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Flood Mitigation Projects: What's Been Done

By A. Jeyaraj

In Issue 146 (July 1-15, 2012) Ipoh Echo featured a story on massive flooding earlier in the year. With the extended rainy season, residents living in the affected areas in Gugusan Manjoi, Lim Garden, Hock Aun Garden, Tai Le Village and Buntong are worried about the recurrence of floods and have enquired about the progress in flood mitigation projects that were to be executed.

Continued on page 2



February 2012 flood



New pump at Jalan Abdul Manap, Lim Garden



Construction of bridge at Jalan Manjoi



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Paranoia about flooding rises with level of water in the river

Ipoh Echo interviewed Datuk Abdul Razak Dahalan, Director of Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID), Perak on the status of flood mitigation works that are in progress. The following is a report.

Retention Pond in Merdeka Garden

The retention pond costing more than RM3 million will be ready for use this month. The drains leading to the pond have been upgraded and three pumps will be installed. This should resolve flooding in an area of about 48 hectares including Merdeka Garden (17.54 hectares), part of Pari Garden and SMK Megat Khas. Merdeka Garden has not flooded for the past two years.

Flood mitigation works in Lim Garden

Two pumps have been installed in the retention pond and a third pump, costing RM50,000 with a flow rate of 10 cusec (283 litres/sec), will be installed by the end of March. A diesel pump has been installed in Jalan Abdul Manap and the residents have been trained on how to operate the pump which they have done a number of times. Maintenance of the pump will be undertaken by MBI.

In Lorong Pari, the availability of land opposite is being looked into to build another mini retention pond. This could resolve the flooding in an area of about 14 hectares including around 100 premises and Tarcisian Convent School.

Gugusan Manjoi

Two pumps with a capacity of 10 cusec (283 litres/sec) have been installed at the entrance of Gugusan Manjoi. Residents in Kg. Tengku Hussin Lama would benefit from this. Meanwhile, the location for a retention pond has been identified along Sungai Pari at Klebang. The design work for this has been completed and discussions are being held to acquire the land.

Buntong

Sabramaniam a/l Appadurai, Councillor for Buntong, when contacted, informed Ipoh Echo that new monsoon drains have been constructed in Buntong Jaya and other flood prone areas. The flooding problems for the past twenty five years appear to have been solved.



Sabramaniam a/l Appadurai

On the Subject of Rivers

Sungai Pinji, cannot be deepened or widened which would have been a simpler solution. Instead, the location for a retention pond has been identified at Batu 8 Tambun. Here, an unused pond can be upgraded and design work and acquisition of land is in progress.

Sungai Pari, similarly cannot be deepened or widened. During the rainy season the river is flowing at its maximum capacity and cannot take any further loading. The state government has been advised that all new developments upstream must provide their own retention ponds and not discharge directly into the river.

Location for a retention pond for Sg Pari has been identified near Gunung Lang. Meanwhile, Razak said that the maintenance crew is regularly inspecting the condition of the flap gates on Sg. Pari. Debris stuck

between the flap and pipe would prevent a tight close and cause backflow. Also part of the mitigation project involves replacing the fallen concrete slabs on either side of the river with stones.



Datuk Abdul Razak Dahalan



Fallen concrete slabs



Retention pond in Merdeka Garden

Drains and Low Deck Bridges

Part of the flooding problem comes from blocked and under sized drains. To mitigate this, a master drainage plan for Ipoh has been prepared which includes the flood prone areas as well. As part of this master plan, drains are being regularly upgraded when funds are available.

The low deck bridge along Jalan Menteri in Kampung Manjoi is being upgraded at a cost of RM4 million and the job is expected to be completed by May this year.

MBI has identified all the bridges that need to be upgraded and have requested for funding under the 10th Malaysia Plan. These will be upgraded as soon as money is available.

Early Warning System

When Ipoh Echo enquired whether an early warning system for flooding can be implemented, Razak said that it was not possible. He said that the rainfall is localised and many surveillance points must be installed therefore requiring a very sophisticated system. Sungai Pari is a small river and water flows from the catchment area to residential areas in a short time.

Lim Garden Residents Committee

The secretary of the Lim Garden Residents' Committee, K. Sagadevan, has voiced a number of concerns. Owing to the current unpredictability of weather more complications have arisen. Nowadays even during a short heavy shower, the drains overflow and the compounds of houses and fields become flooded.

During a recent heavy rainfall, a number of houses in Lim Garden were flooded because the pumps in the retention pond were started late by the attendants. The committee feels that residents must be trained to operate the pumps to ensure that the water is at the minimum level in the pond in order to enable rainwater from the drains to flow into it. As the main cause of flooding of Jalan Muhibbah and Jalan Abdul Manap is backflow of water from Taman Idris, the water must be routed to the new retention pond in Merdeka Garden.

The toe drain along river bund from Jalan Raja to Jalan Abdul Manap must be upgraded so that backflow water can run to the pump in Jalan Abdul Manap instead of flowing into Jalan Muhibbah, often causing flooding.

Let us hope that these measures would be effective in preventing flooding and that the residents can live in peace.



Pumps at entrance to Gugusan Manjoi

IPOH **echo**

From the Editor's Desk

● by Fathol Zaman Bukhari

PRESS FREEDOM – A MYTH OR REALITY?

To get the now unassailable score of 1 to 10 on RWB's press freedom scale, our leaders have to literally open up the country for a media-frenzy fest.

The right to freedom of expression is enshrined under Article 19 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. To mark this significant development in the advancement of human rights, the UN has declared May 3 as *World Press Freedom Day*. The date, incidentally, coincides with the anniversary of the *Declaration of Windhoek*, a statement on free press principles put together by African journalists in 1991. Not bad for a town rebuilt by a German army major, Curt Von Francois, in 1890 and now the capital city of the Republic of Namibia.

Considering the tumultuous history of this African nation from being a German colony and later annexed by Great Britain through its proxy, South Africa, the origin of the *World Press Freedom Day*, therefore, holds a special meaning to those who preach and practise press freedom.

However, like any other UN-declared days, I feel that the *World Press Freedom Day* on May 3 will come to pass without so much fanfare, as Malaysians brace themselves for the outcome of the elusive GE 13, most likely to be called on March 30. As attention will be focused on mending the wounds created by pre-election media hypes by both sides of the political divide, the significance of the day will definitely be lost in transition. Most Malaysians are suffering from a serious bout of election fatigue caused by too much posturing and politicking by an over-cautious Prime Minister too unsure of himself.

Notwithstanding this, the *World Press Freedom Index 2013* by Paris-based 'Reporters Without Borders' (*Reporters Sans Frontières*) or RWB, has ranked Malaysia at number 145 out of 179 countries under its review. This is the lowest ranking the country has ever recorded since the French NGO started its listing in 2002. We dropped 23 spots compared to the 2011 Index. The best Malaysia ever recorded was in 2006 when it was positioned at number 92.

