



Chairperson's Report 2017/2018 (10th AGM)

Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth (Inc) experienced another busy and exciting year during 2017 which saw our organisation again reach out in many directions to share Indonesia and its language and cultures with many sections of the community. In the last twelve months, I believe we have moved from many hundreds of volunteer hours being expended by members of the Board and members of our organisation into thousands of hours which have gone in to bringing activities and experiences to the people of Perth to engage positively with our near and important neighbour, Indonesia. I would like to share briefly with you, some of the activities we undertook and take a peek at a little of what we have planned for this, our **10th Anniversary year in 2018**.

Indonesian language classes

February 2017 began of course with our Indonesian language classes for adults, held at the Consulate General, and at Scotch College. These classes continue to be our only source of a small amount of income and the quality and quantity of classes remains important to our organisation, as does the satisfaction and feedback from our adult students. Classes were well attended throughout 2017, again running from February to December. During 2017 we had **250** students enrolled across a range of levels (which was a record!). 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. This term there are no classes at Scotch College running due to insufficient numbers, however we have increased the classes at the Consulate General to four nights a week.

Since we began offering adult Indonesian classes in 2008 we have taught 2,040 students. This cannot happen without the continued support and dedication of our teachers, and we would like to thank, Ibu Theresia, Ibu Hara, Ibu Amanda and many of our previous language assistants for their dedicated work for BBIP.

Apart from the teachers who keep our learners engaged and wanting to learn Indonesian, the behind the scenes work for the enrolment process and coordination of the teachers, as well as ongoing curriculum advice is provided by the dedication of just a few people. I would like to thank in particular, Moya McLauchlan and Julie Duxbury again this year for the many hours of volunteer time they so generously gave during 2017 to keep the administration side of our classes running smoothly.

President Jokowi officially acknowledges BBIP

I was honoured to be asked by the Indonesian Embassy in Canberra to represent the Balai Bahasa Indonesia organisations in Australia, and meet President Jokowi and stand beside him at the ceremony in the International Convention Center Theatre in Darling Harbour, Sydney to witness the official signing of his declaration of official acknowledgement of BBIP and the other BBI in Australia.

After being briefed by protocol officers that I was to say as little as possible to the President and let him ask the questions – and I was to give brief answers only, I was quite comfortable about standing next to this person for whom I have a lot of respect for.

The signing didn't quite go like that but it was quite spectacular to stand before the thousands of Indonesian expats in the audience, me by the side of their well-respected President and flanked to left by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ibu Retno Marsudi.

I would like to thank the former Indonesian Ambassador to Australia Bapak Najib Kesoema and the former Education Attache in Canberra, Professor Ronny Noor, for providing me with the opportunity to represent Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth in such a high profile way.

Fremantle – Padang Sister City Familiarization Trip

In early May I represented BBIP on a short trip to Padang in West Sumatra, accompanying the Mayor of Fremantle, Councillor Doug Thompson, Fremantle Chamber of Commerce CEO Olwyn William, and others. This familiarization and fact-finding trip for the City of Fremantle was a great opportunity for me to assist the Australian personnel with understanding Indonesia much better and even developing in them a little thirst for learning some Indonesian language.

Hari Kebangkitan Nasional – Screening of the Film Kartini

Later in May, BBIP teamed with our friends at AIYAWA and *Sinema Keliling Australia* to screen the film *Kartini*, which we coincided with the Indonesian National Day of Awakening. This national day commemorates and remembers the momentous struggle which eventually led to Indonesian independence. During this period in Indonesia's history, people from many parts of the archipelago first began to develop a national consciousness as 'Indonesians'. The screening was well attended and it was great to collaborate with AIYA WA on this event.

Michael J Schools Concerts in Oz Tour

August and September saw the Michael J School Concerts in Oz Tour, funded by the Indonesian Embassy in Canberra, KJRI in WA and the Australia Indonesia Institute, DFAT. BBIP again hosted two large secondary school concerts in the Perth metropolitan area for students of Indonesian language. Around 2000 students attended the concerts by Indonesian singer Michael Jakarimilena (Michael Idol) who has gained quite a following amongst students of Indonesian language in schools around Australia.

The concerts were a massive hit amongst the students and again were such a real motivation for our teenage school students' interest in Indonesian and the learning of Indonesian. The relevance and purposefulness factor of this type of event, for students learning Indonesian language, is through the roof!

BBIP are again very grateful for the ongoing local support of the KJRI who hosted a public farewell event at the Perth Town Hall for Michael, Toni and Deon after the Australian tour concluded.

Media coverage around the event was again widespread in community and national circles in both Australia and Indonesia. The overwhelming success of this educational language and culture event has led to another planned tour and more school concerts this year, which will again be integrated in to learning programs in a range of schools teaching Indonesian.

Michael is currently planning the 2018 tour and if we can get enough funding the concerts will be held in five states of Australia during August and September. The Perth concerts are planned for 8 and 9 August.

