



www.ipohecho.com.my

IPOHecho

Your Voice In The Community Since 2006

FREE COPY

(Reg. No. 687483T)

OCTOBER 1 - 15, 2019

PP 14252/10/2012(031136)

30 SEN FOR DELIVERY TO YOUR DOORSTEP –
ASK YOUR NEWSVENDOR

ISSUE **313**

Bimonthly ★885,530 online hits (August) – verifiable

Chew Museum: Yeoh-Lim-Chew and Beyond

By Tan Mei Kuan and SeeFoon Chan-Koppen

Opened in 2013, the two-storey **Chew Museum** is located in a bungalow behind Ban Hoe Seng Auto showroom at Jalan Kampar (Jalan Raja Permaisuri Bainun). The private museum houses the history of Chews and their relatives including the Lims and Yeohs. Tracing the genealogy and family history of this impressive family is like finding yourself in a maze of gigantic proportions.

According to the founder of Chew Museum, **Ignatius Chew Eng Lin**, the Chews are related to Ipoh's prominent families of Yeohs (the late Dato' Yeoh Kian Teik and his daughter Tan Sri Michelle Yeoh) and Lims (the late Dato' Lim Keng Kay and Tun Dr Lim Keng Yaik) by marriage.

Follow along as Ipoh Echo finds interesting snippets among the fascinating records by Ignatius who has a meticulous eye for detail.

FULL STORY ON PAGES 2 & 6



Facade of Chew Museum



One informative corner of the museum



A road named after one of the Yeohs



The Yeoh-Lim-Chew clan during one of the family visits

Homestay with Heritage



Upon arrival at **Rumah Tiang 16 Homestay**, guests will be greeted by its host dressed in traditional Malay costume who would recite a pantun (Malay poem). They will then be served with drinks and tapai (fermented glutinous rice). This cordial welcoming ceremony is common to all guests.

The homestay, located in Kampung Kubang Jambu, Lenggong, is one of its kind. So be ready for some pleasant surprises.

Guest accommodation comes in the form of a Rumah Kutai, a traditional Malay wooden house found along the Perak River.

Our two-night stay was fun-filled to the very end. A number of village-based activities were organised so guests could blend in with the local Malay community.

We had a sumptuous lunch at a Malay restaurant in Kampung Kuala Chegar. The meal was served in a talam (metal tray) like they do during communal gatherings.

After a hearty meal we were taken to some must-see sites in the vicinity namely, Lata Kekabu Waterfall, Lenggong Archaeology Gallery and a boat ride in Chenderoh Lake. We tried netting fish too.

Dinner was served kampong-style with everyone seated on the floor and eating together. It was an exciting experience indeed.

Breakfast the following morning consisted of coconut pancakes and fish curry. We were taken around the village to witness some thriving cottage industries like the baking of bahulu (fluffy cakes) and the production of pekasam (preserved fish).

Lunch was an experience in itself. We ate on a purpose-built dangau (hut) in the middle of a farm with villagers for company. It was a sumptuous spread of over 10 dishes from the homestay menu.

The trip ended with us having a go at attap-thatching, sago processing and silat (the art of self-defence).

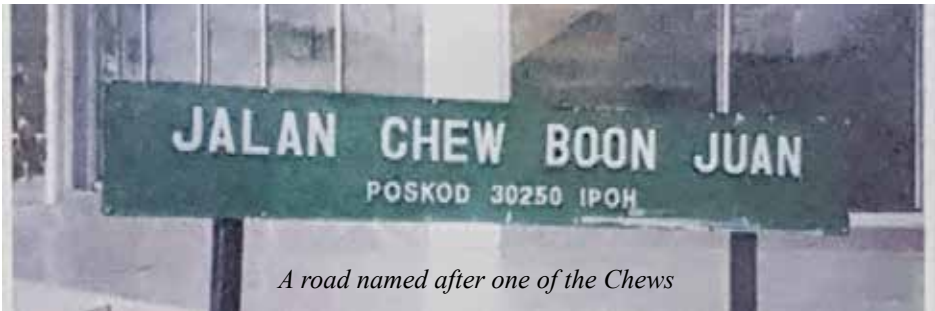
This experience awaits the adventurous traveller at Rumah Tiang 16 Homestay in Lenggong. Make an appointment with Nasir, the homestay owner.

Rumah Tiang 16,
Kampung Kubang Jambu, Lenggong, Perak.
Nasir – 019 336 8807
Coordinate : N 5°06'53.17416" E 100° 58'16.81716"

#teringat lenggong
Kawasan Rehat Tasek Raban,
Kampung Kuala Chegar, 33030 Lenggong, Perak.
Junaidah – 013 330 3450
Coordinate: N 5°0'6.63804" E 100° 56'42.88344"



A Three-Family History and Contribution to Society



A road named after one of the Chews

How It All Began

"I began collecting in the 1960s with news clippings on my cousin, **Yeoh Saw Kheng** as I saw her on the front page of a teen magazine in a singing group comprising three of her friends in Singapore. That triggered my interest. I kept that magazine though she never saw it in her life because, in my moving houses, it was unfortunately lost. The next event was when her father, **Professor Yeoh Ghim Seng**, became a member of parliament in Singapore. So I started collecting newspaper cuttings as I was in Singapore studying at the time. Then **Tun Dr Lim Keng Yaik** became a minister which prompted me to collect too," Ignatius Chew recalled.

"Plus, I realised we have a few roads named after our family in Ipoh. I have two grandfather's roads, not bad right? As people said, you can do anything on your grandfather's road, isn't it! I find it quite interesting," the amiable Chew enthused, grinning from ear to ear.

Other roads named after people listed in the Chew Museum are **Chew Boon Juan**, **Chung Ah Ming**, **Chung Thye Phin**, **Khaw Sim Bee**, **Khong Kam Tak**, **Khoo Cheow Teong**, **Khoo Sian Ewe**, **Lau Pak Khuan**, **Lim Keng Yaik**, **Ong Saik**, **Oh Cheng Keat**, **Yeoh Cheang Lee** and **Yeoh Khuan Joo**.

Ignatius Chew

Ignatius spent six years studying theology in a seminary in Singapore when he decided that the priesthood was not for him and left for London where he became the only first-class honours graduate in psychology from Brunel University London in 1981. Meeting his sweetheart **Pauline Hsu Sau Lang** (a Hong Kong girl) who was in the same university, they married and subsequently returned to Ipoh for Ignatius to take up the reigns of **Ban Hoe Seng** from his father.

"I got these articles written by **Dr Ho Tak Ming** (doctor extraordinaire with a vast knowledge of local history) which enabled me to put up a very basic museum. Then the relatives heard about it. They came, they saw and they got excited. They supplied me with more information and pictures, especially the ladies of the family. We would take group pictures in the museum too during each visit," he added. And slowly the Chew Museum grew, in groupings of photos and cuttings from magazines, books and newspapers.



Ignatius Chew (right) with relatives

Chews

In the extensive family tree, Ignatius Chew is the grandson of Chew Boon Juan, a rich tin miner from the early 1900s who later founded **Ban Hoe Seng** in 1910, then trading in rice and rubber and later motorcycles in 1947 and cars in 1967.

Today, **Ban Hoe Seng (Auto)** is one of the longest established authorised Honda dealers in Malaysia (more than 62 years) and owns the first gold-rated GBI (Green Building Index) car showroom in Malaysia offering sales, services and spare parts (3S).

Chew Boon Juan was born in 1875 in China. He came to Malaya in 1892 at the age of 17 to work as a kitchen assistant at a tin mine at Kampung Kepayang, Simpang



Two Chews contributed substantially to the building of MGS Ipoh

Pulai. From a humble beginning, Chew Boon Juan was then invited by **Charles Alma Baker**, Kinta Land Office Contract Surveyor, to be his partner to mine Gunung Lanno in 1903. Owned by Baker, Gunung Lanno was touted as the golden mountain. His venture into tin mining paid off handsomely. The newfound wealth enabled him to diversify into other businesses such as sundry shops, properties, rice

wholesaler and rubber exporter.

His two close friends in Ipoh then included **Capitan Chung Thye Phin** and **Eu Tong Sen**. Practically being neighbours, they shared and rotated their cooks every three months according to the four seasons in China. His bungalow on a three-acre site in Ipoh at Chamberlain Hulu Road built in 1919 is now Raja Perempuan Primary School.

Chew Boon Juan once said, "I love my brothers. Whatever I have, I also want them to have. We came from a poor background. When I prosper I also want my brothers to prosper as well."

And prosper they did.

Chew Boon Hong was Boon Juan's fourth brother and was also the most learned one. He came to Kampung Kepayang in the year 1909 to help manage Boon Juan's tin mining and other businesses. Deeply involved in social welfare services, he donated generously to schools in Ipoh such as St Michael's Institution, Anglo Chinese School and Methodist Girls School. He also initiated the establishment of Tao Ye School, Xing Yuan She School and Poi Lam School.

Chew Boon San, the third brother of Boon Juan, came to Malaya after their mother passed away in China. Quiet but faithful, he built a bungalow behind Boon Juan's off Chamberlain Road which houses the Chew Museum today while another bungalow of his is now the **home of The Salvation Army**.

Meanwhile, **Chew Boon Seong** was the eldest of the brothers. He came to Malaya just before the turn of the 20th century from China at the invitation of Boon Juan who asked him to come over to help him run the tin mine and sundry shop business. Living at the Kampung Kepayang house, he opened **Ban Hock Long**, a company engaging in mining business like open quarries and open cast mines.

Yeohs

The history of the Yeohs all began when patriarch **Yeoh Khuan Joo** from Fujian province in China came to Malaya in 1899. He started working in a textile shop, from where he learnt the trade. Then he started a shop of his own and his memory was so good he was able to remember the cost price of each and every bolt of textile in his shop before quoting the sale price. He didn't have to refer to the original accounts book. That way he built up his company and with the money, he invested in different trades and built up a fortune for the family.

Found in the museum is a handwritten excerpt by Yeoh Khuan Joo dated in 1941 which states, "In the past few decades, in my business dealings, there were people who did not pay me for rent or goods. On three occasions I was cheated of several thousand dollars. I had been a guarantor for nine persons and was burdened in the amount of tens of thousands of dollars. Each time I suffered a loss, all I could do was to counsel and console myself, transforming a big thing into a small thing and a small thing into nothing."

