

WORLD SUBUD COUNCIL MEETING “An Awakening at the Crossroads”
GREAT MALVERN, BRITAIN, 2-7 August 2010
Luke Pensenev, WSA Chair

Your WSC or World Subud Council comprising the WSA chair and executive, Zone Representatives, international helpers, affiliate, activity and foundation chairs or coordinators, totaling 34 of a possible 40 people, met at Great Malvern’s Girl’s School in Britain for six full days of kedjiwaan and organisasi activities.

We arrived at Gt. Malvern with an overflowing ‘kitchen table’ of agenda items.

As we gathered in a large circle on that first August evening plenary, we looked at each other with great smiles of recognition. Ready to latihan, test, discuss, debate, bond, meld and resolve what was needed as Bapak’s legacy organization for Subud in the world following his passing. We made sure to issue an open invitation for observers to join us whenever they pleased.

With Ibu’s greetings read, we felt the awakening spirit; a renewed sense of purpose; a new willingness for international enterprise, putting the traumas of the past behind for the sake of the growth of Subud; collaborating; putting Bapak’s kedjiwaan advice into inner and outer practice; building on the quality that we have.



Lift-off! One of the small hot air balloons takes flight during the opening ceremonies

It was symbolic and humbling to note that the WSC was given the best conference room in the school for which we were enormously grateful to Subud Britain (SB), our hosts. The drawing together and congress-in-session-as-WSC effect was hugely supported by the latihan and the support of the 16 international helpers on site – bless each and every one of them!

After an amazingly medieval-feeling opening ceremony that only SB could invoke, parading to a dome, releasing small hot-air balloons and then helium balloons inside the dome, we were ready for anything! SB had organized a refreshments tent in the school ‘quad’, an evening walk up the nearby hill to visit St. Anne’s Well restaurant and hang

out listening to Subud musicians 'troubadour' us, concerts, a 'trash fashion' show, a prayer vigil on International Peace Day, and a collection for the Pakistan flooding. We even enjoyed visiting the Wisma Mulia residents who came for tea, all seven of them averaging 87 years old.



Zone Representatives present: Paloma de la Vina, Pavel Mudarra, Dave Hitchcock, Harvey Peters, Hadrian Fraval and Robiyan Easty

Each day comprised a theme, beginning with a Kedjiwaan Day, testing roles and responsibilities; some of the others included Enterprise and Operations, Organization Development, and Projects Commitment.

Our major themes included kedjiwaan; Congress Resolutions review; Subud Centres and Communities; WSA Archives; WSA Budget and new Fun(d)raising; Subud's Presence in the World/Bapak's legacy; Wings Collaboration and Presentations; WSA Board renewal; plus some of the many WSA Programs and working groups such as Care Support and now Translations, and a Kalimantan update. Phew, in other words quite a lot of work for 34 people.

Our achievements include:

- A close bond renewed with Subud Britain who so generously made their Great Malvern spaces available to the WSC and sponsored part of our meeting;
- Full WSC support for the new world wide Subud House and Communities Initiative supporting the development of Subud houses and communities as vessels for the growth of Subud and interchange with the world;
- WSA support for the Wisma Subud Heritage Protection Project, including two of Bapak's homes, with Garrett Thompson as WSC liaison and Josephine Bacikin, Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee;
- Outline report from WSA Care Support Coordinator, Annabella Ashby, including the Emergency Fund (Sarah Becker, Coordinator), and Education Fund (Arnaud Delune, Coordinator); Annabella spoke of how she hopes to expand the remit of the program with an increased budget for helping members in need;
- A new WSA Translations Initiative to be coordinated by the WSA, with Paloma, Pavel and Mauricio, our Spanish speaking Zone Representatives;
- Exceptional, full presentations from the wings and affiliates and our foundation on projects and progress, usually using power point, with a Q & A session, including MSF, SDIA, SICA, SYAI, SESI;
- Full WSC support for the WSA-backed Web Services Shop directed by SESI Chair, Ruslan Morris, to provide web design, set up and communications services to all Subud members and the organization at large;
- The full recognition and participation of the expanded SYA youth organization within the WSA; new plans and budget for further gatherings and youth representative travel;
- The signing of an MSF-SDIA MoU (Memorandum of Understanding); as much about shared expertise as funding support from MSF;
- Improved wing and foundation collaboration, seeking support and guidance from MSF and SDIA by the renewed SICA and SESI teams, as well as the evolving SYAI and SIHA groups;
- Review of WSA Archives, seeking a larger team to support Archives development and the special fundraising necessary under Amalijah Thompson with WSA executive support;
- WSA Archive projects core funding for immediate needs agreed, including Bapak's original tapes; a \$55K budget allocated for 2010-11; with special fundraising supplementing a budget likely to be \$100-200K over the next 3-4 years;
- Review of WSA External Relations development with Amalia Rasheed, the WSA External Relations Officer, and the evolving WSA Forum previewed at congress providing for discussion and analysis of world issues;
- A completely new and unexpected opportunity to apply for the wider recognition of Subud within the UN/UNESCO;

