



THE TRUST TIMES

THANK YOU TOM, SAM, YASH & KEVIN!



**"IT WAS THE BEST TWO MONTHS
OF MY LIFE!" - YASH**



**"ONE OF THE BEST EXPERIENCES
OF MY LIFE!" - TOM**

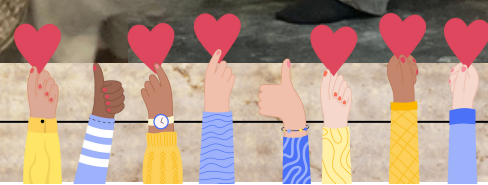
*It is time to say a big **THANK YOU** and **GOODBYE** (or see you soon...) to our brilliant Orangutan cycle volunteers! They got involved with all aspects of life here in Bukit Lawang and made friends with our team, our locals and their students too. As we waved them off, there were more than a few tears from all of us. We are excited to say that Kevin, one of our ESL and Eco farming volunteers, has already signed up to the next cycle and will be returning in the Tiger Cycle to continue his volunteering journey with us.*





SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

We held a special quiz in March to raise funds for the Trust. All of our volunteers took part and delivered a round. We had everything from Indonesian trivia, to charades, higher or lower and guess the song... and we raised over 750,000IDR, which is around £40. We have bought paint to refresh the Kindergarten classrooms and are saving the rest for their graduation in the Summer.





PROGRAMME UPDATES

YOUTH RANGER

This month, our Youth Rangers went on a jungle trip into the Gunung Leuser National Park to see the wildlife they have been learning about in class in real life! They were not disappointed as they saw many creatures including of course orangutans. One female Oranutan with her baby was on the ground when they stumbled across her and the children had a great view of her from their jungle path.



ESL PROGRAMME

In our adult conversation classes we have been discussing Indonesian culture in comparison to other countries.

Our primary school English classes have also been learning about comparing things. Building sentences like; "The Elephant is bigger than the mouse" and "The cheetah is faster than the zebra."

Our Kindergarten have been learning the names of body parts and have been practicing singing "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes, Knees and Toes" with all the actions of course!"

ECO FARMING

Our Eco Farming volunteers Kevin and Yash completed their placement with some extra visits PPLH Ecofarm to squeeze as much time working there and to say their farewells to all the staff. Kevin's looking forward to returning on our next cycle to pick up from where he left off!





SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PROGRAMME



Shopping Days! Supported by Jersey Overseas Aid, we have been busy distributing grant money to our 18 successful entrepreneurs. Cahaya is now a proud motorbike owner which will help her to transport vegetables from the farmers to the her community. Novita's new mobile phone will help her to order stock and advertise her start-up cosmetics business! Emanuela has a new roof for her Traditional drinks shop, Fauziah laid a new concrete floor in her restaurant and Selvi built a new chicken coop for her start-up egg farm.





VOLUNTEER UPDATES

Our volunteers made the most of their final couple of weeks and used them to explore the delights of the area during their weekends. We took a trip to Teroh Teroh for a spot of canyoning down picturesque rivers in the jungle including some pretty exciting jumping off spots! We also took a snake tour with Netflix famous 'Snake Man' in and around Bukit Lawang. It was pretty awesome/terrifying to find over 30 snakes in less than 3 hours! I will never look at the trees and bushes the same way...





TEAM TAKEOVER... CHARLIE!

What is your favourite thing about working at the Bukit Lawang Trust?

My favourite things about working at Bukit Lawang Trust are; the unexpected wonderful things which happen. For example, one of the teacher's inviting us all for a big team lunch, to say thanks to our volunteers, a last minute BLT band jamming session on stage in the village, joining in with the Kindergarten dancing on a Friday morning and hearing from volunteers when they have had an awesome day or experience.

What is proudest moment at The Bukit Lawang Trust?

I feel privileged to continue a journey started long before me by our trustees and previous staff members and to see the Trust flourish after a difficult period through the pandemic. Recruiting and welcoming volunteers back and seeing all four programmes up and running, opening the newly refurbished Trust library and being able to renew and develop our relationships with our partners has been a really exciting time.

Why should people come and volunteer at the Trust?

I am very lucky in that I get to chat with out volunteers from the moment they enquire about our programmes up until the moment they leave after their 8 weeks. What I love seeing and hearing about is their personal journey through teaching and also just pushing their comfort zone in order to enjoy the cultural experiences on offer here. Each person has a different perspective of the impact they want to make and how they can do this; whether it be as a teacher, a team member, a community champion or just to leave a legacy through improving the facilities or raising funds for the charity. What they all have in common though is that they love being here and even with the business, slightly hairy commutes, surprising events and sometimes difficult realisations of rural living, they all find it hard to say goodbye to this place and the BLT family.



SOME WORDS FROM OUR VOLUNTEERS...

"IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN TEACHING ENGLISH...
HAVING AN ADVENTURE... GOING ON A JUNGLE
TREK... SWIMMING IN BEAUTIFUL SPOTS... LIVING
WITH WONDERFUL PEOPLE... HAVING DELICIOUS
FOOD... HAVING A DIVERSE RANGE OF
EXPERIENCES... AND FEELING LIKE YOU'RE
STUCK IN LIFE AND YOU NEED TO SHAKE IT UP! I
WOULD HIGHLY RECOMMEND VOLUNTEERING
AT THE BUKIT LAWANG TRUST." - YASH
VOLUNTEER

Check us out on our social media and other channels!



"IF YOU'RE A FIRST
TIME TEFL TEACHER OR
ESL TEACHER THE
TRUST IS THE PERFECT
OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN
EXPERIENCE... THE
TRUST OFFERS A
RANGE OF AGES TO
TEACH" - TOM
VOLUNTEER

APPRECIATION CORNER



***Big Big thank you to these visitors who came to
see us and then donated a generous amount
towards keeping our hub running and our
programmes resourced. It was a pleasure
meeting you guys!***



***Wondering where the stunning header
photograph was taken? It was
captured by Yash, one of our
volunteers, who stopped on the way
back from class to look at the view.***