The fact that countries like Bangladesh, Libya, Kyrgyzstan, Thailand, Indonesia and Brunei are better off than us says plenty about Najib's insistence that "Malaysia is the best democracy in the world". And if that is not bad enough, Myanmar, once an international outcast, is fast catching up with Malaysia.

As far as our leaders are concerned, so long as Singapore (ranked 149) is below us, that is perfectly fine for them. This is something similar to the rivalry between the Rangers and the *Askar Melayu* (Malay Regiment) in the army. And being a pure-bred Ranger officer, I subscribe to the notion that it is perfectly okay to lose a game to any other team but not to the *Askar Melayu*. This is a poor reflection of our leaders' mentality and a sad day for Malaysians, per se.



As journalists we have a major responsibility to perform, and perform well we must if we wish to see a better ranking in the years ahead. However, it is easier said than done, considering the circumstances we are in.

There are 10 fundamental principles known as the "Ten Commandments" that define good journalism. I shall dwell on five, which are related to what those in the mainstream media, including yours, truly are culpable:

Telling the truth. Not something easy, as most journalists and reporters know which side their bread is buttered. Being salaried staff, their obligation is towards their paymasters, especially advertisers and media owners, and not the *rakyat*. I say this for myself too.

The need for verification. This is time consuming, thus journalists take the easy way out by writing what his or her gut-feeling says. Truth is, therefore, compromised.

Unbiased reporting. Again easier said than done, especially in the Malaysian context. If the reporter is covering an event involving a senior politician, it is difficult for him/her to report honestly on what he/she sees and hears. The tendency to sensationalise, and to please, is so overwhelming.

Make the significant interesting and relevant. Over here the news that is significant and relevant is often hidden between the lines. Therefore, it is difficult for the layman to comprehend unless he understands the hidden meaning. Most, unfortunately, do not.

A forum for public criticism. This seldom happens as our journalists are apt to practise self-censorship. When news is so stereotyped and biased towards the ruling party what is there to criticise? The forum has been "self-censored" for good.

Having taken cognisance of the above, press freedom in Malaysia is so screwed up that it will take a while before a semblance of sensibility is achieved. To get the now unassailable score of 1 to 10 on RWB's press freedom scale, our leaders have to literally open up the country for a media-frenzy fest. Laws that inhibit press freedom have to be abolished in order to free mindsets so frozen in time and to overcome self-created fears.

In the meantime, we have to put up with whatever the local news media serves up. Do we have a choice? Press freedom in Malaysia, in all honesty, is a myth or more succinctly, a joke. Period.

EYE HEALTH – MEDICATION AFFECTING THE EYES (Part 2)

Ipo Echo's EYE HEALTH series continues with Consultant Eye Surgeon Dr S.S. GILL talking to us more on MEDICATION THAT CAN AFFECT THE EYES.



Dr. S.S. Gill
Resident Consultant
Ophthalmologist,
Hospital Fatimah

Taking medication for a particular illness or ailment may be necessary for some of us at some point in our lives. Some medication can result in side effects including eye-related side effects, some more serious than others. It all depends on the **type of medication** and the **duration of use**. In this second part, Dr Gill speaks to us more about some medication that may cause eye side effects.

Amitriptyline

Amitriptyline is an effective tri-cyclic antidepressant. Patients who are on this medication may experience dry eyes. It has an effect on accommodation of the eyes, resulting in difficulty with near reading and sometimes distant vision too. This medication may also have a risk for causing a type of glaucoma called "Angle Closure Glaucoma", particularly in persons who are at risk for this kind of glaucoma. Thankfully, most people who suffer from glaucoma have "open angle" glaucoma, and not the angle closure glaucoma variety. Open angle glaucoma patients should experience no problems when taking this medication.

Corticosteroids

Corticosteroids is a common and effective medication that is often used to treat a variety of illnesses ranging from arthritis, digestive problems, bronchial asthma, certain skin diseases, and even some eye conditions, as well as used for hormone replacement therapy (HRT). This may be given orally, injected, inhaled, given as eye drops or applied directly to affected areas of skin.

Long-term use of such steroid medication may result in early cataracts in some patients. Topical and oral corticosteroids have also been found to cause glaucoma. People who are taking corticosteroids for extended periods should have their eyes checked from time to time.

Accutane

This is a medication used to treat acne (pimples). It is known to cause dryness of mucous membranes in our body and also the eyes. When someone develops dry eye symptoms, they may complain of redness, a burning sensation, and even blurred vision at times. Often, a simple prescription of lubricant eye drops or artificial tears and ointments may help.

Accutane may also lead to temporary visual disturbances and trouble with night vision for some people. When starting on Accutane, your doctor will often inform you about these potential side-effects. Do inform your doctor should you have any of these symptoms.

Minocycline

This drug is also used to treat acne and another skin condition called rosacea. It is similar to the oral antibiotic called tetracycline. It may cause a side effect resulting in a blue-grey or brownish pigmentation of the white of the eye (sclera). This pigmentation may be more in areas exposed to sunlight. The good thing is that discontinuation of this drug reverses the pigmentation that it causes.

In conclusion, every medication may have side effects but the decision on whether you need it is BEST DECIDED by your physician after weighing the benefits against the side effects. Also, NOT every person will develop side-effects! Always keep a tab of all medication that you may be taking. Should you need to see various doctors for various ailments, you must inform them of all the medication you are taking. This will avoid unnecessary problems with drug interactions.

For more information, call Gill Eye Specialist Centre at Hospital Fatimah (05-545 5582) or email: gilleyecentre@dr.com.

In The Name Of My Father's Estate

● by Peter Lee

Episode 14

With the disclosure of the bank account under the sole name of Lee Sr, Dave then moved on to the joint bank accounts with different family members. He turned to John and Michele (children of Lee Sr who are also the co-Administrators) for this information. Michele then asked Dave, "Can we just leave aside those bank accounts that are jointly owned with my family members which have not been frozen?" Dave said, "By right, legally you have to disclose all." Then, Michele turned to Connie (Lee Sr's 2nd wife) and asked "Are you okay with my request or follow Dave's opinion?" Connie paused for a moment and replied, "I think I want to follow Dave's legal advice." Michele response to Connie was, "Let's drop the legal crap and be practical to make our distribution easier, if you can agree with my idea?" Connie replied, "That's easy for you to say when the bulk of your old man's money, who happens to be my husband, is in your family's hand." Michele retorted, "I guess there is nothing much I can do since my father married a gold digger". Connie immediately stood up pointing her finger at Michele and shouted, "You better watch your language or I will kick you." Michele also stood up and said, "Let me see you do it right here and right now".