- Several organizational reports including: Congress Lessons Learned for future congresses by Dave Hitchcock based on lessons from the past congress, an Organization Task Force headed by Reinbrand Visman, a WSA census report;
- A full update on the status of the Kalimantan Mining Projects in light of proposals from KGC to dissolve its holding company KIC set up to guide and support KGC; MSF-YMS hold KIC shares on behalf of WSA/Subud shareholder members; WSA backed by the WSC now seeks voting rights to participate in this restructuring and the next phase of KGC's development supporting the growth of Subud;
- Two capacity building sessions for the new WSA board comprising the WSA chair and the (8) Zone Reps. of which (6) were present
- A film on Bapak's Life by Mikhail David with Bapak playing gambang as score that captivated everyone; this accompanies a power point on Subud in the World; to be made available to national and group committees as a resource;
- A musical poem presentation by Bachtiar Lorot and colleague following Latifah Taormina's SICA presentation that opened our hearts to our inner culture;
- Fully supported WSA 2010 full-stretch budget; a \$47K shortfall on a total WSA budget of approximately \$450K after receipt of World Congress (unaudited) profit of \$125K; this for 13,000 members (latest census) equals \$40 per member per year;
- An appeal for countries and zones to ensure that remittances to zones and WSA are made at least quarterly in order to smooth erratic income throughout the year
- New fundraising initiatives, such as a fundraising WSA awareness month
- New honoraria available for WSC officers based on need in their work with support from WSA and GHFP; under review through 2010-11;
- Rungan Sari selected as 2011 WSC meeting location after testing between Amanacer and Rungan Sari; presentations from both venues prior to testing;

Your WSA team: Luke/WSA chair; Silvana/WSA admin. assistant; Julia/WSA secretary; Asmaniah/Maxwell support; Maxwell/WSA executive chair; Maya/WSA executive vice chair

By the time all, or mostly all, of our work was done (not enough time to review Africa developments, no debate on a permanent WSA office, etc.) we promised to meet again in



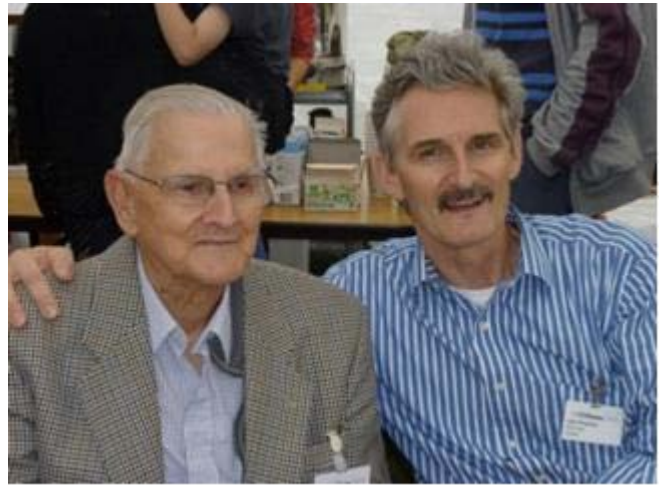
June 2011, but next time we'll balance a full agenda with time to be together in Rungan Sari and allow more time to latihan and test as we may need.

The WSA team left Gt. Malvern for Loudwater for debriefing to evaluate what we had learned while it was still fresh.

All in all, it was an amazing first WSC meeting after the congress in New Zealand, with a great deal of bonding and new growth together. Lots of work accomplished and time with Subud Britain – *'An Awakening at a Crossroads'* indeed!

Much love and blessings

Luke
WSA chair



*Author and pa side by side for tea on the
'Whizzers' (Wisma Mulia residents) visit afternoon
(still 30 years apart...)*