

WELCOME to the second edition of the ViaVia Newsletter 2007...

This edition is mostly about a training for freelance guides that we organized recently. We have included comments from some of the participants of the training. Rita Daneels, who together with Mie facilitated the training, has sent us an article. If you read on, you will also get information on our newest ideas for a trip, developed by our new freelance guides.

ViaVia provides many with the opportunity to take trainings and courses. Helena, Yatin's daughter, is sponsored to take a Balinese dance course. In this newsletter she shares her experience. Romdy, one of our beloved waitresses, is taking computer lessons together with Tyas and Vita. Here she writes about it.

Stay tuned for information on our last activities done together with Rumah Teman and LIP, and upcoming events that we do together with the Jesuit Refugee Service.

Do you feel like contributing to the ViaVia Newsletter? Give us your stories, photos or comments!

Happy reading...

Training for freelance guides and training for trainers

Peak season is getting closer and closer. Thank God our training program is finished. This year, eleven participants joined the training, Monic, Oyo, Dhita, Endang, Wiwit, Fendi, Monang, Galih, Uuth, Dyah and Rika.

This year's training program was special because two different training programs were conducted at the same time, the yearly training for freelance guides and a special training for the full time ViaVia guides to become trainers themselves. Rita Daneels of Dialogo NGO, Belgium volunteered to facilitate this second training.

During our first meeting we met Rita and discussed the program. We decided on at least 6 sessions of training for trainers and eight sessions for the new freelance guides. The training for the freelancers is



all about intercultural communication and guiding skills.

To become a trainer is not as easy as we thought. We did not feel very confident and rather nervous to face the participants. One of our biggest problems was how to pass on the theoretical parts to the trainees. Luckily there were always Mie and Rita to take over when things went a bit wrong. We had to be sure that our trainees got the point during the training. Starting from the introduction, the presentation, staging a role-play, facilitating a discussion and the contents of the tour, we really felt the need to master the theory better in order to reach what is called meta-communication. Meta-communication is communication on communication, on the process of reaching the aim; it is about analyzing what happens on a higher level.

The training for freelance guides is mainly focusing on intercultural communication and guiding skills. Tourism is all about meeting different cultures and sub-cultures. Therefore we started this training with understanding what culture is; we got an insight about its origins, its visible and invisible sides. To understand other cultures better, we also have to know our own culture. Through a session on finding typical Indonesian proverbs and on do's and don'ts in Indonesia, an interesting discussion about our own values, norms and our core assumptions came up. We also talked about culture shock, how to recognize it and what to do about it, for both the guests and the hosts. Connected to culture we also do an interesting game on generalizations and stereotypes. Vita asks the participants to match 15 photos of people to their professions. It looks like an easy job to match the pictures but turns out that most photos were put in the wrong place. It teaches us not to judge people from their appearances and how they are culturally determined.

Lots of the training was spent on role-plays. We started with giving the trainees the chance to learn how to introduce themselves to their guests. We gave them some cases, let them discuss it and then they had the chance to try it. One of the regularly returning cases was about improper dress for our village tour. The new guides tried to solve the problem as well as they could but were not yet very convincing. They will definitely learn more once they face it in reality.

We conducted a whole lot more role-plays in order to practice communication and problem solving.

My experience as a training participant

by Wiwit

Actually, it's my second chance to be one of the freelance guides in ViaVia next high season. My first training was two years ago, but I had to attend a program at my university for a job training introduction. Last year I was late to follow this training program, when I wanted to register myself the training was already in process.

Finally I can join this year's training. When I follow the training this year, I feel that's quite interesting. Why? I think because of the role play. In this training we have a lot of role plays and I played as a guide (I did it more than twice!!). There was

Through these role-plays we tried to explain about positioning yourself as a guide in a group. Therefore we used the theory of the Rose from Leary.

Besides positioning and leadership skills, clear talking skills are also important as a guide. During one of the meetings every participant had to find an object in the room and talk about it for 3 minutes. Rita videotaped every single presentation in order to be confronted afterwards. It worked like a mirror for the trainees. All feel shy, awkward, gigglish and funny. From this exercise participants recognized and openly discussed their strengths and weaknesses, both in the spoken word as in body language.

