

Retirement of Long-serving Trust Member

Noel Reid is one of our longest serving members of the executive of the Rehabilim Trust with more than 25 years service..

During his time with Rehabilim, Noel was a generous supporter of Yakkum Bali, now known as Puspadi Bali.

From funding livestock purchases to supporting disabled young people, participating in a working

bee at Pusat Rehabilitasi Yakkum (PRY), Noel participated fully in all aspects of Rehabilim's earlier history.

Trust Chairman Bill Russell thanked Noel for his superb service and presented him with a certificate of appreciation at the AGM. "We most sincerely appreciated Noel's contribution and wisdom over all those years along with the generous support of his wife Elaine."



Chairman Bill Russell presenting the Certificate of Appreciation to Noel Reid with Trust Secretary Dale Powles

Chairman's comments

October this year sees the Rehabilim Trust having to do like so many other charities and associations have to do, and that is to upgrade their constitution.

By the time you read this our AGM will have been completed and our new name adopted. We will then be known as the Rehabilim Foundation Inc.

Or to give it the full name as per our constitution:

The Foundation for Rehabilitation of Physically Handicapped Children in Indonesia Incorporated (Rehabilim).

Nothing else has changed.

It's worth noting that the combined length of service to the Rehabilim Foundation by the present executive and Trustees is approx. 200 years in total.

I wish to thank them for their loyalty and support..

We have now extended our scholarship program to include one new charity and that is Universitas Kristen Duta Wacana (UKDW) and we have received 3 students already.

This brings us to 14 students that we now support: 8 students with Pusat Rehabilitasi Yakkum in Yogyakarta, 3 with Puspadi Bali, and 3 with UKDW in

Yogyakarta

We could not achieve this number without your help, so I say to all who do support us a heartfelt thank you for this.

While on the subject of support, I would like to introduce one of our very longstanding supporters, Laurie Wesley, who I have known for many years. He played a part in helping Colin McLennan set up the YAKKUM Rehabilitation Centre in Yogyakarta.

He made a visit to Indonesia recently and tells us all about it in this edition of our newsletter.



Will talk again before Christmas !!!

Bill Russell

Bill Russell
Chairman

Introducing Laurie Wesley – A longstanding supporter of the Rehabilim Trust



Laurie is a semi-retired geotechnical engineer (geotechnical engineers are the ones responsible for foundations of buildings, stability of hill slopes, preventing liquefaction etc – anything to do with the ground). He began his career as a geotechnical engineer in 1960 by working for the Indonesian Public Works Department in its Institute for Soil and Highway Investigations. This was under a volunteer scheme known as the Volunteer Graduate Scheme for Indonesia. Under that scheme he worked from 1960 till 1963 and returned again to the same job from 1968 to 1972. Since that time he has returned to Indonesia many times to be a speaker at conferences and seminars

How I became involved in YAKKUM

by Laurie Wesley

I played a minor role in the creation of the YAKKUM Rehabilitation Centre in Jogjakarta; at the time I was on the Joint Presbyterian-Methodist Board (in Auckland) for overseas mission work.

In the early 1980s we received a letter from Ian Cairns, a Presbyterian minister working in Indonesia. He had met Collin McLennan, a fellow Kiwi employed by the international scout movement to work in Indonesia with the local scouts.

He explained that he was looking for an organisation to sponsor him. I knew Ian Cairns very well and supported his wish to help Colin. The Board agreed to pay Colin's salary for a year.

As readers will probably know, Colin was a remarkable man, and set about planning an entirely new rehabilitation centre and raising the money to pay for it. In the meantime, he found an ordinary house to rent and began his work of improving the lives of those with physical disabilities.

My job as a geotechnical engineer has taken me to Indonesia many times over the years, either to inspect projects or speak at conferences. Whenever possible I visited Jogjakarta and the Yakkum Centre. Each visit was a special experience, and a salutary reminder that human happiness is not closely related to physical well-being or income levels.

One visit also showed me that caring for people with physical disabilities can be much more demanding in Indonesia than New Zealand. Having been shown around I was about to call for a taxi to take me back to my hotel. The staff suggested I could get a lift with their van that was taking home several people who attended the Centre daily.

Naturally I accepted and was glad I did. It brought home to me how very different such a task was in Indonesia.

It took much longer than I expected because two of those going home were in wheelchairs. Helping them out of their wheelchairs and into seats in the van was not easy but the staff had clearly done it many times before, and still left a small space for me. In New Zealand, the same operation would involve a special van that opens at the back and has a lift to put wheelchairs in with the person remaining seated.

