

E NEWS AUSTRALIA AUGUST 2009

Letter from the Chairman:

Your Input to World Congress

Because we want to give every member of Subud Australia an opportunity to participate in briefing their World Congress delegates, we have asked Bavali (website editor) to post all the 'issues papers' we have received from WSA over recent months on our website. By the time you receive this E-News (or within a few days), a menu of these documents will be easily accessible from the "World Congress" link on the front page of the web-site. This menu will include, Workshops for Members, Congress Delegate Program, Congress Business and information about the appointing of new International Helpers as well as items of general interest. If, when you read these documents, you have opinions or ideas you wish to contribute, you should discuss these with your local Chair who can bring them to the Council Meeting at Gunnebah in October. It's at this meeting that Council will brief the Subud Australia delegation so that all of our views can be taken to World Congress.

Congress Assistance Fund

There are one or two deserving cases of members who really want to go to World Congress and are making every effort (like doing volunteer work to cover their registration fee), but who still need some assistance. I spoke about this at the recent meeting of National Helpers, and immediately Asariah and Simon both offered to propose a fundraising event in their groups. We don't need a huge amount of money, but we do need to raise it fairly soon. So if anyone else would like to contribute to the fundraising, it would be most appreciated. Let's make October 1st the deadline. Amounts raised should be sent to: Subud Australia, National Australia Bank, BSB 082-962, Acc 51 959 576, marked 'congress donation' plus name of donor.

New Appointments

This month we welcome Harris Madden as the new chair of Subud Sydney and bid farewell to Helena Casholt. Thanks for all your work and calming presence Helena, and best wishes to Harris in his new role. Following testing by the National Helpers, Asariah Tellegan will join Bavali Hill (Editor) and Peter Jenkins (National Chair) on the editorial advisory board of the S. Australia website.

A NOTE FROM MUHSIN RAVEN:

Retirement:

At the first Subud Australia National Congress, held in Melbourne in 1966, there was a proposal by Regina Fryday of Brisbane to work towards having a retirement facility for elderly Subud members. There have been other suggestions over the years and there are a couple at the moment.

The Melbourne Heatherton group are considering a proposal that would involve some of the Heatherton property becoming a Retirement Village, with the possibility of Subud members retiring there, and/or possibly being involved in some way with running the operation. The National Committee has been requested to gauge the level of interest that exists within Australia for a proposal of this nature.

Also Lewis and Rosemary Hayward on the Sunshine Coast have outlined an idea for a Retirement and Subud Settlement that they would like feedback about. I will attach Haywards letter at the end of this article.

If you have any interest in these proposals, have ideas of your own, would like some more information etc could you reply to Leonora at the national office by email subudoz@gmail.com or mail to Subud Australia National Office, Gunnebah, 586 Nobbys Creek Road, Nobbys Creek, NSW 2484

In your reply maybe you could mention your level of interest, your requirements about living space, climate, whether you could invest or rent, timeframes involved, and any other matters relevant to yourself. Hopefully we will have a healthy enough level of interest, for the people behind these proposals to move these ideas forward.

Lewis has also put his contact details on his letter, so please use them if his proposal interests you,

Muhsin Raven (Committee Councillor). Here is Lewis's proposal:

Subud Sunshine Coast Group – Plan for the Future

The Sunshine Coast group has for some time been considering what direction we might take in order to facilitate the development of Subud both here in our group and in Queensland generally.

Our region is blessed with a delightful sub tropical climate and in general we do not have serious weather extremes which areas just a hundred kilometres north or south experience. The coast itself has been developing rapidly over recent years becoming an international holiday destination with all the facilities, shops, restaurants etc., that such progress brings, as well as, unfortunately, high prices. However, a few kilometres inland, the contrast is dramatic.

Here there is marvellous rainforest intermingled with farms and small holdings where a huge range of plants, flowers, vegetables and fruit are grown. Reliable good rains have given rise to high quality milk production and the area is famous for its cheese and other dairy products. Here, also, prices for land and property are more realistic. However, this situation is unlikely to last indefinitely as more and more people are visiting from the major cities and realising what Queensland and more particularly the Sunshine Coast and its hinterland have to offer.

We would like to suggest to Subud members who are perhaps retired, nearing retirement or who simply wish for a change, to consider a joint venture in the Sunshine Coast hinterland based on the following ideas.

