedication of Jeremy Gilley and Peace One Day. Gilley, who founded Peace One Day, was the driving force behind getting the UN to give Peace Day a set calendar date, September 21. Peace Day Austin is now a collaborative grass roots initiative to explore, express, share, welcome, and celebrate what peace means to each of us as we travel from 9/11, a Day of Remembrance and Service, to 9/21, International Peace Day. Every year, millions of people and thousands of organizations across the world organize all kinds of events and activities to promote awareness of Peace Day, to encourage peace-building, forgiveness, reconciliation, nonviolence, and dignity for all in their own local communities.

ABOUT THE UMLAUF - The UMLAUF Sculpture Garden & Museum is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization founded around a vast collection of work by American sculptor Charles Umlauf. The UMLAUF Sculpture Garden & Museum exhibits the work of Charles Umlauf and other contemporary sculptors in a natural setting and provides educational experiences that encourage the understanding and appreciation of sculpture.

A SIGN IN THE SKY

Harris Smart writes... We originally published this article about Gaye Thavisin and her enterprise in Kalimantan some years ago, but it seemed appropriate to republish it now since she has become the SESI Chair along with Hammond Peek. She is now using her experience of enterprise to help others, so it is good to look at her own work...



Dayaks paddling in the sky (Photo by Gaye Thavisin)

Gaye Thavisin who is originally from Tasmania, Australia, went to live in Rungan Sari, Central Kalimantan, about ten years ago for a short contract at the Kalimantan Meeting Centre, now known as Rungan Sari Resort.

Coming with the experience of running a restaurant in Perth, Gaye was immediately catapulted into the whirlwind of helping to staff and outfit the resort over a short period of time for the Subud Gathering of 2002. Selecting, training and supervising staff, supervising kitchen and menu development, outfitting the guest rooms, and liaising with the building development team and interior designer, was juggled with settling into the small and remote Rungan Sari community with daughter Adina.

The KMC was still getting its finishing touches when she first arrived, and the work with an extended management and development team of Subud members to have it ready for occupation on time, was an unforgettable, dynamic and rewarding Subud enterprise experience.

After working as General Manager of the KMC for a time, Gaye set up her own foreign investment company, Kalimantan Tourism Development, to operate the KMC. Aided by 3 other Indonesian women, including Maulithawati Mustafa and Salamah Comey, the contract continued over 4 challenging years.

“ *The Dayaks paddling in the sky was a good sign...* ”

During this period, she met her current business partner,

Lorna Dowson-Collins. Together, they developed the idea of fitting out a Kalimantan river boat, a traditional rungan, as a tourist cruise boat. This intention came to fruition about two years ago when their boat, Rahai'i Pangun, was launched.

The boat is beautifully fitted out and is available for both day trips and longer journeys. It has five cabins and three bathrooms, and an upper deck for viewing the passing parade. I certainly recommend the experience to anyone who has the opportunity to take a trip, short or long, on Gaye and Lorna's boat.



Rahai'i Pangun, the river cruise boat of Gay Thavisin and Lorna Dowson-Collins.

The Tour

One Sunday while living in Rungan Sari, I went with some friends to do a river boat tour. We first went to the nearby village of Tangkiling where the cruise boat was moored.

The boat is extremely comfortable. I have previously done river trips in the local narrow canoes with 2-stroke engines called klotoks and they are uncomfortable, especially if you have to stay in them for any length of time. Your knees ache and your backside gets sore.

But on Gaye and Lorna's cruise boat you travel in style, sitting comfortably on cushions. I sent a photo of myself on the boat around the world and someone wrote back to say I looked like a pasha. To which I can only add the words "big, fat". I just needed some of those girls pictured in Egyptian hieroglyphic waving those long feathery fans over me.

We were mostly hoping that we would be able to view some orang utans on the orang utan pre-release sanctuary island. And indeed, we were extremely fortunate in seeing a number of these apes who have been rescued from desperate situations such as having their habitat destroyed and are being rehabilitated to live in the wild.

There are platforms where food is laid out for them and where they like to gather. Another advantage of the Rahai'i Pangun over the klotoks is that it can stop in the river so that you can get good photographs of the orang utans.

There are many other things of interest on the river. You see the local people going about their business. Kalimantan is of course a land of rivers and at one time the rivers were the main arteries of travel, commerce and communication.

Now, of course there are roads, but even so the rivers continue to play an important part in the life of the people. You also see the villages which project out onto the river on stilts in the traditional way that they have done for generations.

The Nature of an Entrepreneur

This trip on the river was one of the best experiences that I had while living in Rungan Sari. On the trip we were served delicious pancakes and very good coffee. I also had the opportunity to talk to Gaye about her enterprise. This was most revealing.

What was revealing was what it showed of the character that is required to be an entrepreneur. That is, you have to be extremely tough, courageous and determined. Not that Gaye is "tough". On the contrary she is sweet and gentle, but she has an inner nature of "true grit" that is required not only to start, but what is more difficult, to sustain such an endeavour.

Without complaint or self-pity, she told me of the series of extraordinary natural and manmade disasters which have impinged on tourism in Indonesia and therefore on their enterprise. These included the bombings in Bali, the tsunami in Aceh, earthquakes in Central Java, floods in Jakarta, and more terrorists bombings in Jakarta. All this makes tourist reluctant to come to Indonesia. Many people would have given up by now, but not a true entrepreneur.



. Meal on deck.

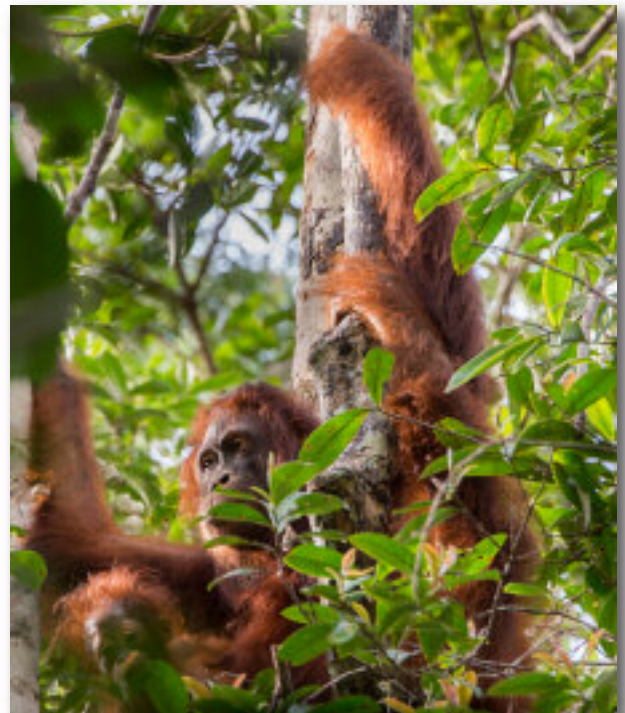
Gaye and Lorna are also now facing competition because the local government has also decided to get into the pleasure boat business and has fitted out a big boat. Gaye and Lorna hope that this boat will mostly cater to local trade leaving them focus on the international market.