Dave and John quickly pulled both women away from each other. Dave raised his voice and said "Ok! You ladies have to really cool it if we want to resolve the distribution quickly. We have a long way to go and it's only the beginning now. So! Is everyone cool now?" Connie then said to Dave, "You better ask her," pointing to Michele, "to be careful with her words." "Michele then responded and said "You too". John interrupted and said, "Can both of you just stop for heaven's sake and let's move on with it as we have still a lot to discuss." The room was silent for a moment waiting for both the women to cool down. Then Dave said, "Since there is an issue of revealing all the joint bank accounts, I propose that we work on those joint bank accounts that are frozen, because if we can't agree on this, then I think it will be difficult to move ahead". John response was, "Ok, let's do it!" Dave then asked, "Are you okay with it Connie?" Connie replied, "I don't think I have a choice, right?" John continued and said, "I have only a joint bank account with my father and mother in ZNA bank in Singapore which has roughly S\$3 million. This account is frozen". Connie's face suddenly glowed and was seen smiling while Michele was disgusted with her expression. "Ok! Connie, can you give me yours?" asked Dave. Connie replied, "I have two joint bank accounts with my husband of which one is in CDS Bank, Jalan Bunga, K.L. with an amount of RM500,000, and the other one in Bagus Bank, Jalan Mewah, K.L. with an amount of RM800,000. My husband also has three other joint bank accounts with each of my three minor children. The amount in each of the account is roughly RM200,000. These accounts are all in Bagus Bank."

To be continued...

A Happy & Prosperous Chinese New Year! – from Peter Lee

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Call Ghostbusters

When Perak Menteri Besar Dato' Seri DiRaja Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir heard that a 'pocong' or 'hantu bungkus' (wrapped ghost) had been seen roaming around Kampung Raja Bashah in Kuala Kurau, he could not help but quiver with laughter, rather than fear.

According to the *Sinar Harian Online*, a Malay-language newspaper, the 'ghost sighting' in the kampong was linked to a development project in the area and had allegedly been started by Opposition members to play on the superstitions of the villagers.

Sinar Harian alleged that the appearance of the *hantu pocong* was "a bad omen to the villagers, that the project would bring bad luck", implying that the Opposition was trying to influence the villagers' response towards development projects in the area.

An amused Zambry had quashed the ploy saying that it made "no sense" and was "hilarious". He believed that the Opposition was desperate to use superstition to tar the image of the state government.

He said, "Actually the *kampung tersusun* (planned village) development project in that village is an example of the state government's concern towards the people's welfare, when it agreed to build a new settlement once the (villagers') current location has been taken over for the flood mitigation plan construction.

"The situation in the village now is very different from the time when I visited it for the first time, and I hope the people will evaluate the change that the state government is trying to implement wisely."

Zambry may have brushed off the ghost sightings but last October, witnesses claimed that many of them were petrified and have refused to leave their homes after dark. An eyewitness, 52-year-old Mohd Desa Ahmad, said that news of the *pocong* had been spreading since July and that there had been three sightings since then.

Mohd Desa claimed that the *pocong* had appeared 10 metres from him, just outside his home whilst he was having a smoke. Another witness, 58-year-old Mat Salleh, said that he saw the *pocong* around 11pm, at the back of his home, when he went out to investigate what he thought was someone loitering near his home.

Old timers from the village recount similar stories that surfaced when the village was first opened in the eighties, when the nipah forests and jungle were cleared to make way for housing. They claim that many old unmarked graves had been disturbed and desecrated.



THINKING ALLOWED

by Mariam Mokhtar

When contacted, a few Perakians who do not believe in ghosts and the supernatural have poured scorn on the sightings, whilst some have wondered if Kuala Kurau and other so called haunted sites in Perak could be made into a haunted trail, to attract tourists.

In London, the *Jack the Ripper Tour*, a walking tour through the streets of London where *Jack the Ripper* murdered

his victims, is very popular. Various hotels in India have reported sightings of ghosts wandering aimlessly along their corridors and in Alcatraz, the infamous penitentiary is known to have cold spots.

There are several other haunted sites in Ipoh, such as St Michael's Institution, Anderson School and the Brewster Road Convent. Ipoh's Tambun Inn is supposed to have a resident ghost, as do many of the army houses down the road near the barracks, on Jalan Tambun.

In Batu Gajah, Kellie's castle is reputed to be haunted as is Alma Baker's house, where the "Lady in white" wanders around the grounds and house.

A former *Malay College Kuala Kangsar* (MCKK) boy once said that he was terrified when walking along the road which leads to the railway station because there was a ghost that used to disturb him as he passed one of the oldest raintrees.

A woman who lived along the road gave a different version of that story. She claimed that when she was a child, she and her sister had been trying to tackle the MCKK boys and would throw pebbles at them, to attract their attention. They dared not go out of the house to chat because of their strict father, but to their consternation, the boys would run away.

Back in Kampung Raja Bashah, Zambry and the Opposition might have another problem to deal with during GE-13 – *pengundi hantu*!

Property

Heaven at The Haven: The Haven Completes its 1st Tower

Twelve awards winner, *The Haven*, recently held an event to celebrate the completion of its first of three Lakeside Residency Towers, the *Acacia*, together with its other completed support amenities which include the clubhouse, swimming pool and jogging track.

The event was royally graced by the presence of their Highnesses the Raja Muda of Perak, Raja Nazrin Shah and Raja Puan Besar of Perak Tuanku Zara Salim. Also present was State Exco for Local Government Dato' Dr Ma Hang Soon, State Secretary Dato' Mohd Puhat and Ipoh Mayor Dato' Roshidi Hashim.

The Haven CEO, Mr Peter Chan, in his address, thanked the local authorities for their continuous support extended throughout the development of the project. Chan also acknowledged his appreciation to the purchasers of the units for displaying their "discerning perception, love of nature and trust" in their purchase.

The Haven was officially launched in 2011 as a world-class luxury condominium amid much scepticism of the development's desirability and viability for Ipoh. Nevertheless, Chan pushed forward promoting the project together with Ipoh as "The Best Vacation and Retirement Location".

Additionally, *The Haven's* location amidst a pristine green location with its own millions-year-old limestone hill, a 140-foot karst formation rising from the crystal clear lake (since named Rockhaven), was a strong marketing point.

Combined with Chan's insistence on quality, *The Haven* has garnered 12 local and international prestigious awards, the latest being



"Best Condo Malaysia".

Chan's attention to detail also extended to the

night's event as guests were ushered to their seats by 'Angels' and Raja Nazrin was presented the key to light up the completed *Acacia* block by a 'Mermaid in the Lake' and officiate its completion. Three of the early buyers of the units were then presented the keys to their apartments.

As the guests went about their dinner, they were serenaded by the *Perak Philharmonic Orchestra* led by conductor Eugene Pook. After dinner, guests were seen strolling around the

lake on the completed walkway.