We envisage the purchase of land sufficiently large to enable the construction of lathian facilities, houses, cottages or units owned or leased by individual members with sufficient space reserved for enterprises, for example horticultural. We would hope to build a residential home for aging Subud members who could be cared for but live as part of a Subud Community able to continue to lathian with others on a regular basis.

At the present time this proposal is only at the 'ideas' stage and we would welcome any input from members Australia wide and proposals as to how this might be financed in order to give the individual members security for their investment. There are various ways in which this might be achieved, for example, shares in an umbrella company, sub-titles etc. depending on the conditions pertaining to the actual land acquired.

All enquires or expressions of interest contact:

Lewis Hayward

Sunshine Coast Group Tel: 07 5472 8305 Email: haywards7@bigpond.com

NEWS FROM ROHANA HUTCHINGS IN PERTH

We are delighted to welcome two new members this month, Harun Topham and Cordula Dantzer.

We enjoyed an interesting power point presentation by Rashidah McDonald about the recent growth and changes at the BCU school at Rungan Sari, Kalimantan. Such a wonderful project and we got to see pictures of Susilawati Haspuri, the 8 year old student we are sponsoring. That afternoon, some of the parents took eleven older kids ice-skating.

Eleven of the smaller kids spent a lovely day together with their moms in Glen Forrest later that week.

On Sunday 19th, our amazingly colourful group blanket was unveiled to loud applause. Twenty three members have contributed the 141 patches, many of which tell a story. One after another, people spoke of why that particular aspect of their own life, Perth, the group, or WA featured on their piece. These stories are being collected on fabric to be attached to the back of the blanket. It will hang in the hall for another two weeks before being sent to Vivienne Jacob in Sydney, who is co ordinating the project to raise funds for solar ovens in Africa.

What a great month - love Rohana

News from the Centre

Mardijah writes from Alice Springs:

It has been quiet here during the winter - but the black cockatoos have been swirling over my land and keeping an eye on things while I was away.

I spent some time in Sydney and met my darling new grandson, Aaron Johnson and mobs of other Simpsons!

My Subud news is - I attended the Susila Dharma International AGM and Board meeting held at Loudwater Farm in England.

It was wonderful to catch up with other board members who are spread around the world. Thankfully, despite the international financial crisis, Susila Dharma International's Endowment Fund is safe and well having received funds from the PTIS Widjojo sale and also Harlinah Hamer's generous bequest. Having such a fund well established and being able to use regular income from it to further Susila Dharma's work around the world is a real blessing. There are so many worthwhile projects which need our support.

I encourage everyone to check the website at www.susiladharmainternational.org to learn about all the latest news of projects and activities.

Anyone travelling through the Centre is welcome to contact me, for lathian and possibly a spot to camp or a bed for the night! My email is smardijah@greenbeetle.org.

MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE:

Parliament of the World's Religions has its international gathering in Melbourne from 3 - 9 December 2009. In the months leading up to the gathering, a series of public conversations are being held under the topic **WHO AM I?** These conversations create public dialogue between people of different backgrounds and religious traditions.

Who am I as a citizen? Religion, ethnicity and citizenship. How does it shape us.

Who am I in sickness and in health? Spirituality and wellbeing?

These were the topics discussed in June and July.

Who am I in my inner life? Mysticism across religions will be held this month, August 16th, 2.00 - 4.30 p.m. at Monash University, Caulfield Campus, Room K309

Anyone local wishing to attend, or interstate brothers and sisters visiting Melbourne please contact:

susan.grist@arts.monash.edu.au

Milestones:

Alfathah Kerner celebrated her 80th birthday in Melbourne on August 1.

Lailani and Charimah of Brisbane, are being thrown a surprise party by the group for their 50th anniversary this month. Both were opened in Subud 50 years ago.

From the Editor:

Sincere apologies to those whose articles have not been published. The E-news tries to keep the national brotherhood linked in a harmonious and caring way.

Many thanks to all of you who sent in news from your groups.

Any more articles for September, please start sending them in. We would like to hear from all group chairs about news items - openings, visits from interstate and international members, engagements, weddings and babies. Please send in all the snippets.

Bulky items, please post to the address below:

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