A Sign in the Sky

Despite the difficulties, Gaye and Lorna press on undaunted. They are even now in the process of fitting out a second boat. Gaye told me the very interesting story of how their first boat was launched.

It was actually fitted out not on the Kahayan or the Rungan, the rivers it now mostly uses, but on a neighbouring parallel Sebangau Lake and River where there was a dry dock. So, when the fit-out was complete, the boat had to be sailed down the one river, across the sea and up the Kahayan. The crew did not relish this prospect, especially the part out at sea. Would the boat survive? Perhaps it would roll over in the waves.

“Despite the tension on board,” Gaye told me, “I went downstairs and slept in one of the cabins. So, I missed all the excitement of crossing the sea. I awoke as we were sailing up the river again. I came out on deck and in the clouds was perfectly pictured a Dayak boat with people paddling.



Orang utan mother and child.

“As you know, the Dayaks are very sensitive and attuned to omens in nature. If they hear the cry of a certain bird when they are setting out on some endeavour, they will turn back because it is a bad sign. Seeing things pictured in the clouds is a good sign, so these Dayaks paddling in the sky was a good omen for what we were doing!”

Experience the natural landscape, the wildlife and the Dayak culture from the comfort of a river boat. With gourmet cooking! For more information about Gaye and Lorna’s enterprise go to www.wowborneo.com

Gaye added this to bring the article right up to date...

I perused your article and think it reads very well the way it stands! Here are the results after the intervening years...

'A very professional company that leaves nothing to chance. Fantastic staff and the locations are just amazing. Wow Borneo has strong links with the local communities and the experiences are authentic.'

This is a review posted last week on Trip Advisor, the mega travel website where real reviews are added by real guests. This guest has highlighted the aspects of our orangutan cruise line that we have spent so much time to develop and sustain, and that we are so proud of. We now operate 4 boats, each with a minimum of 3 air con and ensuite cabins, in 3 different locations across Central Kalimantan.

The natural disasters that were a feature of the early years, remain with us. This year we are limping through another long dry season and smoke disaster, which may well persist for another 2 months, severely reducing guests in Palangka Raya.

Our decision to move to Tanjung Puting National Park compensates for this as its seaside location makes it tidal and the breezes keep smoke away. The company now employs 20 permanent staff, including captains, engineers, crew, operations managers, guides and office staff. Keeping a consistent income is vital to cover costs.

Lorna has been permanently in the UK for 5 years and is still involved as the company Commissaris. The company is growing at a rate of approx 20% annually, and we have decided to re-register it solely as a cruise company and move ownership to Wow Borneo Pty Ltd, based in the UK.

We have been instrumental in successfully opening remote areas to international tourism and are now invited by local governments to advise on river tourism, and eco-tourism infrastructure development. As a result, we can give hope to villagers that their forests are conserved, and alternative responsible livelihoods evolve. That is still the bottom line of our business!

To see a video about Gaye and Lorna's enterprise, click here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3dLtms0QJw&authuser=0>

IZELLAH: FROM STAGE TO STUDIO

In 2018 Izella made the transition from stage to studio, co-writing and recording 19 songs with leading producers in Los Angeles and New York.

During 2018 she released 7 songs and several music videos, which are available on her YouTube Channel.

She did live performances on several kids TV programs in Australia, did numerous radio interviews and was featured in several leading US music websites.

She recently released a new single, 'Where Nobody Knows Me' which has already received over 250,000 views

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKfJPgFVoT8>

During 2019 she has made several trips to Indonesia to explore various pop music and movie opportunities and will return there in September to record a song being written for her by one of Indonesia's most famous songwriters.

When she was in Indonesia in June she did an Instagram collaboration with one of the country's leading actresses and pop singer, Prilly Latuconsina.

They sang iconic Indonesian pop songs which received over 1.5 million views:

<https://www.instagram.com/p/BzC63DFFYIt/?igshid=131shnm5dq1z>

You can follow Izella on Instagram

#izellahofficial



HOW IT ALL STARTED

VTV Conference gave Birth to Afrika Speaks...

Afrika Speaks started as a simple and basic email signifying the power of technology of used properly.

On June 25-29-2001, The 1st Varindra Tarzi Vit-tachi International Youth Conference entitled “Edu-cating for a Human Future” was held at the Atlet Century Park Hotel, in Jakarta Indonesia’s capital city.

The gathering was named to honour the late Varindra Vittachi, a Sri Lankan journalist and Inter-national Civil servant, who had been Executive Di-rector of UNICEF and assistant Secretary General of the United Nations.

Amongst the 25th Youth delegates, was a young African from Zimbabwe. Due to the inspiration of the 1st Vittachi International Youth conference, Munyaradzi Muzenda an active Youth worker, social entrepreneur, Marketer and Founder /Chairman of Tact Youth As-sociation started (founded) and implemented the project Afrika Speaks ,exactly 90 days after Indonesia in October 2001 with VTV conference staff and mentor, Hugh Lynn of Whakapuare New Zealand.

Hugh Lynn was Munyaradzi project mentor. Whakapuare means opening the mind which tally nicely with Afrika Speaks. This year in June we marked 18 years after Indonesia, and we will be celebrating Afrika Speaks @18 end of October 2019 in Zambia/Zimbabwe to share the journey to Live Your Dream. Afrika Speaks project is the only surviving seed of the 1st VTV International Youth Conference held in Indonesia, June 2001.

Afrika Speaks...

1) Aims for young people to celebrate being African and to envision the beauty and future of Africa.

2) Helping young people to reach their full potential through proper utilization of their God given talents and skills.

3) Helping young people to Live their Dreams.