An important part of our tours and courses is knowledge about sustainable tourism. Through a video on tourism in Gambia we analyzed and came to a definition on the concept of sustainable tourism. We linked it back to ViaVia travel and gave the participants homework to develop a new tour especially for students within the mind frame of the ideas of community-based tourism.

Anyway, training is a one of the ways to learn new things; being in the field is the second step. We got a lot of new experiences and basic knowledge for being a guide. The full time staff of ViaVia travel should practice more for the next training. For the new freelance guides; HAPPY JOINING WITH VIAVIA, don't be afraid to get too tanned...

Below, you'll read some comments from the training participants...

always something funny when we did it, for example when Monic played an annoying tourist who always wanted to make a picture of her self, she was really good on that:)... Besides that, at this training I got an experience about how to make a tour which I didn't get in my first training.

Yes, we make a new trip called student tour. We are doing it in a team so we wish it would be easier.

But behind all of things happened in training, I know there is something very useful within. That's a little bit of my experience after following the training and if I told you everything what was happened in training, I think it would be enough to make a book :)...

My New Job

by Oyo

On Tuesday, 24th April I had my first training. Actually the first time I heard the word “training”, I wondered what kind of training it would be? I kept going to find out the answers. The training was held in Mie’s house. She has a big room to have us, the trainees, in her house. The first meeting looked like a class. There were teachers and students. The teacher explained something and the students listened to her. Then everything went so fast. My first day of training looked more like a class at university. .

However, the next day became more challenging. We were taught about Indonesian culture, how to face our clients, etc. The most interesting part was a role play where we were given problems to solve. The cases were about how to face tourist when they complain about electricity while indeed, there is no electricity there (e.g.: in a national park); etc. Well, I have to say that it is very difficult to find the right answer so the tourist keep feeling comfortable and, of course, they will stop asking and complaining in this situation. At that moment, I was thinking about quitting out because being a guide is so difficult. I regretted choosing this job. I thought being a guide was only a matter of knowledge (how far we know the history about the tourism object) and confidence. But, it needs more than that. And the most important is we have to be ourselves when we guide tourists. We have different styles in guiding people. We cannot imitate someone’s style.

Then at the end of our training, we were given a task to invent a new tour that we called the STUDENT TOUR. We had to arrange the routes, time, and price, and list the objects of interest. Then according to our agreement, we agreed on the route SHOOPING-GADJAH MADA UNIVERSITY (UGM)-ANG-KRINGAN-KOS (BOARDING HOUSE). Here, I have to say again that arranging a tour is difficult. How to make them interesting, what are we going to present in this tour, what makes this tour different from others?. There are actually a lot of questions we need to ask and answer. Then after we were ready, we, the trainees, tried to conduct the tour. You may say: a test tour. And the result was... lots of weaknesses. The way we presented the information wasn’t interesting, we lacked information about the objects, sometimes we doubted and then said the forbidden word: ‘maybe’. Yeah, practicing is always making mistakes, we believe it.

All I know now being a guide is interesting, dealing with people from other places, having friends, and of course, making money. I have already chosen this job. It means I have a responsibility to finish my job, no matter how hard it is, how many problems I have to face, etc. I believe that every job has their risks and weaknesses. But, in those weaknesses and risks, there must be a ray of hope for us.

Training for Trainers

by Cisca

I’m the newest personal in ViaVia Travel. My educational background is tourism, but I never dealt with it since 1999.

When there was an announcement that ViaVia will conduct training for freelance guides, I knew I could learn a lot of new things. But I’ve been asked to join the training for trainers. It’s kind of funny thing... I’m new; I should’ve joined the freelance guide training. However, I joined both trainings. Training for trainers and for freelance guides.

Actually, this was not my first time to be a facilitator in a training program. But this was my first opportunity to be an English speaking trainer. I found this part very difficult. I have to think twice before I say the words. Make sure that I make the right sentences in order to make the participants understand what I want to say... Mie said, English shouldn’t be a problem at all for me; but I still think that English is MY problem...

Another difficulty was how to direct a discussion. There were a lot of small things missing from my observation during the discussions. Eventually, those small things often are the key or the core of the discussion itself.