It continues, "Consequently, all my life I have had no occasion to quarrel or fight with anyone, nor to get entangled with the courts. Instead, I have desired to live harmoniously with my fellow man, like brothers. I only wish the people of the world could be like me, and not bother the government, or the police department, or the judges."

"I am now 70 years old. As the saying goes, 'since ancient times, a person who lives till 70 is rare.' Sooner or later, I shall be like a candle in the wind. Thus I am recounting some family history to display at home, firstly in the hope that future generations will emulate their ancestors' virtues of sincerity, honesty and magnanimity and secondly, as a historical record," it concludes.

Professor Yeoh

His third son, **Professor Yeoh Ghim Seng**, was the most well-known, becoming Professor of Surgery at the National University of Singapore, Speaker of the Singapore Parliament from 1970 to 1989 (one of the longest serving Speakers of any parliament in the world) and Acting President of Singapore.

Tan Sri Michelle Yeoh

And the most famously internationally is none other than Ipoh's own **Tan Sri Michelle Yeoh (Yeoh Choo Kheng)**, internationally acclaimed actress and producer who has starred in nearly 30 films including global hits like "Tomorrow Never Dies", "Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon", "Memoirs of a Geisha", "Sunshine", "Mummy 3", "The Lady" and recently "Crazy Rich Asians". The star won the Miss Malaysia crown in 1983. Through her films, she has challenged the traditional views of Asian women by creating very strong female roles.

She is the daughter of the late Dato' Yeoh Kian Teik (grandson of Yeoh Khuan Joo, therefore, the eldest son of the eldest son of the patriarch) and Datin Janet Yeoh.



How the Yeoh-Lim-Chew family tree began



One of the many old newspaper cuttings



One display showing prominent members of the Yeohs

Continued on page 6...

A BETRAYAL OF TRUST

Allowing foreigners to gain entry into our country via illegal means is an act of betrayal – a betrayal of trust.

Although it took place over 51 years ago I could still vividly recall that day in May 1968 when we were assembled in the hall (Dewan Tun Templer) of the Royal Military College, Sungai Besi for an auspicious event – reciting of our pledge to serve King and Country.

There were 60 of us young Malaysians fresh from school ready to take on a very manly job to defend the honour and sanctity of our King and Country. And in doing so, we were prepared to sacrifice our lives. On the stage were the College Commandant, Colonel Jamil Ahmad, his deputy Major Lim and senior staff of the college who would bear witness to our testimony. They were resplendently dressed for the occasion in their working uniform, known as No. 3 Dress.

Everyone looked serious as it was not something to be taken lightly. Lives were at stake and, as youths in our late teens, we were taken in by the officious atmosphere. The insurgency warfare was still raging in the countryside. Soldiers and civilians were killed and maimed in areas where firefight was frequent.

Chin Peng and his merry men were still active giving the overstretched security forces a run for their money. During such critical moments, the loyalty and vulnerability of soldiers are tested and closely scrutinised lest they buckle under pressure. Thus the need for a pledge or an oath in upholding the country's honour be declared loud and clear and in verbatim.

And the one thing that impressed me most, to this very day, was the absence of religion in the ceremony. There was no “doa selamat” like it is done today. No pious-looking “tuan guru” (religious teacher) to recite Quranic verses and, foremost, no fanfare. It was a simple recital led by an officer instructor raising his right palm and reading from a prepared note and we, the protagonists, repeating every word that he uttered.

It was over in a matter of minutes. The pledge was like a wake-up call. Suddenly we all felt a heavy load was deliberately lumped on our bare shoulders. The sense of responsibility was overwhelmingly felt by all and sundry. It was like being rudely shaken-up from a drunken stupor and, suddenly, we were thrust into the limelight to assume a role not meant for our frail bodies.

We served our time in the three services – army, navy and air force. Some went on to be colonels and generals while some left early to pursue alternative careers in the private sector. Two even landed piloting jobs with SIA and Cathay Pacific. Unfortunately, a few lost their lives killed in action with the insurgents. They did not die in vain and were bestowed gallantry medals and awards. God bless their souls.

Now fast-forward to September 2019. On Wednesday, September 11, police arrested 20 people in Penang on suspicion of being involved in the illegal issuance and sale of birth certificates and identity cards to foreigners. The following day, six men, including a Penang NRD assistant director, were charged in court on 32 counts relating to the offence.

On Friday, September 13, Inspector-General of Police Hamid Bador said several more Penang NRD staff would be detained for an investigation into the matter. NRD Director-General Ruslin Jusoh was told to give his full cooperation with investigators into the case.

Meantime, the National Registration Department wanted the police to investigate allegations that it had granted MyKad to Chinese nationals. A police report was lodged by the NRD chief to facilitate investigation into the matter.

Why my sudden interest in pledges made to defend the nation's sovereignty by those responsible for its well-being? The answer is simple. The staff of NRD, like those in the Armed Forces, are being entrusted the responsibility of safeguarding the nation's boundaries against intrusions by unwanted elements.

Intrusions go beyond physically intruding into our country through weak points along our borders on land, sea and air. Allowing foreigners, with a vested interest, to gain entry into our country via illegal means is an act of betrayal – a betrayal of trust. One's loyalty to the country has been compromised. It is like selling your soul to the devil for a fee.

The motivating factor, of course, is money. While some are being tempted by money, others are being drawn by power and influence. But money has a bigger drawing power than anything else on this planet. That explains why former Prime Minister Najib Razak was at the centre of the 1MDB scandal that rocked the nation to its very foundation. Greed is the underlying factor and for someone holding the highest post in the country, such an act is simply unforgivable.

The National Registration Department plans to set up a DNA data bank and increase the monitoring of its staff, especially those holding sensitive posts. These are among the measures to be taken following the reported sale of birth certificates and identity cards. They are meant to plug holes within the department's system.

My question is, how a government department, staffed almost entirely by Malay Muslims, could be hoodwinked into selling identity cards and birth certificates to foreigners?

Don't the staff have a conscience? It is pointless to claim that the land belongs to “bumiputras” (sons of the soil) when the same people would sell their souls to the highest bidder at the drop of a hat. Like they say, fact is always stranger than fiction.

No Self-Glorification Please

Of late we at Ipoh Echo have been receiving briefs on events that are of little relevance to us as a community newspaper. These write-ups are nothing more than attempts at self-glorification. They have little or no news value.

While I don't deny the need to emplace oneself on a differential platform, the writers should appreciate the objective of a community newspaper. It does not serve any particular person or people. It serves the community on the whole.

With that in mind, please refrain from submitting pieces with one's name and appointment written in bold along with photographs with the writers' images prominently portrayed.

Let's treat Ipoh Echo as a community newspaper in the true sense of the word. That way, we will all gain in the long run.

From The Editor's Desk

By Fathol Zaman Bukhari

www.ipohecho.com.my
IPOHecho
Your Voice In The Community Since 2006



Royal Military College, Sungai Besi

EYE HEALTH – WATCH THAT HAZE

Ipoh Echo's EYE HEALTH series continues with Consultant Eye Surgeon Dr S.S. GILL talking to us about the current AIR POLLUTION, which has an effect on our eyes and general health.

The current haze has reached catastrophic proportions regionally. Sadly, the **long-term HEALTH IMPLICATIONS** of air pollution has not been highlighted enough. The **IARC** (International Agency for Research on Cancer) under WHO has classified outdoor air pollution as a **carcinogen** (cancer-causing). I shudder when I think of the fact that every person and creature in this region has been exposed to large quantities of these unnecessary avoidable pollutants 24 hours a day, to various levels for so many weeks.

There is also no doubt that air pollution causes eye irritation, acute (or *subacute*) corneal (*superficial keratitis*) and conjunctival inflammation (conjunctivitis) by altering the pH of the tears.



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

AIR QUALITY MEASUREMENT

Air Quality Index (AQI) Values	Levels of Health Concern
0 to 50	Good
51-100	Moderate
101-150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
151-200	Unhealthy
201-300	Very Unhealthy
301 to 500	Hazardous

Air quality in **Malaysia** is reported as **API** (Air Pollution Index) and this measures carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulphur dioxide (SO₂), ozone (O₃) and PM₁₀ (particles that are 10 micrometres or less in width).

The **gold standard** today is **PSI** (Pollutant Standards Index) which also measures PM_{2.5} or particles that are 2.5 micrometres in width. The reason it is important to measure the particles that

measure 2.5 micrometres affect more people worldwide than any other pollutant according to the WHO (*World Health Organization*). Particles of 2.5 micrometres don't get filtered and affect the respiratory and cardiovascular systems because they *can penetrate the deepest parts of the lungs where gas exchange into blood occurs*.

In contrast, the larger particles of 10 micrometres just irritate the eyes, nose and throat but eventually mostly get filtered off.

SYMPTOMS INCLUDE:

- Discomfort or stinging – Redness – Photophobia in some cases
- Tearing (lacrimation) – Dryness – Inability to tolerate contact lens wear

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IN GENERAL:

- Keep track of the latest air quality updates regularly to plan your activities.
- Avoid OUTDOOR sports and exercises.
- Keep windows and doors closed.
- Use an air purifier if you have one. Keep the air conditioner running.
- Drink lots of water; eat lots of fresh fruits and vegetables.

FOR THE EYES:

- Flush the eyes out with artificial tear lubricant eye drops if they get irritated.
- Avoid contact lens wear if it is too hazy.
- Minimise exposure to the irritants by modifying your activities appropriately.
- See an eye doctor if the symptoms persist.

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

PUBLISHER

Ipoh Echo Sdn Bhd
(Regd No 687483 T)

153 Jalan Dato Lau Pak
Khuan, Ipoh Garden, 31400
Ipoh, Perak Darul Ridzuan.
Tel: (605) 543 9726
Fax: (605) 543 9411
Email: editorial@ipohecho.com.my

EDITORIAL

Fathol Zaman Bukhari

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Rosli Mansor Ahd Razali
Luqman Hakim Md Radzi

MARKETING & DISTRIBUTION EXECUTIVE

Yugin Foo

REPORTERS

Tan Mei Kuan
Chris Teh
Siti Afiah
Ivana Qartika

PERMISSION AND REPRINTS

Materials in Ipoh Echo may not be reproduced in any form without the written permission of the publisher.