Now, about my recent visit, which was in the first week of September. I had invited Marie Widagdo, the Dean of the Medical Faculty at Universitas Kristen Duta Wacana (UKDW) and her husband Frances, along with Retno Embarini (Rehabilim's student advisor

in Yogya), to a meal with my wife Barbara and I, as well as our two grown-up daughters, Judith and Kay who were travelling with us. Retno reminded me that we had met once before, which I later discovered we had indeed met back in August, 2017 when I visited the YAKKUM Centre.

Later in the week, on the Thursday, Marie arranged for me to meet the three students who had recently been given Rehabilim Foundation scholarships. They seemed very happy to have them and asked me to convey their thanks to the Foundation (see the Student reports).

It has been a great experience to see the work that Colin did all those years ago to give young people with physical disabilities a chance to become more independent and be able to contribute to their families and community.



Barbara and Laurie Wesley, Marie Widagdo (in front) Retno Embarini

Catching up with our scholars

It's always good to hear how our scholars are getting on with their studies and achieving so much on the way to where they want to be.

In this edition we are catching up with scholars from Puspadi Bali and our newest source of scholars from Universitas Kristen Duta Wacana (UKDW) based in Yogyakarta. In the last edition of our newsletter we heard about Chairman Bill Russell's visit to UKDW to meet with the Dean of the Medical Faculty, Dr Maria Widagdo.

UKDW scholars:

Hengky Arapan Simarmata

Studying: *Practical Theology, Master's Program*

Semester: *Final*

About a year ago, Hengky lost his eyesight, which caused many challenges both in his learning process and in his daily activities. However, despite these

difficulties, Hengky has been making various efforts to continue his studies.

In addition to working on his thesis titled Liturgy, Hengky is also learning orientation and mobility skills with the help of another blind person he knows.

"Using a white cane, I practice to become more independent. I am also learning to use a smartphone with TalkBack mode. My next plan is to take a course in using a laptop with special programs for the visually impaired."

Hengky practicing orientation skills



Angelique Novita Ropai

Studying: *Product Design*

Semester: *Final*

Angi from Mamuju, Sulawesi, is currently undertaking an internship in a handicraft industry. She says she has found the right place to intern, as it closely matches

her field of study, product design. One of the things she is currently learning is how to design batik stamps made of wood. These stamps can then be used by batik artisans to speed up the batik-making process, making production more effective.

"Throughout my study journey I have had great support from both the university and my friends. This support has helped me communicate and overcome the challenges I face with my hearing impairment, ensuring that it does not hinder my studies."

Angi with batik stamp



Fabianus Caraka Pakerti

Studying: *Product Design*

Semester: *Final*

Fabianus, from Kalasan, Sleman, is a product design student currently interning at a ceramic business in Yogyakarta. He has been exposed to many types of ceramic designs he had

never seen before. For him, this has been inspiring, motivating him to create more product designs.

"The main challenge I currently face is managing my time because I have a busy schedule of both classes and internship. I have to commute back and forth

between the campus and the workplace in the same day. On top of that, my father, who usually drives me to campus, is now having to care for my sick mother. This means I now rely on Gojek for transportation, which makes it more expensive."



Puspadi Bali Scholars:

Ida Ayu Wiadnyani Manuaba, SE

University: Warmadewa University

Studying: Accounting, Master's Program

Semester: Three

Ida works in the Puspadi Bali office and attends lectures in the afternoon until evening

and is currently at the stage of writing her thesis. Her research at PUSPADI Bali focuses on examining the organization's accountability and evaluating how the funds allocated for its programs have impacted people with disabilities in social, economic, and emotional aspects.

"This project is also expected to help the organization assess how the funds, entrusted to PUSPADI Bali by donors, contribute to the empowerment of people with disabilities. The main challenge I face is managing my time between lectures, office work, and as a mother."



I Gede Yuda Mahardika

University: Ganesh Guru Polytechnic

Studying: Computer Engineering (Teknik Komputer)

Semester: Four

Yuda actively participates in both offline and online classes along with the required practical activities. At the end of the semester, exhibitions are held for each

subject in contemporary painting and digital art, where selected works of students are showcased.

He is involved in activities such as being part of the committee for expo exhibitions, end-of-semester exhibitions, as well as participating as one of the exhibitors. He is also a member of the student

organization and joins campus extracurricular activities.

"The challenge I face is in the digital art subject, since this class requires a tablet or iPad for digital painting, but I don't own one. However, I have been asked to submit a request to buy the equipment using my remaining scholarship funds."