4) Aims to market and promote the natural beauty, heritage and cultures of Africa globally using the gifts and talents of African young people.

The 1st Vittachi International Youth Conference was sponsored by Guerrand Hermes Foundation for Peace. GHFP went on to sponsor

1) The 1st Afrika Speaks Conference held at Great Zimbabwe in Masvingo 25-28 October 2001, flying facilitators paying for food



Macklyn and Ntazente painting the Africa they want.



Sophie in Red explains the Art Banner to The Kitikiro/Prime Minister Peter Mayiga (Uganda).

“ Celebrate being Africa and envision its beauty and future...” ”

and accommodation.

2) The 1st Afrika Speaks Strategic planning workshop September/ October 2002 held in Kariba.

3) The 2nd Afrika Speaks conference held in Marondera December 2004.

18 Years of Commitment

On the Saturday 26 October 2019, Afrika Speaks will be celebrating 18 years of commitment, dedication, determination, focus and perseverance. Our theme will be; #LiveYourDream. We will be also celebrating the long journey of Afrika Speaks founder/chairman/visionary and strengthening friendships, relationships and partnerships.

On behalf of Afrika Speaks we are inviting real partners in development, youth workers, young men and women with great visions/ dreams, Pan African people and all those who have experience and solutions to SDGS 1,2,3,7,8. What is standing between us and the economic freedom of Africa and its young people is not "living our dreams"

Are you one of the men and women who are alleviating or have means and ways to radically reduce poverty, hunger, unemployment and promoting good health living in Africa and beyond?. Please, let's have a master mind alliance. Let's unite to wash away poverty. Let's unite to delete poverty using our dreams, talents and skills.

Live your Dream

Together we will celebrate Afrika Speaks @18 (From Dream2Reality) by looking back the path Afrika Speaks walked, challenges and tribulations from Mudzi-Harare-Beitbridge-Oliver Rambo international Airport. From South Africa to Singapore and Singapore to Indonesia. From Indonesia to Zimbabwe. From Zimbabwe -Ethiopia by Road passing through 10 countries all in the name of Live Your Dream.

1) What inspiration can do if one has the vision/dream, passion and willingness to pay the price in full coupled with focus, partnerships and mentorship?

2) The role and impact of inspirational and developmental journalism making reference to that of Dr Vittachi and what morals, values and principals the current young generation of journalist could learn.

3) Role and impact of dreams and visions in creating peaceful communities through entrepreneurship?.

The project, Afrika Speaks seeks to market and promote the national beauty, heritage, culture and talents of the African continent and its people.

Afrika Speaks believes that "Africa as a whole and world over will be a better place to live, if we develop our communities in a way that natures human relationships strengthen communications, develop through cultural activities gifts talents of young people and bonds between people, nations,



With the kids is Roland Tibirusya the GAAB Ambassador. He is from Uganda.



A painting sending the wishes of African young people from cape town to Cairo to unite for a Peaceful Africa.

“

Help young people reach their full potential through their God-given talent...

”

>

continents and the environment"

As part of celebrating Afrika Speaks @18 in the mother of October, we are painting the 2nd GAAB from Ethiopia to the Pearl of Africa to paradise of Africa (Ethiopia,Uganda,Tanzania,Zambia and Zimbabwe)

Our big dream is...

To have all 55 African countries sending their best 18 visual Artists for this moving arts event. Experts say think Big and start small. Since Afrika Speaks will be turning 18 years, is it not a brilliant idea to have 18 countries sending their 18 gifted and talented emerging Artists to be part of Addis-Harare 2nd GAAB Painting 2019 to coincide with the anniversary? If we can help 18 artists from each of the 18 countries to Live their Dreams, what a way to celebrate a life of a teenage organization that started from zero.

On the 26th October 2019 we seek to advance the above. We look forward to see you if you believe in visions, dreams and talents.

In conclusion this won't be complete by thanking all the people around the globe who supported Afrika Speaks and it's other programs like Cycling for SDGS, Art Banner, LiveYour Dream,Addis-Kigali. We thank you. Lastly in every match we have men of the match. In this case Ilse Mariah Flueh (Germany) , Rasunah Marsden(Canada) and Illene Pevec (USA) it's thumbs up thank you for your free mentorship

For more information send your email to afrikaspeaks@webmail.co.za or munyaradzi.muzenda4@gmail.com



Painting alone is Aggie, a marketing student from Ndejje University.



Cooperative orchard garden, providing 17 families with fresh produce and surplus going to the local food bank.

Atalanta Association Report...

Many people have been asking about what has been happening with the projects that were recipients of monies from the SESI \$100,000 Project Fund last summer. A number of stories about what has been happening with these projects are included in the SESI website

<https://subudenterprise.com>

Here is one of them about the Atalanta project...

Since the Subud World Congress in Freiburg, much has been happening with the Atalanta project. We would like to share what we are up to in addition to the use of our grant money.

Summer 2018 proved to be another successful growing season for the cooperative orchard garden, providing 17 families with fresh produce and surplus going to the local food bank...

To read the full report, click here...

www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/AtalantaReport.pdf

Recently Launched Subud Archives Website

One of the most informative and useful workshops at the recent Subud National Gathering in Albuquerque was hosted by WSA Archivist Daniela Moneta...

From Daniela:

Subud Archives Online Database uses modern technology to take a further step on the road to making our archives more accessible for Subud members today and in the future. In so doing, we are able to make visible and available archival material previously held only in remote storage areas. The Archives Online Database give access to documents, videos, films, photographs, publications, interviews, and stories that tell the history and development of Subud – today as it is being made and back to the early 1950s when Subud started to spread around the world.

If you are interested in seeing a preview of what is on the Subud Archives website, you can watch this brief video: <https://youtube.com/embed/ZelCFWwpmSI>

A website can be a 'living archive' that members can readily access to learn more about the latihan and how it came into existence. If you would like access to the website which is available to Subud members only, make a request to: admin@wsarchives.org

If you have any questions about the archives and how you can help, please let us know. ●



Daniela Moneta, WSA Archives.

SUBUD BARNET, LONDON

Hanafi and Levana Fraval report on another Centerprise...

In 1971, Subud Britain purchased what was formerly St. James's Church Hall for the Muswell Hill Subud group. Built in 1909, the hall was old and needed a considerable number of initial repairs and decoration and required regular ongoing maintenance. The building is now home to Subud Barnet Centre.