PRINTER

Ultimate Print Sdn. Bhd.,
Lot 2, Jalan Sepana 15/3,
Off Persiaran Selangor,
Seksyen 15, 40200 Shah
Alam, Selangor.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Ibu Pejabat Polis Daerah (IPD):

05 2451 072 (CCC)

05-2451500 (District)

05 2451 222 (Operator)

999 (emergency)

Ipoh General Hospital:

05-208 5000

993 (emergency)

Ipoh Fire Brigade

05-547 4444/994

(emergency)

Perak Immigration Dept

05-5017100

Perak Water Board

05-254 6161

1800-88-7788

Ipoh City Council

Hotline: 05-255 1515

General: 05-208 3333

Whatsapp: 019-5503083

Perak Anti-Corruption Agency: 05-526 7000

State Secretariat

05-253 1957

Railway Station

05-254 7910

Airport: 05-318 8202

Registration Department

05-528 8805

Tenaga Nasional Berhad

05-208 8000

Directory Service: 103

Perak Women for Women Society

05-246 9715 (office)

AA Ipoh

019-574 3572

017-350 8361

To Advertise / Collaborate

IPohEcho
Your Voice In The Community Since 2008



YuGin Foo

016 5541178

More controls are needed to regulate internet sleaze

Do you know what your children are watching on their mobile phones or computers? Are you concerned about the material that your children access on their computers or mobile phones?

Or, are you a parent who does not think that your children are in any danger from the internet? Did you know that Malaysia ranks third in the ASEAN region for the possession and distribution of child pornography? If you are unable to discuss sex with your child, do you think that sex education in schools might help?

Not being connected to the internet at home, does not stop cyber criminals from grooming your children via chat apps, or deter your children from accessing pornography, out of curiosity.

The following story may make you think twice about being lax in your responsibility to educate your children about the dangers online.

On July 3, a Year Six pupil, the son of a babysitter from Batu Gajah, raped a four-year-old girl, who was being looked after by his mother. The child had been raped three times since May.

The little girl told her mother that her genital organs were painful and after a visit to a clinic, in Tanjung Tualang, the doctor advised the mother to lodge a police report. He had found a torn hymen and other tears in her genitalia.

Police investigations revealed that the baby-sitter's son had been responsible for the rapes and on further questioning told them that he had been influenced by video footage on his mobile phone.

Most parents do not control the material which their children access on the net. Some parents are not computer literate and probably have no idea about the dangers. A few simply do not care, because they think their children will not come to any harm. Perhaps, the Batu Gajah rape may make them think twice about allowing their children complete freedom on the internet. Have they not heard about sexual grooming of young children by paedophiles or men (and women) who want to cause harm to children?

Last year, the same anxiety was felt by Jane Chelliah, a lawyer from Kuala Lumpur who is currently working in England.

Jane is the mother of a teenage daughter and knows about the ease with which children, including very young children, are able to access online hardcore pornography. She is also aware that other parents share her concerns. She said that children are conditioned by the images they view in the pornographic videos and was afraid that children might make the wrong interpretation of the footage.

Like most Malaysians, Jane said that during her childhood, sex was considered a taboo subject and parents rarely talked about sex, the importance of sexual relationships, the consequences of having sex, the diseases from unprotected sex, the mental anguish, or saying "no" to anyone who tried to force them to have sex.

Jane said, "As young girls, growing up in Malaysia, we weren't allowed to talk about sex, let alone date boys."

Fuelled by her concern, Jane was invited to take part in a British Reality TV production, made by Channel 4. She is the first Malaysian to participate in a documentary of this genre.

The three-part documentary was called "Mums Make Porn" and Jane was one of the five mothers featured. She volunteered so that she and other parents could, more easily start a conversation with their children about the rapid increase in online pornography.

One online source claimed that in 2017, the porn industry was worth about USD97 billion. Hollywood releases around 600 movies and rakes in USD10 billion profit annually. But in contrast, the porn industry releases 13,000 films and makes around USD15 billion in profit.

Jane said, "The foremost reason for my participation in the show was to help parents start conversations with their children about the proliferation of online porn. Please watch the video especially if you are a parent who finds it difficult to talk to your kids about sex. Initially, I was reticent to broach the subject with my daughter.

"Parents are the first educators. We teach our kids how to eat, dress, speak be well-mannered and, later, we prepare them for the school years and beyond. Yet, we find it so difficult to talk to them about human sexuality.

"This is the main barrier that I sought to address."

Jane strongly believes that parents should be concerned about the sites that their children visit on the internet. She said, "Parents ought to be concerned if



THINKING ALLOWED

by Mariam Mokhtar

their children view internet porn because it has been proven to harm their mental health.

"A lot of research has shown that children are learning about sex and relationships from watching porn but the elements

of consent, intimacy and mutuality aren't learned from watching porn."

Although she does not know anyone, or any child, who has been affected by viewing internet porn, she is concerned about the effects of pornography on young minds and said, "People are ashamed of talking about their children's problems. A stigma is attached to poor mental health. Statistics show that many children are affected, which probably means that we all know a child who has been affected."

When asked how parents could manage what young children and teenagers watch, on the internet, she said, "First. The government should recognise the seriousness of this problem. Secondly, they should implement a public education programme to warn parents about the problem. Finally, parents should be made aware of browser options, such as parental controls."

So, will you monitor your children's use of the internet?

PUSAT 3PKI

An Early Intervention Centre for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

In late 2016, a handful of parents, volunteers and one professional formed PERSATUAN PEMBANGUNAN PENDIDIKAN KANAK KANAK ISTIMEWA PERAK(3PKI), IPOH PERAK.

Our focus was to contribute towards the education of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder to bring the best in them by setting up a centre.

Ipoh Fine Arts Society, staged a show by the fusion band AKASHA in August 2017 and raised R30K to set up the centre. This put the team of parents, volunteers and professional to work. Over the next 2 years, further funds were raised. The brethren of Kinta Lodge, Individual Doctors, Parents of children with Autism and Perak Medical Prationers Society made further contributions.

We then found a suitable place at 55 Jalan Rajaratnam, Taman Canning, 31400 Ipoh, Perak. and acquired the necessary approval from the authorities.

In our initial stages of planning we were supported by Dr Madhyazhagan of Faculty of Education of University of Malaya, Ms Michelle Cheng of New Horizon Early Intervention Centre and Ms.Sumathi Annamalai of Tadika Budimas. We thank all our sponsors and supporters very much.

We have a Centre Manager and two staff who are trained by IDEAS AUTISM CENTRE, Rawang,Selangor.

Our centre follows a curriculum designed for children with **Autism Spectrum Disorder**.

We are open for registration on 1st October 2019.

Our

Vision:

To include individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder in the society.

Mission:

To provide holistic management for individuals living with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families.

Core Values:

1. Patience
2. Respect
3. Working together
4. Positive Approach

Motto:

Think Positive. Take Action.

Those keen to know more can WhatsApp **0166372495**.

Dr Shan Narayanan
President
3PKI

3PKI: ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES!!!



SeeFoon 'Revisits' Vietnam

Pics by YuGin Foo



Banh Mi



Summer Spring Roll



Fried Spring Rolls

My friends all laugh when I say I love a particular cuisine as they all know that as a Foodie or the Food Diva as some of them call me, I love ALL cuisines. Except for certain bizarre food items as presented by TV hosts like Andrew Zimmern and Sonny Side in their highly entertaining TV shows.

Vietnamese food for me is within the top 5 of my favourite cuisines. I have visited Vietnam on 6 occasions and I have never found a restaurant here in Ipoh that quite fits the bill in terms of the authenticity of taste and quality.

I am happy to report that I have found such a Vietnamese restaurant in Ipoh – guess the name . . . **Vietnamese Taste – Vietnamese Street's Best**.

The restaurant is brand new, with a charming attempt at creating a Vietnamese ambience with hats (called *nón lá* or leaf hat) on one wall masquerading as lamps and big murals of Vietnamese dishes on the other wall. A make-belief pushcart serves as a cashier's desk and the menu is well illustrated with photos of the dishes on offer.

The Vietnamese as most people know are famous for their coffees and in this restaurant, these live up to their reputation. Their **drip coffee** takes a bit of time **RM5.90** (to drip through)



Banh Xeo

so order that first and their **Mojito and Suo Toui Coffee** at **RM6.90**, creamy and delicious even for a non-sweet palate like mine.

Then on to the dishes. Being the "wide-eyed, stomach narrow" (my grandma's favourite admonition) child that I was and still am, I ordered up a storm. Starting with the **Banh Xeo**, the typical Vietnamese pancake that is filled with prawns and spring onions, this one was crispy on arrival which is a sign of a good Banh Xeo and served with lettuce and a dipping sauce. You wrap a piece of

the pancake in the lettuce leaf, dip in sauce and voila, a mouthful of crispy freshness, **RM19.90**.

Their **Goui Cuon or Summer Spring Roll**, wrapped in paper-thin rice wrappers had a big prawn, bean noodles, wrapped in lettuce, then the rice paper. I would have preferred a fish sauce dip but the peanut sauce that accompanied this was liked by my fellow diners, **RM6.90**. The **fried version had minced chicken** in it with the requisite fish sauce dip which I liked, **RM5.90**.



(L-R) Mojito Viet Ice Coffee, Suo Toui Cafe and Viet Speciality Ice Coffee

Com Ga Quay or Lemongrass Chicken Chop Rice, chicken chop perfumed with lemongrass, juicy and tender inside, served with a fried egg and the de rigueur fish sauce. A meal in itself, **RM17.90**.

The last two ubiquitous dishes that Vietnamese street cuisine is known for is done very well here. **Pho** that umami **beef soup** served with slurpy rice noodles is one of the most well known. You can choose whether you want raw sliced beef brisket, beef balls or all three; beef stew and there is even chicken Pho. Ranging



Two types of Pho with garnitures

in price from **RM11.90 to RM17.90**, this is one bowl of deliciousness that is irresistible. Served with extra herbs and garnitures.

