

26<sup>th</sup> June 2005

Hello Everyone!

Six months ago you were all very generous with your time and money and as a result our small Charity was able to raise over £40,000! In two months you gave us four times our annual turnover! A very kind benefactor has just given us another £5000 this month!

The tsunami has faded from media reports but of course those who have suffered as a result are still there, without homes, jobs, belongings and some without many of their families.

There are many small pockets of people in Aceh, including all the staff at our kindergarten, who have not really benefited from the huge influx of aid through the major players like UNICEF and OXFAM to name but two of the hundreds of aid agencies in Aceh.

The Government of Indonesia also, has by many accounts, not been able to target many of the survivors of the tsunami. The task of rebuilding the lives of the Acehnese is huge and therefore one presumably has to accept that there will be those who are left out. This has lead to depression and elongated sadness and grief for many.

At least we are able to help a tiny handful and help them through the troughs of deep sadness and the highs of energetic activity at our school. You may have read my report after my visit to Aceh shortly after the tsunami in which I mentioned land purchase for the school. This has all fallen through, and so has several more attempts to buy different plots of land for a permanent school.

Tatik will be in Aceh next week, not only to give much needed moral support and encouragement to our staff and children and to their families, but possibly, to finalise the purchase of a well suited piece of land for the school. Our friends and volunteers are currently negotiating right now and everything, dare I say, looks good!

We can not compete with Geldorf and Bono and the publicity they receive for their incredible efforts for Africa. However, we can and do make a difference to hundreds of lives in Indonesia but can not do so alone.

Some of you promised to help us raise more money for the future and our ongoing projects. Please don't forget.

Thank you.