I Gede Agus Mahardika

University: Ganesh Guru Polytechnic

Studying: Computer Engineering (Teknik Komputer)

Semester: Three

At his campus, the learning is conducted online, so Agus is unable to engage much

in on-campus activities as everything is virtually carried out from home. However, he often feels overwhelmed with the assignment workloads. Which means he sometimes struggles to understand the materials being delivered.

"To increase my knowledge, I have been attending additional coding training outside of my class schedule. This month, I started my internship (PKL) at a shrimp farm."



Agustina Kurniawati Enembe

University: PGRI, Yogya

Studying: Digital Business

Semester: Three

During the break, Agustina worked as a call center agent for a cable TV channel. She shared that because she uses a wheelchair, her

lecturers accommodate her by holding classes on the first floor since the campus has no lift.



Agustina pictured on the left

Ratna Dewi

University: *Janabadra University, Yogya*

Studying: *Law (postgraduate)*

Semester: *One*

While waiting for classes to start, Ratna, who is the Chairperson of the National

Paralympic Committee (NPC) in Sleman Regency, was busy organizing the Regional Paralympic Week (PEPARDA) in Gunungkidul. As chairperson, she has many responsibilities in preparing Sleman athletes and also trains actively in

athletics. Ratna not only motivates herself but also inspires all the athletes under the Sleman NPC. "After completing my postgraduate studies, I hope to establish a legal office to help people with disabilities who face legal issues."

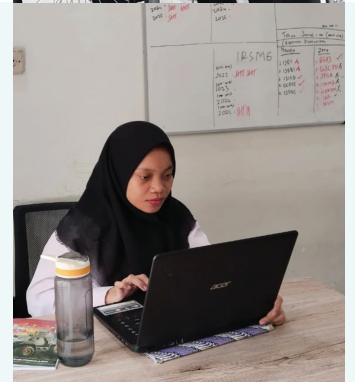


Cindi Mutia

Cindi has graduated and now works for a publishing company. Initially, she struggled because she typed more slowly, but over time

she adapted and performs well. She remains in contact with PRYAKKUM whenever she encounters challenges.

"In October I will be promoted to a permanent employee. I am highly committed to doing my best wherever I work."



Defis Putrie Septiyanie

University: *State Islamic, Yogya*

Studying: *Islamic Guidance and Counseling*

Semester: *Seven*

A seventh-semester student majoring in Islamic Guidance and Counseling at the State Islamic University of Yogyakarta. This period, she is undertaking a teaching internship (PPL), one of the requirements for graduation.

"In this program, I provide guidance and counseling for high school students in Sleman Regency. Many students seek counseling with me."



Dian Ayu Pramesty

University: *Sarjana Wiyata Tamansiswa*

Studying: *Fine Arts*

Semester: *First*

She chose the fine arts major because of her interest in

design and art. In September, she began her studies and participated in campus orientation. While waiting for classes to start, she joined a barista training program and, after her internship, was accepted as a barista.

"I currently juggle my studies in the morning and work as a barista afterward to save money. I want to become both a barista and a graphic designer."



Dicky Ruchyat Shidik

University: *State Islamic, Yogya*

Studying: *Islamic Educational Psychology (postgraduate)*

Semester: *Three*

During the three-month semester break, Dicky spent his time writing five journal articles, attending disability-related seminars,

and working on his thesis. According to Dicky, he currently faces no significant challenges.

"Initially, I found it difficult to socialize with non-disabled peers, but now I have joined a cross-campus disability student forum in Yogyakarta (DIY) that provides space for sharing and mutual support."



Edi Priyanto

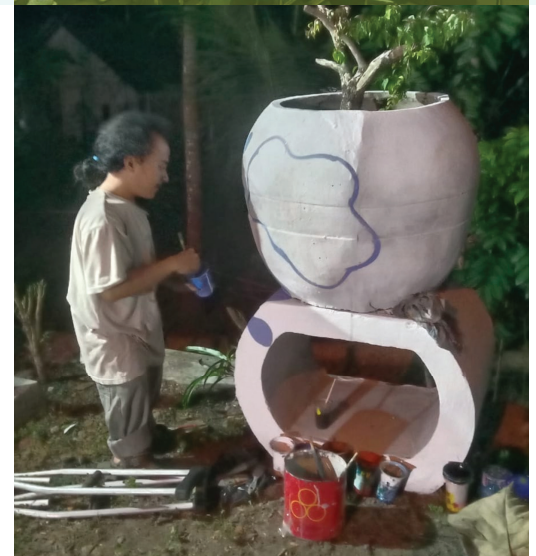
University: *Indonesian Institute of the Arts, Yogya*

Studying: *Craft Arts*

Semester: *Final Project*

Edi has been working on his final project and participating in activities such as painting flowerpot murals in Kulon Progo and joining the 2025

ArtJog residency program as a facilitator for a flour-resist batik workshop. He also joined the Nandur Srawung open call program. "My challenge is stagnation in completing my final project, but to overcome this, I seek inspiration from senior artists."



