

Best Wishes for 2023 to all our supporters, students – past and present – and those who help Rehabilim provide the opportunity for those who suffer physical disability to achieve tertiary qualifications to gain higher employment to support themselves and their families.

Our Thanks to Lenny



On a recent trip to Bali, Trust member Jon Neilson, and his wife Carol, met up with our longstanding representative Lenny Hadiprabowo.

For over 12 years Lenny has been voluntarily looking after Rehabilim Trust interests in Indonesia. Without her tireless work the Trust would not have been able to operate to ensure funds were properly managed and the all-important liaison provided with students and Yayasanans to bring about the achievements over the years.

In the way of a very big “thank you”, the Trust presented Lenny with a Kiwi treasure - a pounamu (which she is wearing in the photo). She was delighted with the gift and fully appreciated its significance in New Zealand Maori culture.

Kloeten Scholar Graduates

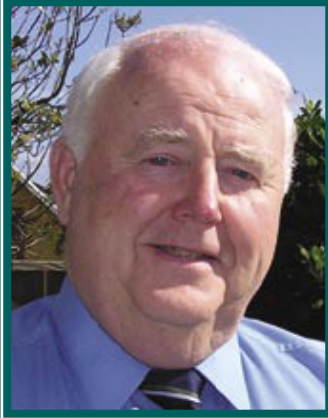
Congratulations to the Klaas Kloeten Scholar Uswinda Lestari who graduated towards the end of last year after experiencing a couple of very difficult years in her life.

We are also very grateful for the wonderful support provided by the Kloeten family in helping Uswinda achieve her tertiary goal.



Congratulations also to Sufyan Abdul Rahman Kuagow who graduated in Management Communication from AMIKOM Yogyakarta, he wants to work in graphic design, and Asih Puji Lestari who graduated in English from STBA Lia Yokyakarta.

Chairman's Chat



In politics one of the most used words (apart from no) is "we will review it."

Commercial companies review most things that they are involved in, be it product design, delivery, customer responses or targets and sales forecast.

Sales reviews in many cases are done monthly to ensure that targets are achieved.

Whilst the Rehabilim Trust is not a commercial entity, it has started to review its procedures and policies.

The Trust has up until now received students from 4 different sponsors. All of our sponsors are different, with the common thread being their care for disabled and poor young people.

Its important that we have a common policy, that all of our sponsors understand and follow, and we have just issued a

new set of guidelines to this effect. The long distance between New Zealand and Indonesia does not make this a simple task.

Similarly, we have refined our student recruitment standards. We want to recruit genuine hard working and diligent students, so that when qualified they can contribute to the society and their community.

Recently we said farewell to some of our graduates and I am happy to report that all were successful in gaining their diploma or degree. Now they have the task of finding employment that can put their new knowledge into practice.

The Trust wishes all of the graduates well and a successful future.

Welcome to our new Patron. Our new Patron David Taylor has joined us in Rehabilim. We very much welcome his considerable knowledge and experience of Indonesia and look forward to his views and input on how we might best proceed into the future.

Bill Russell
Chairman

Our New Patron

David Taylor



Further to Rehabilim Chairman Bill Russell's welcome to our new Patron, here is a brief summary of David Taylor's history with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade:

He has been New Zealand's Ambassador to the European Union, Nato, and Sweden, Indonesia and ASEAN, South Korea and North Korea and Deputy High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

More recently he was Involved in COVID-19 as Divisional Manager Policy and Co-ordination Division, and Lead Incident Controller Emergency Co-ordination Centre, and is currently Divisional Manager, Russia Sanctions Taskforce.

He has been New Zealand's Chief Negotiator for climate change and a range of other environment issues and had diplomatic assignments in Washington and Suva.

David has a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) and Bachelor of Arts (BA Hons) from Otago University and is an Old Boy of Otago Boy's High School.

He speaks French and Bahasa Indonesia and is interested in golf, music, reading, film and skiing.

Our Scholars

Muhammad Fahmi Husaen



It is with great sadness that we report that Muhammad "Fahmi" Husaen (25), one of our most successful scholars, has died. In our June edition we included a letter he wrote to Chairman Bill Russell telling us he was ill in hospital with respiratory problems but was confident he would recover.

Fahmi achieved much in his short life. Before entering primary school Fahmi was told he had Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). The rare and so far incurable genetic disorder which leads to progressive muscle degeneration and weakness. Life expectancy seldom goes beyond the teen years.

He refused to go to school as he was so upset. His mother, a high school science teacher, encouraged him to go back to school and eventually on to Gaja Mada University with the support of the Rehabilim Trust. He graduated with a degree in Computer Technology.

While at University in Yogyakarta, he was a Top 5 winner in the 2018 Electric Sports Car Design competition. But his greatest achievement came later that year when he won a silver medal at the International Invention Fair in Seoul, South Korea for his Achilles Physiotherapy Orthosis (AVEO) shoe designed to prevent ankle muscle contracture which results in the permanent shortening of a muscle or joint.

Rehabilim Trust Chairman Bill Russell said "This is a sad day for his family and those who have been so impressed by Fahmi's courage and the inspiration he provided for others suffering from disability."

