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30 SEN FOR DELIVERY TO YOUR DOORSTEP -  
ASK YOUR NEWSVENDOR

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## GE13: "The Mother of All Elections"

by James Gough



**T**he 13th General Election held on Sunday May 5, referred to as "The Mother of All Elections", registered a very high voter turnout of about 84 per cent nationwide. The results of the election in Perak were announced in the early morning of Monday May 6, at the official residence of Perak Menteri Besar Dato' Seri DiRaja Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir. At around 2am Zambry took to the podium to announce that BN had been re-elected to administer the state of Perak for another 5-year term. It had won 31 state seats as compared to Pakatan Rakyat's 28 state seats. Of the 24 parliamentary seats in Perak both BN and PR had won 12 each.

Continued on page 2



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# “The atmosphere was like a neighbourhood gathering”



The elected BN candidates

Gathered there were the BN candidates and the party's volunteers who had helped during the 15 days of campaigning since Nomination Day on April 20. Present were former MB Tan Sri Tajol Rosli, incumbent MPs for Tambun Dato' Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadziah and Padang Rengas Dato' Seri Mohd Nazri Abdul Aziz.

In his first address as the newly-minted Menteri Besar, Zambry thanked the voters for giving him the mandate to serve them for another five years. “I am humbled by your trust in me to serve you for another term. I am aware of our responsibilities, which is to fulfil our pledges in line with our “*janji ditepati*” (“promises fulfilled”) slogan, he said.

Admitting that BN Perak had won by a slim majority of three seats he added that it was still better than that in 2008 when PR won by a similar margin. “It's the reverse now”, he exclaimed. Zambry won his state constituency of Pangkor (N52) with a majority of 5,124 votes.

Earlier on the night of May 5, the DAP candidates for Ipoh Timur and Ipoh Barat were informed of their party's clean sweep at their respective counting stations.

DAP's Ipoh Timur candidates of Thomas Su (P64), Wong Kah Woh (N25), Ong Boon Piow (N26) and Howard Lee (N27) received their good news before 11pm. Present was BN's parliamentary candidate, Kathleen Wong who graciously congratulated Su on his win.

However, Ipoh Barat candidates M. Kulasegaran (P65), Cheong Chee Khing (N28) and A. Sivasubramaniam (N30) received their good news after 12.30am on Monday, May 6.

## High Voter Turnout

Ipoh consists of the five parliamentary seats:

- P63: Tambun including N23 Manjoi and N24 Hulu Kinta
- P64: Ipoh Timur including N25 Canning, N26 Tebung Tinggi and N27 Pasir Pinji
- P65: Ipoh Barat including N28 Bercham, N29 Kepong and N30 Buntong
- P66: Batu Gajah including N31 Jelapang and N32 Menglembu
- P71: Gopeng including N43 Sungai Rapat and N44 Simpang Pulai.

Due to earlier calls for voters to return home to vote, voter turnout was very good with successful candidates winning by large margins. This was evident for Tambun, Dato' Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadziah (BN), turnout: 85 per cent, majority 9,325; Gopeng, Dr Lee Boon Chye (PKR) turnout 83.4 per cent, majority 15,300 and Ipoh Barat, M. Kulasegaran, turnout: 80.9%, majority 29,038, to name a few. With the exception of Tambun, the other four parliamentary seats were won outright by Pakatan Rakyat.

At the 2008 polls, Sungai Rapat (N43) under Gopeng was won by Dato' Hamidah Osman (BN). This time however, she lost to Radzi bin Zainon of PAS (2,638 votes). Sg Rapat has 42,873 voters comprising of Malay 59 per cent, Chinese 31 per cent and Indian 10 per cent.

On the morning of Sunday May 5, voters from Canning could be seen walking to their polling station even before 8am. By 10am lines of voters could be seen queuing up to cast their votes although by afternoon the numbers appeared to have dwindled.

Overall, the process was generally smooth and the atmosphere was like a neighbourhood gathering where whole families could be seen greeting old friends at the registration table. One parent remarked that coming to the polls this time was like *ching meng*, the Chinese all souls day where whole families would return home for the occasion.

Over at Buntong, the queues were still busy even at 3pm which prompted some of the polling workers to wonder if all voters could be processed in time.

Another interesting observation of the voter turnout was the large number of youngsters at the polling stations. It prompted V. Sivakumar to exclaim, “It's a wonderful sight everywhere.”

Ipoh Echo subsequently interviewed the successful parliamentary candidates to get their views on problems affecting their constituencies.

One pertinent issue that was highlighted to all the candidates during the campaign period was the failure of the local council services, specifically regarding SLR (*sampah, longkang and rumpit*) or rubbish, drains and uncut grass. The others are gaping potholes and poor street lighting. Voters complained that the services available are poor.

Voters complained about the disposal of commercial waste. They regarded it as poor although shopkeepers are paying extra. The other consistent complaint was the poor public bus service and the exorbitant taxi fares and, interestingly, frustration over parking space at the General Hospital.

Dato' Seri Ahmad Husni was not available for the interview. The new state assemblyman for Hulu Kinta, Dato' Aminudin Mat Hanafiah admitted that local council issues and public transport services were highlighted during his campaign walkabouts.

Members of Parliament for Gopeng, Dr Lee Boon Chye and Ipoh Timur, Thomas Su Seong Kiong stated that the Ipoh airport should be better connected to regional airports like Bangkok or Manila to enable investors and tourists to access Ipoh faster. Dr Lee added that Gopeng, with its established eco-adventure resorts and caves, would benefit from more tourists arrivals while Su stated investors had indicated a need for direct flights to Ipoh.

Ipoh Barat candidate M. Kulasegaran highlighted that flooding, while being addressed, still occurs. Security and squatters are the other problems that have yet to be resolved.

Dato' Seri Husni had earlier hinted on creating more libraries and co-curricular facilities such as basketball courts within his constituency. These are long-term goals for youth development and leadership skills.

Regarding economic activities and upgrades, all are agreeable that more industries offering more opportunities for skilled workers, should be created. This should be followed up by establishing vocational colleges. This could help raise the standard of living of the constituents.

The elected candidates felt the pulse of their voters and will be sitting with their respective state assemblymen and teamsters to work out a workable solution or solutions.

All of the candidates spoken to are agreeable on one pertinent point – the eyes of the *rakyat* have been opened at last and they are demanding for a better future.



The elected Tambun candidates (L-R): Mohd Ziad, Dato' Seri Ahmad Husni and Dato' Aminudin



Elected (clockwise) Dr Lee Boon Chye (Gopeng P71), M. Kulasegaran (Ipoh Barat P64) and Ipoh Timur P64 led by Thomas Su Keong Siong (3rd from left)



IPOH **echo**

From the Editor's Desk

by Fathol Zaman Bukhari

# A Foregone Conclusion

*Delineation of polling boundaries or more succinctly, gerrymandering, an evil long outlawed in many matured democracies in the West, is the primary cause for this disparity.*

I had underestimated the resolve of Ipohites to make their presence felt during polling day on Sunday, May 5. Believing that we would be among the early birds, my wife, son and I were pleasantly surprised by the huge number of people massing around SJK (C) Bercham, the designated polling station for those living in areas around Bercham. There were a total of 16 streams or *saluran*. The voters were assigned their streams based on their age and localities. My wife and I were in one and my son in another.

