



## Chairperson's Report 2015/16

Presented by Karen Bailey OAM, Chairperson BBIP at the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner & AGM 24 Feb 2016

Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth (Inc) experienced a rather busy 2015 with many hundreds of volunteer hours given from our organisation to bringing activities and experiences to the people of Perth to engage with Indonesia. I would like to share briefly with you, some of these exciting activities we undertook and take a peek at a little of what we have planned for 2016.

Around 90 people attended the 7th annual dinner and AGM of the Balai Bahasa held in February 2015 at the Consulate General of Indonesia Perth. Guest speaker Mr Stephen Smith, former Federal Defence and Foreign Minister, with his wealth of expertise in the area of Australia - Indonesia relations, spoke to our enthralled audience about seizing opportunities to improve interactions and relationships between Australia and Indonesia; not only in the area of business/economics but importantly in other areas such as education and tourism, noting the importance of organisations like Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth and the importance of developing and maintain people-to-people relationships and understanding each other's' languages and cultures.

### **Indonesian language classes**

Our Indonesian language classes for adults were reasonably well attended with classes running from February to December. During 2015 we had **206** students enrolled across a range of levels (down a little from last year at 272). Classes were again held three nights a week at the BBIP classroom behind the Indonesian Consulate General building and three different levels of classes were held at the Scotch College campus on Tuesday evenings.

Since we began offering these adult-focused Indonesian classes in 2008 we have taught 1,548 students (See Fig. 1)

### BBIP Indonesian Classes 2008 - 2015

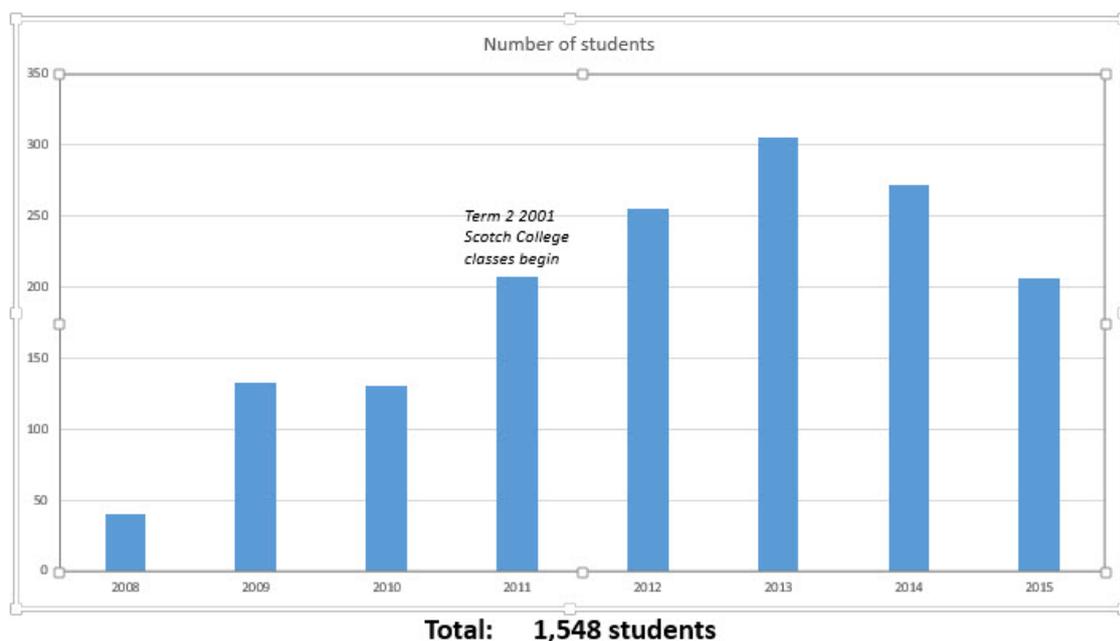


Figure 1

We would like to thank our teachers of these courses last year, Ibu Theresia, Ibu Hara, Ibu Yuli and Ibu Weike.

This year we are expanding our classes to include an online course delivered in both real time (synchronous) and asynchronous modes. Our first class will hopefully be offered in Term 2 beginning 2 May. We are also currently negotiating our first corporate classes which hopefully can commence in the near future.

Apart from the teachers who keep our learners engaged and wanting to learn Indonesian, the behind the scenes work for the enrolment process and continuance of this service is provided by the dedication of just a few people. I would like to thank in particular, Kate Reitzenstein, Moya McLauchlan and Julie Duxbury for the many hours of volunteer time that is undertaken to keep the administration side of our classes running smoothly. Kate retires from the BBIP Board at this AGM. We would like to thank Kate so much for her dedication to BBIP and we know that even though Kate is no longer on our Board, she will remain a very supportive BBIP member.