The group was vigorous in the 1970s, with around 30 women and 20 men. Today there are 15 women and 7 men. The property is not branded, although the centerprise is named Venue Space Hire (VSH). The Subud symbol is featured on the front façade and garden. There is also signage indicating that halls are available for hire.



The Barnet Subud House.

The large hall can accommodate 120 people, the upstairs hall 30 people, and one meeting room 13 people. Supporting this are the usual amenities, such as a basic kitchen, toilets, and storerooms. The small backyard space is unused at present.

Marketing

The hall is mainly rented out to regular users, such as churches and instructors of various classes – dancing, yoga, Tae Kwon Do, and Pilates. VSH, run by chair Irina Psculovska and letting manager Luda Terrochaire, >

was set up to make use of unused time slots, and these one-off events require careful supervision. VSH pays a monthly rental to Subud Barnet.

In the past, when one of the regular renters leaves, the group simply advertises, and more users take over the vacant time slots. Renters keep coming back because the hall is well maintained, reasonably accessible by public transport, and has council car parks nearby. The hall has a stage and theatrical DMX lighting, to which PowerPoint projection facilities and a PA system have recently been added. Also, the rental rates are reasonably in line with local market rates.



The centerprise promotes itself through two websites and Facebook (see below). In addition, they advertise on free sites, such as www.gumtree.com, www.hallshire.com, www.bookingspace.co.uk, www.venuefinder.co.uk, and www.list.co.uk

Finance and accounting

Income is around £50,000 (\$63,400) per year, with costs of £36,000 for cleaning, maintenance, lettings management, repairs, all utility bills, insurance, and commercial waste. Costs for cleaning and maintenance have been reduced this year, and insurance is paid via Subud Britain.

The group makes a gross surplus of approximately £5,000 annually, and they try to maintain a balance between net income and maintenance costs. In addition, regular contributions (currently £750/month) are sent to Subud Britain via the London regional account. The group does not have a paid accountant, but the treasurer keeps group accounts and provides an annual report to Subud Britain.

The Barnet hall, like most Subud properties in the country, is owned by Subud Britain. The group chair and committee manage the property and its centerprise. They and the lettings manager negotiate rental agreements with tenants.

This centerprise has two paid jobs for cleaning and maintenance, and one paid job for the letting officer (10% of rent income). They invoice for their services and are paid monthly.

To date, the biggest challenge that the group faced was in around 2006 as the group was shrinking, members aging, and faced with expensive demands to meet new regulations. They considered selling the hall but tested and decided to make a go of it. They took out a £60,000 bank loan, a £20,000 loan from Subud Britain, and a £10,000 loan from Subud Norwich. This, plus a £5,000 grant from Barnet Council, enabled a major refurbishment; compliance with fire, health and safety and access regulations; and treatment of extensive dry rot, before the hall was fit to be hired out to earn its keep. Harman Scott oversaw the refurbishment, which was completed in 2010.

Maintenance

The group has maintained a healthy bank balance over the past few years, so they have been able to



The chair, Irina Psculkovska.



A lively and modestly growing group...



invest in new hall flooring downstairs. They also sanded and re-polished the upstairs hall and stage. In addition to this costly expenditure, they have in recent years renewed one slope of the roof, paid for dry-rot works in the stairwell, redecorated the inside, repaired roof leaks, purchased new furniture, and much more.

In Subud Britain, a survey is carried out every five years that sets out works that need doing at each of its properties. They've worked steadily through this plan, surveying their members to determine priorities so that non-urgent work takes second place. Based on this survey, Barnet has a reserve fund of £30,000 for its maintenance. Of course the committee participates in this fully, and Subud Britain is obviously pleased when groups have sufficient funds to cover building renovation and repair costs.



The hall is rented out to a variety of local groups.

The centerprise and the group

The centerprise and committee have a standard contract with Subud Britain, which is set out in the Property Management Handbook. The group is happy to leave the business side of the hall operation in the capable hands of the committee. They see the improvements made to the hall. As with most groups, there have been rocky patches in the past, but now things seem to be moving smoothly, and the group is kept involved with what is happening in the operation of the hall.

From time to time, group fundraising events and collections at gatherings raise a few hundred pounds for Susila Dharma Britain, or other Subud causes.

Irina remarks that, at the moment, there is no immediate challenge that is different from what other groups face, considering members' age and willingness to volunteer. She feels that Subud Barnet is lucky to have the right people for the right job at present. Currently the group is doing well, and they hope to continue at the same pace. The group members support their current chair and hiring manager as best they can.

“ *Underlying the importance of having a maintenance fund of an appropriate size...* ”

When asked how the Subud organization or others could help, Irina felt that the best way would be for everyone in other groups to manage their finances sensibly, and keep out of debt without demanding unreasonable amounts of money from centerprises for the maintenance of other buildings.

This would seem to underline the importance of having a maintenance fund of an appropriate size. In the SubudSpaces group, we have discussed this and have thus far concluded that a maintenance fund should be around 10% of the replacement cost of the building. This will be an issue for a future centerprise zoom call.

Subud Barnet, 97 East Barnet Road, Enfield EN4 8RF, London • Contact: Irina Psculkovska, Chair • Website: www.subudbarnet.org.uk , www.subudbarnet.weebly.com

Acknowledgments from Irina: *“Many thanks to Luda (our letting manager) for her continued hard and efficient work, Ricky (cleaning and maintenance service) and Fabrice (our treasurer) for continuing to maintain the hall to a good standard. Thanks also to Patricia Dear, (courageous and hard-working former chair), and David Rose who managed the lettings before Luda took over, Harfiyah (who was our previous chair for 6 consecutive years) and most of all thanks to God who has kept hope in our hearts, and given us a lively and modestly-growing group to continue the latihan in Barnet. May He forgive us all our many shortcomings and give us all the energy to carry on.”*

Committee members and hall managers are invited to join the [SubudSpaces.Slack.com](https://subudspaces.slack.com) website, where they will find useful information and resources on managing a Subud center, including a template checklist for planned building-maintenance budgeting, a business plan, a marketing strategy, a housing handbook, sample agreements, etc. To join, contact Raynard von Hahn SubudSpaces@gmail.com who can send you an invitation.

NEWS FROM ZONE 3 APR-23-2019 Taken from the Zone 3 Newsletter No. 2

SUBUD NORWICH

Dorothea and Rashid Rogers write, with contributions from Hamilton Wilson and Francois Reynolds of Subud Britain...