Rita Daneels recorded whoever led the training. It was meant to be both a documentation and also a mirror for the facilitators, a tool for evaluation. From the recorded film, we could learn about our strengths and weaknesses. Rita made us understand that when we watch ourselves on the video, the way we talk, the way we move, is in fact how everyone always sees us. So by watching ourselves in the video, we could see what everyone always

can. Confronting, indeed... But for me, I see it from the positive side. I saw my weaknesses, learn from them, and try to be better in the future. Also for my strengths, I keep up the good work and try to do better even.

I've learned how to give feedback and deal with it. What I've learned when we give feedback is to be specific, to give information not advice, to comment on what and how not on why, to talk about behavior and not about personality, not to judge, and the most important thing to cross check whether our opinion is correct or not.

The main topic of this training was how to communicate in a good way. In this case, as trainers, we have to be able to transfer our knowledge to the freelance guides. While in our daily work as guides, we have to be able to give information about tourism to our guests in a right way.

The hardest task in front of us is to be able to do the next year training by ourselves. Mie hopes the guides themselves will conduct the training. She wants to be involved as little as possible... We have one year to learn...

Precious Jogja

by Rita Daneels

It was with great pleasure that I accepted the invitation from the ViaVia for having a contribution in the training of the new freelance guides, especially by having an input in the Training of the Trainers. However – it must be said – the level of this training for guides is already very professional the way it is regularly organized for freelance candidates “who are not afraid of becoming ‘dark’”. (How weird this obsession sounds in my Belgian ears ...)

Gradually I came to realize that ViaVia's choice for a training methodology of ‘experiential learning’ is far from easy to adapt for Indonesian trainers, raised in an educational environment that dictates mostly the ideal of merely repeating what the teacher is telling, without encouraging students to ask too many (critical) questions.

I also realize that we were putting a rather high quality standard for the performance of the trainers in conducting exercises and role-plays and, in particular, for the ‘analysis’ afterwards. Great was the

amount of their enthusiasm, astonishing their endeavor and determination, almost charming their courage to jump into the risks of trial and error.

I want to encourage you guides-trainers again and again to trust your already acquired training skills, your knowledge of the matter, and especially your professional experience.

Allow me to repeat my advice to very carefully listen and observe the clients, your environment, and yourself. In other words: don't forget ‘to listen with your eyes and look with your ears.’

Watching oneself on a video seemed to be quite confronting for as well the trainers as the freelancers; however they all appreciated this direct kind of feedback.

I found the freelancers very brave to jump into this ‘learning by doing’ stuff. There they stood, improvising and risking themselves in role-playing guiding skills, facing new and difficult situations. I would like to encourage them to try as hard as possible to become good ViaVia guides. Keep in mind that it is a very rewarding adventure, in which you will certainly learn a lot, not only as a guide, but also as a person. (Isn't it, guides?)

Let it be clear that, besides the training, I also very much enjoyed my stay in Yogyakarta.

The trips I did with Vita, Cisca, Uji, Ade, Ifa and Mie, the skilful massage of Mbak Pri and Pak Oo. the meticulous facial therapy and hair treatment (just imagine this was the first time in my life!), meeting the charming ViaVia crew, enjoying the splendid food, chatting with the regular ViaVia customers, strolling around in Mie's spacious house, driving along the bustling city traffic on the back of different motor bikes (also very exceptional for me), doing small shopping, meeting friends I didn't see since 2000, ...

What impressed me above all, over and over again, is the confrontation with the concreteness – I mean beyond a television item in Europe - of the disasters that struck Java the past few months and years. Specifically to discover the togetherness within people, in experiencing a common feeling of anxiety and smallness against nature. It made me feel humble and silent.

Thank you very much, all of you, for this precious present of my stay in Jogja..

World Refugee Day :

20 June 2007

by Jesuit Refugee Service

Every year on 20 June the world honors the courage, resilience and strength of refugees. On the sixth anniversary of the United Nations-designated World Refugee Day, thousands of organizations in hundreds of countries will come together to focus global attention not only on the plight of refugees and the causes of their exile, but also on their determination and will to survive and on the contributions they make to their host communities.

Indonesia has seen hundreds of thousands of people fleeing their homes from armed conflict and natural disaster. Although many conflict situations are resolved and peace restored about 200.000 people are still displaced and unable to return.