It was well organised and Election Commission (EC) officials were readily available to guide voters to their streams and to provide the much needed information, especially for first-timers, the disabled and the infirmed. A few were seen on wheelchairs with their minders providing the push.

Although we were at the school by 9am the number of people milling around the various counters was huge. Apparently, some were there as early as 6am in the morning, well before opening time at 8am.

Being grouped among the oldies, we completed our responsibility an hour later. My son, however, finished much faster. He was by our side in less than 20 minutes and proudly showed his left index figure, which was dabbed in indelible ink, an indicator of his conclusion with GE13. He had returned from Melbourne to fulfil his obligation as a registered voter after failing to do so in the March 2008 general election.

The pervading atmosphere was very much carnival-like. Although Bercham is a Chinese-dominated area, a number of Malays and Indians were there too. What was so special about the occasion was the manner in which the whole episode was conducted. There was no hustling, no shouting and no prompting. The people knew what was expected of them and they went about their business of casting their votes in a very orderly manner.

Their coming out in droves, with their kids and parents in tow, was a good enough indication that democracy was alive and kicking, in spite of some chilling prophecies that the opposite would happen.

We were thrilled that our objective of proving that Malaysians, by and large, are responsible people who abhor violence and are peace-loving, was achieved with little fuss.

Upon completion I lingered for a while to see if any foreign-looking voters were around. We were warned to be on the look out as the threat of *pengundi hantu* (phantom voters) was



real. News of an influx of Bangladeshis, Myanmar, Nepalese and Indonesians, purposely flown in by chartered flights from Sabah and Sarawak, was making the headlines in the social media. These phantom voters were there for a reason – to dilute the number of votes going to the opposition coalition, Pakatan Rakyat (PR).

I saw none. I guess Bercham, being an opposition stronghold, having these *hantus* was of no consequence. They must have been assigned to constituencies where the difference between winning and losing was marginal. This could be the reason why the results for the state seats of Manjoi, Lubok Merbau, Pasir Panjang and Tapah are being challenged and a court petition is pending.

The results were, however, a foregone conclusion. Barisan Nasional (BN) won Perak with a slim three-seat majority. Pakatan Rakyat got 625,710 votes or 54.79 per cent of the ballots while BN received 506,947 votes or 44.3 per cent of the ballots but managed to form the state government. Had the American presidential election system been adopted, PR would have won hands down. Delineation of polling boundaries or more succinctly, gerrymandering, an evil long outlawed in many matured democracies in the West is the primary cause for this disparity.

The last delineation exercise was conducted in 2002 and adopted by Parliament in 2003. According to the federal constitution, there must be an interval of not less than eight years between two delineation exercises. A two-thirds majority support in Parliament and the state assemblies are required to approve the new constituency boundaries. This is, however, not possible presently as BN has lost its two-thirds majority. But the EC can make its own adjustments, as the laws provide for such an exigency.

The swearing-in ceremony of Dato' Seri DiRaja Zambry Abd Kadir as the 12th Menteri Besar of Perak on Wednesday May 7, was marred by the absence of the 28 Opposition state assemblymen. Will this be the trend for future sittings of the state legislative assembly?

There is much distrust in the air. Credibility of the ruling coalition has gone down the drain. Is it proper to apportion blame on one community for the setbacks? Must Chinese be punished for making a choice? Is reconciliation possible under such circumstances? I have no answers.

The road ahead is littered with obstacles which only the righteous can navigate.

## EYE HEALTH – EYE HERPES

**Ipo Echo's EYE HEALTH series continues with Consultant Eye Surgeon Dr S.S. GILL talking to us about EYE HERPES.**

Eye Herpes is a viral infection of the eye caused by the *Herpes Simplex Virus* (HSV). It is more appropriately called *Ocular Herpes* or *Herpes Keratitis*. It is a common infection and it is estimated that about 400 to 500 thousand individuals get infected in the U.S.A. alone annually. There are two kinds of herpes simplex viruses.

### Types

It can be divided into:

**Type I Herpes** – most common type. It mainly infects the face/lips and results in the "cold sore" formation.

**Type II Herpes** – less common. This is the sexually transmitted variety. The primary infection is in the genitals.

The eye can be infected by both types of herpes. However, most of the time it is the *Type I* variety that infects the eye. The *Type I* variety of herpes is very contagious. It can be by skin contact with someone who has the virus. It is estimated that almost 90% of the population would have suffered from the *Type I* variety during childhood.

### How the Eye Gets Infected

The eye gets infected most commonly when an infected person touches an active sore or blister, after which he or she touches their eyes. It may be transmitted by the infected person into his or her own eye or from one person to another.

### Symptoms

A patient who gets infected will complain of a painful sore over the eyelid or a painful red eye with blurring in some instances especially if it infects the clear transparent part of the eye called the cornea. A person may also start to have a watery eye or have some excessive mucus secretions. In severe cases, it may also infect the inside of the eyeball although this is not as common as the former. There may be a hypersensitivity to light too.

### Triggers or a Herpes Simplex Eye Infection

After the first infection, the virus remains dormant or inactive for months or even years until such time there may be an exposure to some trigger factor such as the following:

- a prolonged illness or an injury
- steroid consumption for another illness
- usage of steroid eye drops (without supervision)
- a high fever (unrelated to the eye)
- prolonged exposure to cold winds
- stress
- menstruation in some women
- a weak immune system
- those receiving chemotherapy or radiotherapy for a malignancy.

### How is It Diagnosed

The eye doctor will often instil temporary stain into the affected eye (with fluorescein dye) to detect the eye infection. The infected portion gets stained and is able to be picked up when special blue cobalt light is shone into the affected eye. (See adjacent pic)

### How Serious is This?

If the eye infection is detected early and the virus has infected the cornea (clear transparent area) superficially only, it often heals well with no problems. However, if the cornea is involved more deeply, the infection may lead to scarring of the cornea, loss of vision and sometimes even blindness. So if you have any eye infection that you are unsure of, or it is prolonged, do seek professional eye treatment.

For more information, call Gill Eye Specialist Centre at Hospital Fatimah (05-5455582) or email [gilleyecentre@dr.com](mailto:gilleyecentre@dr.com).



