Bushbury Parish Visits Indonesia and Singapore

At the invitation of our friends the Dean of Singapore, Rev T Timothy Chong and his wife Magdalena (far left), once more a contingent from Bushbury Parish made the long journey to South East Asia. (Ian Poole in the centre with his wife Mary and far right Ian Harris, warden at St Mary’s).

We set out on our travels on Tuesday 19th January and returned Tuesday 2nd February. This photo is taken in Singapore and is one of many occasions where we enjoyed such generous hospitality and food!

Our first assignment was in Jakarta where we spent two days teaching on the book of Galatians. The pastors and students, pictured right, generously gave of their time to study and share together, many of them having travelled several hours.

Yopie
(The lake behind looks inviting, but being a volcanic lake is a little lethal!)

We then made the journey from Jakarta to Bandung (80miles) on Saturday 23rd January delayed by traffic and much welcome food! We travelled with our friends Rev Yopie Buyung and his wife Hertina. Yopie leads the pioneer Anglican ministry in Bandung and oversees 3 city Churches and other Churches in the rural areas surrounding Bandung.

On the Sunday we had the privilege of sharing at all three of the city Anglican Churches. Pictured right is the main Church, St Paul’s, at their carol service led by the young people (Christmas is a flexible affair in Indonesia and starts around September and continues to the end of January!)
Pictured left is St Peter's which is only 5 years old and under the leadership of Daniel and his wife Diana with the support of Yopie and Hertina has grown from 7 worshippers to over 120 and is looking to expand! This is the Church that St James' and St Mary's in Bushbury directly support.

Pictured right is an evening service at St John's Church, which is located on a military base in Bandung, which, superficially at least, feels safer!

Left is a gathering of some of the students and leaders that attended the teaching at St Paul's theological college. Again the subject was Galatians. Once again we enjoyed their generosity and wonderful cuisine.

Finally, we valued a welcome few days rest in Singapore en route back to the UK at the invitation and generosity of the Bishop of Singapore. Pictured here is Singapore Cathedral where we met up with Magdalena to go to the 9am Sunday service. Before we said our final goodbye, once more we enjoyed a meal together.

As we flew home we reflected on the Kingdom imperative that where you give you receive and so we felt we received so much more from the people and the Lord than we had been enabled to give out.