The popular newspaper, The Daily Mail, once wrote about living in a house in a cathedral close, "Bless this house: There's nothing more serene, elegant and exclusive than living in a cathedral close", although, for various reasons, this isn't actually the way that most group members, including residents, view the Close!

Our Subud House is one of more than 80 listed buildings in the Cathedral Close which commands 44 acres of land in the heart of Norwich City. Here one can experience a haven of peace and tranquility and can feel free from the bustle and hubbub of the busy city streets.



Norwich Cathedral Close is the largest and surely the loveliest of all the cathedral closes in the UK. The oldest parts of the Subud House survive from the time when it was the offices and barn of the monastery almoners who fed and cared for the poor of Norwich for over 400 years until the Reformation. Since then the mainly 16th and 17th century building has been continually modified by the tenants who have lived here. Francois and Ilaina Reynolds discovered the said property known as No. 6, The Close, and with others acquired a 14-year lease in 1979 on behalf of Subud Norwich.

Houses in the Close are owned by the Dean and Chapter being the governing body of the Cathedral and are available only for lease. During the 1980s the lease was transferred into the name of Subud Britain and a new 20-year lease was negotiated in 1994 and again in 2014. Whilst the cost of living in a cathedral close is high, on the other hand, these leases have capital value. They are assignable. The house needs a great deal of care and the Group has looked after it very well and has always paid the rent punctually. At today's prices, hundreds of thousands of pounds have been invested in maintaining the fabric of the building.

The Cathedral know that we are a charitable and humanitarian organisation and that we have shown an interest in the Cathedral and its activities. Two members of the Group founded the Cathedral's annual Hostry Festival. So perhaps our appeal to the Dean and Chapter as a fellow spiritual community, sharing the same ideals and values, has helped to keep the annual rent at a manageable level...

Read the full article in Zone 3 Newsletter No. 2.

This article first appeared in www.subudworldnews.com

THE AMBASSADOR COMES TO VISIT

A “short memory of Bapak” by Dr. Rachman Mitchell...

In 1968 I was asked by British Ambassador to work with the British business community to set up a Medical Scheme to serve the company staff and their families who were returning to Indonesia after the period called Konfrontasi between Indonesia and Malaysia when the two countries were at war with each other with Britain supporting Malaysia.

Indonesia was incredibly poor then and almost no one was fat. I had gone from 90 kilos to 69 and having to punch new holes in my belt. So, the ambassador was rather intrigued by the reason I and my family wanted to be there. I tried to explain how and why this person called Muhammad Sumohadiwidjojo or Pak Subuh inspired us to come to a country which was neither secure or welcoming and wealthy. He said he would rather like to meet this “Pak Subuh” for himself and on asking Bapak he invited the ambassador to visit him.



Dr. Rachman Mitchell.

The “big house” as we called Bapak’s home designed by Ramzi Winkler had not been long completed and we always entered the house from opening at the back where there was an area for cars to be parked ,but of course there was the official front entrance rarely used at that time.

I was waiting for the ambassador at the back, while of course his car went to the front, a serious diplomatic mistake on my part and part of my characteristic disdain for protocol while Bapak always gave it due consideration without being pressured by it.

We sat together in those round-backed chairs which support the lower back but not the upper part. I think Sharif was already in Wisma Subud as the conversation proceeded quite smoothly.

At one point the ambassador asked Bapak, “From where did you get this latihan?”

Bapak’s right arm floated up into the air and his hand performed a graceful semi-circular movement. “From there” he said. ●

MIRACLES ABOUND AND BLESSINGS ARE ABUNDANT

Another “short memory of Bapak”. This one by Hamilton Cheifetz...

In 1981, Bapak visited Los Angeles. An entertainment evening was planned which Bapak was going to attend, and I was not scheduled to play, so I appealed to my brother Morris McClellan, the M.C. for the show, and I asked him if I might play something.



Morris said “If you play for 20 minutes before the program as people are entering the auditorium, you could just stay on the stage and open the program” >

After playing some Bach, everyone stood as Bapak and his party entered the hall. It was a bit odd to be up on the stage as Bapak came in, and he seemed to be amused and smiled a little as if to say “You’re still up there”. Then I played the Prelude of the first Bach Suite, and I was feeling a little nervous as it began. About 30 seconds into the piece, I felt my heart open up and come alive, and a strong feeling of love and tenderness welled up within me. It was a wonderful experience, and I will always be grateful that Morris facilitated it.

The next time I felt something just like that was on May 28 of this year, as the orchestra played the short opening of the Largo slow movement of the Beethoven Triple Concerto, a sublime creation. I offer it here. The violinist in my trio is Carol Sindell, a former student of Jascha Heifetz and my musical partner for 45 years. The pianist is Janet Guggenheim, who was Itzhak Perlman’s pianist for 30 years and has played with Carol and me in a trio for 13 years. As a grateful Subud member with a long involvement with SICA, I am sharing this story. Miracles abound, and blessings are abundant as well. ●

Symphony Composed by Lucas Richman to be Performed

SICA-USA News Paul Nelson on Aug 03, 2019 06:07 am

Hi Paul, We wanted to share this wonderful article in Broadway World about the August 17th concert in which the symphony composed by our son, Lucas, will be performed in Disney Hall. Thank you for all the good stories you post. We really enjoy them. Our very best, Helen and Peter Mark Richman

This post appeared first in SICA-USA.

FRIENDSHIP & Harmony

**WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL
SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 2019
8:00 PM**

FEATURED WORKS
West Coast Premiere of Lucas Richman's
Symphony: This Will Be Our Reply
US Premiere of Byunghye Oh's
한국의 혼 (The Spirit of Korea)
Program subject to change

COMBINED VOICES OF
The Jewish Community Chorale and
The Los Angeles Korean-American
Musicians' Association Choir

SPECIAL GUESTS
Ron Li-Paz, Baritone | Diana Tash, Mezzo-Soprano

In keeping with the evening's theme, we conclude the performance with the choral ending of Beethoven's 9th Symphony, *Ode to Joy*, with soloists from the Korean and Jewish community:
"Let us sing more cheerful songs / More songs full of joy!
All that custom has divided / All men become brothers."

