

2008:

One of our main goals has been to support our school projects with the hope that they are able to flourish into a system that is self-sufficient. We are now pleased to announce that after five years of fully funding Serpong, it has now reached this stage. This means that fee-paying children are allowed to enter and this will subsidize those who cannot afford any fees. This way, realistic local salaries can be paid to keep good staff and reward hard work and loyalty. Consequently, the donations can now focus on the building and structures of the school premises along with further expansion.

Bearing in mind that sport is an important part of primary education, a mini 'Futsal' pitch was built for the school in Serpong. 'Futsal' is the Indonesian equivalent of a hard surface football pitch. One of the benefits is that such a space can be used for a multiple of sports (including many of Indonesia's national sports: badminton, volleyball and basketball.)

We would also like to thank the two energetic volunteers Sam and Charlie who came to Serpong. They dedicated a month of their gap year to come and help out in the school. Their presence was very much appreciated as they taught the children basic English through sport and helped to build the 'Futsal' pitch.



As you know, Tatik spent all of August giving teacher training. Having been in direct contact with the teachers, she was able to see for herself the amount of work that was required for Aceh. Consequently, we have made it our main goal to improve the standard of teaching, and provide moral support.

Our first step was to hire a consultant / teacher trainer from Java (given that compared to Java, Sumatra has a lower standard of teaching.) The role of the consultant was not only to train the teachers but also to fulfill headmaster duties and ensure that the school curriculum was covered.

However, this was unsuccessful as the consultant was unable to produce results due to the post-Tsunami trauma suffered by several teachers, in particular as many of them had lost most or all members of their families. We are now in the process of trying to find a new plan to help our staff build their confidence and support them through their suffering.

The path that leads from the main road to the school entrance is particularly narrow in Aceh and does not even fit the width of two motorbikes. Following such a problem, we decided to buy this road with the permission of the landowner in order for it to become a private road. With your donations, we were also able to widen the road and put a fresh coat of tarmac.

Thank you all again for your donations! Your constant commitment to helping these children has enabled us to put in place a self-sufficient system in Serpong this year, which will allow many children to have access to an education.

Financial Summary Year ending 31st March 2008

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Income:

Donations	25,716
Gift Aid Refund	643
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Total Income	26,359

Expenses:

Donations to the ICA:	15,000
Account charge	153
Bank charge	20
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Total Expenses	15,173

Net movement in Funds for the year	11,186
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Total Funds Brought forward	12,144
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Total Funds Carried Forward	23,330
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