And then there is **Banh Mi**, which is a 'move over Subway' dish taking the western world by storm. My personal test of a good Banh Mi is the baguette itself. Is the crust crunchy? And is the inside soft? Here at Vietnamese Street's Best, it is a resounding Yes! On both counts and the filling is good too. Julienned carrots, cucumber, meat floss, egg, Vietnamese chicken sausage, and topped with cut chillies and coriander, you'll need a big mouth to bite into it. We ordered the **special at RM11.90 but they also have a fish fillet, RM9.90, a double egg, RM8.80, and grilled chicken at RM12.90**.

There are also set lunches with rice dishes, more noodles and a rice-wrap platter with smoked duck. An extensive menu indeed. I have made myself a promise to explore further.

The second outlet in Ipoh Garden will be opening in November (watch this space).

VIETNAMESE TASTE – VIETNAMESE STREET'S BEST

No. 8 Block C, Persiaran Greentown 4,
Greentown Avenue (2.82km), 30450 Ipoh.

Business hours : 11am-9pm 24/7

Manager N.K. Liow: **017 475 0513**

Reservations: **05 210 8013**



ON IPOH
FOOD



By SeeFoon Chan-Koppen
seefoon@ipohhecho.com.my
For more info go to www.ipohfooddiva.my

Chew Museum: Yeoh-Lim-Chew and Beyond... continued from page 2



More members of the Yeoh-Lim-Chew clan at the museum

Lims

The first Lim to arrive in Malaya was **Lim Seok Lam**. He first arrived in Kampar, working in the tin mining industry. His brother, **Lim Seok Tan**, arrived later, believed in the year 1895 at the age of 24 from the village of Che Ling, Guanqiao town, Fujian province. Seok Tan set up his own business in Tapah. Seok Tan found his fortune in setting up "Chop Teik Seng", a provision shop located on 46 Station Road in Tapah, a feeder town for Cameron Highlands which was being developed.

Lim Seok Tan became a landlord, owning a good proportion of the shophouses in Tapah, besides a number of rubber estates. Being one of the wealthiest men in town, he established a tradition of distributing ang paws to the patients of the Tapah District Hospital during Chinese New Year.

It is believed that upon having established himself in Tapah, Seok Tan brought his sister, 15-year-old **Lim Siew Tong** to Malaya around 1900. In 1903, she married Yeoh Khuan Joo.

Yeoh Khuan Joo's handwritten account describes his wife as, "always been gracious, meticulous, industrious, frugal and skilled at caring for the family and educating our children".

In the 1930s, Yeoh Khuan Joo's son, **Yeoh Ghim Cheow** was married to **Chew Gaik Tiew**, the daughter of Chew Boon Juan. In the 1940s, Yeoh Khuan Joo's daughter **Monica Yeoh Suan Bee** married **Chew Choon Kok**.

Notable Lims

Meanwhile, the eldest son of Lim Seok Tan, **Lim Cheng Chuan** was elected President of the Royal Ipoh Club in 1959, the first Asian to hold the post.



More of the collection upstairs

The notable grandsons of Lim Seok Tan are namely the **late Dato' Lim Keng Kay**, the leading industrialist cum developer and the **late Tun Dr Lim Keng Yaik**, the former Energy, Water and Communications Minister and longest-serving political party chief (former Parti Gerakan president).

Bonanza Venture Holdings Sdn Bhd founded by the late Dato' Lim Keng Kay has a strong track record as an investment holding company through four principal business activities; property development (**Kinta Properties**), education (**Matrix Global Schools, Kinder Labz and Ipoh Learning & Training Institute**), hospitality and leisure (**Meru Valley Resort**) and automotive distribution (**Ban Hoe Seng Auto**). Forming its corporate social responsibility (CSR) arms are Ipoh Echo, community-based newspaper and ipohWorld, a not-for-profit organisation which saves, records and makes available to the public worldwide, the accurate local history of Ipoh and the Kinta Valley.

It is currently helmed by **Dato' Lim Si Boon**, Keng Kay's son. Si Boon is also the branch chairman of the Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MICCI).

Moving Forward

"After visiting this space, most people express their regret of discarding their own collection of photographs as they did not value it then," Ignatius Chew pointed out.

"All relatives did say one thing: please don't give this (Chew Museum) up," he beamed.

"However, as I have no progeny, I am hoping that someone from our huge clan can take up the challenge when I am gone and continue to preserve this legacy of our connection and genealogy for future generations to come. A lot more needs to be done, proper curating incorporating technology perhaps. We have this beautiful space that is perfect for a small museum. At the moment because we don't have staff, it remains a private one but I would love to see this becoming a space where we can welcome small groups of guests and explain the rich history that the Chew-Yeoh-Lim clans have created," he concluded.



Meticulous records including certificate of birth



(L-R) Ignatius, SeeFoon Chan-Koppen, Dr Ho Tak Ming, Datin Stella Lim, Puan Sri Dato' Sandra Lee and Pauline during one visit

Leisure

Malaysia's First Day of The Dead

By Mei Kuan

Embrace the Mexican traditions of honouring the dead as you step into the Lost World of Tambun as Malaysia's first Day of The Dead event unfolds for the whole month of October.

The Instagram-able and family-friendly Halloween will bring you on a journey of beauty, art and death with never before experienced activities.

"This year's theme is the artistic beauty and death as found in the traditional Mexican Day of The Dead art. We wish to introduce to our visitors something different from the regular American style of Halloween celebration that we see on popular media. We want to introduce our visitors to another style of Halloween," explained Nurul Nuzairi, General Manager of the Lost World of Tambun.

In Mexico, the Day of the Dead or Día de Muertos is a day of remembrance of those who have departed. The festival is known internationally for their festive art, namely the skull art.

"Each year with every festive campaign that we celebrate, our team has worked



very hard to put together a wholly unique concept where death is seen as being beautiful as opposed to being seen as grotesque where life after death is celebrated and not forgotten," he added.

Guests will get to have their faces painted based on the Day of the Dead-inspired art with luminous paint, try their hand at making their own Voodoo dolls, have their fortunes told by a ghostly Tarot card reader and selfie with the characters.

The month-long Day of The Dead theme will feature The Beauty of Death Parade, A Night To Remember, DJ El Loco Party, The Touch Of The Dead as well as the Soul Of The Fire.

A brand-new attraction, Forest of The Dead which will feature a magical life to death journey.

Party of The Dead will be a themed party which will be held on October 31 where visitors who dress up in a Halloween costume will be given a 50 per cent discount off the Night Park ticket (published rate) as part of the walk in promotion. Each package will include an entrance to Party of The Dead, a Blood Bag Drink or a Devil Horn Headband.

For more, visit its website www.sunwaylostworldoftambun.com or Facebook page at www.facebook.com/lostworldoftambun




QUEST
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY
PERAK

Bringing the World to you

Apply Now for
October 2019 intake

Faculty of Social Sciences	Faculty of Business and Management	Faculty of Medicine	Faculty of Pharmacy	Faculty of Science and Technology
Pre-U Arts Communication Psychology Special Needs Education Early Childhood Education TESL	Pre-U Business Accountancy Business Finance Hospitality and Tourism Culinary Arts	MBBS Biomedical Sciences	Pharmacy	Pre-U Science Actuarial Sciences Biotechnology Computer Science Mechatronics Engineering Environmental Technology Information Technology Electronics Engineering (Communication)



FOUNDATION | DIPLOMA | DEGREE | POSTGRADUATE

+605 2490500 www.qiup.edu.my

Quest International University Perak (DO0211A)
227, Plaza Teh Teng Seng (Level 2), Jalan Raja Permaisuri Bainun, 30250 Ipoh, Perak Darul Ridzuan, Malaysia.
P: +605 249 0503 E: enquiries@qiup.edu.my

Quest International University Perak

qiup.edu @qiup.edu

For enquiries, please call
Prem +6012 202 9240
Marsila +6012 307 3646
Robert Ooi +6012 202 2549

Merit Scholarships & Loans Available*

*Terms and Conditions Apply

Heritage

Chew Boon Juan, the Chew Family Patriarch

By Ian Anderson

Ipoh has a number of successful Chinese family's well-known names like Foo, Lee, Yap, Lim, Yeoh and Chew, but in almost every case their success stems from their ancestors who came from China in the 19th Century. One such ancestor was Chew Boon Juan, patriarch of Ipoh's Chew family.

Chew Boon Juan, born in 1875 in Fujian province, China, was the second son of a Taoist priest. In 1892, he left his fishing village bound for Malaya. He was 17. Initially, he worked here as a cook, but when his employer moved back to China, he bought half of his business. Later was able to purchase the second half. Soon successful, he expanded into a new area, supporting the mining fraternity. He bought and sold their tin ore, sold them provisions and provided them with entertainment. The business grew so well that Boon Juan had to call over two brothers from China to assist him.

In 1901, while on a visit to see his mother in China, Boon Juan received news that the foreman left in charge of the business was overspending. There were rumours that his business was at risk of insolvency. To publicly demonstrate his liquidity he was forced to borrow a significant sum of money. The business was saved. On return to Malaya, he became known to the surveyor Charles Alma Baker from New Zealand, who, recognising his talents, appointed him as the Chief of Gunong Lanno mine, just outside Ipoh. Rich in tin deposits, it was a difficult area to mine, with gullies, ravines and underground caves. Boon Juan worked his team hard with great success. The mine was productive for more than 20 years. This was a wonderful opportunity for the patriot; Baker received an annual income from the mine of \$50,000, Boon Juan's generous share was 15-20% of the profits.

He became a millionaire by the outbreak of the First World War.

Soon rich enough to retire in 1912 at the age of 33, he sent for his youngest brother from China, Boon Hong to run the business. He became a family man with three wives, six sons and 10 daughters. He bought a mansion on North Beach Road, Penang (Gurney Drive, the Millionaires' Row of Penang), where he stayed for the rest of his life. In 1919, he built a bungalow on a three-acre site at Chamberlain Road, Ipoh, which is now the Raja Perempuan School. He also acquired a bungalow on Kampar Road, Ipoh, which was later sold to the Salvation Army for its home. He founded Ban Hoe Seng, initially a shop for trading rubber, later

expanding to sell motorbikes and cars, a business in which his grandson Ignatius Chew is still involved.