Lucas Richman, Byunghye Oh, Jin-Sang Yoon, Noreen Green, Ron Li-Paz, Diana Tash

JOURNEY OF A FIDDLER

Well-known musician and former SICA Chair, Sebastian Flynn has released a two CD set entitled JOURNEY OF A FIDDLER. Accompanied by Martin Reese (guitar, mandolin etc) Sebastian plays more than 40 Irish tunes ranging from the lively to the haunting.

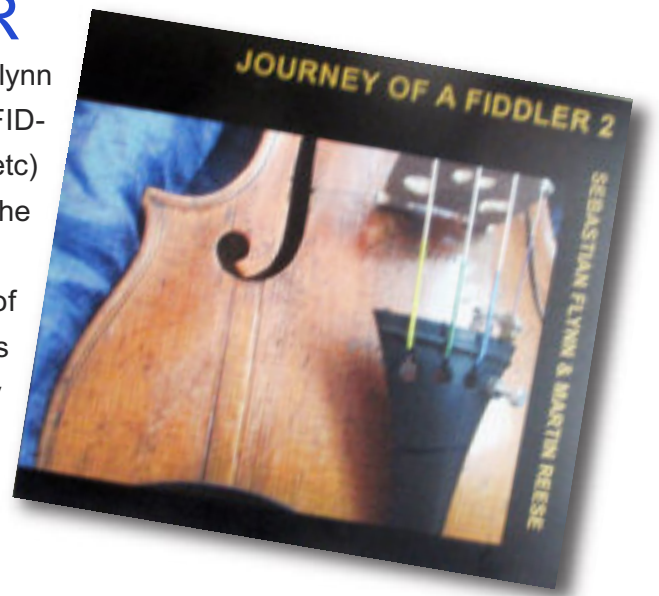
Sebastian has dedicated this music to the memory of his parents Thomas and Kathleen Flynn. "My mother was a wonderful pianist and encouraged me a lot in the early stages of my playing. My father used to say he had an ear for music like Van Gogh, but he enjoyed listening and was actually a talented painter which sadly he had time for."

The music is also inspired by the late great fiddler Dave Swarbrick famous from bands such as Fairport Convention,

The two CDs are well presented with excellent notes on how Sebastian came upon the tunes, and of course the playing is outstanding and beautifully recorded. And who can resist titles such as "Killarney Boys of Pleasure" or "Ribbon of the Red-headed Girl".

You can have a listen at <https://flynn-and-reese.bandcamp.com>

Contact Sebastian at sebflynn@gmail.com



A SUBUD POTTER IN RURAL AUSTRIA

Lawrence Brazier writes...

I was born in Oxford, England. Romana is my wife and she comes from Austria. We are both Subud members and have been for more than forty years. I learned pottery as a young man and for a lack of earning power promptly dropped it when the children started arriving. I am probably the most sacked man on the planet – virtually unemployable.

A proper command of the German language was learned and self-employment was the blessing always sought. We opened a German/English translation agency. It was the perfect business. The



telephone would ring (me still in my bathrobe), a job would be discussed and the text arrived by e-mail. I turned the text into English and mailed it back to the customer. An invoice was written and sent. I then had the option of going back to bed. The children left home. We retired and Romana spent hours in the garden. My thumb twiddling needed expression. That's how pottery came back into my life.'

To read the complete story, click here...

<https://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/SubudPotterRuralAustria.pdf>

JOURNEY OF AN ARTIST

Ramon Kubicek writes...



When it all works I can get paintings like Ship of Fools (acrylic, oil stick, pen on canvas 36" x 48"). This painting emerged from a dream and from my interest in voyage.

Since I was 13 I have been fascinated by the creation of beauty and meaning in artistic form. It was something I “knew” I would dedicate my life to, but it has not always been easy. Sometimes circumstances have been difficult and of course the calls and pressures of relationships, material needs, and health concerns have all played their part. I wanted to paint and sculpt, write novels, make films, tell stories. That’s on the one hand.

On the other hand, spiritual quest was all important. In fact, the spiritual life and a spiritual orientation to making decisions have been in place since I was 19. I have not known any other way of living as an adult. I was opened in Subud when I was 22, in Bristol England, at a time when I was also exploring the Gurdjieff Fourth Way ideas, Sufism, and Christian esotericism.

Much later, after two life-threatening health crises that almost ended my time on Earth, I realized that my various efforts teaching and giving workshops in a variety of fields were an example of my childhood interest in discovery, journey, insight, and making magic of some kind—through words or images. Even when I wasn’t painting or sculpting I was still engaged in discovering things and learning the different ways that Life expresses beauty.

Now I am very fortunate in having a large, free-standing studio in a rural setting on the Sunshine Coast in British Columbia, where I have been painting full time for over ten years.

The style ranges from realism to expressionism, but I prefer expressionism because it allows me to move freely from the inner worlds to Nature. The content comes from within, from dreams, but also from my readings of Nature. That is, I read stones, fallen wood, trees, streams, as easily as I read texts. In fact reading >

Nature is a self-nurturing act...

When I am in the studio I usually begin with an image or visual narrative in mind, Then, I do some sketches and then select the medium and colour range. When it all works I can get Ship of Fools (acrylic, oil stick, pen on canvas 36" x 48"). This painting emerged from a dream and from my interest in voyage.

To read the complete article, click here...

<https://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Journey-of-an-Artist.pdf>

A SMALL PROVINCIAL TOWN

Another "short" story from Sebastian Paemen...

When I was 17, I spent some time in hospital for a minor operation. I met J. at the coffee machine in the communal room. I knew who he was because I had heard about him. In a small provincial town like Dordrecht many people knew each other.

J. was in his thirties; he was a drug dealer. He seemed to like me, and I quite liked him too although at the same time I felt uncomfortable with the way he earned his living. As we got along well and both of us were in need of company, I tried not to think about this.

J. had married his childhood sweetheart. They lived next door to each other as children. She was pretty and charming. Each day she visited him in hospital accompanied by H, her husband's chauffeur and bodyguard.

Sometimes they closed the door of J's room behind them and the bodyguard waited outside, not letting anyone in. I was young and naive. It took me a while to work out what was going on.

By coincidence J. and I were released from hospital on the same day. He gave me a lift home in his shiny green Mercedes with the chauffeur at the steering wheel. As it was his birthday, he invited me over to his place.

So, there I was in this rather ordinary house sitting around the coffee table with him and his wife, their friendly elderly parents and the bodyguard enjoying tea and cakes. A perfectly normal scene if it wasn't for the fact that this was the home of a criminal.