### ***AIYAWA Jalanan Event***

BBIP are pleased to have been the auspicing body for a grant from Office of Multicultural Interests in order for AIYAWA to facilitate a fabulous event recently which saw three Indonesian street performers invited to Perth for a short visit. One hundred and fifty people attended the screening of the documentary 'Jalanan' which focused on their former lives as homeless buskers in Jakarta and explored themes of poverty, homelessness, health, wealth, music and films, as well as their own personal stories, their music and its development. The screening was followed by a Q&A with the director, Daniel Ziv and three musicians. Following this, many people joined the musicians for a free live musical performance in Fremantle as part of Fringe World. It was a delightful and entertaining afternoon and evening where of course, new friends were made.

The Australian Indonesian Youth Association WA also organised for the performers to visit three schools in Perth – where they shared their experiences and the making of the documentary with the students. I would like to congratulate Matt Satchwell and Stewart Palmer for managing the project to a most successful outcome. Let's hope BBIP can work together more with this great group of young people at AIYAWA with their passion and knowledge of Indonesia.

### ***Language Assistant Program***

We have continued to work with the WA Dept of Education, and the KJRI Perth, administering the selection process and shortlisting of applicants for the Language Assistant Program. This year we saw four more language assistants recently arrive in Perth to be placed in schools across the State. This brings the total number since the program's inception in 2008 to 35 people representing at least 15 of Indonesia's provinces (See Fig 2).



Figure 2

This year's language assistants are:

- Liza Apriani from Central Kalimantan
- Muhammad Kurniawan (Wawan) from Southeast Sulawesi
- Syahrial Umar (Rial) from Aceh
- Yulia Dea Nesty (Dea) from Jambi

Congratulations and welcome to you all, and we wish you well for your work and adventures in Western Australian schools this year.

We would like to thank both WILTA and KJRI for their continued support of this program. I would especially like to mention the work of the Dept of Education as without them, there would be no Language Assistant Program (LAP).

### ***Indonesian Language Ambassador Program (ILAP)***

Late in 2015 we undertook a soft launching of our Indonesian Language Ambassador Program (ILAP). This program aims to connect school students to young Australians with an Indonesian experience, who will inspire them to take up (or continue) study of Indonesian and further their engagement with Indonesia. Ambassadors will do this in the first instance by sharing stories of their experiences in Indonesia, as well as supporting and mentoring students through their study of Indonesian. This program will be one of our focus areas for development in 2016 and I would like to particularly thank Fiona Bettesworth for her ongoing work on this project.

### ***Perth Indonesian Film Festival***

Five Indonesian-directed and produced films, previously unseen by Australian audiences, were screened as part of the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Perth Indonesian Film Festival, from 3 – 6 September 2015, and the line-up of Indonesian film personalities accompanying the films was again impressive.

All films during the four-day festival were screened in Indonesian with English subtitles and each had been chosen to represent different aspects of life and culture within and across Indonesia. The festival again showcased the diversity of Indonesia to the people of Western Australia, with audiences experiencing films by some of Indonesia's best and most prominent filmmakers. Filmgoers had the opportunity to interact with high profile actors, directors and producers in question and answer, and meet-and-greet sessions, before and after each screening.

Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth (Inc) do not make a profit from our Indonesian Film Festivals, and at this stage we have not yet sourced all of the funding required to enable the event to go ahead in 2016.

We are negotiating a great range of Indonesian films again this year but in order for it to become a reality, we are seeking the extra funds (\$15,000) through the generosity of the public. This now annual event, is friendly, fun and a positive intercultural entertainment experience for all. We strongly believe that events like this which enable local audiences to learn more about our near neighbour through the entertaining genre of film, ultimately play a very important role in Australia's engagement with Indonesia and the future of the prosperity and peace of our region.

Crowdfunding is one of the ways in which we are hoping to achieve our goal of bringing Perth Indonesian Film Festival to the big screen in Perth again this year and we hope that our recently launched Crowdfunding appeal will be successful.

## KIPBIPA IX Bali Sept/Oct

In Sept/Oct 2015, BBIP sponsored Mr Michael Jakarimilena (also known in Indonesia as Michael Idol) to perform and participate in this International Conference on the Teaching of Indonesian as a foreign language. This conference was hosted by the Indonesian Association of Teachers of Indonesian for Foreigners.

BBIP plans to have Michael J in Perth for a special schools concert for students of Indonesian this year and we plan to work with the KJRI to stage a public concert in Fremantle. This is planned for August in the lead up to the Film Festival.