Based on the night's activities, all of Chan's efforts and vision were realised. Eighty five per cent of the three towers have been sold while the remaining two towers *Banyan* and *Cycas* are expected to be completed by August this year, six months ahead of schedule.

Even though only one block is completed, it is fair to state that *The Haven* has arrived.

MUSINGS ON FOOD



By See Foon Chan-Koppen

Photos by Ginla Foo

seefoon@ipohecho.com.my

SeeFoon yearns for some home cooking in Ipoh



Ever have one of those ‘been-there, eaten-that-so-what-else-is-new’ moods and your jaded palate just longs for that home-cooked taste of dishes that Mum or Grandma used to make? That happened to me recently in the run up to Chinese New Year, rushing about in preparation for celebrating with family in Singapore and friends in Phuket. So when Ginla Foo suggested some home-style cooking at **Restaurant Ipoh**, I jumped at the opportunity and gathered a group of my foodie friends to sample the dishes.

The restaurant, situated on the corner of Jalan Masjid in old town, is an unpretentious 2-shoplot coffee house that looks newly renovated, with white tiled walls which, while clean and hygienic in the conventional sense, is unfortunately the least conducive to noise reduction. So combined with outside traffic noise, the chatter ricocheting off the walls in the non air-conditioned space can reach uncomfortable decibel levels.

However, the food more than makes up for intimate conversation. With an extensive menu and an efficient kitchen, the dishes we ordered came fast and furiously, matched only by the speed with which we wolfed down the food.

The first to arrive was the **pork belly sautéed with scallions**; juicy, tender morsels just a tad too sweet for my personal palate but well received by the rest of my friends – RM10. More to my taste was the pork dish that followed, a **pork and salted fish fried patty**, hot off the wok, the sides still slightly crisped, the insides succulent, redolent with a ‘*Mui Heong*’ (literally translated to mean ‘decaying fragrance’) salted fish flavour which was particularly pungent – RM10. Two poultry dishes, the ‘**Kon Jeen Kai**’ dry fried chicken with a sweet tangy caramelized coating rendering the skin crisp with the meat remaining juicy and succulent inside, utterly delicious at RM12 and the smoked duck’s breast, though slightly on the bland side was good value at RM13.

Two fish dishes came next, the first, **black pomfret cooked Assam style** was tangy, flavourful and the fish was firm and fresh – RM42. This was followed by the **steamed Grass Carp belly**, a very bony fish with delectably sweet flesh. Smothered in mashed fresh ginger, the belly presented no problems, the bones here being large enough to avoid accidents. The ginger masked any potential ‘fishiness’ and the extra fatty flesh from the belly was velvety smooth and ‘umami’ – RM32.

Of course, no home-cooking would be complete without the **Wu Tao Kow Yoke**, taro sandwiched by thick slices of pork belly and braised to mouth watering tenderness. In this case, the RM12 portion was more than ample for the group who were beginning to get satiated. With a **soup** to come, **winter gourd with radish, carrots and red dates**



RM6, followed by **fried sambal Kangkong** or water convolvulus RM8, a **sautéed beef with scallions** RM12, **salted fish fried rice** RM4.80 and the **black bean fried rice vermicelli**, the black bean lending an unusual touch to the usually bland rice noodles and infusing them with flavour, RM5.50, we were all groaning with surfeit by the time we finished this twelve-course meal and paid the bill of RM183 which we all agreed was great value for money.

Not content with all that I had tasted, I saw on leaving the restaurant, that other tables had interesting dishes which still lay in wait for discovery so I made my way back on another occasion and had the pleasure to sample a few more dishes with three of my friends.

This time, I was recommended the **Nai Yau Pai Kwat** or butter coated spare ribs. These were crispy on the outside and tender and succulent inside, with a slightly sweet follow through RM15. I had spied **Wat Dan Hor** (Smooth Egg flat rice noodles) on the previous visit and was determined to try it and I was not disappointed. Thick and soupy, with the rice noodles pre-fried in soya sauce to lend flavour and colour, the bowl of noodles was more than enough for the four of us at RM8.

Next, I chose the **Yau Tsam Ham Choy** (oil soaked fried fish with salted vegetable) preparation for the fish and having a choice of Tilapia or Senangin, I chose the latter which proved to be a hit. The Senangin being one of my favourite local fish, deep fried to crispy on the edges with the addition of the preserved salted cabbage in a sauce, turned out to be a delightful marriage of tastes and textures and worth the RM58 we paid for the dish.

The final touch of **bean sprouts fried with salted fish** (RM8) was the right ending to an interesting sojourn into home cooking like Mum used to make.

Restoran Ipoh

33 Jalan Masjid.

Ask for: Wong Mun Yew Tel: 05-254 0037

GPS: N 04 35 589 E 101 04 938

Open 12pm-3pm; 5.30pm-9pm



HAWKER FOOD

For the benefit of our outstation friends who come to Ipoh for the sole purpose of having a good meal, instead of focusing on a particular hawker food, Ipoh Echo will be featuring a particular place to eat.

Loke Wooi Kee Cafe

26 & 28 Jalan Mustapha Al-Bakri (formerly Clare St.) – New Town at the corner of Jalan Mustapha Al-Bakri and Jalan Raja Musa Aziz (GPS 4.595202, 101.083735)



By VWSL

Since time immemorial, most of us remember the corner coffee shop across the road from Kamdar – Loke Wooi Kee. Most of us will also remember having a meal there after marketing or shopping. It was a treat for kids to have caramel custard and a 7 Up float. Except for some renovation, not much has changed. For visitors who are in the neighbourhood, here’s some of Ipoh’s iconic food (minus the satay) all under one roof.



- Chicken Rice, RM3.00
- Curry Mee, RM3.90
- Rojak, RM4.50 and RM5.50 with prawn cracker
- Penang Fried Koay Teow, RM4.00
- Popiah, RM3.80
- Chicken Soup Koay Teow, RM3.80
- Teluk Intan Chee Cheong Fun, RM3.20
- Hor Hee, RM3.80
- Dai Kao Meen (big apom balik), RM0.80
- Caramel custard, RM2.30 (a good size serving)

There may be an increase in the prices for Chinese New Year.