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



## In The Name Of My Father's Estate

Episode 17

by Peter Lee

After discussing with Dave (Lawyer) about the properties especially those that are mortgaged to the bank in Lee Sr's estate, the Administrators of the estate namely, John, Michele (children of Lee Sr.) and Connie (2nd wife of Lee Sr.) will now have to discuss and figure out where to source for funding for the on-going instalment payment. This is because they cannot utilize the money from the estate as the Letter of Administration (L.A.) had not yet been obtained. In the meantime, Dave moved on to the shareholdings of Lee Sr. in all of his private limited companies. John revealed that his father only had a 70 per cent stake in each of the three private limited companies he set up years ago. "These Companies are in housing development and have been managed by me and my other siblings all this while. I am sure you know about it?" he said while looking at Connie to which she responded by smiling. Dave then asked, "What is the value of these shareholdings?" John responded and said, "I think it's worth RM20 million as per the latest audited accounts. But, let me check again and confirm the value to you later." Dave turned to Connie and asked, "Are there any shares of this type held by Lee Sr. that you are aware of?" Connie replied, "Yes! I only have an investment company which my husband and I set up. His shareholding in this company is 50 per cent and I have to check the value of his shareholding with my accountant."

Dave then added, "Ok! Can I confirm with all of you that these are the only shares which he owns in the private limited companies?" Everyone nodded and said yes. John then said to Connie, "Even though all of us have to follow the distribution act, would you consider the idea of my side of the family keeping my father's shares in the companies we've been managing and in return whatever shares held by him in your investment company will be given back to you." Connie then replied, "Let me think about it and come back to you." Dave intervened and said, "I suggest that it's best we start off with the process of applying for the L.A. first and once L.A. is obtained then all of you can discuss and negotiate on this." He further asked, "are there any more assets like the cars, safe deposit box, club membership, etc., which is under Lee Sr's name?" Michele said, "As far as I know, there are only two cars under his name. So, how are we going to distribute it to so many family members according to the distribution act?" Before answering Michele's question, Dave asked Connie whether she knew of any other car which is in Lee Sr's name. In reply, Connie said, "I only know of one car under my husband's name." Then Dave said, "Can you all please give me the registration cards of all these cars. Michele, the answer to your question is that if everyone wants to follow the distribution act, then I will suggest that these cars must be sold subject to consent of all the beneficiaries. In this way, it is much easier to distribute the proceeds from the sale."

*To be continued...*

Peter Lee is an Associate Estate Planning Practitioner (Wills & Trust) with Rockwills International Group. He is also an Islamic Estate Planner providing Wills & Trust services for Muslims. He can be reached at: 012-5078825/ 05-2554853 or [excelsccms@gmail.com](mailto:excelsccms@gmail.com). Website: <http://www.wills-trust.com.my>. His Book "To Delay is Human but to Will is Divine" (96 pages, RM28) is available at his office: 108 (2nd Floor), Jalan Raja Ekram, 30450 Ipoh; Rashi Mini Market (019-510 6284), 37 Jalan Perajurit, Ipoh Garden East; Ipoh Echo and at all major bookstores.



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# Know Your Rights

**H**ave you ever returned home, only to find that the dress you bought has a rip or a stain, an electrical item has a crack which you had not noticed in the shop? Maybe the vegetables looked fresh when you bought them, but some are withered.

Do you react like the majority of people, who simply shrug their shoulders and blame it on bad luck or carelessness? Are you more proactive and return to the shop and explain to customer services, that the goods you bought are faulty?

Different shops have different refund policies. Some give a maximum of two weeks from the time the goods were purchased after which no refunds will be given, but almost all will say that the goods must be in their original packaging. Some items, such as underwear or medicine, cannot be returned once they are purchased, for hygienic and health reasons.

If the sales assistant appears to dismiss your complaint, do you scream and demand that your money is refunded? When do you decide to request to speak to her supervisor or manager?

Shopping can be a curious experience; sometimes when you least want the attention of the sales staff, they crowd around you and destroy your buying pleasure. At critical times, they are nowhere to be found. Some shops are like that. They are keen to make you part with your money, but when things go wrong, they don't want to know.

Many shop employees are not properly trained to deal with returns or refunds, so you must be vigilant and never be fobbed off by assertions, that the shop cannot help and that your only recourse is to contact the manufacturer.

You paid for the item in the shop and your contract is with the shop. You should not have to put up with poor quality or damaged goods, or endure poor service from shopkeepers when complaining. You should not be afraid to kick up a fuss. In today's world, some employees are put under a lot of pressure by their employers. Be persistent but remain polite.

It is handy to know that it is often worthwhile to contact the head office of the shop or store you purchased your item, by phone and with a follow-up letter, if your complaint has not been properly addressed.

Perhaps, being aware of your rights, will prevent you from being conned in the future.

The rule of thumb which one consumer site advocates is to remember the acronym – 'SadFart' – when you go shopping.

S – Satisfactory quality

A – As

D – Described

F – Fit for purpose

A – And last a

R – Reasonable length of

T – Time

Every time you purchase an item or pay for services, even if it is an online purchase, or eating in a restaurant, you are entering into a contract with the seller. Although it is not within the scope of this article to cover the details of the law regarding the purchase of goods and services in Malaysia, it is clear that the item you purchase must be "as described" and that you should be happy with its quality.

If you buy some expensive writing paper, and find that the quality is not what you normally expect, you are within your rights to return the

pack and either have your money returned or the faulty goods exchanged.

Perhaps, you bought a printer, but find that after a few week of normal use, it breaks down. It is reasonable to expect that consumer goods should last for their design life. If a printer malfunctions soon after purchase, you are within your rights to return it to the shop to have the issue resolved.

The most important things to note are that the company must be contacted immediately after a fault is detected; be polite when explaining your predicament and stick to the facts. Follow up with a letter, addressed to the appropriate person and take the details of the person you've spoken to, the time, the date and what transpired in the conversation. Letters should be sent by recorded delivery and copies of all correspondence filed for future reference.

If the shop does not want to listen, there is always the appropriate government department or a consumer association which could help redress the problem. Bear in mind that some issues will not be solved overnight and may take longer to resolve.

Recently, an important organisation promised me and several others, that the ink we were supplied with was indelible, and that it would remain, on the surface to which it was applied, for about a week.

To our horror, some of us found that this ink could be washed away after gentle scrubbing with detergent and a nail brush.

If we applied the 'SadFart' rule to this indelible ink, it will be obvious that the ink was not of satisfactory quality, the product was not as described, it was not fit for purpose and despite the assurance of the organisation, which supplied the ink, it did not last a reasonable length of time. What a rip-off!



**THINKING ALLOWED**

• by **Mariam Mokhtar**



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements must be sent by fax: **05-2552181**; or email: [announcements@ipohecho.com.my](mailto:announcements@ipohecho.com.my), by the 9<sup>th</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

A **Tin Mining Family Exhibition** organised by Ipoh World Sdn Bhd and sponsored by Amber Synergy Sdn Bhd. From **May 12 to August 12** between 10am to 3pm daily at: Tin City, 180 Jalan Lahat, Ipoh. For details call **05-282 7888** or **012-515 7887**.

**Perak Society for the Promotion of Mental Health, Ulu Kinta, 39th Annual General Meeting**, Saturday, **May 18** at 3pm. For details call Ms Angeline George **05-533 2167** or Ms Sheilah **05-533 5457**.