Lets leave the final word with Fahmi as quoted in an article headlined "The Triumph of Will" in *The Jakarta Post* after winning his silver medal in Seoul in 2018.

"Everyone has strengths and weaknesses. It's important to stay optimistic, not to give up, to ignore snide comments about handicaps as a divine punishment for sins."

Erico Dwi Setyawan



Erico after his graduation

Since he was a child, Erico has received services from the YAKKUM Rehabilitation Center in the form of prosthesis aids, and along with scholarship assistance provided by the Rehabilim Trust.

The scholarship was well used to support his education at Sanata Dharma College at the Faculty of Economics. He graduated with good grades (GPA 3.26) and immediately got a job as an accountant in a company in Yogyakarta.

With his income, Erico was able to lighten the burden on his parents, and more importantly, he was able to buy a prosthesis walker of his own. This made him feel proud of the efforts he had put in over the years.

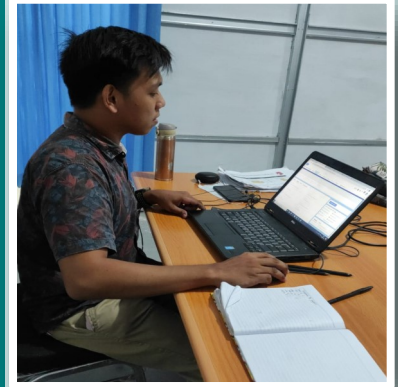
Erico had a strong desire to become a successful person. Recently, he tried his luck by applying for a job at BUMN and was very happy to be accepted. He has been assigned to the Tangerang area which means he has to live far from his family and live in a boarding house. Erico is not worried and feels proud of himself because he can live independently. He's happy because his co-workers welcomed him warmly and don't mind the physical differences he has.

He told his mother about his new life away from the family. He says "I feel comfortable with the work environment, and have been well-received by my co-workers. Even though I had to stay in the boarding house I do not have much trouble."

Erico said his parents always reminded him to never forget to pray and go to church.

At the end of the conversation with his mother, he asked her to convey this message; "Mother please convey greetings to Mr. Bill, and my thanks to the Rehabilim Trust which has encouraged me to go to college and get a good job

Frisna Prambudiantika



The mobility barrier did not stop his dream of being successful. At the beginning of the Rehabilim Trust scholarship program, his father worried, because he doubted whether he could pay some of the tuition fees for his son. But the persistence and enthusiasm that Frisna always showed made his father eager to support him.

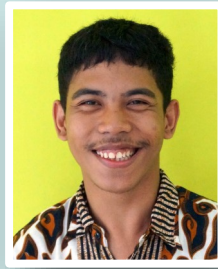
Overcoming mobility barriers inspired Frisna to make a modified motorbike with three wheels. Now he can go anywhere independently.

Frisna graduated from Muhammadiyah University majoring in Information Technology with a GPA of 3.61. After graduating, he immediately got a job at Unilever. He is a person who has the ability to encourage disabled people, especially in his work place. With Frisna's perseverance and input, the company built basic access for people with disabilities, such as bathrooms and road access to the office.

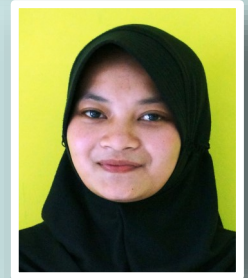
His desire to pursue a career does not stop here. He tried to find a more promising job on a website called Kerjabilitas, then he registered at one of the BUMNs. When he was called for an interview he met Erico, who at that time also received a call. It didn't take long for Frisna to be notified that he was accepted, as was Erico.

Happily he was placed in the Yogyakarta area not far from his home. He rides to work on his motor-tricycle. When asked if he still had other goals to achieve, he enthusiastically answered "Yes, I want to be able to have a business that can employ disabled friends. But that's my long-term goal. Right now I have to focus on my current job, but I will continue to advocate for people with disabilities at every opportunity."

Giving life long opportunities



“Everyone has strengths and weaknesses. It's important to stay optimistic, not to give up, to ignore snide comments about handicaps as a divine punishment for sins.” Muhammad Fahmi Husaen



The Rehabilim Trust Inc.

The Rehabilim Trust was established originally by a New Zealander, the late Colin McLennan MBE, to support the YAKKUM Rehabilitation Centre, referred to as Pusat Rehabilitasi YAKKUM, or PRY, in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. In addition, The Trust now supports other disabled children's charities providing assistance to disabled children and young adults, regardless of religion, to enable them to become independent and self-reliant by learning and using income-generating skills.

The Rehabilim Trust Inc currently supports 10 young disabled Indonesians who are recipients of a Colin McLennan Memorial Scholarship valued at NZ \$1000 each, per year for three years. The Trust is looking to extend this type of charitable support.

The Trust depends on service organisations and individual donors for financial support.

Rehabilim Donation Form

I wish to support young physically disabled Indonesians.

Enclosed is my cheque, made out to "The Rehabilim Trust", for \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Donations may be made directly to our Westpac Bank Account: 03 0539 0238389 00

Please send your donation, large or small, to:

**The Treasurer
The Rehabilim Trust Inc
PO Box 51 212 Tawa
WELLINGTON 5249**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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