RECIPE

By Margarita Lee

Yam Cake With Fermented Bean Curd

Ingredients:

- 150g rice flour
- 50g cornflour
- 1000 ml water
- 300g yam diced
- 100g dried shrimps – cleaned, soaked, squeezed and coarsely chopped
- 2 pieces fermented beancurd/nam yee
- 1 Tsp salt
- 1 Tsp five spice powder
- ½ Tsp white pepper
- 1 Tsp sugar
- ¼ cup Cooking oil

Garnishing:

- 3-4 Tbsp roasted peanuts – crushed
- 3 stalks spring onions – chopped
- 3 Tbsp fried shallots
- 1 red chilli – finely sliced

Method:

1. Mix rice flour and cornflour with water to form a smooth batter.
2. Heat pan over medium heat, sauté shallots and dried shrimps until aromatic.
3. Add yam, fermented bean curd, five spice powder, salt, sugar.
4. Pour in flour mixture and keep stirring until it forms a thick paste.
5. Pour the mixture into a heatproof plate and steam over high heat for 45 minutes, or until cooked.
6. Garnish with deep-fried shallots, spring onions, sliced chillies and roasted peanuts before serve.
7. Serve with chilli sauce.



News Roundup

Mayor and Media Breakfast



Ipoh Mayor, Dato' Roshidi Hashim, held a breakfast meeting with members of the media in early January. Present at the breakfast meet was the Bureau Chiefs of Sin Chew Daily, Oriental News and Ipoh Echo together with Ipoh Councillors and the Council's department directors.

In his speech, Roshidi described the media as a team member of the Ipoh Council for disseminating the activities of the Council and providing feedback for the Council to act; adding that he appreciated the feedback received when he met with the media for breakfast, lunch, high tea and special media nights, occasions which took place frequently in the past year.

During the breakfast, Roshidi also launched the Ipoh City's 25th anniversary logo.

JAG

My Beautiful Malaysia



Prime Minister Dato' Sri Najib Razak launched the nationwide "My Beautiful Malaysia" programme on Sunday, Feb 3. The objective was to instil the spirit of volunteerism among youths in Malaysia while taking another step towards social transformation in the country. The programme involved over a million young people; students, national service trainees, non-profit organisations, youth groups and employees in the public and private and sectors.

The Perak state-level programme, which was launched by Menteri Besar Dato' Seri DiRaja Zambry Abd Kadir, saw thousands of youths converging at the Ipoh Padang as early as 7am. After a mass exercise session led by the MB, participants went about cleaning and beautifying areas around the field. Armed with brooms, garbage bags and paint brushes they spent over two hours at their tasks. The total number of participants in Perak alone was 120,000, across districts, councils and municipalities.

This programme was organised as a way as to engage with the youths. Social transformation is a lengthy process. The government is spending millions to build up the spirit of volunteerism and create a sense of unity among the younger generation. Whether Malaysia achieves developed status by 2020 depends very much on them. A revamped value system will keep Malaysia on its track. As such, 2013 has been designated as the *Year of Volunteerism*.

Present at the launch was Datuk Seri Mohd. Shafie Apdal, Minister of Rural and Regional Development. He was in the thick of the action.

Emily

Rotary Club of Ipoh Scholarships

In 1971, the *Rotary Club of Ipoh* set up the *Secondary Schools Scholarship Fund* for secondary schools in Kinta District, Perak by entrusting a sum of money to this fund which would be matched on a Ringgit for Ringgit basis by the Club. The interest received from the combined sum would be given back every year to the participating schools in the form of scholarships.

This foundation was set up with a sum of RM52,250 from 12 participating schools in Ipoh which was equally matched by the *Rotary Club of Ipoh*. Further sums were also contributed by the Club as unmatched funds to boost up the capital sum.

From the bank interest received, together with the additional sum contributed by the Club to cover the shortfall, a total of RM13,600 was presented to deserving students from the 12 participating schools. The schools selected their students based on their scholastic ability and financial needs. The awards this year was presented by Tuan Hj Mohd Idris b Hj Ramli, the Timbalan Pengarah Jabatan Pelajaran Negeri Perak, at SMJK Yuk Choy where a roaring performance from the 24-Season Drum troupe was given.

The number of awards given to each school was determined by the amount contributed.



A First-Aider in Every Home



Stepping up efforts to further empower women and the general public, *Perak Women for Women Society* (PWW) organised a one-day training programme recently called, "First Aider in Every Home". It was the society's first service project of the year. It was conducted by the Malaysian Red Crescent (Perak Chapter).

Although the programme was opened to the public, it was targeted mainly at single parents, kindergarten teachers, guardians of young children and caregivers. It attracted over 80 participants who paid a nominal commitment fee of RM10 each. They were presented with certificates at the end of the course.

PWW is a non-profit organisation that endeavours to enhance the status and lives of women and children in Perak. The society celebrates its tenth anniversary this year.

Since 2000 the Malaysian Red Crescent (Perak Chapter) has conducted numerous first-aid courses. Over 30,000 people throughout the state have attended these courses. As the programme was conducted free-of-charge, PWW made a small donation to the Malaysian Red Crescent.

The programme covered domestic and workplace accidents, sports injuries and bone dislocations, among others. Participants were given an understanding as to why these accidents happen and learnt simple, yet effective ways to avoid and treat them. They were also taught proper administration of first aid which could minimise injury deterioration and save lives.

Emily



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Book Review

by Serena Mui

Living a Balanced Life

The book *Living a Balanced Life* by Dr Peggy Wong is well worth the read. She tries to impart life's philosophies in the simplest and most informative manner without appearing boring. This book certainly stands out from the usual run of the mill, which advocates the "do good, get good" blueprint.

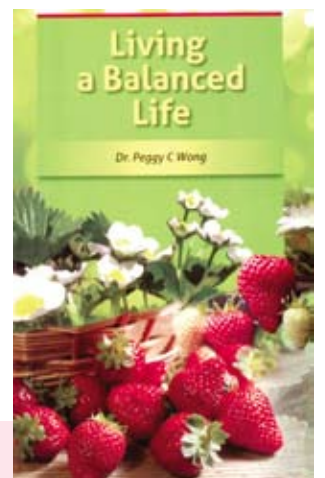
Coming from a corporate background, Dr Peggy understands the basic need people have, to chase the money trail in the hope that it will bring happiness and contentment. She understands the demands this chase entails, and armed with this knowledge and experience, Dr Peggy is now on a quest to try and help others realise that there are other things in life equally if not more important, than simply having a lot of money.

The seven areas she addresses in this book are specifically targeted to help the reader understand the need to pay attention to these areas in life and why. The seven areas or otherwise depicted as the 7Fs (as opposed to the popular 5Cs) are *Faith, Family, Finances, Fitness, Fun and Fruits*. Coming from a person who has achieved almost everything there is to enjoy materialistically, the gist of her book cautions and explains to the reader the folly of pursuing or prioritising the chase for wealth, while still

acknowledging its importance. Dr Peggy tries to make the reader understand the importance of not overlooking the 7Fs.

As the founder and chairperson of *Living Hope*, Dr Peggy is very involved in lending a helping hand to the underprivileged. The various forms of support she and her organisation provides, has helped many live a new life of hope and joy. Her charitable works and contributions have helped see inroads made in organisations such as WWF, Kosovo war victims, JE virus victims and various different homes, centres and organisations both locally and internationally.