In 1924, he went on a thirteen-month round-the-world tour with his close friend, Chung Thye Phin, the last Capitan China of Perak. In the photograph, taken at the Grand Canyon, Chew Boon Juan stands on the left with one of his wives; Chung Thye Phin and one of his seven wives are on the right. The little boy is Chung Kok Soon, one of Chung Thye Phin's 10 sons; he also had seven daughters.

Chew Boon Juan died in 1950 aged 71. He left a great heritage; a large and successful family spread across the world.

We are grateful to Dr Ho Tak Ming who provided many of the details of this story.



Close Friends on a World Tour c 1924



Towkay
Chew Boon Juan

Tourism

Perak Tourism Ambassador

By Chris Teh

“I’m sure that no other places than Ipoh offer something like hor hee (noodle in fish soup base),” said Perak Tourism Ambassador Michael Wong in a meet-and-greet session recently at WEIL Hotel.

Better known as Guang Liang to the worldwide public, the Ipoh-born 49-year-old award-winning recording artiste said that for his tenure as Perak tourism ambassador, he has been constantly on the road to visit many tourist spots in Perak to shoot promotional videos.

“I’m really amazed by the process because there are some really beautiful places in Perak that have not been fully discovered yet,” Michael said. “Hopefully, I’ll be able to shoot a music video here in Ipoh for one of my upcoming songs. I can kill two birds with one stone here because I’m able to promote Ipoh and Perak on the side while instilling curiosity among my listeners from outside Malaysia about the location where the music video was shot.”

Earlier, Michael was appointed Malaysia Tourism Ambassador from 2006 to 2010. However, he was even prouder that he was made Perak Tourism Ambassador effective August 1 to July 31, 2021, promoting his hometown as a tourism destination.

“It feels different because I’m representing Perak especially Ipoh where I was born and raised,” Michael expressed. “There’s plenty of nostalgia in every place I visited around Ipoh and Perak as a young kid and I’d like to share this with my listeners worldwide.”

As tourism ambassador for Perak, Michael hopes that Perakeans are ready to welcome all tourists who visit the state.

“It’s similar to welcoming guests to your house; greet them with a smile, speak in a polite manner and answer whatever questions they have about certain places that they visit with the most information possible,” Michael added. “That way, tourists will be more willing to return the next time!”

“I may be the tourism ambassador for the state but to be honest, every Perakean

is a tourism ambassador too. We all play a part in promoting Perak as an international tourism destination,” Michael said.

Present at the event were Ipoh Mayor Dato’ Ahmad Suaidi and Perak Executive Councillors Tan Kar Hing and Howard Lee Chuan How. Renowned television host Baki Zainal emceed the event.

The event witnessed the launch of tourism brochures that introduce tourism attractions in Perak. Titled ‘My Memories, Your Journey’, the brochure featured 10 places that Michael visited when he was young, namely Ipoh Old Town, Ipoh Railway Station, Ipoh Town Hall, Kellie’s Castle, Kledang Hill, Perak Cave Temple, Sam Tet School, St Michael’s Church, Tin Mining History and Tuanku Zara Aquatic Centre.

Executive Councillor for Tourism, Arts and Culture Tan Kar Hing said that for the abovementioned places, information panels are installed for visitors’ convenience.

“QR codes are also provided on each information panel. Once scanned, visitors will be able to listen to Michael as he tells a story about the place,” he explained. “It’s like having Michael by your side as you explore.”

In his speech, Mayor Ahmad Suaidi said that tourism in Perak requires further push in order to reach a wider audience.

“Tourism products in Perak, although well-established, require a further push to be promoted internationally,” said Ahmad. “I’m positive that the state government’s move in appointing Michael Wong as the new Perak Tourism Ambassador will help establish Ipoh and Perak as an international tourist destination.”



Showcasing Malay Heritage

By Rosli Mansor

Some 2000 people thronged the ‘Santai Tanjak’ programme by the Perak Bumi-putera Tourism Operators’ Association held in conjunction with Malaysia Day on Monday, September 16. The momentous event was staged at Kellie’s Castle, Batu Gajah with the expressed objective of showcasing traditional Malay heritage.

Association Chairman, Zamari Muhyi said that the wearing of ‘tanjak’ (Malay male headgear) was common during the golden era of the Malacca Sultanate (circa 1400s).

“I hope the programme will help restore our past glory,” he said. “Making the headgear requires a certain level of skill. The craft will be a boon for our tourism sector, as it’s something new for foreign visitors.”

Activities such as ‘bertanjak’ photography, silat demonstration and archery were held to enliven the day-long programme.



Traditional Malay games, such as *congkak* and *gasing* were organised to make the event more colourful.

Is it safe to enter caves in Simpang Pulai?



iSpeak

By A. Jeyaraj

Calls for closing down the limestone quarries in Simpang Pulai is getting louder. Mariam Mokhtar in her latest article in Ipoh Echo wrote: “Why is it so difficult to protect Gunung Lanno?” She wants to transform limestone hills from quarrying sites into a site with activities for tourists or scientific research.

President of Perak Quarry Association (PQA), S.K. Chong issued a press statement on September 11 on safety concerns of visitors entering caves in Simpang Pulai. The statement is published in this issue of Echo (see page 8).

Meanwhile, on September 20, Kinta Valley Watch (KVV) issued a report “11 questions in response to the claims about Gunung Lanno cave exploration”. KVV states that the caves hold rich and unique records on history. Quarrying should not be done in these heritage sites.

I am not sure how much publicity these statements received. NST did not publish these.

I am listing a few of the rockfall accidents which took place in limestone hills.

1. On October 18, 1973, a massive slab of rock which detached from Gunung Cheroh caused the demise of 40 people. This slab can still be seen behind Gunung Cheroh.
2. In the late 1970s, a limestone hill in Tambun collapsed. Photos of a pile of crumbled stones were published in the papers.
3. On June 5, 2008, there was a rockfall in Gunung Karang Besar, Keramat Pulai; damage to a vehicle and one death.
4. On January 11, 2009, a big chunk of rock fell in the main cavern of Perak Tong Temple, killing a security guard and injuring two tourists; while 16 other tourists were rescued in a three-hour operation.
5. In April 2012, a 750m3 limestone block toppled down at Gua Tempurung. Other rockfalls have been recorded.
6. On July 1 this year, a fatality occurred at Noble Distinction (M) Sdn Bhd in Simpang Pulai. Blasting was done the previous Thursday in one section of the hill. The following Monday a worker at another location adjacent to where work was being done got killed. Accidents don’t happen only at the site of work, they can occur further away from where work is being done.

I have only listed a few incidents. Rockfalls do not happen only in hills where quarrying is done. Most of the rock falls which are not serious, especially in temples are not reported. In general, limestone hills are prone to rock falls.

According to a study done, the primary causes of rockfalls are attributed to the rainwater along the many joints and fissures present in the limestone and it is inevitable that the rock slabs will break from the cliff where such action has sufficiently reduced their stability.

Rockfalls are hastened by a number of secondary causes, such as vibrations due to low-



intensity earthquakes, quarry blastings and passing vehicles nearby and oscillation related to the wind blowing through vegetation growing on cliff faces and loss in cohesion due to prolonged periods of wet weather. Rock slabs and blocks will, therefore, fall off occasionally although time and a period of successive rockfalls are unpredictable.

I accompanied Secretary of PQA Saw Lid Haw and visited Gunung Lanno where the famous Gua Air is located and Gua Gatsch. Quarrying was going on, on all sides. Saw informed me that blasting is being carried on the left side and behind Gua Air. I noticed rocks that had fallen due to blasting and Saw said that rocks have fallen into the pond of Gua Air during blasting. Rockslides are common in the blasting area.

In Gua Gatsch, blasting is carried out on both sides of the cave. There is no entrance from the quarrying side. Cavers enter from Kampung Kepayang.

On August 30, Department of Minerals and Geoscience organised a meeting with representatives from the Department of Land and Minerals, Police, Environment Department, Batu Gajah District Council, Perak Quarry Association, representatives from quarry companies and residents from Simpang Pulai to discuss issues related to pollution and caves. No report was issued after the meeting.

The Department of Minerals and Geoscience should engage experts to investigate the structural integrity of the hills including the caves to assess how safe they are. Robots and drones can be sent for inspection. Photos of the interior of the caves should be taken. They need to find ways to preserve the caves and keep them intact; rehabilitate the blasted areas by replanting. We should find an amicable solution that satisfies the interests of all parties. Find out what other countries have done. Instead of being emotional, we must be rational.

Saw wanted to know who becomes responsible if accidents occur inside a cave. He said various authorities did not want to answer his question. The quarries and caves are private properties and the public are not allowed to enter. He informed that some companies are bringing in tourists. If accidents occur who is responsible? He added that since the caves belong to the quarry owners, they would become answerable. Hence, the quarry would be closed for a long duration and loss to the company.

During March this year journalists were taken to the 10-hectare area that was cleared in Kledang Hill to see the situation. The journalists were only taken to the first level. The authorities said that the soil above was unstable and not safe to go. The clearing was done in January. Just clearing of the forest had made the soil unstable till today.

Now for about 50 years, the limestone hills in Simpang Pulai are being blasted. What would be the stability of the hills and caves? Blasting can be stopped, but I think the damage is already done.

Community



Malaysia-China Music Festival

By David Seow

Over 500 guests were at Syeun Hotel Ipoh recently for the inaugural Malaysia-China International Music Festival. With the support of Tourism Perak and 15 Clark Street, the musical show, organised by Showtime Studio, was to commemorate 45 years of bilateral ties between Malaysia and China.

The programme began with a performance by the Sam Tet Secondary School Marching Band, led by Lam Chee Choong. Other local acts included the Yuk Choy Chinese Orchestra and the Methodist Girls School traditional Indian dancers.

Representing China were pianist Zang Wan Lin and the Bomei Band, a wind orchestra consisting of 65 students from the Jiangxi Province. Both bands then joined forces to provide a sonically unique musical experience.

Among the invited guests were the State Executive Councillor for Tourism, Tan Kar Hing, President of the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (Perak Chapter), Dato' Gan Tack Kong, and Dr Leong Oon Keong, grandson of Leong Sin Nam. Also present were some 160 guests from China.

"Ipoh has rich ties with China, but not many people are aware," said Kee Boon, an accomplished world-class pianist. "Dr Sun Yat-Sen came to Ipoh to raise funds for the revolution to establish a new China." He hoped that the direct flight from Guangzhou to Ipoh would attract more visitors and put Ipoh on the map.