It is this Internally Displaced People (IDP) we want to recognize and honor for their courage as well to raise awareness so that might see durable solutions for them in the future.

To raise awareness and to honor refugees and IDPs, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) based in Yogyakarta has organized several events at Lembaga Indonesia Perancis (LIP), ViaVia and Kinoki. A wide range of events including discussion, art, music and films.

19 June 2007, 7 p.m.

Uproot

New Media performance by Venzha Christ

Venue : LIP

20 June 2007, 3-6 p.m.

“Can’t They Just Go Home?”

Book launching of “Boats of Hope” a story about the future of displaced people in Kesui, Moluccas
Discussion about Internally Displaced People in Indonesia

Keynote speakers Fr. Baskara T. Wardaya, SJ

Venue : LIP Auditorium

20 June 2007, 6 p.m.

Jimat Nogo

Musical performance by young earthquake survivors

Venue : Outside terrace LIP

20 June 2007, 7.30 p.m.

IN-TRANS-OUT : Art Exhibition Opening and Moluccan contemporary Jazz

Venue : ViaVia

21 June 2007, all day

Refugee Movie(s)

Venue : Kinoki

Jesuit Refugee Service Menyelenggarakan

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

HARI PERINGATAN PENGUNGSI

19 Juni 07 - 19.00 WIB

UPROOT

New Media Performance - Venzha Christ

LIP - Jalan Sagan 3 - Yogyakarta

20 Juni 07 - 15.00 - 18.00 WIB

BISA PULANG?

Peluncuran buku 'Boats of Hope' - cerita pengungsi Pulau Kesui, Maluku

Diskusi tentang Pengungsi di Indonesia

Pembicara Dr. Baskara T Wardaya, Direktur PUSDEP Sanadadharna Yogyakarta

LIP - Jalan Sagan 3 - Yogyakarta

20 Juni 07 - 18.00 WIB

JIMAT NOGO

Pertunjukan Musik oleh anak korban gempa

LIP - Jalan Sagan 3 - Yogyakarta

20 Juni 07 - 19.30 WIB

IN-TRANS-OUT

Pembukaan Pameran Seni - Arya Pandjalu - Bambang Toko Witjaksono -

Eko Nugroho - Didik Eko codit Sukowati - Ferial Afiff - Indrayanti -

Mie Corneodus - Theresia Agustina Sitompul

Musik Jazz Maluku Kontemporer

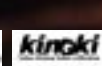
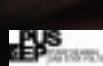
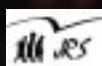
ViaVia - Jalan Prawirotaman 30 - Yogyakarta

21 Juni 07 - 18.30 WIB

LETTERS TO ALI - Clara Law - Australia - 106 min - 2004

13 SEPTEMBER - Shalahuddin Siregar - Indonesia - 20 min - 2005

Kinoki - Jalan Suroto 20 - Kotabaru



Courses for ViaVia staff

ViaVia wants to empower its staff, therefore ViaVia offers free courses. ViaVia offers English course for the kitchen staff, computer course for the waitresses, sewing course and dance course. Below you'll see some of the comments of the course participants...

IT wizzard

by Romdi (computer course participant)

In the past I only knew how to send an email, but now I know how to operate a computer completely. At least I can use the simple applications, such as Word or Excel.

It helps me a lot in my current job as a waitress. Now I can type a wine list or other administrations things with the computer, instead of doing it by handwriting or manual.

I wish that I'll have more chance to practice what I've learned and explore computers further. Maybe it's a bit too late at my age to learn computer, but who cares???? Better late than never, right? (Romdi is 32 years old. Red.)

English is important

by Paulina (English course participant)

I realize working in an international restaurant that English is a must. With English we can communicate better with our customers. I realized that I lacked English skills, therefore with an English course held by ViaVia, my friends and I can improve our English. It's a good opportunity for us and we join it with pleasure.

Our previous teacher was a foreigner. It was an advantage for us because we could pronounce every word correctly. The problem was she didn't have enough ability to speak Bahasa Indonesia, so we had some difficulties understanding.

Now we have had a new teacher for some time. She's Indonesian. She's also a good teacher for us. The way she teaches makes us understand English and she's patient enough to teach us.

In my opinion, when we try to learn something new, we have to have active and positive communication. So, we're open for every single thing that we don't understand yet. Another good thing about the teacher is that she gives us homework so we can practice by ourselves.