'Living a Balanced Life' (102 pages) will be launched by Tun Ahmad Sarli, Chairman of PNB, on March 13 in Kuala Lumpur and will be available at all major bookstores. Priced at RM24, all proceeds will go to 'Living Hope'. In the meantime, orders can be made through email at: info@livinghopeglobal.org or dr.pwong@livinghopeglobal.org.



Business

The Octagon – Ipoh's New Landmark

Meriti Besar Dato' Seri DiRaja Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir initiated the groundbreaking ceremony of *The Octagon* recently. Together with Zambry on this auspicious occasion was State Exco for Local Government Dato' Dr Mah Hang Soon and *Perak Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry* (PCCCI) President Dato' Lim Kok Cheong.

According to Dato' Lim the project is being undertaken by One Octagon Sdn Bhd, a company formed by PCCCI specifically to implement the project and to commemorate the contributions of towkay Yau Tet Shin, the developer who initiated the development of Ipoh New Town in 1908. The development then "consisted of 350 houses, a new market, theatre and a Mandarin school, as anchor attractions".

Located on the site of the former *Yau Tet Shin Bazaar* at the junction of Jalan Raja Ekram and Jalan Theatre, the project named *The Octagon*, will be a 21-storey building project with three floors for a cultural mall, 14 floors of service apartments and four floors for parking lots. It is scheduled to be completed in three years time and will cost RM65 million.

Zambry, in his speech, mentioned that the State is considering gazetting the area surrounding *The Octagon* to become a cultural and tourism district of Ipoh.

Incidentally, the former *Yau Tet Shin Market* was a popular rendezvous for tourists to purchase traditional Ipoh favourites such as pomelos and groundnuts. Additionally, in the surrounding areas were located several Chinese clan houses such as the *Qiong Hai Association* of the Hainan community.

It is good to note that MBI's initiative in January 2009, at a forum to redevelop the former Bazaar to inject life in the area, has finally come to fruition. With this kind of determination and perseverance there can only be one way for Ipoh to go and that is forward.



LETTERS



We reprint some of our reader's comments from our online paper. Go to <http://www.ipohecho.com.my/> to read more. The views expressed in these letters are not necessarily shared by the Editorial Board. We reserve the right to refuse or modify the letters we publish.

Thoracotomy of Ipoh Green Lungs

It is disheartening to see so many century old trees being felled lately...

No doubt, development marks the progress of mankind but sustainable development makes it a cut above and in a more tasteful way too!

Projects and plans could be designed around those trees and in the event of some which are in the way, isn't there a better option to relocate the trees to other green lungs of Ipoh (for example, Coronation Park aka DR Park), Polo ground and a host of others while fellow Ipohites could continue to enjoy the shade, serenity and need I say more? Deforestation is to be blamed for global warming, massive floods, typhoons, haze and the list goes on...

Corporates can also have a Tree Adoption Programme whereby the costs of relocation and replanting are to be borne as part of their CSR programmes.

While Genesis tells the story of how the tree of knowledge bloomed in the Garden of Eden, whereby in an age of advanced technology, I pray for more sensible, visionary and sustainable decisions made by mankind for the sake of our good selves and our future generations!

TFW (Tobacco Free World) Team



My Say

By Jerry Francis



Once a Beautiful Fountain, Now a Sorry Sight

The fountain on the roundabout along Jalan C.M. Yusuf was once beautiful with water spouting high and lit up at night. It had even appeared on postcards of Ipoh City.

It was a soothing sight for the hundreds of motorists, who passed the small roundabout daily. Today, it is in a very sorry state. No longer spouting water and no longer lit up at night, its beauty faded and forlorn in its neglect.

It is a shame that the city council can allow the fountain to deteriorate, reflecting its inability to maintain it over the last 20 years. I first highlighted the 'plight' of the fountain and called for something to be done in 1992. The explanation given by the city council then was that it had other plans for the roundabout.

Ever since, each time the condition of the fountain was highlighted, the city council would make some minor adjustment and it would spout water again. The city council must be waiting for another round of criticism to start moving again. Meanwhile, its plans to develop the roundabout has taken more than two decades and there is no movement in sight.

I am inclined to believe that Jalan C.M. Yusuf, which was named after a prominent local personality, is one of the places ignored by the city under its beautification plan. Some may consider it a small matter but what will visitors to our city think? Certainly, it will not cost a lot for the city council to carry out some cosmetic work to make the fountain look more pleasant; at least for the time being until they can come up with other plans for the redevelopment of the roundabout.

If the city council cannot maintain a simple fountain like this one, how does it hope to maintain the proposed costly "musical fountain" in front of the iconic railway station?

I always feel that the city council needs to have a special squad, if it does not already have one, to carry out minor repairs. Such a squad can carry out maintenance works quickly, such as replacing broken slabs on pavements, cracked drains and other minor jobs around the city.

The existence of such a squad can save the city council money as repairs can be done quickly rather than allowing it to get worse and then having repair jobs contracted out.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements must be sent by fax: **05-2552181**; or email: announcements@ipohecho.com.my, by the 9th or 23rd of every month in order to meet deadlines. Announcements by phone will not be entertained. Ipoh Echo reserves the right to verify any announcement before it is published.

Free Cancer Consultation at PHI in conjunction with *National Cancer Awareness Month* from **February 13 till 28**, 2pm-5pm at Pantai Hospital Ipoh. Resident Medical Oncologist, Dr Zul will be providing free consultation for patients affected or concerned about cancer. Strictly by appointment. Call: **05-540 5555**, ask for Dr Zul's Oncology Clinic.

Briefing on Election Watch organised by *Pemantau Rakyat*, Saturday **February 23**, 2.30pm at Perak Kwang Tung Association, 228 (First Floor), Jalan Iskandar Shah (Brewster Road). Contact: Megat **012-522 2664** for details.

UTAR Ride for Charity, Sunday **March 10**, 6am to 1pm at UTAR Perak Campus, Kampar. Registration fee: RM30 (inclusive of cycling helmet, T-shirt and participation in an exciting lucky draw). The ride is open to public. Deadline for registration is February 24. For enquiries, contact Mr Nicholas **016-322 0293**, Ms Onn **017-776 8468** and Ms Valerie **016-566 8179**. For more information on registration procedures, payment procedures, rules & regulations and route map, visit: <http://www.utarride4charity.blogspot.com/>.

Public Health Talk on 'Fighting TB (Tuberculosis)', Saturday **March 16**, 2.30pm to 4.30pm at LSN Hall, Perak Chest Society, 178-180A, Jalan Pasir Puteh, Ipoh. For reservation call: **05-255 6302**. Seats limited. A community service project by *Perak Chest Society* in collaboration with Leong Oon Keong Chest & Medical Clinic and Norvatis, www.pcs.org.my.