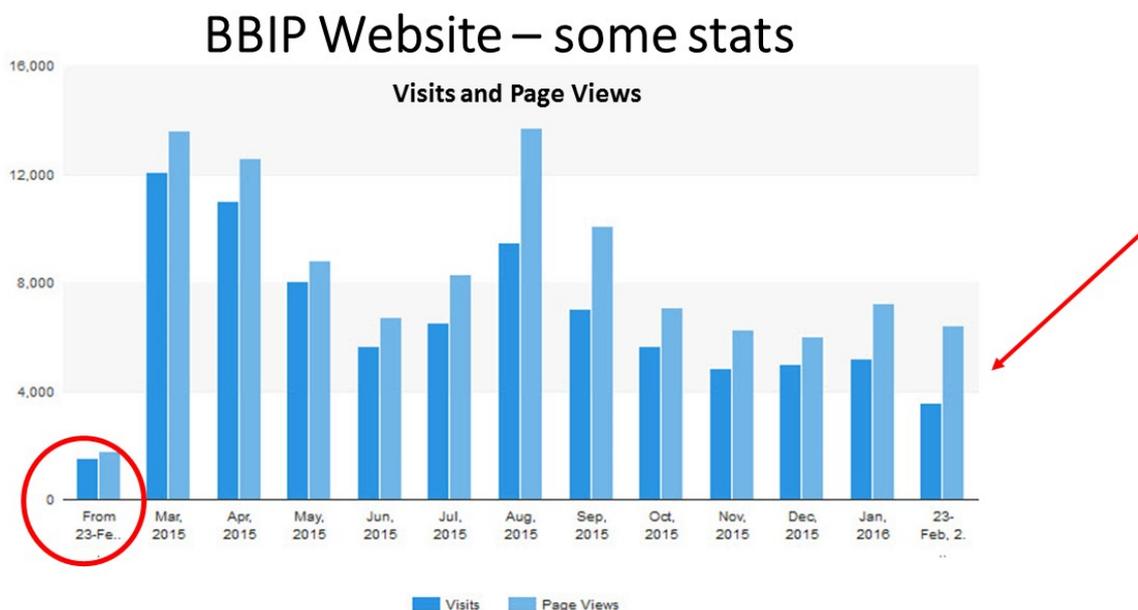
### BBIP Website and Social Media

During 2015 we have focused on improving our website and social media presence. We anticipate that the BBIP website along with our Facebook and Twitter presence, important faces of our organisation, will continue to improve and be a dynamic means by which we can connect and communicate our work with the broader public, both in Indonesia and Australia.

I would like to thank Moya, for all the time she has committed to learning the workings of the back end of our website and to Edwin for his continuing efforts to make back end improvements.

Some interesting statistics from our website over the last year include:

- Visits from Feb 2015 to Feb 2016 have increased by more than double. Page views have increased four-fold (See Fig.3)



A **page view** is triggered when any page is loaded by any visitor to the site.

A **visit** is an individual user who has accessed the site. It is determined by the IP address of the computer or device of the user

Figure 3

- There is an interesting and vast geographic spread of visits to the Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth website (Top four countries are China, US, Australia and Indonesia). (See Fig 4)



Figure 4

## **Summary**

The programs and activities undertaken over the last twelve months continue to contribute to achieving the Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth's mission to assist peoples from our two great countries to interact more on the people-to-people level and develop greater understanding of each other and therefore build a more trusting and effective Indonesia Australia relationship at all levels.

BBIP IS making a contribution to help Australians develop an interest in Indonesia, and more importantly, a more balanced view of Indonesia, our near and most important neighbour in the region; and we have, as an organisation, contributed to Australians understanding Indonesia better.

I would like to thank the members of the 2015 Board of the Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth, who have given of their time throughout the year for the advancement of our Organisation. They are:

- Vice Chairpersons Syahri Sakidin and Kate Reitzenstein
- Treasurer and membership secretary Julie Duxbury
- Secretary Christopher Jordan-Wright
- Website Manager Edwin Cutts
- Course registrations and Web Site maintenance Moya McLauchlan
- Bill Johnston
- Lisa D -
- Fiona B
- Georgina Wigley
- Ibu Widya and Ibu Ririn KJRI representatives

On behalf of the Board I would also like to acknowledge and thank those individuals and organisations who have contributed in any way to the success of our activities during the last twelve months. We would particularly like to thank:

- Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia, Perth
- Garuda Indonesia Western Australia

- Western Australian Department of Education
- Westralian Indonesian Language Teachers' Association (WILTA)
- Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia
- APBIPA Indonesia

We thank those organisations with whom we work beside and mutually support:

- Indonesia Institute
- AIBC
- AIYA WA Chapter
- Australia Indonesia Postgraduate Students Association
- PPIA – WA Chapter of Indonesian Students Association of Australia

Thank you to everyone who has shown Balai Bahasa their support throughout the year and look forward to more exciting events and programs coordinated by Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth (Inc).

Salam hormat

*Karen Bailey OAM*

Chairperson

Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth (Inc)

24 Feb 2016