



## **Bridge of Hope Indonesia News**

**Bridge of Hope  
Australian Advocacy Group  
Keeping you informed**

**Edition 2 - November 2011**

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### **Introducing you to the Branch Leaders**

Here's a snapshot of the people who lead the various branches and ministries in Indonesia:

**Yanto Sutianto** is the CEO of Bridge of Hope in Northern Sulawesi, and is based in Manado. Yanto travels to all the branches frequently. He is a hard worker, diligent in his diverse role, and has a great heart for the poor. His vision is to see lives transformed by the provision of appropriate microfinance loans, and by giving each client the opportunity to also receive practical and spiritual support.

**Diana** is the Branch Leader at Manado. In July, Diana lost the baby she was carrying, and is still recovering from the loss. Diana manages over 20 staff.

**Melky** leads a terrific team in Bitung, an hour and a half's drive north-east. He has a great staff of 11, which has stayed much the same for the last few years, and is a strong team.

**Gladys** is doing a great job in Tobelo, and the branch is doing exceptionally well, under her leadership. They are very committed to Community Development. Tobelo is in the Maluka Islands.

**Yanto and the Board** are presently overseeing the branch of Minahasa.

**Meldi** directs the project at Somompo providing schooling and a library to families who work at the Somompo Rubbish Dump. The initiative continues to capture the imagination of many.



*Above: Children at the Somompo Library, loving the lessons on rhythm and simple melodies on the recorders, with a Team from St. Stephens Anglican Church, Belrose.*

Bridge of Hope continues with its work of reaching the poor of Eastern Indonesia with practical, financial and spiritual help with a view to helping people get out of the poverty cycle and find the love of Jesus.

Australia's role is to provide prayerful support to the Board and the Bridge of Hope team. Every three weeks in Sydney, a small group of faithful people, called the Bridge of Hope Advocacy Group, seek God and pray for the work of Bridge of Hope.

For more information, please refer to our website : [www.bridgeofhope.org.au](http://www.bridgeofhope.org.au). CNEC, our fundraising partner, is also active in communicating with supporters about the work, and partner with us to support Bridge of Hope.

## **ON THE NEXT PAGE**

**Read the story of Henny Erungan (42),  
Who is a recipient of a Bridge of Hope  
Loan,  
and how Satu Hati Loan Group,  
in Tobelo has developed.**

*Stories written by Bridge of Hope Staff.*

**NEWS DIRECT FROM THE FIELD**

**Henny Erungan, loan group member.**

Age: 42 years

Loan Group: Luly



Henny was married to the late Reinhart Mintalangi who passed away in December 2010 due to cancer. She has two children, Ardi Mintalangi a 17 year old son who goes to Tourism Vocational High School, and Arda Mintalangi, a daughter who is 10 years old and who cannot walk or speak. Her physical growth is normal, but mentally, she is like a baby.

Arda suffered from a blood clot in the brain as a baby. Henny has tried to get her daughter into a handicapped school, but has been unsuccessful, so Henny must take care of her.



Before Henny joined Bridge of Hope, she sold glass bottles and she got IDR 50.000,00 per month (Approximately \$A.5.37). Once a year she also sells Christmas packages. Since joining BoH, she has also started selling cell phone

credit. As she is one of the pastors of the Yobel Minahasa Evangelical Church, she receives a small honorarium from the

congregation, which also helps. She is in the third loan cycle now.

Because of her involvement with Bridge of Hope, Henny has been able to receive skills training in addition to support from the loan program.

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**Sumompo: Dental care workshop**

Six dentists came to Sumompo Learning Centre to conduct a workshop on dental care - how to best maintain their mouth and teeth. The dentists also examined all the children's teeth. The dentists are keen to go back sometime in December.



**Satu Hati Loan Group (Tobelo)**

The group is located at Gamhoku Village. Right now they are in the third cycle with six members. Last cycle the group experienced some disruption due to a client who was in arrears with their loan. They had to continue without that group member.

The group consists of different beliefs—Christian and Muslim—but they live in harmony. They try their best to work in unity. Their group name is 'Satu Hati' which means 'one heart'. They expect that they will repay the installments on time and their businesses will improve.

## SHORT TERM MISSION VISITS FROM AUSTRALIA – May – November 2011

- In **September**, four women from St. Stephens Anglican Church Belrose spent a month teaching English Conversational Language, to Manado and Bitung staff, led by Sandra Barker. This was very successful, and a similar team is going again in **January, 2012**. The staff loved the experience. The Belrose team also taught music and rhythm to the children at Somompo. (See photo p.1)
- Seventeen people are going from Ruach Church, from **20 – 29 November, 2011** led by Ian Freestone, one of the founders of Bridge of Hope. The visit will include Loan Group Visitation, a two-day Staff Retreat, a Leadership Training Day and a Family Fun Day for Bridge of Hope staff and their families.
- **Earlier this year** Sandy Chockman from Seaforth Baptist Church had great fun with the children from Somompo, and others in the Manado district, teaching them to paint and draw, at the Manado shopping mall.
- A Team from Tamworth Anglican Church visited Tobelo Branch in **July 2011** and this has brought renewed enthusiasm in staff, and a notable increase in positive business. Leader Jenny Bailey wrote :  
*“It was the first trip for Nikki, Jason and Simon, and fourth for me, but the best yet! Tobelo Team are an awesome crew and it was wonderful to be able to be there to encourage them and see the amazing work that they have done since I was there last. God is doing wonderful things through this very dedicated team.”*

Below: Tamworth Team visiting corn farmers in Tobelo, who waited for them to arrive before harvesting their corn crop. It was the best corn they had ever tasted!



## BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS THE REGION - How Can I Help?

We can all be part of this exciting work, in a number of ways.

**Pray** - The most vital “help” is prayer – unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain. Ps.127. We appreciate your prayers for this work. You would also be welcome to join us at the Advocacy Group, where we pray regularly. Please contact Ros Harvey at [rbsharvey@gmail.com](mailto:rbsharvey@gmail.com) if you would like to know details.

**Give** - You can help Bridge of Hope by giving to support the work. This can be done through our support partner, CNEC. Details on back page. Your support is greatly appreciated.

**Go** – Now here’s an exciting thought: Why not consider going yourself? Bridge of Hope Indonesia love having visitors who are interested in their work. A number of teams have gone recently from Australia – people who come home totally inspired. Several churches have special links with particular branches, this also might interest you. More trips are planned for next year (between 8 – 14 days). Contact Geoff Osborne for details. [geoff@geoffosborne.com.au](mailto:geoff@geoffosborne.com.au)

**Get the Word Out** - If you would like to have this Newsletter forwarded to any friends (subject to their permission) please send their contact details to [info@bridgeofhope.org.au](mailto:info@bridgeofhope.org.au). The names and details will be kept private and used only for Bridge of Hope communications.

## PRAYER POINTS

**For the Board** - For wisdom for the Board, to keep the balance between constantly encouraging Bridge of Hope Indonesia and good business practices.

**For Yanto** - that God will empower him in the areas of leadership, financial and staff management.

**For the Loans** - Praise God that some loan arrears have been proactively addressed, and new loans are able to be made.

**For Training Needs** - Bridge of Hope Indonesia is looking to us in Australia to help them with spiritual retreats for the staff of each of the branches, training for their Personal Loan Officers, and business skills. Please pray that God will work in the hearts of those whom He would want to be part of this work.

**For the Branch Managers** – that they will walk closely with God and draw on his wisdom and guidance in all their work and relationships.

**YES, I want to help transform a life through Bridge of Hope**

Mr  Mrs  Ms  Miss  Rev  Dr  Other

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