



NIEUWSBRIEF

STICHTING PIKULAN

Pikulan Foundation aims to help continue and, if possible, expand the nine adoption and sponsored projects in Indonesia, inspired by and in obedience to the Bible, in close cooperation with the people involved.

May 2019

From the board

While writing this piece, I realised that it was 35 years ago that Geert Folkers founded Pikulan. In 1984, who would have thought that it would develop into what it is right now? So many children, elderly and schools that we could help, and we are still growing. Unbelievable, isn't it? That is why we are so grateful that we can do this work with so many. We believe it is the rich blessing of our God who gives each of us the commandment: Love your neighbour as yourself. Pikulan is trying to follow this commandment by helping underprivileged groups in Indonesia in 10 projects.

As you know, in 10 project children are adopted financially (in total 392). Next to that we cooperate with around 5 organisations that we help if we can, if we have sufficient means. We also help 192 children who can't afford to pay tuition, in 2 projects. They receive an addition to the tuition.

All of this has been made possible by the wonderful efforts of our promotors and our Charity Shop personnel. Without your work, we wouldn't be able to do all of this. And, it's been made possible by the donations we may receive from churches, schools and private persons. We are very happy with them. However, something happened that we wish hadn't happened. We want to inform you about this because we want to be and stay transparent.

In Jakarta, in our Tanjung Priok project, are concerns about how sponsor money for the children was used. During our last tour, in September last year, we talked to Ida, project manager Warakas, about what was the matter, but we couldn't find out. She saw the concerns as a private matter and didn't want to talk about them. Last February, we received signals from our other project in Jakarta (school sponsoring Cillincing)- Ida is in their board- that things weren't going well between Ida and the parents.

We immediately asked Ismi, our representative, to find out what was going on. She went to the bottom of this. On 23 April three board members went to Jakarta. They heard the children's parents and the school board. It was decided to stop the cooperation between Ida and Pikulan.

Cilincing is temporarily taking over her tasks, and will visit all the parents of the adopted children and make agreements how to move from here. Talks have started with candidate board members. We are glad with the spontaneous offer to help us in this way, so that parents and the children don't suffer from what has happened. The parents in question are compensated.

On 26 April, the representing board members had a meeting with all project managers in Indonesia. They discussed the problems of Tanjung Priok. After that new agreements were made about reporting and checking/ monitoring.



I have been asked several times when the new Pikulan tour will be, and the first person has already signed up for it. A tour will probably be organised again in September 2020. We think it is so special that there is still interest in it! If you are interested in joining the tour, you can sign up without obligations. We would like to travel with a group of at least 20 people. Information can be requested to Bouke Baron, tel. 0512361975 / e mail bouke.baron@hetnet.nl

We wish everyone, staff and friends of Pikulan, a beautiful and blessed summer.

*Best regards,
Bouke Baron*

The building of the school has started; next are the tables and chairs

Do you remember that we donated to Lombok, after the earthquakes? eanwhile, the Kindergarten that Pikulan aided, is almost ready. Next are the tables and chairs. Can you help?

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Secretariat:

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Adoption money:

NL 43 INGB 0006 2734 00 in the name of Stichting Pikulan, Surhuisterveen

Donations:

NL 75 INGB 0009 1000 83 in the name of Stichting Pikulan Surhuisterveen



News from Diakonos seminary we are grateful for

To start with the good news that we are grateful for: in the past year, 6 STT Diakonos graduates were accepted as candidate civil servants. The new graduates have been placed in several regions in Indonesia. One of the candidates is Pison Suryanto, a student sponsored by Pikulan.

Many of the other graduates have returned to their home town, where they will serve the Lord as a teacher or a minister. For example, Musi Yaaman Gea went back to his village on Nias, North- Sumatra and Tri Wahyuningsih is back home in Toraja, South Sulawesi. They both work as teachers in local government schools..

The garden of Diakonos provides many vegetables, fruit and other produce to eat.



They grow among others kang- kung, cucumber, red chili peppers, papayas, cassave and peanuts, for themselves to eat.

The school is continuously busy applying and following the government's rules for higher education for the accredited study programmes.

Will you help and pray that a permanent canteen and kitchen can replace the small and old one they are using now? The boys and girls have to eat separately now because of the small size of the current canteen.

Will you pray for a long time desire for a multi-functional building that can be used for the weekly church services, the graduation ceremony and the other meetings on campus?