Taiping "Sound-A-Like" Scorpions Band Challenge, April 6. Nash of *Lefthanded* will be in Ipoh later this month to promote the band challenge. Contact Don Patrick **016-286 2959** for enquiries on the challenge, partnerships, sponsorships, advertisements, tickets and others.

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All items mentioned in the above specifications shall follow strictly according to the approved plans and are subject to variations/modifications and substitutions as recommended by the Developer's Architect or Engineer or relevant approving authorities.

Community

Local Property Developer Spreads Joy and Love



As part of the company's ongoing commitment to help the less privileged in the community, leading property player, *Setia Awan Holdings Sdn Bhd*, recently hosted a trip to Ipoh Tambun Lost World for 40 underprivileged children of different ethnic backgrounds and ages in conjunction with Chinese New Year.

The children and their caregivers from the Diamond Home, Air Tawar and Pertubuhan Kebajikan Harapan Baru Sri Manjung were treated to a delightful afternoon of laughter, cheer and fun at the water theme park as they splashed about in the pools and shared fun moments together.

"It was indeed a privilege for us at *Setia Awan* to see the delight in the children's eyes as they immersed themselves in the day's activities," said Dato' Jimmy Doh, Executive Director of *Setia Awan*.

Besides the children from the homes, the trip also included several single mothers and their children. They expressed their gratitude to have been given the opportunity to have a day of fun with their children and also to engage with children from other homes. "It's been a wonderful experience and I would like to thank Uncle Jimmy for the opportunity. My favourite part of the theme park is the water slide rides," commented Jacob Andrew, one of the boys from Diamond Home, Air Tawar.

For La Lee Hoon, a single mother with a 5-year-old son, it was an unforgettable treat. "My son was delirious about the trip and I am also thrilled to have been able to see him so happy. I wish to thank *Setia Awan* for showing us the love and care and we truly appreciate their generous gesture from the bottom of our hearts," she said.

There was further cheer when *Setia Awan* distributed *ang paws* to the children and mothers in conjunction with Chinese New Year. *Setia Awan* will continue to reach out to communities in need by extending support. This is in keeping with their tagline, *For Quality Lifestyles*.

Leong Sin Nam Memorial Celebration



The *Kaying Association* held their 73rd *Leong Sin Nam Memorial Celebration* recently. The annual celebration is to remember the life and services of Leong Sin Nam to the Chinese community in Perak and the country.

Each year the ceremony begins with a visit to the tomb of Towkay Leong Sin Nam at the Cantonese cemetery located off Jalan Lapangan Terbang, followed by a Hakka dinner held later at the Kaying Association Hall. This year the ceremony was led by Kaying Association Deputy President Dato' Hew Choy Kon. The immediate family of Leong Sin Nam together with members of the Kaying Association and staff and pupils of the SJK (C) Min Tet were present at the ceremony.

This year for the first time the memorial included an exhibition of Towkay Leong Sin Nam and also a lecture "Snoring – the dangers and myths" which was presented by Dr Leong Oon Hock the grandson of Leong Sin Nam. According to Dr Leong the lectures will be included in future memorials and will be held outside Ipoh at locations where Leong Sin Nam had played a part in supporting the *Tung Meng Hui* (TMH) activities.

Ipoh TMH, was co-founded by Towkay Leong in 1907 to support the cause of Dr Sun Yat Sen.

Leong Sin Nam was also a philanthropist and donated to many educational, charitable and social institutions. He, together with other members of the *Perak Kaying Association* set up the Min Tet Primary School in Ipoh in 1912. In later years he would donate his bungalow located at No. 17 Gopeng Road from where the Perak Girls High School started before shifting to its current premises at Kampar Road.

For all his noble contributions he was recognised and awarded medals from Sun Yat Sen of China, the *Malayan Certificate of Honour* (1932) and in 1937 the *Most Excellent Order of the British Empire* (OBE), the second non-British subject of this award. Leong Sin Nam passed away on January 19, 1940.

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OBITUARY

The Passionate Perakean – Tun Dr Lim Keng Yaik

The late Tun Dr Lim Keng Yaik was born in Tapah and studied at St Michael's Institution (SMI). He graduated as a doctor from the Queens University of Belfast, Northern Ireland in 1964.

Back home he served at the Taiping government hospital before setting up his clinic at Chemor. For his poor patients he provided free service while for the sick children he would play the clown for them, earning him the sobriquet of 'the mad doctor' from both the mothers and children.

That was the late Tun Lim Keng Yaik, a man of principle who was focused and passionate about whatever he set his mind to. Dr Lim entered politics in 1968 by joining the *Malaysian Chinese Association* (MCA). He contested in the Pekan Baru state seat in Perak in 1969 on an Alliance ticket but lost.

Dato' Hamuzu Tak, currently the Permanent Chairman for UMNO Ipoh Barat Division, knew Lim then. "I used to be his interpreter. For ten days during the campaign period, Lim would stand on the (soap) box (*kotak sabun*) speaking in English and I would translate. I would go to the MCA office to teach him simple Malay and later on when Lim became a Member of Parliament he would always introduce me as his 'Malay teacher'", he reminisced. Hamuzu described Lim as an outspoken politician, "If he disagreed with an issue he would freely speak his mind but he was a very fair person who spoke up for his Chinese community," he added.

In 1971, Lim was made the Chairman of MCA Perak only to be expelled in 1973 for going against the MCA Chairman then, the late Tun Tan Siew Sin. He subsequently joined *Parti Gerakan Rakyat Malaysia* (Gerakan) the same year. In 1974, he was made Perak Gerakan Head, the party's Deputy President in 1976 and Gerakan President in 1980. Lim held the President's post till he retired in 2007 and was succeeded by its current President Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon.

Lim became a state Exco when he won the Jalong state seat in 1978 and an MP when he won the Beruas Parliamentary seat by a handsome margin in 1986. Lim last contested at the 2004 General Election retaining his Beruas seat with a clear majority of 4564 votes. He retired from his Cabinet post shortly before the 2008 General Election. In the Malaysian Cabinet, Lim was made the Minister of Primary Industries from 1986 till 2004 and then appointed the Minister of Energy, Water and Communications.

In the '70s when Lim became an MP, Dato' Brother Vincent Corkery, then Brother Director of SMI, received a call from the Cabinet Secretary asking after Lim's school records. Brother Vincent, considering that Lim was a "safe investment" gave him a clean bill of conduct.

Dato' Chang Ko Youn, currently the Deputy President of Gerakan, described Lim as a well known figure in Malaysia who was highly respected by all races on both sides of the divide. Chang joined Gerakan in 1983 after returning from overseas. Gerakan then, was an established non race-based party under the leadership of Lim and it was just what Chang was looking for.