**Glaucoma Awareness Programme** organised by Lions Club of Ipoh Central, Sunday **May 19**, 9.30am to 3pm at Chew Eye Specialist Centre, 23-27 Jalan Kamaruddin (Jln Fair Park), Ipoh. The objectives of this programme are to provide free screening of various eye diseases like glaucoma, refractive error, cataract and Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD). Call: **05-547 0008** or email: [enquiries@cheweye.com](mailto:enquiries@cheweye.com) for more information.

**Community Service Programme** organised by St John Ambulance Malaysia, Kawasan Tengah, Perak Darul Ridzuan, Sunday **May 19**. There will be two activities: (1) Free Medical Check Up; (2) Blood Donation Drive, in collaboration with HRPB, Ipoh Blood Bank. This event will be held at St John Ambulance Malaysia, Perak Darul Ridzuan Headquarters, Ipoh.

**2nd Kiwanis Junior EQ Camp, June 1-3** at the Sufes Campsite, Tapah. Youths aged between 12 and 14 are invited to participate in the camp. Participants will be trained in leadership soft skills, will improve their emotional quotient and foster the spirit of camaraderie through fun-filled, albeit at times, exhausting activities. The camp is partly sponsored by the club, participants have to pay only RM120 for the 2-night 3-day stint. For more information and registration, contact Steven Chong **016-521 3986** or Ann Yong **012-522 2291/05-546 8386**.

**Perak Malayalee Association 49th Annual General Meeting**, Sunday **June 2**, 4pm at PMA Building, 14-A, Medan Istana Bandar Ipoh Raya, Ipoh. For details call Mrs Sakuntala Nair Rajadurai **017-579 8062**.

**NASAM Ipoh Food & Fun Fair**, Sunday **June 2**, 9am-1pm at 9 Lorong Pinji, Off Jalan Pasir Puteh, 31350 Ipoh. NASAM is a non-profit organization providing rehab services to stroke survivors and awareness activities about stroke to the general public. Call **05-321 1089** for details.

**Ipoh Family History Centre Open House**, Friday & Saturday **June 7 and 8** from 9am to 9pm at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS Church), 12 Lorong Cheah Cheang Lim, Greentown. For those (Non Muslims only) who are interested in searching their family history. Free access to files or computer research from LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City, USA. For further information, call Loh **016-538 0121** or Tan **016-550 1104**.

**Nurturing Body, Mind & Spirit Fair**, Saturday & Sunday **June 15 & 16** from 9am-5.30pm at Kinta Riverfront Hotel & Suites, Jalan Lim Bo Seng. There is a whole-day seminar on Saturday June 15 with 5 speakers (topics include: healing techniques & energy psychology). On Sunday June 16 there will be 3 workshops (including: EFT & herbs). On both days there is an exhibition to gather info, have readings, healings, etc. For details, call **012-508 2480** or visit Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nurturelife](http://www.facebook.com/nurturelife) or website: <http://nurturelife.com.my>.

**Reunion Hi-Tea for MGS Ipoh 1982**, Saturday **June 29**, 3pm at the Heritage Hotel Ipoh. Confirm by May. Those interested can contact: Nelly Lim at **016-562 0383**.



## MUSINGS ON FOOD



By See Foon Chan-Koppen

Photos by VWSL

[seefoon@ipohecho.com.my](mailto:seefoon@ipohecho.com.my)

# SeeFoon revisits a Perennial Favourite



cooked to perfection, the outside just slightly charred for a smokey flavour and the inside meat still juicy and succulent. Here at Pakeeza, the chicken is plated beautifully allowing a feast for the eyes as well as for the palate. Served with lemon slices and the smoothest, tastiest, lime, mint and coriander chutney, the Tandoori Chicken is a 'must-have' at Pakeeza. RM34 – whole; RM17 – half; RM8.50 – quarter.

The menu is extensive, with a large selection of breads coming piping hot from the *Tandoor*. One can choose from the **Garlic, Almond and Cheese Naan** (sort of like an Indian pizza which one eats with the various curries), the **Khima Naan** stuffed with minced beef, chicken or lamb, the **Masala Kulcha** filled with vegetables, the **Tandoori Roti**, thin crispy whole wheat bread, or the **Puri**, fluffy puffs of bread which has been deep fried. Altogether 15 varieties of bread to choose from. From RM1.20 for *Puri* to RM6.80 for the Garlic, Cheese naan.

There is also a choice of different styles of rice to go with the various dishes. From plain steamed rice to their **Briyani** which come plain or with vegetables, chicken, mutton or beef. The rice here is the longest grained variety I have ever laid my eyes on, each grain distinct, fluffy and tasty. From RM2 for plain rice to RM12 for the meat *Briyani*.

In terms of 'wet' dishes, I highly recommend the boneless **Buttered Chicken**, deboned chicken morsels cooked in butter and tomato puree with a creamy gravy that is melt-in-mouth velvety smooth – RM9. **Mutton Kerahi** was robust and served in a small wok – RM9. The fish curry came in a sauce that was difficult to fathom and understandably so as it was one of Rizal's mother's secret recipes, mysterious and delectable – RM22.

In the prawn and squid section of the menu, I had the opportunity to try their **Prawn Masala** which is described as peeled prawns in a Moghul thick sauce, the



prawns fresh and the sauce mild and creamy – RM26. Reeling from surfeit, there was more to come in the way of vegetables, first the **Cheese Palak**, creamed spinach with cheese, a thick creamy puree just a tad too sugared for my taste but others at my table loved it. Eaten with either the *Puri* or *Naan*, it was a vegetarian's delight – RM7. Another vegetable dish which I found delightful was the **Brinjal Pajeri**, deep fried brinjals or eggplant in a sweet and spicy sauce – RM6.

Of course no meal is complete without the obligatory dessert and here we had the **Kulfi**, the quintessential Indian ice cream made from powdered almonds, milk and sugar – RM6.50.

Pakeeza may look deceptively small when one first enters the restaurant (seats 80) with one private room for 10-12, but stairs leading to the second floor reveal a room that can accommodate up to 100 people. On busy days or nights, diners are led upstairs where they can dine in comfort. The room naturally, is also available for functions.

All in all, I found the Pakeeza Restaurant to have great quality of food, service and good value. This is one restaurant I shall return to again and again for more of that Moghul taste.



### Pakeeza (Halal)

15-17 Jalan Dato Seri Ahmad Said

Tel: 05-241 4243 & 05-253 0407

Business Hours: 11am-3pm; 6pm-10.30pm

GPS: 4° 35.996'N, 101° 5.228'E



## RECIPE

By Myrna Catedral

### Oreo Italian Cheesecake

#### Ingredients:

- 15 pcs. Chocolate Cream Oreo Cookies
- 2 tablespoons melted butter
- 750g Kraft Philadelphia Cream Cheese
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon fresh orange juice
- Grated rind of half and orange
- 2 teaspoon vanilla essence
- 3 eggs
- 2 tablespoon sour cream (or substitute yoghurt if not available)
- 1 tablespoon flour
- ½ cup walnuts (roughly chopped)

#### Method:

1. Blend Oreo Biscuits in a mixer into a paste. Add the melted butter and mix well. Press into the base of a 20cm spring form baking pan. Chill for at least 30 minutes.
2. Beat the Philadelphia cream cheese until smooth. Add sugar, orange juice, orange rind, vanilla essence, eggs, sour cream and flour. Beat until combined.
3. Fold in the chopped walnuts. Pour into prepared baking pan.
4. Bake at 160°C for 1 hour and 10 minutes.