KREASI

BBIP were pleased to be invited again by KJRI to host an information stall at the KREASI 2017 event held in Forrest Place in Perth. The central and very public area for this year's KREASI meant that our BBIP volunteers had many opportunities to meet and talk with the public about the role of BBIP and the exciting work that we do. I would like to thank BBIP Vice Chairperson for coordinating BBIP's presence at the event and for our Board members who volunteered on the day.

Balai Bahasa Indonesia 2nd Congress St Kilda, Victoria

Vice Chairperson Bapak Syahri Sakidin and myself joined Ibu Widya Sinedu from the KJRI Perth, attending the second Congress of BBI's in Australia. We are grateful to the Indonesian Embassy in Canberra, in particular Bapak Imran Hanafi, Education Attache and His Excellency, Ambassador Bapak Kristiarto Legowo for continuing to provide for important meeting at a national level, which was first held in 2016. We hope that communication and links amongst the existing Balai Bahasa Indonesia organisations can continue to be strengthened.

Farewell to Bapak Ade Padmo Sarwon Consul General in WA 2014-2017

In December we farewelled the fourth Consul/Consul General that BBIP has worked with since our establishment back in 2008. And tonight we anticipate the imminent arrival of our next Consul General Ibu Dewi. On behalf of the Board and members of BBIP we would like to thank Bapak Ade for his support during his placement of duty in Western Australia and sincerely congratulate him on his recent 'pelantikan' (inauguration) yesterday by President Joko Widodo. We wish Bapak Ade and Ibu Dhani well in the new role as Ambassador of ASEAN.

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. During the last month we have had another four language assistants arrive in Perth and placed in schools across the State.

This brings the total number since the program's inception in 2008 to 44 young adult Indonesians representing at least 17 of Indonesia's provinces.

Attending tonight's event we have Galuh Sarimbit from East Java and Arief Nugraha from West Java. Congratulations and welcome to you both, and we wish you well for your work and adventures in Western Australian schools this year. Anwar Fadila from Lampung Province is at three schools in Bunbury and Ismail from South Sulawesi province is working in three schools in Geraldton.

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 the salary funding of the language assistants, there would be no LAP.

Indonesian Language Ambassador Program (ILAP)

The BBIP ILAP aims to connect school students to young Australians who have experienced learning and living the Indonesian language and culture with the main goal being to inspire youngsters and teenagers to take up (or continue) their study of

Indonesian and develop an ongoing engagement with Indonesia. Ambassadors do this in the first instance by sharing with the students, their stories of their experiences in Indonesia, as well as supporting and mentoring students through their study of Indonesian. This program, established by BBIP in 2016 will continue in 2018 with further visits by ambassadors to schools during the year. I would like to thank Fiona Bettesworth for her ongoing work as coordinator of this project.

ASILE Conference Sponsor Sept 2018

The Australian Society of Indonesian Language Educators' Biennial International Conference will be held in Melbourne from 28-30 September. Hopefully it will be another great opportunity to let people across Australia know of BBIP's work in fostering a deep and meaningful Australia Indonesian relationship, and the importance of learning some Indonesian language where possible.

In December 2016, in collaboration with WILTA, BBIP submitted a proposal to host the 2018 ASILE Conference in Perth. Unfortunately, our proposal was not successful however we have been earmarked for the 2020 Conference.

BBIP Website and Social Media

In December 2018 BBIP began planning for the development of a new website. It is hoped that it will be ready for launching in mid 2018. I would like to thank Moya McLauchlan for her continued work on our existing website.

Our current website is still an important daily tool for our members. We can see that visitors to our pages have increased substantially in the past twelve months and this is great to see.

We anticipate that the launch of a contemporary and dynamic website will make it easier for our online visitors to navigate, and certainly far easier for us to work from the admin side. With this improvement in our web presence, along with a commitment to become increasingly active through our Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube Channel, we will continue to improve our connections with Australia and Indonesia particularly, and communicate our work with the broader public, both in Indonesia and Australia.

Penutup

The programs and activities undertaken over the last twelve months 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 have contributed to Australians understanding Indonesia better.

I would like to thank the members of the 2017 Board of the Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth, who have given of their time throughout the year for the advancement of our Organisation.

- Vice Chairpersons Syahri Sakidin and Fiona Bettesworth
- Treasurer and membership secretary Karen Bailey with a great deal of assistance from past Treasurer Julie Duxbury
- Secretary Jayne Brown

- Course registrations and Web Site maintenance Moya McLauchlan
- Joyce Arnold WILTA Liaison Officer
- Christopher Jordan-Wright
- Denice Weaver
- Vicki Richardson
- David Visser
- Rhian Healy
- and of course, Ibu Widya, Pak Bram during the first half of 2017 and Pak Omar in the second half - 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 (your support of BBIP and the constant assistance you give to us in all manner of ways is invaluable).
- Garuda Indonesia Western Australia
- Western Australian Department of Education
- WILTA

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

- Indonesia Institute
- AIBC and AIBC Young Professionals
- AIYA WA Chapter
- Australia Indonesia Postgraduate Students Association
- PPIA – WA Chapter of Indonesian Students Association of Australia
- and various Indonesian community organisations.

Terima kasih semuanya!