The show was sponsored by President of Kelab Roadrunners Ipoh, Chong Him Shoong, Dato' Lee Heng, Andy Lim of Liu Bao Tea, and Executive Director of United MAEX He Yifeng as a means of using music to promote cultural exchange.

"We're privileged to invite these musicians from China to play alongside us," said Chong Him Shoong, the main sponsor of the event. "I was mesmerised by the world-class performances and the camaraderie that ensued. It augurs well for the future of this music festival being an annual fixture in Perak's calendar of events."

Connexion

By Joachim Ng

Haze blankets Asean moral values



Your neighbour can make you fall perilously sick, disrupt your studies, or force you to wait stressfully at Sultan Azlan Shah Airport as you check the smoke (API) reading to see if your flight may be cancelled. As usual the neighbour isn't concerned with your loss of health or loss of earnings. It's his patch of forest to burn as he wishes.

Asians, despite their much-proclaimed superior religio-cultural traditions, lack the habit of good neighbourliness. Asean is nowhere near the cohesive level of the European Union with its strong focus on regional integration. Not only do Asean states display unconcern for neighbours, citizens of many nations frequently show disdain towards fellow citizens outside their own factional groups.

Worst is the profit rule that your only neighbour is the dollar. Happy to comply with this rule, many planters are quietly playing a supporting role in haze creation. Open burning in Malaysia itself has long been practised by farmers and contractors as a free and easy way to get rid of trees, shrubs, and debris. Signs of this habit are visibly evident in the miles of garbage dotting the semi-urban landscape.

Why is it that despite their strong cultural and religious heritage, the people of Asean fail each other when they most need each other? Why is the sense of neighbourliness missing? Asean's religio-cultural traditions are like twin strands of your DNA; a factional strand is wound together with a universal strand. The golden rule "to love your neighbour" that is embedded in all Asean traditions can be interpreted factionally or universally.

Factionally, you count as "neighbour" only your fellow believers, fellow racialists, fellow planters, or very broadly your fellow countrymen. The rest are strangers. But if you have a universalist mind, your neighbour is any human being who co-exists peacefully with you. There are no people borders in universalism.

The problem in Asean is that we lean more towards factionalism and less towards universalism. But the less we integrate on the basis of shared values, the more we segregate. The haze coincided with a new segregationist movement on social media urging one faith community to buy products manufactured by the community and to avoid products made outside the community.

Segregation — the creating of silos to wall up different groups on the basis of factional interests — undermines the struggle to achieve a higher shared identity. Without integration, even basic values such as honesty disintegrate. Etched into the records is our neighbour's denial that the haze greying our skies comes from its territory.



Adrenaline-filled Thrills

By Mei Kuan

It was a two-day of adrenaline-filled thrills for 21 Perak media practitioners from 11 agencies as they completed various team-building challenges at the Lost World Adventure Park which featured the first glamping experience inside a theme park nestled in limestone hills under the starry sky.

Held from September 18 to 19, the Perak Media Fun Day was organised by the Perak Media Sport and Welfare Club.

"Termed 'glamping' (glamorous camping), we provide traditional tents with four hotel beds inside each as a form of accommodation. With various packages for additional activities, it is situated right by the pristine Boga Lake. Imagine this experience where you live in a theme park with access to the entire facilities in the park with breakfast included," Brian S. Francis, Director of Operations, Sunway Lost World of Tambun explained.

"Utmost gratitude to Sunway Lost World of Tambun for collaborating with the club to organise the Perak Media Fun Day with sports element. This gives us a chance to destress and experience the recreational cum team building activities first hand. It also builds team spirit," Rosli Mansor, President of Perak Media Sport and Welfare Club shared.

The lively affair kicked off with a 630-step trail up Gua Datok, also known as the Picasso Cave for its beautiful granite walls that resemble the abstract paintings of the famous painter, Pablo Picasso.

After a sumptuous dinner spread of barbecue by the camp, the group was awestruck



by a merry band of fire eaters, jugglers and percussionists performing a medley of beats, dance and fiery entertainment.

The second day saw the energetic team exploring the 6th Mile Tunnel, a pitch-black cave that challenged all their senses with mud that went up to the knees and trying out the Via Ferrata (Italian for "Iron Road"), a protected mountainside climbing route followed by an abseil down.

"This is my first time joining the club's programme and it really strengthens the bond among media practitioners. It also promotes teamwork which is important in our line of work," Mohd Aznizam Azahar from Chor TV enthused, citing glamping in nature as his favourite.

"To date, we have a total of 87 family-friendly attractions with more to come. One of it is our upcoming Malayana Rain Fortress, a water park, expected to be completed in three months. It is a two-level pool for all ages with slides. We are also incorporating a tunnel together with our Adventure River. We also have the night hot springs which attracts a large crowd locally and internationally, an attraction that is unique to us and Perak," the amiable Brian added.

For more, visit <https://sunwaylostworldoftambun.com/lost-world-adventure-park/>

Community

Celebrating Malaysia Day from Far Away

By Chris Teh

Celebrating Malaysia Day in our country may be just another festivity but what about in the land Down Under? What started off as a dream of getting Malaysians from all walks of life based in Melbourne to “do something big” created an artistic social movement called ‘We the Rakyat’.

A research scientist at the University of Melbourne, Taiping-born 24-year-old Darren Lee Yeu Jyn who moved to Ipoh with his family at a very young age said that he came across a YouTube video of Singapore’s National Day Parade.

The ‘We the Rakyat’ founder opined, “Why not start something similar for a community close to my heart? I immediately thought of ‘Here in My Home’ originally performed by Pete Teo and Malaysian Artists for Unity, while the music video was directed by the late Yasmin Ahmad. They were the inspiration for our ‘We the Rakyat’ music video.”

“‘Here in My Home’ channels the message about us (Malaysians) having each other’s backs and however far apart we may be in the world, we are eternally Malaysians at heart,” he expressed. “Hopefully, with this movement, Malaysia will continue to progress towards being a harmonious, prosperous and undivided society.”

Speaking on the concept behind the music video, Lee mentioned, “The beginning of the video depicts that despite our differences in beliefs and values, we are one”.

Having premiered on Facebook and YouTube on Malaysia Day, the music video for “We the Rakyat” starts with pairs of eyes and vocalizing of “I Am Malaysian” by various individuals. It continues to depict the different communities of Malaysian students and workers residing in Melbourne, as well as national athletes like track cyclist Azizulhasni Awang, swimmer Welson Sim and celebrities like Diana Chan, winner of competitive cooking game show Masterchef Australia.

“Hopefully, viewers are left with the feeling of nostalgia and acknowledgement of the diverse Malaysian identity in a globalised world,” he further expressed.

Ending with a brief speech from Mazita Marzuki, the Consul General of The Consulate General of Malaysia in Melbourne, who said in the video, “Let us all come together and embrace unity on this very special occasion. And let us all remember, no matter where we roam, we will always be Malaysians at heart”.



Expressing his gratitude, Lee said, “I am really grateful that this project garnered not only Mazita’s support but also from all Malaysians living in our motherland, Australia and other countries as well. I would also like to attribute this success to the creative and production team who made the filming of this video possible, also to my friends and family back in Ipoh for their endless support, not to mention teachers from my alma mater, St Michael’s Institution. Without them, this project could not have been realised. It’s high time to come together no matter where we may be”.

Elaborating on hardships faced along the process, Lee elaborated, “From creation to realisation, we had to be thoughtful and considerate in working on this multi-layered project. It wasn’t easy because some of the videographers and music producers involved are either still pursuing their studies or juggling multiple jobs at a time”.

“Conceptualising and gathering singers to booking recording studios and performing spaces to film the music video were all done within a month. Our zero-budget added further to the challenge. Despite these elements, these passionate individuals who strive to deliver an important message via ‘We the Rakyat’ made this project come to life,” he expressed.

Asked on what he misses most about Ipoh, Lee mentioned in an interview via WhatsApp, “I definitely miss my family, the food and the Canning Garden market! Since I started my life and career in Melbourne after finishing my studies, I haven’t had an opportunity to have meals with my family and lepak (hang out) with my friends to have a nice cup of Ipoh’s white coffee. However, I’m looking forward to my next trip back to Ipoh, hopefully, this coming Chinese New Year”.

Speaking on his future plans about ‘We the Rakyat’, he said that the music video is just a start of something new and the best is yet to come.

“We hope everyone will look forward to a music video next year which will be done on a bigger scale and features more collaborations!” Lee mentioned. “Moving on, we are seeking sponsorship or further support from our local government”.

“I’m in the midst of extending my stay in Melbourne but no one knows what may happen. I’m sure that wherever I may roam in the future, ‘We the Rakyat’ will continue to grow to unite Malaysians from all walks of life over the years and all of this would only be made possible with the support of all Malaysians!” he expressed.

To view the video on YouTube, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OaOdFexJs0I>. Interested readers or parties who wish to support or contribute to ‘We the Rakyat’ may contact Lee via email at wetherakyatmalaysia@gmail.com.

Kampar’s First NGO for Strays

Members of the Kampar community have come together to start a non-governmental organization to control the local stray animal population through the Trap-Neuter-Release-Manage (TNRM) programme.

Persatuan Pencinta Haiwan Kampar, Perak, was launched recently in the presence of Thomas Su Keng Siong, Member of Parliament for Kampar.

The NGO, started with the assistance of Su, in collaboration with the Persatuan Kebajikan Masyarakat Harapan Perak, aims to bring together local animal lovers to help capture and neuter stray dogs and cats to decrease the number of strays in the Kampar District.

The NGO is also placing great importance on educating the public on the act of spaying and neutering pets as well as the crucial role of a good TNRM programme in controlling and improving the welfare of the stray population in any community.

“There is a possibility of having 16 dogs produced by one pair of unsprayed dogs in a year. In two years, there will be 128 more strays that come from the same line. In six years, 67,000 strays. It is of utmost importance that we support programmes like this in order to stop the overpopulation of strays,” says Su.

The TNRM programme involves members of the community in capturing strays and getting them spayed or neutered and eventually releasing them back into the area in which they belong. This programme will decrease the number of strays in the community as well as being a much more viable and humane method of controlling the number of strays.