We parted cordially and over the years we occasionally bumped into each other. He always seemed pleased to see me.

Things didn't end well for him though. One day he disappeared and sometime later his body was found floating in one of the canals. J. got caught up in a gang feud and paid the price for his lifestyle.

INTERFAITH IN THE QUR'AN

Sebastian Paemen continues his series of articles about little understood aspects of Islam...

My love for the Qur'an started many years ago. As a child, growing up in a liberal Christian home, I'd always loved the Old Testament. When I first began to read the Qur'an in my twenties I was touched in a way which reminded me of my childhood love for the OT. Some verses deeply moved me. The Qur'an is of course widely misunderstood in the West and the difficulty of translating the beautiful 7th C. Arabic plays a big part in this.

Translated Qur'ans can differ greatly. Take for instance verse 3:19 which is sometimes translated as 'And whoever seeks a religion other than Islam, it will never be accepted of him'. This verse seemingly contradicts

all the Interfaith type verses quoted here below. However, in many English Qur'ans this verse is also translated as 'And whoever seeks a religion other than surrender to God, it will never be accepted of him.' The Arabic word 'Islam' means 'surrender (to God)'. During the time when this verse was revealed the religion wasn't called 'Islam' yet, and Muslims were just people who 'surrendered to God.' The Arabic word 'Muslim' existed before Islam developed into an organised religion, this is what causes confusion, and some people exploit this to serve their own agendas.



A Christian priest, a rabbi and an imam who are involved with a communal house of worship in Berlin, Germany.

Today, we call the adherents of Islam, 'Muslims'. But when the Qur'an uses this term, it is often discussing people who lived centuries or millennia before the organised religion of Islam began. When the Qur'an uses the term 'Muslim', it means anyone who surrenders to the One God, even though they might be Jews or Christians in religious practice.

In studying the Holy Book of Islam there are so many themes and levels you could tune into as it is such an incredibly rich book. I like the verses which endorse the major religions, something world famous religious scholar Karen Armstrong pays attention to. Both Islamophobes and extremists don't particularly like these verses as they don't fit their agendas. Here's a selection of some of these 'Interfaith verses':

5:47-48 'To each of you We have given a law and a way of life (religion). If God would have desired He would surely have made you into a single people -professing one faith (and following one law). But He wished to try and test you by that which He has given each of you. So excel in good deeds. To Him you will all return in the end, when He will resolve that upon which you disagreed.'

2:62 "The [Muslim] believers, the Jews, the Christians, and the Sabians- all those who believe in God and the Last Day and do good- will have their rewards with their Lord. No fear for them, nor will they grieve."

3:3-4 "He (God) sent down the Torah and the Gospel in the past as guidance for mankind."

2:136 Say: "We believe in God, and in that which has been bestowed from on high upon us, and that which has been bestowed upon Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and, their descendants, and that which has been vouchsafed to Moses and Jesus; and that which has been vouchsafed to all the [other] prophets by their Sustainer: we make no distinction between any of them. And it is unto Him that we surrender ourselves."

29:46 'And do not argue with the followers of earlier revelation otherwise than in a most kindly manner - unless it be such of them as are bent on evildoing and say: 'We believe in that which has been bestowed from on high upon us, as well as that which has been bestowed upon you: or our God and your God is one and the same, and it is unto Him that we [all] surrender ourselves.'

22:40 'And if God did not repel some people by others, cloisters, and churches, and synagogues, and mosques in which God's name is much remembered, would have been pulled down.

5:82 'And nearest among them in love to the believers will you find those who say, "We are Christians," because amongst these are men devoted to learning and men who have renounced the world, and they are not arrogant.'

2:285 "The messenger believes in what has been revealed to him from his Lord, and (so do) the believers; they all believe in God and His angels and His books and His messengers; We make no difference between any of His messengers." (NB 'books', plural)

THE PASSING OF HADRIAN FRAVAL



A funeral and celebration of his life was held for Hadrian Fraval in Melbourne on Friday, August 23, 2019, attended by about 200 people. This setting at the funeral shows a photograph of Hadrian and his wife Halina.

Harris Smart writes...

I was shocked to hear of the death of Hadrian Fraval who passed away in Melbourne on Wednesday August 7, 2019. And others I have spoken to have told me that shock was also the feeling they had when they heard of Hadrian's death. I think we were shocked because Hadrian still seemed so active and energetic. He had the strength of someone much younger. It was also because Hadrian has been such a tower of strength to Subud for so long that to think of the Subud landscape without him was really a shock.

We will miss him particularly in Melbourne because he was a tower of strength here, but his loss is to the whole Subud world.

Hadrian was an outstanding example of a deeply committed Subud member. This was shown in his life in many ways. For a start, much of his life was devoted to holding a whole series of extremely important posts in Subud. Such as being an international helper, serving on the board of MSF, being a Zone Representative, being the SESI chair and so on (as well as many local and national positions). In all of these posts he wasn't just there, he achieved something significant.

Hadrian was also an outstanding example of what Bapak urged us all to become, that is entrepreneurs. He was a scientist by training, but he also had the capacity of a businessman and for more than 30 years he managed the enterprise Rofin Australia providing forensic science instruments to police forces and agencies all around the world. It was a very difficult and challenging business, but Hadrian sustained it for all those years.

Although he did so much, pride and arrogance were singularly lacking in his makeup. He was always extremely self-effacing. He was a very warm and helpful human being and was particularly helpful to me at several moments in my life.

I will very much miss not being able to go and see him, which I was able to do on pretty much a weekly >

basis, meet with him at Rofin and chew the fat and have a laugh and exchange our knowledge of what was going on in the Subud world.

My sympathy goes out to Hadrian's family, his wife Halina, and his immediate family, and the large extended Fraval family and the hundreds, perhaps thousands of Subud members whose lives he touched in a positive way.

Robiyan Easty writes...

Yesterday Hadrian Fraval, a very dear brother, passed over to the world beyond. May God grant great strength and guidance to his wife Halina and all the children to bear the physical loss of such a special person.

We are all special in some way, but for me Hadrian is an extra special person, both as a human being and in his sincerity, generosity and hard work for Subud over four decades. Hadrian's was the only enterprise making a substantial contribution to the WSA in recent times, saving it from cancelling important activities.