With this course, I hope I can improve my ability to communicate in English. For me, English is important, especially to gain more knowledge for myself. So, thank you to ViaVia who supports us by giving the opportunity and encourage us to learn. ViaVia gives attention to the knowledge of its staff, especially those who has lack of English. Thank you...

My experience as an English student

by Tomo (English course participant)

My name's Utomo, but Tomo is my nickname. I work in the ViaVia Café. When I first joined ViaVia, I couldn't speak English at all. I know that English is important because most of our customers are foreigners. I said to myself to learn English, no matter how. Not long after that, ViaVia offered me to join an English course. I said yes to the offer with pleasure.

At the first meeting of the course, I lost my self-confidence, because my teacher was a foreigner. I couldn't speak English at all; I didn't know any English words. The teacher also could not speak Bahasa Indonesia. She said that she also wanted to learn Bahasa Indonesia.

But now, we have new teacher. She's one of the freelance guides and a student of Universitas Pembangunan Nasional (UPN). She's my age; therefore she doesn't want to be called "Ibu" or madam. Before we started the course, she gave us the techniques to learn English. Now, as I join several class, I realize that English is easy to learn sometimes, but also difficult in other times. If I practice all the time, English is easy, but also difficult... It's difficult for me to speak in English correctly, but I understand if someone speaks in English.

Time goes by... And I find out that the lesson is getting harder, many similar sentences with different meaning. Well, so far the courses run good for me. I have no idea when we have an examination for this.

I will use this opportunity to be better

by Evi

In my opinion, an English course is very important. Besides, it gives me the opportunity to communicate with tourists and helps me to give better service. I always have difficulties in communicating with customers.

After several meetings with this English course, I feel happy to learn English. It's fun... I know that the cost of an English course is not cheap; therefore I'd like to use this opportunity as well as I can.

Our current teacher is a new freelance guide. With her, I have no difficulty learning English. I can ask her everything that I don't understand. She's a nice person, patient and has sense of humor. She teaches me how to speak English correctly.

I learn how to greet the customers in English and I know when to use the correct tenses.

I hope, this course will continue for a long term until my friends and I can speak English fluently.

I have to practice my English with customers

by Latifah (English course participant)

My name's Latifah. I work in ViaVia Café as a helper (one of kitchen staffs). Most of the guests are foreigners. Even though I seldom meet the customers directly, I know English is an important thing, and I also have to learn to speak English. Then ViaVia offered an English course for the staff.

Our first teacher was Canadian. Her name is Zoe. She's pretty and she looks like Avril Lavigne. She doesn't speak Bahasa Indonesia well, so we tried to teach each other. I learn how to speak English; she learns to speak Bahasa Indonesia. But sometimes I couldn't understand the lesson because of language problems. I only had one meeting with her. From her, I've learned how to pronounce English words, and learned about time.

Then I have a second teacher, she's a freelance guide. From her, I learn about grammar, how to introduce myself and others, how to describe somebody. She always says to have self confidence to speak English. Besides, I have to practice my English directly with customers.

I have more experience

by Siti (English course participant)

ViaVia held an English course for its staff. I've joined this course several times. It was interesting and a good course because I can learn how to speak and write in English, though it's not much. But it brought me one step a head.

I know I have to learn more and I found out that English is not easy. But it's a challenge for me to

develop my self and keep on learning.

Because it is still early in the course, I don't have enough stories to share.

I'm glad that ViaVia offers a course for the staff, especially an English course. It makes me better and I have more experience.

I learn how to be disciplined and patient

by Yanti (sewing course participant)

The main reason why I join this sewing course is because I have to go to a dress maker every time I buy a new dress. It's difficult for me to find a fit and comfortable dress to wear. So, I decided to join this course in order for me to make my own dress.

In the beginning, I found out that this course depresses me because of the theory behind making a dress. It's so mathematic. Everything needs exact measurements, if not, the result won't be good.

After I finished my basic class, I started to understand all the stuff. And now I'm at the beginning of third class and the lessons are getting harder. There's the time that I have curiosity, but in other time, I have headache with the course.

I learn how to make my own dress, but the most important things are I learn how to be disciplined and to be patient. And now I can and I love to do the thing that I didn't like previously, which is sewing...