## News Roundup

# Roshidi and Symphony Suites

Mayor Dato' Roshidi Hashim spent Labour Day, May 1, having tea with members and their families of Puspanita MBI, where his wife, Datin Hajjah Zainab Mohd Zainal Abidin is the Chairperson, at Symphony Suites. It was to mark the completion of the new hotel in town.

Addressing the press, Roshidi warmly welcomed Symphony Suites in enlivening the hospitality industry in Ipoh. He was impressed with its architecture, which he deemed comparable to Shanghai's Grand Mercure. "It's something different for Ipoh," he said.

In view of the owners' commitment to participate in the city's economic development, the mayor offered three months free banner advertisement for the hotel.

Roshidi was also impressed with the suites, especially those facing Gunung Rapat limestone hills. Suites on higher floors have a commanding view of half of Ipoh.

Strategically located just a short distance away from the Simpang Pulai PLUS Expressway exit, the mayor said that its current pre-opening rate of RM210 nett (approximately SGD85) a night is very attractive to Singaporeans. He suggested to the owners to come up with a menu synonymous with the hotel.

One of the owners of Symphony Suites, Lee Chee Ming, said that over the three years that was taken to build the hotel, Roshidi and Ipoh City Council have been particularly supportive of their efforts. Their doors were always open.

This boutique hotel is one of the 266 completed projects, out of the 4445 approved development projects by Ipoh City Council made through its one-stop centre. There are about ten star-rated hotels at various stages of development in Ipoh. They include Weil, Mercure, Cititel, Ibis, and in its final stages of discussion, Hilton.

Emily



## Kiosks for the Poor Not Fully Utilised

Under the *Urban Poverty Eradication Programme*, the Ministry of Federal Territories and Urban Well-Being allocated funds for local councils in the country to build kiosks for the poor to enable them to set up their own businesses.

MBI received an allocation of RM600,000 and 40 kiosks were constructed in different parts of the city. The kiosks are of simple design and each costs RM10,000 to build. The kiosks are rented free of charge to people who had registered under the *eKaseh* programme. The keys were handed to the participants in May 2012 and start-up capital of RM5000 was provided.

The kiosks are being administered by the Department of Community Affairs, MBI. According to the department only 16 of the participants are doing business and this level of participation is satisfactory. The Department intends to hold a meeting with the participants and give motivational talks.

The intention of the government is good, but not all poor people are inclined to do business. The kiosk is suitable for selling newspapers, home-cooked food and confectionaries. The place is too small and it is not possible to prepare food there. Other people are already selling these things near the kiosks and their businesses are established. There is tough competition.

I think one of the options would be to train the people to make handicraft like artificial flowers and handbags and supply to shops that trade in this business. Train them to do cottage industry. Teach them tailoring. The best thing for them is home-based businesses. They can look after their family and carry out business as well.



Alternatively, give them small plots of land to grow vegetables, fruits, flowers and rear poultry. This may be more suitable for them.

I have only highlighted the situation in Ipoh. This programme has been implemented throughout the country. The intention of the government is good, but does it serve the purpose? Perhaps the government needs to discuss with the people before implementing any programme.

AJ

## Miss Earth Beauty Pageant in Ipoh

In conjunction with launching of Miss Malaysia Earth 2013 recently, MH Hotels Ipoh hosted a charity event "For the Children". Children from Praise Home were invited for some games, activities and also a buffet dinner joined by immediate past winners of Miss Malaysia Earth who participated in the fun and games that ensued. This was followed by a cheque presentation of RM1200 to Praise Home, Unique Seafood, MH and Seng Huat Enterprise.

Miss Earth, one of the three largest beauty pageants in the world, is an annual international pageant which promotes environmental awareness. The reigning titleholders dedicate their year to promoting environmental projects and to address issues concerning the environment. The delegates also take part in tree planting ceremonies, environmental and cultural immersion programmes, sponsor visits and tours.

This year, Miss Earth organisation has granted Star Avenue Production the exclusive rights to hold Miss Malaysia Earth 2013 in Ipoh City. The beauty pageant was sponsored by Top Vision, Golden Century Tour & Travel Sdn Bhd, MH Hotels Malaysia and Foto Imej Perak. Co-sponsors include Spritzer Natural Mineral Water, Marigold HK Low Fat Milk, Sony, RG Creation, Alena Shoe, Rukun Juara Sdn. Bhd, Azer, SHK Hair Academy, SUB International School of Beauty and Make-up, New Zonic Enterprise, Restaurant 1919, Restaurant Kok Thai (Tasek) Sdn Bhd and Restaurant Lou Wong Tauge Ayam Kuetiau.

A 'Live Photo Contest' with the contestants will be held on July 14 (Sunday) at



Clearwater Sanctuary Golf Resort, Batu Gajah from 9am-11.30am by Foto Imej Perak.

The finals for Miss Malaysia Earth 2013 will be on July 21 at MH Hotel Ipoh. For more information on the crowning of Miss Malaysia Earth 2013, contact 012-506 1723, 012-507 1282 and 016-59 7311.

Susan Ho



## News Roundup



Then and...



Now

## Bombay University Alumni Reunion

The Malaysian Alumni of Bombay University gathered after 40 years at a Reunion recently at the Tower Regency Hotel, Ipoh. Seventy-six *Bombaywallas* (that is, those coming from Bombay) and their spouses recalled their memorable days in Bombay, sharing stories, singing old songs, and watching photos of their youthful days. Some of them have not met one another all these years. Some could not be recognised, having changed much in their appearance, while a few still retained their youthful looks. Among those who attended were Datuk Abdul Kadir, former ambassador to Germany, Dr

Teng Hock Nan, former Chairman of the Penang City Council, Dr Kandasami, former Dean of IMU and Dr Thomas Verghese, former Director of Assunta Hospital.

The photo shows the Malaysian students with our first Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman and Finance Minister Tan Siew Sin when they visited Bombay in 1967. Sitting on the extreme right is the writer, Dr Teoh SK, who was the then Chairman of the Malaysian Students Association in Bombay.

Dr Teoh SK

## Nikon Club Members (Perak) Get-together<sup>3</sup>

Nikon Club Members (Perak) held their 3rd get-together in Taiping recently. Nikon Club Malaysia was launched in July 2011 with the main objective to reach out and to connect with all the Nikon-Owners-Users (whether DSLR or Compacts) and to have a common platform for all members to share, learn, interact and grow. The Members' Get-together is one of the core events of Nikon Club Malaysia besides other events such as Walkabout, Exhibition, Photo Contest, Photo Search, Photo Challenge, Shooting Stars Mentoring Programs, etc.