Jovanka Adrin Palaguna

University: *Yogyakarta Academy of Social Welfare (AKK)*

Studying: *Cosmetology*

Semester: *First*

Jovanka has been interested in makeup since vocational school and dreams of becoming a professional makeup artist. She has

just completed student orientation and was happy to meet other students with hearing and speech disabilities.

"My choice of major is fully supported by her family, My parents even take turns driving me to and from campus which is great support as I am their only daughter."



Eka Sava Mailani

University: *State Islamic, Yogya*

Studying: *Sharia Banking*

Semester: *Seventh*

Eka has completed her community service program (KKN), successfully implementing 18 work programs with her team.

She faced some challenges due to her disability assistant's limited understanding but managed to overcome them by consulting with lecturers and classmates. Her GPA is 3.65, and she remains optimistic about graduating next year.



Guntur Purnomo Aji

Guntur has graduated and now works at the Hyatt Hotel in Yogyakarta. He faces challenges communicating with foreign guests due to his limited English skills, but his colleagues assist him when needed. Guntur is grateful to have been hired

and plans to save money to buy a motorcycle for easier transportation.

"Although I still hope to find work aligned with my background as an Islamic studies teacher, I remain committed and motivated in my current job."



Khoirul Nuryadi

University: *Mercu Buana, Yogya*

Studying: *Communications and Multimedia*

Semester: *Eighth*

He is currently working on his thesis and revisions. His challenge is that the activities forming part of his thesis research only occur every three months, delaying his data collection.

"To overcome this, I have asked for schedule adjustments and even considered changing my research topic. Nevertheless, I am sure I'll graduate on time."

Suryanto Beasiswa

University: *State Islamic, Yogya*

Studying: *Social Welfare*

Semester: *Twelfth*

Over the past three months, he has conducted interviews

with NPC athletes for his thesis. In addition, Suryanto runs a small business selling chips alongside his studies. The scholarship program supports Suryanto not only with tuition fees but also with monthly housing rent.



Aldo Christyanto

University: *Mercu Buana, Yogya*

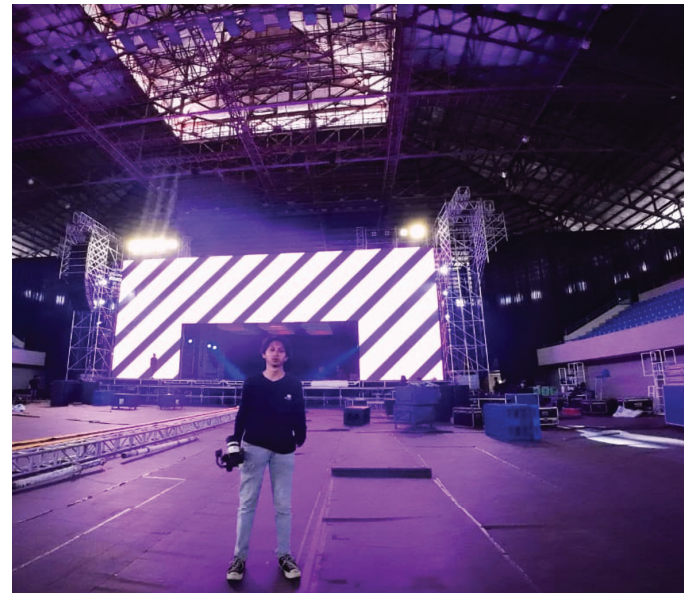
Studying: *Communications*

Semester: *Ninth*

Aldo is currently working on his final project while working as a video editor and videographer. Over the past three months, he has been involved in many activities—creating a short film with his campus

community, photographing music events, and more. He is optimistic about completing his final project and graduating next semester.

“My main obstacle is limited access to equipment, as I must borrow and wait for availability. However, I proactively communicate with the equipment owners to ensure I can complete my work.”



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 four 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.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

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

The Treasurer
The Rehabilim Trust Inc
PO Box 51-019 Tawa
WELLINGTON 5249

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