Management and the students are very grateful for all our support and the prayers from the Netherlands. The Christian minority in Indonesia, of which these boys and girls will be the representatives in the future, still needs our help.

What Facebook can do

We would like to share a short story, in fact because we are a bit proud of what has been accomplished by the efforts of a number of volunteers. In a cabinet, for sale in the Charity Shop, a customer found two boxes with photo-negatives. Koos couldn't trace back the owner. The Charity Shop staff felt it wasn't right to throw away a family's history just like that.

Meindert printed a number of photos. Arie scanned them and sent them to Anita, digitally. Anita is, next to being cash registrar, involved in posting messages on our shop's Facebook page. She posted the photos and asked readers to share them as much as possible. This request was shared 202 times and was viewed 18401 times. This is what social media can do.

But the best thing is that relatives have seen the photos and have reacted to us. On a beautiful Saturday in March, Arie delivered the negatives in Siegerswoude. Something like this makes us happy.

Graduation Adopted child!

This picture shows Ribka Bura, 22 years old. All her life she has lived in the leprosy village Batulelling. Ribka's father and both sets of grandparents suffer from leprosy. From an early age, Ribka has been in the Pikulan adoption programme. She could go to school because of her adoption parents' sponsoring. After secondary school she went to university for 3.5 years, and now she has graduated as an English teacher! Ribka will start teaching at a secondary school. She is very proud and grateful to have come so far with the sponsor money from the Netherlands.

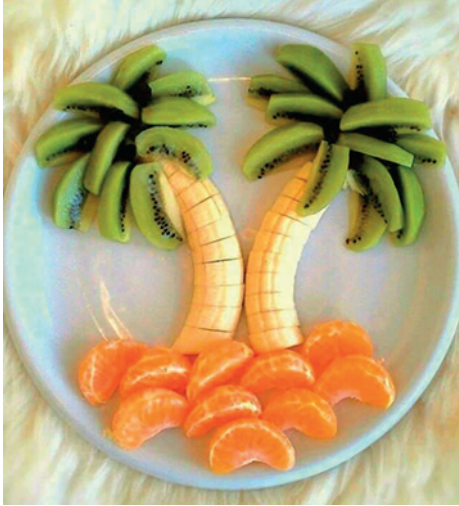


Visiting 'It Bindt' primary school in Sumar

On 1 April last, Elzard and Gryt Zijlstra, promoters of Batu project, were visiting It Bindt primary school in Sumar. We met a group of enthusiastic children who were going to raise money together for children their age in Indonesia. With the youngest children, we made music with real Indonesian musical instruments. We showed pictures of

the Batu project, and finally we made a palm tree with bananas, kiwi and tangerines.

With the older children, we had a conversation with Mrs Theedens on Skype. The children were surprised that Mrs Theedens speaks Dutch so well. All the children had a piece of fruit from the palm tree.



The children spent the whole month of April raising as much money as possible for the children in our project. They collected many empty bottles. They washed cars - including the Pikulan van - on King's Day. They also offered children a ride on the becak. Finally they organised a high tea. All efforts resulted in a nice sum of money. Together with Mrs Theedens it was decided that the money will be spent buying a good backpack for each child. Many parents cannot afford this. The backpack is a present for the children's promotion to the next school year. These children have never received a present for this, says Mrs Theedens.



A big thank you to the children and teachers of the primary school in Sumar for this wonderful promotion, from Indonesia and Pikulan Foundation!

Ismi is coming to the Netherlands

In the November 2018 Newsletter, we introduced Ismi to you. For the past few years, she has been our representative in Indonesia and she travelled with us to almost all projects for two times. We are very happy with all the work Ismi is doing for us, and we cannot do without her. One of Ismi's biggest desires is to visit the Netherlands. We would like to fulfil this wish and therefore invite Ismi to the Netherlands, and meet the volunteers here.

Children promote their sponsored child in Semarang

Mozaïek Primary school in Drachten organised an '11-cities tour', with the help of 3 students, parents, and teachers. The youngest children played games on the playground, and the oldest groups got assignments in the school area.

The promotion resulted in a nice sum of money. Half of the sum went to a cancer fund, the other half to the school's adopted child in the Semarang project. Promoters Gerrit and Aagje were amazed by the amount of money and the original promotion. Their adopted child is a good pupil and she wants to go to university. Her father is evangelist and they live next to the church. They have to live from the Sunday offertory.

