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## September 2011

### This month it's all about Tri hita karana

(the philosophy of the Balinese people to maintain the Harmony with God, Humans and Nature.)

### Independence Day in Munduk Lumbang



On 17 August 1945 the Indonesian leader Soekarno proclaimed the nation's independence, but it took four years to convince the Dutch that they were not going to get their great colony back.

Together with guests Astrid and Elsa from Switzerland, who very generously sponsored, we organized games for the kids in the village. How ironic it is that a Dutch was involved in organizing Indonesian Independence day celebrations since the Indonesian government didn't organize anything for them.

Like every year we first cleaned up the village. The Indonesian government is promoting Bali as clean and green, but what do they do for it? After cleaning up with 60 kids the games began. The kids were excited to play the games: running in rice bags, spoon race etc. We had so much fun. Elsa and Astrid were the judges.



Thanks to guest Sandra from Holland we had sunglasses for all kids. All received warm clothes thanks to my mom's friends and Piet and Parik from Ubud who carried it all into Bali.



Coloring books and other prizes for the kids from Astrid and Elsa.

### The mom of Dodi had to go to hospital. The cow was her insurance policy and had to be sold.

The mom of Dodi became ill, had stomach pains and became weaker and weaker.

We all know how strong she normally is, carrying water up the mountain. The doctor gave (without doing any tests on her) antibiotics. Fortunately we had an English guest Tim, whose son is a pharmacist. He checked with him and these antibiotics are not allowed to be sold in England! Fortunately we have Dutch specialists Arend and Annemieke with all their on line help. Fortunately we have my Dad who is a doctor...

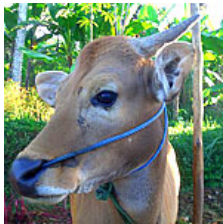
We rushed Dodi's mom to the hospital. She had to stay at the emergency room for hours because they didn't have a room for her.

It was a stressful situation already and then on top of it all motorbike accidents were coming in, screaming babies and crying elderly people.

Finally she got a room. After a couple of days and many tests later it was clear that she had an ovarian cyst and dysentery.

It was heart warming to see that the whole village came to visit and sleep with her in the hospital. She was not left alone for one minute, and treated like a queen!

After one week she was ready to go home where all offerings were prepared and the whole village welcomed her.



The very expensive hospital bill was paid for by the cow...

Early in the morning at 3 o'clock I heard Dodi, the buyer and the cow passing by our room. I closed my ears not to hear the protest of the cow. The evening before I had given him my biggest hug ever.

### New Staff member Tarpa



Tarpa is 29 and the cousin of Du.

He's still single which is good for the balance in the Team. Tarpa and Kadek as singles have different schedules for ceremonies in the village than the married Team members. Tarpa worked in Java as a cook but he missed his family in Bali.

Du's daughter Devia is born one month too early!



**Du called me: "Ibu I have a daughter! Heh? Yes, my wife had stomach pain and one hour later we have a baby!"**

At first it looked like all went well. But after a week her condition started to get worsening. We didn't want to bring her to the same doctor who gave Dodi's mom the bad antibiotics so we rushed to the hospital and were waiting at the emergency room again. But with a baby it's a different story. She went into an incubator within minutes. Nobody was allowed to go into the baby room besides the mom.

It was heart warming to meet the whole village in the hospital again. We were all sitting/camping/sleeping outside the window through which we could observe Devia. After 9 days of camping for the villagers and Du, dealing with being outside, rushing traffic, heat and mosquitoes, Devia was healthy, strong and home again! Du didn't have to sell his cow. Medical costs for babies are free in Indonesia.

**So many developments in Bali** A link we would like to share with you:  
<http://susijohnston.com/2008/10/so-many-developments-in-bali-vitalife-tabanan/>

### Running water, road and garbage solutions in the village

The "coincidence" of visiting the hospital in Tabanan is that the office of the Regent is located right opposite the hospital. We decided to try to meet the regent. We were told that we had to visit the sub district head in Baturiti first. Fortunately he had time to meet us right after our hospital visit.

The sub district head told us that he had visited our village and that there were no complaints. He is aware that the garbage needs to be controlled in the Tabanan regency, he is aware of the water problems and the bad roads. "What about education and health?", was my next question. He told us that his hands are tied and that he needs our help because without complaints he can't come with solutions.

He suggested that we together write a letter to the Regent and Governor which is going to be signed by the major and him. So we did. Will be continued...

**Bali paradox island what's wrong with this picture?**  
<http://susijohnston.com/2011/05/bali-paradox-island-whats-wrong-with-this-picture/>

### 2 lovely kittens need a home!



**Do you know anybody who wants to adopt 2 beautiful kittens?**

Violet and I found them - like garbage - at the beach when they were just one week old. They are 6 weeks now, vaccinated and very sweet and healthy. Violet is going back to Amsterdam. As you know at the farm we already have so many rescued animals.

*Thank you for reading and sharing all that keeps us busy!  
Lots of love and smiles from all of us!  
Have a lovely day!  
Smile, :)*

**Marjan, Wayan & Team**

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