I didn't win, but I'm glad

by Helena (Yatin's daughter, dance course participant)

One day, I was invited to join a Balinese dance course. First I refused it. But then I rethought about the offer and I decided to join the course. It's fun... I love this course; I always want to attend the course, no matter what. Even when rains hard or when I am sick, I always try to come to the course. Because I want to dance "Pendet" and other Balinese dances soon. I have support from my parents and my mother's friends in ViaVia.

Up to this moment, I missed my class twice. First, because it rained hard and the second one because I was ill. But now, I can always come to the course since my house is near to the course place.

A few days ago, I participated in a dance competition. I didn't win, but I'm glad. I have new friends and I can dance.

NEW TRIP IN PROGRESS - STUDENT TRIP

Go Deeper in Jogja - Student in the City
By Uuth

When Mie proposed that we, the new freelance guides, could create a new tour based on Yogyakarta as a student city, it made me feel like... 'Oh my God! What the hell is it?' It is hard to imagine how we can arrange our own tour? We realize that the tour will also be placed in the list of tours in ViaVia.

Well, having a student tour is a very brilliant idea because Yogyakarta is a student city after all. Whether we want it or not, we have to face it. We started to work on it in small groups.

Discussing which places to visit was wonderful. The discussion was full of "blood" :). First of all, we tried to make a list of places to visit. After discussing for a long time, we eliminated some places. Then my friend's boyfriend brought us food. He brought anything he could find from a warung in front of our campus, Sanata Dharma University. As a result, we could not concentrate anymore.

Our mission is that we want to show guests that Yogyakarta is a student city which is also a miniature of Indonesia. We do not only want to share how we study, but we also want to share how young people from all over Indonesia live in very limited conditions.

Talking about our life as a student in Yogyakarta, we first of all have to talk about where we live, our boarding houses. We call it "**kos-kosan**". Well, Indonesian people are very creative in making new words and also taking words from other languages. "Kos-kosan" stems from Dutch, "in-dekost", which means renting a space or a room, in former times with boarding.

In the past "kos-kosan" meant that you would also eat with the host's family. The host will cook for you. While today's "kos-kosan" means that you stay in that place for a period of time. It is all up to you whether you are able to eat that day or not, the host will not think about that. Nevertheless, if you have not paid the rent, then it will be the concern of the host... Time has changed...

We can find many kinds of "kos-kosan" in Yogyakarta. From the luxurious one until the "impossible" one. Well, you may interpret the luxurious one as a "kos-kosan" with air conditioner, private bathroom, the price is more than Rp 500.000 a month, fully furnished, television, personal computer, large room and parking lot, and also you may

keep a pet inside. Some students say that they choose that kind of "kos-kosan" because of the prestige. Well, we have to face the reality that some students need more prestige than the ability.

The second type of "kos-kosan" is the impossible one. You may find there is not enough space for laying. No! I'm just kidding... The impossible "kos-kosan" is a "kos-kosan" where you can find only a bed and a cupboard or a drawer in the room.

All the members of the "kos-kosan" use the bathroom. So, it is funny to see how the students are waiting for their chance to take a bath, or even have to queue to go to the toilet... The price is usually under Rp 300.000 a month. Actually the more "impossible" a "kos-kosan" is, the more colorful the life will be...

If you want to know where the students spend their time, here I have some places:

Campus

The biggest university in Yogyakarta is Gadjah Mada University (UGM). UGM is located in the middle of Yogyakarta, so that everybody from every part of the city can go there easily. In front of Grha Sabha Pramana (UGM's hall), you'll find a two-line street which we call Boulevard UGM. Boulevard is the most comfortable place to go, because it's there that you'll find lots of students from all of the universities in Yogyakarta.

My mother said that UGM has changed over time. Formerly, my mom and her boyfriend went to Grha Sabha Pramana to have a date. Today, you not only can have a date, but also study...

In the boulevard you may do anything or just see many things. Taking a walk in the boulevard will not make you bored. There are lots of things that we may see there. For example Capoeira. Capoeira is a Brazilian traditional combat art. The players look like dancing rather than fighting. They also use music which comes from an instrument like percussions. Dung... Dung... Dung... The history of Capoeira itself is really interesting. It was made by the Brazilian prisoners who were not allowed to do exercises and also defense. So, they made this kind of combat art to exercise and defense them.