More than 100 NCM members nationwide attended the event. The organizer specially engaged 6 talented and beautiful female models for all the enthusiastic photographers to practice, to perfect and to showcase their photographic skills. Goodies such as T-shirts and special Nikon rubber bangles were given to all the participating members of the day.

A photo contest in conjunction with the event was organised with attractive prizes including Nikon Coolpix cameras and other exclusive Nikon peripherals awarded to

the 10 best photos of the day.

"We were encouraged by the response of more than 100 members coming from as far south as Kuala Lumpur and as far north as Kedah to meet here to be connected with photography" said Alex Moh, Manager of Nikon Centre KL. "It is through this event that we can also take the opportunity to interact with the members and listen to their feedback on Nikon products," he added.

Alex also announced three upcoming events: NCM Ramadhan Walkabout, Photo Challenge and Photo Search, to be held in the month of July, August and Nov 2013 respectively. All members are encouraged to login to [www.nikonclub.com.my](http://www.nikonclub.com.my) for details and updates of upcoming activities.

Since its inception in July 2011, Nikon Club Malaysia's membership has grown to over 21,000 members. All Nikon users are welcome to join the club for free by registering online at [www.nikonclub.com.my](http://www.nikonclub.com.my). For any other matters or assistance, do contact the Perak State Liaison at Mr. Goh Ah Poon at **012-528 7038**.



## Pavement Defects



Recently when I went shopping in Little India, for the first time I parked my car in front of Siva Sakthi Restaurant on Jalan Sultan Yussuf (Belfield Street) and walked to Lahat Road. I was shocked to see the condition of the pedestrian walkway which is not safe to walk. This is a short L-shaped section along the front and side of the shop lot.

In many places the interlocking bricks have sunk into the sand and are displaced. There are a number of potholes. A pipe is jutting out in the middle of the passageway causing a serious tripping hazard. It appears that the ground was not compacted before laying the bricks. I lost count of the number of places that are damaged in the short stretch. Pedestrians are walking on the busy road.

I have walked along many pedestrian walkways in the town, but have not come across one like this with so many defects in a short stretch. I am not exaggerating. Those interested can go and see for themselves.

MBI engineers must inspect the place and take action against the contractor who did the job. The inspector who certified the job must also be questioned. Get it repaired before someone trips and fractures their leg.

A. Jeyaraj



## Arts &amp; Culture

## Up Close with Ramli Ibrahim



A fresh breeze suddenly descended on the cultural desert of Ipoh recently. It came smooth as silk, refreshing as the dewdrops in early spring, but in a flash, this lovely breeze was gone. While it lasted, it brought so much joy to those who were lucky enough to be there.

I was one of the fortunate few who came to know about the performance at a friend's birthday dinner table when one of the guests brought up the subject. She gave us some River Sutra pamphlets to look at and surprised us by telling it would be a free performance.

My heart leapt at the prospect of being able to watch Ramli live, in Ipoh and at no charge. It was an invitation from the Sutra Foundation to Ipohites to watch its dancers perform. I made up my mind that I would not

miss this golden opportunity.

A good friend obtained a complimentary ticket for me and so there I was sitting in the Ipoh Cultural Centre at Jalan Caldwell on that Wednesday evening savouring every minute of the fantastic performance by Ramli Ibrahim and his dancers.

I thoroughly enjoyed myself from start to finish and I believe I speak for everyone who was there that night. Snippets of conversation I overheard on my way out of the hall told me that the audience really had a great time all through the night's performance.

Not knowing what the programme would be like, I half expected Ramli to be treating us to some of his classical dances. But it turned out that Ramli had brought a whole troupe of young fresh performers who delighted

everyone present with their talents. The youngest was a shy little boy barely into his teens and he surely captured the hearts of the audience with his sometimes cheeky performance.

The young lads and lasses gave such a lively display of their skills and talents that the audience sat glued to their seats right through the night. With my little knowledge of the Hindi cultural dances, shall I say it was semi-classical with a dash of modern? To me, the music was beautiful, catchy and very lively, the costumes were perfect and the performers indeed reached out to everyone. The minutes ticked by very quickly and I began to wonder why there was no sign of Ramli even though I had earlier seen him in the foyer smiling and greeting the arrivals.

It had been a long wait but finally we got our special treat. Ramli and three of his dancers performed a modern cum classical dance interpretation of a few Malay tunes, one of which was his namesake, P. Ramli's *Getaran Jiwa*. The audience showed their appreciation with a resounding applause to welcome his appearance.

At the finale, I so very much wanted to shout "encore" but we had a too disciplined crowd that night and somehow I felt the audience had somewhat reined in their emotions. I am sure that had we shouted "Encore", Ramli and his young troupe would have obliged us with one more dance.

As the audience streamed out of the hall, the happy smiles and the satisfied looks on everyone's face told me they had a wonderful evening. Many lingered on in the lobby requesting for Ramli's autograph and patiently waiting to have their photo session with him and his dancers. I joined the queue and gave him my thumbs-up, as I shook his hand.

I spoke briefly to the youngest performer, the little 14-year-old lad. He may be small for his age and size but he was full of spirit. He told me he had been dancing for two years. A budding performer, he appears to be a promising beautiful bloom in the Malaysian cultural desert in the years to come.

TH Chin

# Mothers' Day Celebration at KPJ ISH



Mother's Day is a time of commemoration and celebration of moms everywhere. It is a time for breakfasts in bed, family gatherings and precious gift giving to show mom how much you care.

But, for mothers who are patients at KPJ Ipoh Specialist Hospital, their not being home to celebrate with loved ones has prompted KPJ ISH to take the

initiative to make the occasion just as memorable.

More than 20 mothers were presented with a beautiful carnation bouquet, a small gift and a lovely Mothers' Day cake by KPJ ISH's nurse Manager, Mdm Mok Wai Yee, as nurses and doctors gathered round to bring joy to the occasion.

This was KPJ ISH's way of celebrating mothers and honouring their special place in all families.



## Property and History

### Tin Mining Family Exhibition

The life and times of tin mine 'towkays' of Kinta Valley from the earliest days of the tin mining industry are being documented and displayed to public in an exhibition entitled "A Tin Mining Family". Designed and produced by Commander Ian Anderson (Rtd), Managing Director of Ipoh World and sponsored by Amber Synergy Sdn Bhd, the exhibition is held at Ipoh's historic Falim House for three months beginning May 12 to August 11.

Over 20 famous towkays and their families are being featured via documents, artefacts, interviews and photographs, some of which date from before 1900. Besides a wide range of mining implements, visitors can also check out rare toys, unusual kitchen equipment and original wheeled vehicles.

The different sections of the exhibition hall also showcases their homes, cars, servants, and of course, their tin mines and other successful business ventures.

Of particular interest are the evils that were faced by mining coolies back then – opium, gambling, prostitution and triads. These are featured as they formed an integral part of the mine workers' lives.

In short, this is an exhibition that one can learn about the mining towkays and the mining industry in-depth. It serves as a great educational tool for students.

Visitors will be delighted to know that a free shuttle bus service to and from Ipoh Railway Station and Falim House is offered during weekends. The first bus departs from the railway station at 10.45am. The exhibition is open daily from 10am to 6pm.