According to Chang, Gerakan first started in Penang under Tun Dr Lim Chong Eu and was strong in Penang and Perak. However, when Lim took over the Presidency in 1980, due to his strong organizational skills, he brought the party to the rest of the country. "Lim had a lot of ideas and the ability to make things happen," said Chang and an example was what he did for the palm oil industry when he was the Minister for Primary Industries.

Indeed it was during Lim's time that the Malaysian products of timber and palm oil was developed and transformed through value-added products such as rubber wood furniture, enabling it to be competitive and sustainable to penetrate global markets.

Tan Sri Lee Oi Hian, CEO of Kuala Lumpur Kepong Plantations Bhd, was the Chairman of the *Malaysian Palm Oil Board* (MPOB) and served under Lim for 13 years. According to Lee, in the mid '90s, Malaysia's output of palm oil was 3-4 million tonnes. Today it is 19 million tonnes while Indonesia's output is 26 million tonnes.

Lee mentioned Indonesia because even in the '90s, Lim had anticipated the exponential growth of the palm oil industry and encouraged Malaysian plantation owners to expand overseas and for Indonesian owners to expand their production base.

Lim's strategy to market palm oil to the world was multi pronged. He streamlined and structured the local industry and formed MPOB. He created POPCA or the *Palm Oil Promotion Credit Arrangement* scheme and did extensive research on palm oil. He then marketed it to the world and promoted it to scientists, nutritionists and decision makers through conferences worldwide.

His extensive knowledge on the positive qualities of palm oil stood him in good stead when going against the powerful soyabean lobby where he effectively proved that palm oil was a healthier product. Lim encouraged the players to see the world as a market and playground where several local companies have now maintained refineries and distribution centres overseas.

For all of his rough and tough attitude, Lim was "a man who never bore any malice" said DAP Perak Chairman Dato' Ngeh Koo Ham, "in fact he was always very witty". Ngeh recalled that he and DAP Chairman Lim Kit Siang bumped into Lim in 2010 at the Tropicana KL. Lim offered to buy them lunch to settle any political animosity. When the bill came up to RM200, Lim smilingly told them "aiya you are very cheap to settle" and they all had a good laugh.

That was Tun Dr Lim Keng Yaik, politically respected, always passionate about what he did and stood his ground for what is right, not forgetting his witty style of address, or as Brother Vincent described it, "a forthright style of expression but invariably getting the message across".

JAG



Tourism

Promoting Malaysia – a National Mission

Malaysia aims to breach the 28-million mark for tourist arrivals in 2014. This was outlined by the Prime Minister in his opening remarks at the launch of the *Visit Malaysia Year* (VMY) 2014 held at the National Stadium Bukit Jalil recently.

"We should regard it as a national mission," he said. Thus the role of promoting Malaysia is not the sole responsibility of people in the industry alone but everyone from the immigration and customs officers at the entry points to taxi drivers, hotel workers, the business community and ordinary Malaysians.

The PM felt that no amount of promotion will suffice if the perception by tourists is one of negativity. "We can have many promotions but the experience visitors take home is important. If they are happy with what they see they will remember it forever. That's the best form of promotion," he said.

At the launch, the campaign's theme song, "Celebrating 1Malaysia, Truly Asia" was sung by Malaysia's rock queen, Ella. The song will be used worldwide to promote VMY 2014.

Regarding the 36-million tourist arrivals targeted before 2020, the number is achievable provided everyone plays their role. The PM's transformational programmes will see to it.

RM



Sport

Going Out With Pride

It was *deja vu* for Perak team as it succumbed to a second 0-1 defeat to Johor Darul Takzim at the Larkin Stadium on Friday, January 25. This time around though, it was in the FA Cup, as the Seladangs were effectively booted out in the first round by a clinical Johor side.

A few weeks before that, Perak impressed many with a resounding performance despite their 0-1 defeat to Johor in the Malaysian Super League. They had two men sent off in the first



half, leaving them with nine players for the second half, in which they defended like heroes to only go down by a solitary goal. Aidil Zafuan netted the winning goal with a terrific header and he came to haunt the Perakeans again three weeks later.

Perak were still missing most of their big guns, with skipper Shahrul Nizam Mustapha and midfielder S. Chanturu still out injured. But the match kicked off on a rather predictable note as big-spending Johor seized initiative with former Spanish international Dani Guiza playing upfront. However, it was Perak who had the first real chance of the game as Hadi Yahya laid a defence-splitting pass for ex-Anderson School player Norhakim Isa. Unfortunately, the youngster scuffed his attempt and a good chance went astray.

Knowing that set-pieces could be their best attempt to surprise the Johor goal, Rafael Novais had a customary long range free-kick from 35 yards. But his spectacular shot was stopped well by the Johor keeper. In fact, the Seladangs meticulously edged into the game and were the better side, as the match approached half time.

After the break, the Southern Tigers came out firing on all cylinders and they got an immediate response. Safiq Rahim stepped up to curl in a corner kick and Aidil Zafuan was placed perfectly to head home the winning goal which, ultimately, saw Perak out of the FA Cup. It was a disappointing end to what was a brilliant performance from the youthful Seladangs.

Credit has to be given to Azraai Khor Abdullah, who has instilled faith in his younger troops. The fact that Perak were missing so many key players through injury and yet managed to put a good fight against Johor Darul Takzim was commendable. Norhakim Isa was arguably the stand-out player of the night, as he rattled the opposition midfield, which had national team players like Safiq Rahim and Nurul Azwan Roya in the midst.

The quality of play shown by Perak's youthful team signals an encouraging future for the side. In fact, Perak's successful President Cup squad in 2012 was one of the major motivations in convincing Azraai to take charge of the Seladangs. The ex-Kedah coach is well known for his passion for working with young talents and the abundance of it in Perak augurs well for the team.

Nevertheless, with the FA Cup out of sight, this could very well be a blessing in disguise for the boys. The injured players are recovering and should be in the team very soon. Perak will have a full strength squad to continue the quest for the league's title.

Keesh

Painting Demonstration



Khor chipped in, adding that, this was the active group that regularly did outdoor paintings and were ever ready for a get-together. The event that day also saw a lot of young visitors who stopped to view the artists at work. This prompted PAS Chairman Wong Kean Choon to comment that a similar event should be held again to encourage an interest in art.

Dangerous Stretch

Chinese New Year Cheer



PHASE 2

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All plans developed in the above Specifications shall follow strictly according to the approved plans and are subject to on-site modifications and substitutions as recommended by the Developer's Architect or Engineer in view of prevailing authorities.

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Land Encumbrances : Nil Total units : 176 Exp. Completion date : June 2014 Land tenure : Freehold Price : Min RM340,800 Max: RM477,800 Approving Authority : Majlis Bandaraya Ipoh



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