Beside Capoeira, we can also see Indonesian traditional martial arts. It is called "Pencak Silat". It is a kind of martial art in which the players dance. Some "Pencak Silat" groups use magic. The players can eat glass, walk on glass, and sit on a piece of paper while everybody takes the paper (the paper is not ripped!).

Angkringan (traditional restaurant)

It is the most visited place for students because of the cheap price. For only Rp 700 we can eat rice. Angkringan also offers many different traditional things. For the foreigner, you can see that Indonesian people also eat pet food. Actually we think that it is delicious and also good for our health. Chicken intestines are the most wanted food for everybody. Finish the meal with "kopi tubruk", a kind of coffee in which you can feel the odor of the coffee. Its taste is a little bitter and a little sweet.

Angkringan are usually very small and can be found all over Jogja. After spending Rp 3000 you will be full, your stomach will say 'no more'. Usually open after 5pm.

Shopping

It is a complex with tens of booksellers and thousands of books; old and new; legal and illegal. It is one of the favorite places for students because of the illegal books and the cheap price. We can also find the most wanted book. But patience is needed to go around from stall to stall.

On the last day of the month, when students are broke you'll find many of them reselling their books at Shopping. The most unique thing that about Shopping is that it is possible to find the papers we have written ourselves there. The booksellers sell our papers and dissertations. Well, in my opinion, they should pay tax to us. Right?

CURRENT EXHIBITION IN VIAVIA



PAMERAN PUISI RUPA
Hery S
KETIKATUBUH KATA

PEMBUKAAN
Selasa, 29 Mei 2007
ViaVia Café, Jl. Prawirodaman 30
Pukul 19.30 WIB

di dukung penampilan: Sound of Puisi
Tony Maryana CS



ViaVia
TRAVELERS CAFE - RESTAURANT
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Water Project with Rumah Teman and LIP

Working together with Rumah Teman and LIP (Lembaga Indonesia Perancis) ViaVia supports the project AIR UNTUK KEHIDUPAN (water for life). This social project focuses on the problems of access to clean water and the environment around the rivers running through Yogyakarta.

AIR UNTUK KEHIDUPAN started with an exhibition on 10-20 May 2007 in the LIP Gallery.

On May 11, we had discussions about the project at LIP. The keynote speakers were:

Dachron Saleh,SH as the director of PDAM,

Ir Haji Darmanto Dip,He,MSc as the head of laboratories of health UGM Yogyakarta

Abbot/Husin Halim as project manger AID Organizations Rumah Teman

In this discussion we talked about the water problem that we have in Yogyakarta, like the water from the government PAM that is not good enough, and the bad service and how to solve the problem. With Abbot we also talked about the problem that we have along the rivers in Yogyakarta. He started his presentation showing before and after pictures from a previous project in Kaliurang. He then invited people to join in cleaning the river north of Yogyakarta. More people than expected offered to help.

So on May 13th and 20th the team of 100 volunteers headed to clean the Boying river near Kaliurang. Everybody was enthusiastic. The river begins to the north of Yogyakarta, and this is why we chose to start working upstream.

Learning also from the experience of flooding in Jakarta, more and more people in Yogyakarta realize that we have to start managing our rivers and we hope from this project we can open people eyes and make them realize that it is necessary to care for the environment around us.

This is actually the second time for ViaVia to participate in an environment project. Before this we also did in one elementary school in south of Yogyakarta, where we spent almost one whole week sharing knowledge with children about managing and recycling garbage. We did experiments with water and rubbish. So they can see what happens if they throw away the rubbish in the rivers. We watched a movie about how the rivers flow from the north to the south of Yogyakarta and how dirty they are. It made the children realize the importance of keeping the rivers and environment clean. A good way to make children understand is to create a story about an oding fish who was happy living in clean water and then suddenly the water was flooded by the river, and the fish had to swim in dirty waters. This of course was traumatic for all the fish. .

In the last project we also painted waste buns, and taught the students how to separate recyclable rubbish like paper and plastic, and how to use organic waste to make fertilizer. ViaVia is planning to do similar projects again in the future.