

A Banner Year for *JIS Alumni*

It seems longer than 12 months since I last wrote an introduction for this magazine. It has been a banner year for our alumni – both as individuals and as small (and not so small!) groups. You will see on our web site and all through this magazine story after story of achievements in academics, sports, service and personal arenas from spanning ages, nationalities and all parts of the globe. You will also hear about get togethers occurring – both formally and informally all over the world. From Bali and Vegas 10 year reunions last summer, to a great night at Score here in Jakarta over Christmas, to some Joint Sound Alums attending this year's Madrigal Dinner, to a very recent IASAS reunion in New York: alumni are reuniting.

The hottest reunion spot, however, has to be Facebook. At latest count, 2,332 people have signed up for the group called Jakarta International School. There are separate groups for classes, the different campuses, class ranges, faculty, special interest (Joint Sound, sports etc.), and groups in different geographic locations. About half of my friends on Facebook have some connection to JIS – amazing considering I haven't been a student here for over 20 years! With the photos, videos, and other information on the site, I have reconnected with people who I had completely lost touch with – and I continue to find and 'be found' by people every week. If you haven't done so already, *sign up!*

Our JISalumni.com web site is still going strong, and we have plans to continue to improve the security and functions of site. With interfaces such as MySpace and Facebook providing so many applications and functions, our alumni web site's primary function is for the school to keep in touch with you, and communicate relevant information and announcements. Our mailing lists for events and news items will still be generated from this, the official JIS site, so please, continue to maintain your information in our database there in order that you don't miss out on any events in your area.

If you are outside of Indonesia (as almost 8,000 registered alums are!), you will be reading this magazine online. This is the first issue in nearly 10 years that is not being mailed en masse overseas. Several factors have influenced this decision, including our renewed commitments to environmental and fiscal responsibility. With the number of alumni (and therefore delivery costs) spiraling upwards and over 40% of magazines returned due to incorrect addresses, the way we were running the magazine no longer made sense. This issue will be published solely online – if we can figure out a way to manage a 'by request only' mailing service and keep our subscriber list up-to-date, we may restart the mailing service again.

In the meantime, please continue to send us your updates so that we can include them in our 'e-news' updates on the web site, and in upcoming issues of the online magazine.

As a final note, this is my last year as JIS Communications Director (a.k.a. Alumni/Development Coordinator). It has been a real pleasure on both personal and professional levels to act as voice and advocate for alumni for these past 4 years, and I look forward to joining the ranks of JIS alumni around the world and see where we 'go' as a group. I hope to keep in touch with many of you via the web sites and various reunions. Thanks to all of you who have supported the Alumni Office by sending your updates and photos, organized get togethers and reunions, stayed in touch, and even come by and visited us here at JIS. I wish you all the best.

Beth Owen ('90)
JIS Communications Director



At a mini-reunion at Score, Jakarta: (From left, front): Meilyn Tan ('95), Beth Owen ('90), Rosadah Carre Klitzner ('88), Simon Klitzner (middle) Erika Fries ('95), Suelyn Tan ('98) Doug Slusher ('90), Edwin Theiroff ('90), Yves Groenewoud ('89), Arian Ardie ('77) (rear) Sian Owen ('88), Sten Vogel ('95) and Mitch Good ('89)

Beth walks her daughter Lucy on a Bali beach.