The NGO is currently working with local feeders in capturing strays and financing the medical costs of spaying and neutering. The local vets at the Klinik Haiwan Kampar is working closely with the NGO in this programme.

The programme which started in July has already seen 34 strays spayed or neutered and released. Members of the public as well as officers from Majlis Daerah Kampar can identify the dogs by the tags on their right ears as well as the notches on the left.



Ear Tag



(L to R) Member of Parliament Kampar Thomas Su, Vet Dr Nurul Ashikin Sapian and Yvonne Hoh, President

For more information contact:
Perak at kampar.tnr@gmail.com
or follow this page,
<https://www.facebook.com/KamparTnr/>
Ms Lee Su Win (Secretary)
Mobile: 012 288 6888
Ms Yvonne Hoh (President)
Mobile: 012 202 6268

Property

Palazzo @ Ipoh Garden East

Palazzo Condominium @ Ipoh Garden East, the latest development project from the Team Keris Berhad group, is now open for sale.

With Italian nuances applied to the overall concept, Palazzo is a low-density condominium development with only eight units per floor designed to cater to family living.

Designed with safety and security, a myriad of modern family-oriented facilities and community amenities are specially curated with the modern family unit in mind.

Datin Irene Lee, Deputy Chairman of Team Keris Berhad shared that the team visited various cities in Italy for inspiration and references for the Palazzo project.

“The detailing in the design is very intricate as we wish to be as faithful to the theme as much as possible. For example, the poolside settee at Palazzo is in the form of a gondola, with a gondolier no less!” Datin Irene explained to the media on Friday, September 13.

Besides an attractive selling price which starts from just RM299,800 for a unit, its location offers easy access to the network of roads in Ipoh Garden, Tambun, Bercham and to Ipoh city and the PLUS highway. It is strategically located at the heart of Ipoh Garden East, one of the most coveted and established residential addresses in the city.

With only 296 units over the project’s 4.26 acres, Palazzo has only eight units each floor with 2-bedroom or 3-bedroom configurations. The residents have direct access to a public park right in front with a newly-rejuvenated playground and walking path along the river banks of Pinji River.

Irene added, “We saw the opportunity to provide quality homes for the families at Palazzo and also with the provision of modern facilities such as an aqua gym and spa beds in the 210-foot swimming pool plus a family water play station which is a hit with the children.”

Palazzo also features lush, green space which is walk and bicycle-friendly.

Construction work for Palazzo is expected to be completed in 2022 and is set to be the best value for money investment in the city. Palazzo is another milestone in Team Keris Berhad’s 28 years of development experience.

The project is now open for sale and its scale model is ready to view at Team Keris Berhad’s main office on Jalan Sultan Nazrin Shah (Jalan Gopeng) next to Impiana Hotel Ipoh. Call 019 701 2222 or 019 703 2222 for more information.



Community



Preschoolers Learn About Other Cultures

Women Unity of Culture (Women-UC), a newly-established NGO, organised three activities in conjunction with Malaysia Day for preschoolers in the vicinity of Ipoh. Forty-nine children from 11 kindergartens took part in a runway competition, colouring contest and quiz competition.

Aiming to promote different cultural understanding, participants of the runway competition were requested to wear a traditional costume that is not of his/her ethnicity. Clad in various Malaysian traditional costumes ranging from cheongsam to lehnga, dhoti and Kadazandusun costume, the children sang, danced and 'berpantun' enthusiastically.

Twelve children took up the challenge of answering questions related to Malaysian culture and customs. The organiser wanted to impart basic Malaysian historical knowledge to children.

And to introduce Malaysian arts, children were given pictures that were not of their ethnicity to colour.

Madam Kirubadevi a/p Varlimunian, mother of Dhanyasri Inthiren, 4, from Tadika St John said, "This activity is good exposure not only for my daughter but also myself as I get to mingle with other Ipoh residents. This is a good initiative and I would want to take part in any future events organised by Women-UC," said Kirubadevi.

The event ended with Puan Nurul Fadrullina binti Abd Jalil, chairperson of Women-UC giving her vote of thanks to all parents and teachers who showed their support. Besides hoping this event could positively impact the children, she also wished one of the objectives of this NGO is instilling good values via the introduction of myriad Malaysian cultures, could be achieved.

Gracing this event was Dr Lee Boon Chye, Deputy Health Minister and Sandra Ng. In his speech, Dr Lee urged all adults to inculcate not only the spirit of patriotism but moral values especially kindness in children so that they will be responsible teenagers and one day become selfless and considerate leaders.

About Women Unity of Culture

Women Unity of Culture (Women-UC) is an NGO recently established aiming to bring together women from various ethnicities at Kinta District, Perak. Its objectives are to empower women's welfare, enhance women's self-esteem by providing counselling, organising various activities and programmes to sustain the NGO, and advocate cultural and traditional understanding. For information about upcoming activities, visit their Facebook page Women-UC or email your enquiries to ppbwanita.kinta@gmail.com.

How Much Do You Think You Understand Autism?

A talk on Autism by **Ms Teh Shin Er** was held recently at Ave Maria Convent School Hall Ipoh. Organised by **Ave Maria Convent Alumni Association Ipoh** Ms Teh Shin Er, a doctorate candidate in clinical psychology at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, USA, called on parents to be more alert and observe the child's speech and behaviours, as autism symptoms are detectable as early as 9 months.

AUTISM or **Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)** refers to a broad range of symptoms characterized by impairments in social skills, repetitive behaviours, speech and non-verbal communication and interactions with people. Early diagnosis and intervention are critically important in affecting the child's developmental trajectory — the earlier the treatment, the better the prognosis.

"The primary recommended intervention is **Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA)**, which targets multiple developmental skills including speech, social skills, emotional regulation, etc. ABA intervention might be scarce in Perak but plenty of centres/hospitals in Kuala Lumpur offer such treatments," offered Ms Teh.

Aside from social difficulties, Ms Teh said further that children with autism have fixated interests and/or behaviours that are often restricted and rigid, with an 'obsessive' quality. Individuals with autism often engage in simple, repetitive activity with their own body parts (e.g. hard flapping or vocalization) or in simple activities (e.g., observing a toy train going around the tracks for hours). They also often have rituals (e.g., showering for 1.5 hours) that when intervened, result in high discomfort or even meltdowns.

Wellness

By SeeFoon Chan-Koppen

Revealed: How to have the most perfect smile

Your teenager or perhaps you as an adult, are about to take a big step toward better health and a more attractive appearance — **orthodontic treatment**. But the thought of wearing braces for the next couple of years is a formidable one.

Take heart, for now dental surgeon **Dr. N Tamilkkumaran** with his dental surgeon associate, **Dr. Teoh Yit Kwan** has an alternative braces suggestion for you. Dr. Tamil as he is called, is one of the partners in the **LS group of clinics** which comprises two other clinics in the same location: a family practice headed by **Dr. Leong Wei Fai** and an Aesthetic clinic headed by **Dr. Neik Hiong Lee**.

According to Dr. Tamil, while traditional braces are effective, wearing them restricts eating certain snacks and foods, requiring extra time and effort for brushing and flossing, and they're often uncomfortable to wear. Also the metal wires can be

abrasive and sometimes cause caries. And of high importance to a teenager and especially for an adult, it's embarrassing to wear them.

Now you can save yourself some social embarrassment with **Mbrace aligners**. This form of bite correction requires fewer food restrictions, allows greater ease in hygiene, and is considered more attractive than braces. In fact, most observers won't notice them when a wearer smiles.

"**Mbrace aligners** are a series of clear plastic trays created by computer, from molds taken by the dentist, of your mouth, that are worn in a certain sequence. During wear, each tray exerts pressure on the teeth to gradually move them in the desired direction. The patient wears a single tray for two weeks or longer and then changes to the next tray in the sequence, which will be slightly different than the previous tray. At the end of the process, the teeth will have been moved to their new positions," explained Dr. Tamil.

"Mbrace aligners aren't appropriate for all bite problems. When they are, though, they offer a couple of advantages over braces. Unlike braces, a wearer can remove the aligner to brush and floss their teeth, thus minimizing bad breath which often occur with traditional braces. And, of course, because they are hardly noticeable, there is no embarrassment involved when socializing. The total treatment time for both braces or aligners are about the same as is the cost" he added.

Teeth Whitening

And then there is the matter of yellow or severely stained teeth.

You've tried different toothpastes, switched your toothbrushes and still your pearly whites are not so pearly or white anymore. Then it's time to consider Teeth Whitening.

"All our food has colouring, and even toothpastes are coloured so how can we not stain our teeth?" Dr. Tamil asked rhetorically. "Smoking, coffee and tea are particularly bad culprits for stains but now there is no more reason to live with stained teeth. Teeth Whitening is a simple painless procedure of having gel applied on the teeth, shining a special light on them and lo and behold, your pearly whites are pearly white again," he added gleefully.

But a caveat here is this: you can only whiten your natural teeth. Veneers or crowns and porcelain cannot be whitened. Each whitening will last for at least 8 months and the process can be repeated regularly. Cost is reasonable.

Next issue, for your total wellness and cosmetic enhancement, visit the other two clinics in the LS Group in the same location.

For more information, contact:

Klinik Pergigian LS
Dr. N Tamilkkumaran
35A&35B Susuran Stesen 18,
Station 18, 31650 Ipoh Perak

Business hours: Monday 9am- 6pm,
Tues to Sun 9am - 8pm
Contact: 012-328 2568



The talk was organised by the Ave Maria Convent Alumni Association Ipoh (**AMCAA**) and the main sponsor was Legend of Tea Sdn Bhd, co-sponsored by EQ Parents and Students Association, SRJK(C) Ave Maria Convent Parent and Teacher Association and the Loving Mothers Group.

The alumni association **president Moy Ooi Thye** hopes that this talk on Autism by a highly qualified professional speaker can enlighten the public in general but especially the parents who may have an autistic child at home.

More than 300 parents, educators and social workers were in attendance.

Community

Cinematic Contribution to Nation Building



By Chris Teh

The August instalment of Sharpened Word took place at People of Remarkable Talents (P.O.R.T.) Ipoh on August 23 and 24.