These children are looking for a sponsor



Banayu from the Kasihi Madiun project. Last Dec we received a request for an adoption child. His name is Benaya and he is 6 years old. His father and mother earn very little, therefore Benaya can be considered for adoption. Who wants to support him?



Immanuel from the Semarang project was born on 28 Nov 2011. His father died. His mother lives in a tiny rented place with the children.



Theresia Talysta Pati was born on 24 Oct 2010. Her father died. She is very poor and lives with her mother in a very simple rented place. She is from the Semarang project.



New chairman Charity Shop Pikulan Foundation

From the previous newsletter of Pikulan Foundation, November 2018, you may remember the article written by Pikulan chairman Bouke Baron, in which he wrote, among other things, about the fact that I, Arie Botter, became chairman of the Charity Shop from that date. But, who is Arie Botter and how did he end up at the Charity Shop?

I was born in Den Helder, in 1941. When I was 12, our family moved to Rotterdam, because my father had found a job there. In Rotterdam, I went to secondary school and after that I was trained in electrical engineering. In 1961 I had to do my military service in Communications – ground forces. I had met a nice and sweet girl during secondary school. We married in 1962 in the beautiful townhall of Rotterdam. In the sixties, it was difficult to find a place to live. For that reason I returned to Den Helder, that was growing fast because of the navy base. I got a job as electrical draftsman. I had commuted from Rotterdam for a year when we got an apartment in Den Helder. In the mean time our son was born and after him two daughters. They have given us 7 grandchildren, and they again 4 great grandchildren. We were really blessed, until we were struck by ill fate. My wife got a brain tumor. The doctor said it was operable, but it turned out it wasn't. My wife died after we had been married for almost 40 years.

After 3 years of being alone, I met a Frisian woman, Baukje. We became involved in a relationship. We had our own lives during the week, and spent time together during the

weekends and holidays. We enjoyed our time together, and we got married in 2008. Surhuisterveen became our home. There I was, a man from Holland among the Frisians. Baukje's relatives spoke Frisian to each other, and sometimes I couldn't understand a thing. I took Frisian lessons at AFUK two winters. Now, I can follow a conversation with some ease but I can't speak Frisian. Fortunately, most Frisians are smarter than I, and they can speak two languages. That way we can understand each other.

And how did I end up at the Charity Shop? Out of curiosity, really. We wanted to clear out some pieces of furniture and Pikulan wanted to take them. I was wondering what price they would ask for our nice sofa in their shop, so I went there and took a look. I ran into Koos (Sytsma) and asked if they needed volunteers. I had some time to spare, and wanted to make myself useful. He said he would pass it on, and indeed, they could use another volunteer said Gaele Dijkstra, who was at our doorstep within a week.

The week after, I was introduced to my new colleagues in the Technology department, and to all the other volunteers in the shop.



They were with so many, around 70 I was told. How on earth was I going to remember all these names?

After a year of doing odd jobs with the Technology guys, I was asked to become a chairman. Even though Bouke was doing a great job as interim chairman of the Charity Shop, there was a need apparently, for a person that can be approached on an almost daily basis. It really took me some weeks to make up my mind and decide.

I had only been around for a short while, and I am getting older as well. Eventually I said yes and that is why I can introduce myself as chairman of Pikulan's Charity Shop. So far, I haven't regretted my decision.

How is Risma doing?

In our November 2018 Newsletter, we wrote about Risma. She had graduated as a teacher. In the meantime, she has found a job in Papua. This is far away from the leprosy village in Sulawesi where she grew up. In Papua she had more job opportunities. Now she is a fulltime primary school teacher in the fifth grade. The children she teaches are 11-12 years old. She loves teaching, and she is very happy with her job.



Requests

- Could you ask people in your circle of friends and acquaintances to register as financial adoption parents? The more adoption parents, the more children we can help!
- Donations are welcome at: NL75 INGB 0009 1000 83.
- Please clearly state the cause: the project or name and number of your child, and also your name so that we know who the sender/donor is.
- To all generous donors whom we don't know the name and address of: Many thanks!
- The adoption money is to be transferred to bank account no. NL43 INGB 0006 2734 00 in the name of: Stichting Pikulan, Surhuisterveen.
- Please fill in your own bank account no., name and address clearly on the enclosed giro slip, or else the money cannot be transferred.