He will be gratefully remembered by many as the sponsor of the 100k enterprise competition in Freiburg. And he will be fondly remembered by many as an International Helper for Zone 1+2 twice, that is for two four-year periods.

Let's go back to the beginning. In the '70s Hadrian was chair of Loudwater group during the rebuilding of the farmhouse into a superb Subud venue. The many willing members, including Hadrian's brothers, did all but the most specialised work with their own hands, learning the trades as they went. It took us more than 3 years of weekends. The bonds formed there were never broken as we later fanned out all over the world.

Hadrian went to Melbourne to run Rofin laser and optics company, which had been started by his father as an agency of Rofin UK, which itself had been started by Hanafi Fraval and partners. Rofin UK was eventually taken over, but Rofin Australia prospered under Hadrian's management.

Then the circle came round again. In 2010-14 Hadrian and I worked together again as directors of WSA, he as rep for Zone1+2. We had an unusual degree of togetherness on this hardworking WSC, which also included Harvey Peters, another Loudwaterian... not forgetting Maxwell Fraval as WSA Executive chair.

God speed dear brother. I am sad for us, but happy for you in the certainty that you did all that you needed to do here and will continue to be very active in the Great Life.

Rahman Connelly writes...

Dear Halina, Marianne, Dahlan, Rizal, Simon, Rachimah and Roanna,

On behalf of our family, I would like to offer you our sincere condolences on the passing of Hadrian, a pillar of our Subud community who will be greatly missed. Hadrian was man who made his mark in many ways.

Of course, as a fellow entrepreneur, I greatly admired his business skills and successes.

I remember him as taking on many roles in our association, as an International Helper and Chair of SES International, to name just two – and he took these on whilst simultaneously running a successful business, which is no mean feat.

I remember his generosity within our Subud organisation, including as a major donor to the WSA and his initiative of putting up a substantial sum at the last World Congress for members projects.

Hadrian was the loving father of six children, reflected in the family compound he and Halina established just outside of Melbourne. A couple of years ago, I had the privilege of visiting the compound and joining him for latihan at their purpose built latihan facility.

On a personal note, one cold Sunday night a few years ago, Hadrian and Halina took the trouble to come to Melbourne city to see our daughter (Izellah) in her first performance as Matilda in Matilda the Musical. He didn't have to do that, but he did – it was the mark of a kind and caring man.

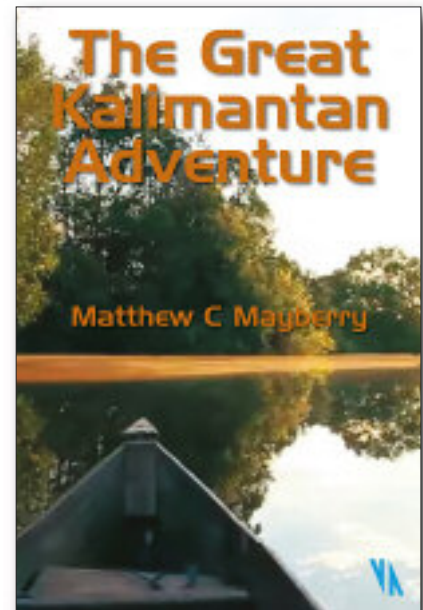
We remember you well Hadrian and wish you a blessed journey in the next stage of your life.

With love, Rahman, Niela, Izellah and Sachlan

The Great Kalimantan Adventure Matthew C Mayberry

"Bapak can tell you that there is gold, there is silver, there are diamonds, there are many precious stones, there are other things like oil and so on. Bapak went to Kalimantan and met people in authority like the Governor of Central Kalimantan, who was stunned, he couldn't believe it. He said: 'How does Bapak know that in this place there is that and in this place there is this and so on?' And Bapak said 'Oh. I didn't learn it anywhere, I know it from myself'." *Talk at Slough, UK, 4 September 1981*

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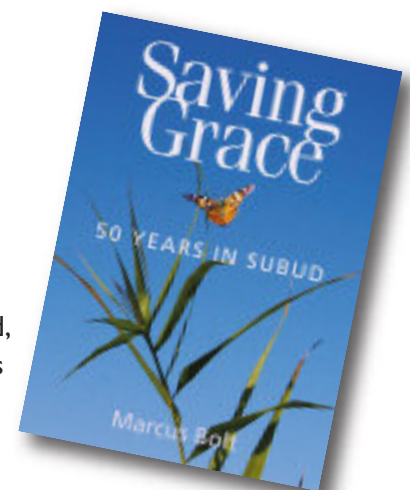
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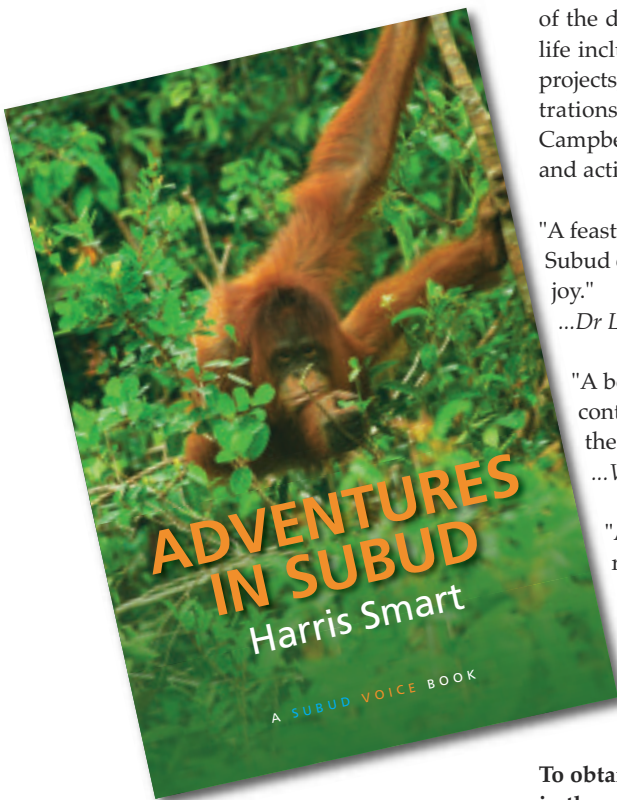


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MONTHLY ONLINE

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

20 SEPTEMBER 2019

Subud Voice is published monthly and the English
 edition is issued on the 1st of each month at

www.subudvoice.net

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