"A Tin Mining Family" was formally opened by Mayor Dato' Roshidi Hashim in conjunction with the official launching of Tin City Ipoh, a property development project by Amber Synergy Sdn Bhd.

Emily



## Community

### Easter Potluck Dinner

Eat, sing and play, that was the order of the evening during the recent Easter potluck dinner organised by the Portuguese Eurasian Association of Perak at the OMPH cafeteria. About 60 members and guests had a fun-filled evening feasting on a sumptuous spread of local and Eurasian dishes, especially the signature *debal* curry, *seku/ladarr* curry, *pangsusis* and other dishes prepared by members.

Young and old alike took to the floor with oldies belted out by 'The Rozells' from Penang. Even the parish priests, who were present that night, were in the thick of the action. Some fun games were introduced to liven up the evening.

Association President, Colin D'Oliveiro, whose birthday fell on the same day, was pleasantly surprised when a cake with candles was wheeled in midway through the function. Oliveiro, touched by the gesture, invited all members, whose birthday falls in April, to join in the cake cutting.

James Rozells took the opportunity to promote the *Eurasian Fiesta 2013* which is to be held on Saturday, June 16 in conjunction with Penang's UNESCO Heritage Day, a yearly month-long celebration. All are invited to attend this fiesta where Eurasian cuisines, music, art and dance will be highlighted.

The evening went on with members having a gala time before calling it a night.

SH Ong



## Announcement

**Perak Women for Women Society (PWW)** is starting a **Support Group** where women can meet and share their experiences and learn from others how to overcome their trauma and pain.

**Date** : 19th May 2013 (Sunday)  
**Time** : 2pm - 5pm  
**Venue** : PWW Centre at 52 Jalan Sultan Azlan Shah, 31400 Ipoh  
**Speaker** : Dr Gurmit Kaur – Consultant Psychiatrist

This Support Group session is open to all women who are going through trying times, such as domestic violence and abuse, separation and divorce, loss of dear ones, or even being a caregiver to a close family member.

To register, contact **05-546 9715** or email: [perakwomenforwomen@gmail.com](mailto:perakwomenforwomen@gmail.com). Registration is free. Limited places only.



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## Young Perak

# Volunteerism Reaches Out



After the launching on March 26 of 'Volunteerism II: Continuing the Legacy' campaign, which is a continuation of 'Volunteerism Campaign: Volunteers Work for Change', Public Relations (PR) students of Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) initiated the outreach activities for the campaign on April 13.

The first volunteerism campaign was held in 2011 where final-year UTAR PR students helped set up a 'U-Liang' library in Tronoh Mines New Village. In the second campaign, a joint project with Kampar district council, present final-year PR students followed their seniors' footsteps to improve the lives of the villagers.

"Doing good [deeds] to the society is a responsibility that each and everyone of us should undertake," said Home Affairs Deputy Minister Dato' Lee Chee Leong, when launching the outreach activities of Volunteerism II campaign at the new village recently.

Earlier he congratulated the students for their unyielding efforts and contributions in making the campaign a success. He added, "Through the outreach activities such as health checks, *gotong-royong* and education workshops, the students will show how much they are willing to contribute and truly care for the well being of the Tronoh

Mines New Village community."

"The campaign activities are aimed at improving the lives of the Tronoh Mines community and to instil a sense of volunteerism among the public and students," said Lim Jean Nie, director of the parent campaign of volunteerism campaigns UTAR PR Campaign 2013.

"We hope that more youths like us and the public of Kampar will become more proactive in community services."

The ceremony also saw Lim handing over a donation of RM20,000 to Tronoh Mines Community Club formally known as U-Liang Library.

Also present at the ceremony were Kampar district councillor Tuan Haji Abdul Hakim bin Haji Ibrahim and his secretary Nor Akmal bin Yang Ghazali, Dato' Lee's special assistant Daniel Wa Wai How, MCA Kampar Division Deputy Chairman Chang Gwo Chyang, Tronoh Mines New Village Head Cheah Ah Low, Sin Min primary school principal Yee Chun Weng, UTAR Vice President Dr Teh Chee Seng, UTAR Faculty of Arts and Social Science Dean Dr Cheah Phaik Kin and her deputy Gan Pei Lee.

## Mini Sports Day

S shrieks of laughter could be heard from the driveway, as one approached Tadika Kinderjoy's multi-purpose hall. The kindergarten was holding its annual sports day themed, "It's a Beautiful Day" recently.

Children, as young as 3 to 6 years old, were assembled in their uniforms awaiting the arrival of Encik Azam Hj Alias, a unit chief with the Perak Education Department. When Azam finally arrived the kids gave him a rousing welcome with the rendition of the National Anthem and a dance performance.

Several events, specifically designed for each age group, were held. Even the parents were not forgotten. They got into the act in a special event, "Dress the King" where mothers dressed up the fathers to look like kings using the items supplied.

Azam, in his opening remarks, said that the government wishes to not only concentrate on the academic performance of students but to instil in them the importance of participating in at least one sporting activity in line with the '1 Student 1 Sport' policy. This will encourage the production of intellectually and physically balanced students under the National Education Philosophy.

SH Ong





## Sport

# Hockey: Asia Cup Tournament In Ipoh



The 9th Men's Asia Cup Hockey Tournament will be held in Ipoh from August 24 till September 1. The event will be held at the Sultan Azlan Shah Hockey Stadium, the same venue that hosts the annual Sultan Azlan Shah International Hockey Tournament.

Eight countries are scheduled to play. They are Malaysia, Pakistan, Japan, Chinese-

Taipei, Korea, India, Oman and Bangladesh.

Perak Hockey Association Chairman and Asia Cup Organising Chairman, Dato' Abdul Rahim Md Ariff, made the announcement after chairing a meeting with the various parties responsible for providing the required services for the game.

Over the previous eight Asia Cup tournaments, Pakistan and Korea have each won the title three times while India twice.

Malaysia's best outing was in 2007 when they finished in third place beating Japan 5-3 while finishing in 4th place four times.

This Asia Cup event is also a qualifier for the World Cup to be held in The Hague, Netherlands next year. According to Coach Paul Revington, he is confident that Malaysia can qualify for next year's Hockey World Cup as he has been preparing the team for this Asia Cup. Malaysia was runner-up to Australia during the last Sultan Azlan Shah Cup held in late February.

If Revington can fine-tune the Malaysian team to play like the way they last played against Australia, then Ipohites will be in for a treat of a lifetime in September.

JAG

## Yo Yo-ing Into The Abyss

If anyone witnessed the manner in which Perak outclassed Johor 3-0 at Lumut recently, they would probably not believe that the same side lost 3-1 to Felda United just three days later. It is not only baffling but confusing as well.

Ultimately, it boils down to whether we have a capable squad or not. With the addition of Paulo Rangel in April, we have looked deadly upfront and there is no excuse for our midfield, with Perak spending a bomb to boost it with big names like Chanturu and Yong Kong Yuong during the off-season. These players have been struggling to maintain the high standards that are required of them. Their consistency, I must admit, is suspect.

In that game against Johor Darul Takzim, our midfield was deadly, playing with such fluidity and passing the ball around with tremendous confidence. We did excellently against big name players on the Johor side and that in itself was motivating enough. A 3-0 victory went on to become a dream result and Azraai Khor Abdullah was already hoping to see his men retain the confidence and finish the season strongly. Unfortunately, this did not happen. The yo-yo performance came again three days later when they were trounced by Felda United.

The worrying bit was not the result but rather the sudden shift in force and momentum that seemed to affect the team at that moment. Suddenly, we could not



Mugen vs Negeri Sembilan

contain the opposition's midfielders, struggled for creativity and totally deserved the defeat. Even coach Azraai was befuddled by the result.

"I can't understand why this yo-yo performance is happening," he said. "One game, we are so excellent and the next one goes down the drain."

"And all of this is happening right in front of my eyes. We've tried so many things but I don't quite know the problem yet, whether or not it's an attitude issue."

And just as you would rightly expect, Perak bounced back from that defeat to Felda with a home victory over Negeri Sembilan just days later. Better still, the win came with Perak playing at the Perak Stadium for the first time this season since the floodlights were upgraded recently.

The Seladangs could have scored six or seven goals on the night had their forwards not made a mess of the many scoring opportunities.

Interestingly, the match also marked the debut of Perak youngster, G. Mugenthiran, who was given a run in the side following his impressive performances for the President Cup squad. Azraai Khor only had one fit striker for the game and decided to make use of the youth thus giving the 20-year-old player a chance to prove his worth at the senior level.

The season now descends into an interesting period where every point will be crucial. The Seladangs are not entirely safe from the relegation zone. Coach Azraai Khor and the players know this. If they continue with their yo-yo pace they are in danger of being dragged down into the abyss. The ball, as they say, is in their court.

Keesh

## 31st Vaisakhi Games



The Perak Sikh Union (PSU) held its 31st Annual Vaisakhi Games at Ipoh Padang recently.

According to the PSU President Gurjeet Singh Rhande, the annual Vaisakhi Games is one of the core annual activities for PSU. It is held with the objective to foster brotherhood, sportsmanship spirit and healthy living among the Sikhs.

The games played included football, hockey, badminton and netball. Approximately four hundred Sikhs from all over Malaysia participated in this event. Besides the main sports, PSU organised games for ladies and children and a showcase of Kabaddi.

Guests of honour included Ipoh Mayor Dato' Haji Roshidi bin Haji Hashim,



National Sikh Movement President Tan Sri Dato' Seri Darshan Singh Gill and the Patron of PSU Dato' Dr Gurdeep Perakash Singh.

PSU is a well established Sikh NGO in Perak. Promoting sports among the Sikh youths is the core activity of PSU and regularly conducts sports training, skill enhancement and motivational session for the Sikh youths in Perak.

The Union is currently embarking on its project to build a club house and multi purpose hall south of Taman Song Choon which will serve as a social and recreation centre for Sikhs in Perak.





## Advertorial

### MORE THAN A PIECE OF FURNITURE

If you have ever found difficulty in furnishing your office, perhaps you should speak to the team of experts at Pyramid Lane (M) Sdn Bhd. Established 16 years ago, this Perak-based company specialises in manufacturing knock-down system furniture and furniture components. They are commonly known as "PLATOS" as indicated by their registered trademark.

By looking at the floor plan of a workspace, PLATOS's team of designers will come up with custom designs, producing modern and contemporary office furniture to meet the requirements of clients. The design team strives to come up with fresh designs all the time, with extra attention given to design functionality and catering specifically to the different needs of the various industries.

End users would be happy to know that PLATOS offers a complete range of services in-house, from designing, manufacturing, supplying and installation. A one-stop centre for office furniture and fittings – convenience.

While we can easily purchase commercial furniture at retail stores, PLATOS offers clients more than a piece of furniture. What the company provides is a concept that would suit the client's requirements and for the maximum use of space.

An added advantage of design concepts by PLATOS would be its secure cable and wire management system, which reduces clutter in the workspace. They believe that a good working environment will certainly enhance work efficiency and productivity.

Understanding that employees spend eight hours or more a day in the office, PLATOS offers a line of ergonomic seatings for maximum comfort, like lumbar support, multi-locking and synchronized mechanism.

Pyramid Lane markets its own furniture under its marketing arm, Platos Marketing (M) Sdn Bhd. There are six series of furniture for the office, namely Fitz, Algaa, Monza, Oska, Urban and Sigma, to cater to the different market segments. For those who have no idea what they require, this series of furniture is a good start. However, Pyramid Lane can always make changes to suit your needs.

Equipped with state-of-the-art German wood-working machinery for their entire production line, they emphasize very much on precision and quality. Producing export-



quality furniture, PLATOS offers design flexibility, choice, concept, and unparalleled delivery and service.

According to Managing Director Peter Phoong, having catered to clients all over Malaysia, from offices to hotels, condominiums, schools and hospitals, and with furniture products exported to Singapore, Australia, India, UAE and even to European and African countries, it is time to service clients closer to home. This gives a chance for Perak businesses to get hold of high quality furniture and adopt simple concepts in modern workplaces, at reasonable prices.

Although Pyramid Lane's main focus at this juncture is in commercial furniture, the company plans to cater to the residential market later this year, with custom-designed living room furniture and kitchen cabinets.

Latest products and designs under the PLATOS trademark are showcased at the company's showroom at: **Plot A9, Tungzen Industrial Park, Mukim Sungai Raya, 31300 Kg. Kepayang, Perak, Malaysia.**



For more information, log on to [www.pyramidlane.com](http://www.pyramidlane.com) or call +605-357 2266 / 1266 during office hours.

## Sport

### Perak Paintball League



Penang's MPPP Jokerz lifted the Datuk Bandar Cup in the second leg of the Malaysia Perak Paintball League (MPPL) held over two days at the Ipoh Padang recently.

The team, which played in the Open Division alongside five other teams, took home a hundred points and is now tied for first place on the points table with HK Buddies, with another three legs to go.

Besides the trophy, the team also won RM2400 cash, medals and certificates. In second place was Shadow Fiend, followed by HK Buddies, Hydra and Tornado.

Meanwhile in Division 4, which saw the participation of 20 teams, G-Army from Langkawi emerged champion, taking home RM2000, a trophy, medals and certificates. G-Army, who also won in the first leg in March, now leads the table with full points.



First runner-up was Jalak Lenteng JR, followed by AODX, Genocide and Comrades Alliance.

Ipoh City Council Secretary, Dato' Hj Abdul Rahim Md. Ariff, who represented the Mayor, launched the tournament. He also presented the trophies at the end of the game.

Organised for the first time, the paintball league will be held annually in Perak. Its primary objective is to encourage youths to get involved in the extreme sport of paintball in order to develop homegrown teams.

The organisers are also hoping to spur sports tourism in Ipoh, particularly to promote the city as an ideal venue for extreme paintball.

Emily