In conjunction with the Independence Day celebration, this session focused on the issues and challenges of film and movie production. Four renowned movie directors were present to speak on their respective take about the cinematic contribution to nation-building.

Also present to grace the two-day session was Datin Seri Dr Nomee Ashikin, who is also a film lover herself.

Director of *Melur vs Rajawali*, a film about a new high school student who was keen to know the top 10 most beautiful girls in the school, Penang-based Al Jafree Md Yusop noted the absence of platforms for independent filmmakers in Malaysia.

"Sundance Institute is an organisation founded by Robert Redford in 1981 to support independent filmmakers. Christopher Nolan (director of *Interstellar*) and Ryan Coogler (director of *Black Panther*) are just a few of the talented filmmakers who started from Sundance," he explained.

"The National Film Development Corporation Malaysia (FINAS) should have done

something like Sundance Institute a long time ago. There are a lot of extremely talented filmmakers in Malaysia whose potentials are yet to be fully discovered," Al Jafree lamented.

Reaffirming his stand, he stated that films are a very important art form.

"It is dominant, expensive, yet the most popular form of art and we cannot ignore the impact it could give to society," he said.

Dubbed 'Father of Malaysian animation', Kedah-born Hassan Muthalib, better known as Pak Hassan stressed the importance of censorship, especially in a multiracial country like Malaysia.

"I attended the 1983 Manila International Film Festival (MIFF). Since there were little to no regulations, producers went and added a lot of obscene elements into their films. They were allowed to be screened," the Sharpened Word adviser reminisced. "People ran out of the cinema after 10 minutes!"

"In Asia, people have a different outlook. Religion precedes anything else. In the Japanese film scene, directors like Hayao Miyazaki who directed *My Neighbor Totoro* and Yoji Yamada did not include such outrageous content in their films, yet they became so famous!" Pak Hassan said.

Asked on academic requirements, UK-based Razli Dalan clarified that one does not need a PhD to make a film.

Speaking on his personal experience, he said, "Even though I did not want to pursue a PhD, I did not regret the decision of going for it because it is a requirement for practice-based PhD in film making and there are not many practitioners out there who did so."

Razli, whose film *'Haruan: The Snakehead'* depicts the tale of a magical fish and its flawed human friends, insisted that filmmaking has to come from the spirit and soul, not merely from knowledge.

"In film schools, they teach you how to handle cameras but there is no point. People could change anytime. What you use today might be something different tomorrow," he reminded. "You need the basic knowledge of using the tools to tell a story. Once you know how to tell a good story, everything else doesn't matter."

Ipoh-born James Lee, whose films have won multiple awards in film festivals in Bangkok, Hong Kong, Singapore and the Philippines, mentioned the challenges in terms of the representation of Malaysian identity in films.

"I've always thought of Malaysia as an Asian version of the United States, even though it might be a little far-fetched. Unfortunately, from a creative point of view, no one exploited the cultural diversity our country has to offer and use it as an opportunity for entertainment as much as the U.S. does," he lamented.

Director of the romantic comedy *'Tolong! Awak Aku Pontianak'* which depicts a naive yet kind-hearted protagonist falling for a peculiar woman who was eventually found to be a vampire, James revealed that he was not formally trained to direct films.

"During the 1990s, I was trained on the spot from Hong Kong directors. It took me a really long time to find my own style of working and imagination," he reminisced.

For more information, log on to www.facebook.com/sharpenedword.kinta.

HAPPENINGS

Only pay RM30 for chargeable events/seminars announcements. You get 3 media avenues for the price of one: • Print (circulation 100,000) • Website (over 1 million hits per month – verifiable) • Facebook (Free public events are published FREE)

Announcements must be sent by fax: 05 543 9411; 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.

ARTS AND CULTURE

SHARPENED WORD: 'DOES FOOD MAKE A NATION'. OCTOBER 19 (Saturday), 2pm-5pm at 22 Hale Street. Sharpened Word invites you to join the illustrious panel for a stimulating nation building discussion and celebrate their 4th anniversary. Entrance by donation. For updates visit Facebook page: www.facebook.com/sharpenedword.kinta.

COMMUNITY

SEMINAR ON SPECIAL NEEDS ACROSS LIFESPAN. OCTOBER 5 & 6, 8.30am-4.30pm at Bro. Liborius Auditorium, Hospital Fatimah Ipoh. Tea and lunch provided. Admission is free. For further information, contact Dr Shan Narayanan 05 546 1345 or 05 5455777 ext. 179.

SELF-DEFENSE WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN (from 12 years old). OCTOBER 6 (Sunday), 4pm-6pm at Belly-Wood Dance & Fitness Studio, 99A Regat Sri Cempaka, Taman Cempaka, Ipoh (above 7/11, opposite Caltex). Fee: RM30 per person. Trainers: Master Salomao Lima and Ms Queenie from Samurai Martial Arts Academy, Bercham. Learn how to avoid, defend and react in dangerous situations (snatch theft, frontal/back/wrist grab, Muay Thai in self-defense – demonstration and application). Contact: 016 233 0512.

PERAK STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY CORPORATION. DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE BY ABAS HASSAN. OCTOBER 12 (Saturday), 8.30am-4.30pm at Level 1 Hall, Tun Razak Library. Abas Hassan is a professional photographer who lectures on photography at the University of Malaya. With limited seats, participation fee of RM100 comes with a certificate. For more information, contact 05 249 1888.

PERAK STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY CORPORATION. PHOTO CHALLENGE @ LIBRARY: READ ANYWHERE 2019. OCTOBER 13 (Sunday), 8.30am-12.30pm with the briefing held in front of Ipoh Tourist Information Centre. A photography competition for all photography enthusiasts with prizes up to RM1000 (DSLR category) and RM300 (DSLR SOOC category). Participation fee of RM100 applies for each. For more information, contact Farahanum 05 249 1880 or 05 249 1888.

2019 MALAYSIA OPEN KOSHIKI CHAMPIONSHIP. OCTOBER 13 (Sunday), 8.30am-6pm at SJKC Hing Hwa, Tambun, Ipoh. Participating countries: Japan, Russia, India, Bangladesh, Poland and Malaysia. Participating

states: Penang, Kedah, Wilayah, Selangor, Johor and Perak. Over 100 participants from various and different martial arts background such as from Karatedo, Kempo, Tae Kwon Do, Muay Thai, Sanda and MMA will participate in the 15 categories in "Kumite Shiai" (Free Sparring Matches) and 4 categories in "Kata Kyogi" (Pattern Performance).

SEKOLAH SEMANGAT MAJU CHARITY FOOD FAIR. OCTOBER 13 (Sunday), 8am till 12.30pm at the school located at Lorong Tawas 29, Kg Tawas, 30010 Ipoh. With guest of honour, Datin Seri Dr Nomee Ashikin, there will be up to 60 stalls selling cooked food, vegetables, handicrafts and dry rations (rice, canned food, cooking oil, etc.). Fair coupons are on sale at RM10 per booklet at the school's office. To raise funds for various programmes for the intellectually-disabled children and adults under the school's care. For more information, call 05 547 0186 or 011 1657 4128.

SHOW OFF YOUR CAT! NON-PEDIGREE CAT COMPETITION. NOVEMBER 17 (Sunday), 9.30am-1.30pm at Tesco Extra Bercham. 'Natural Beauty', 'Most Photogenic', 'Best Dressed' and 'Owner Pet Look-Alike' categories and other fun activities for the public. Registration fee: RM30 per category. For registration, enquiry, terms & conditions: 011 2063 0103 (Fazila) or 016 252 5566 (Winnie). Email: noahsarkipoh@yahoo.com. Facebook: [noahsarkipoh](https://www.facebook.com/noahsarkipoh).

CHARITY BALLET CONCERT 'SWAN LAKE'. NOVEMBER 17 (Sunday), 8pm at RTM Auditorium. A fundraising event for the Perak Palliative Care Society. One-night performance only. For enquiries, call Dance Centre 05 545 9480; Facebook or Instagram: *Dance Centre, Ipoh* for updates.

HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMME ON MENTAL HEALTH will be conducted at the Ipoh Adventist Community Services Center. This programme has helped many to optimize their brains and has equipped others to help loved ones recover from mental health illness, with proven results. It runs for 2 hours, every Saturday afternoon for 8 weeks, from July through August. For further details, WhatsApp us at 016 400 0271.

NEDLEY DEPRESSION & ANXIETY RECOVERY PROGRAM™ will be run by the Ipoh Adventist Community Services to equip those who are struggling with anxiety disorder or depression, or those desiring to assist loved ones with mental health disorders. This programme can help improve EQ and help students achieve peak mental performance. For further info, WhatsApp 016 595 0829 or 016 400 0271.

FREE REALITY-BASED STREET DEFENSE WORKSHOP. Organised by Urban Street Defense's Centre for all NGOs and Women's Groups in Ipoh. Workshop covers what to do when you are attacked, defend against various real life attack scenarios and more. Call 016 538 4562 to book a FREE session. Booking confirmation on a first come, first served basis.

REPORT BULLYING. All schools in Malaysia have an Anti-bullying Guideline. Anti-bullying hotline: Talian Aduan Disiplin 1800-88-4774 or email adudisiplin@moe.gov.my. You can also call 15999 Childline to report bullying.

Kechara Earth Project. LET'S RECYCLE FOR GREENER EARTH. EVERY 4TH SUNDAY of the month, 9.30am-11.30am in front of Ipoh Garden Post Office, Jalan Dato Lau Pak Khuan, Ipoh Garden, 31400 Ipoh. Carton boxes, paper, metal/aluminium, electronic equipment, plastics, light bulbs, batteries and used clothes. Funds are channeled towards Kechara Food Bank that serves the urban poor and underprivileged community in Ipoh. For more details, contact: 016 532 8309 (Mr So) or 012 522 3200 (Ms Yee Mun).

Community

A Night at the Opera

By Mei Kuan

Perak Women for Women Society (PWW) presented a fully sold-out charity dinner with a performance titled, "Women in Love: A Night at the Opera" on Saturday, September 21 at the ballroom of Syeun Hotel, Ipoh.

After a video presentation by PWW, a Chinese fairy dance by Geok Dance Centre and QiPao Association unfolded followed by joget (traditional Malay dance) by PWW members and friends. With a crowd of up to 450, the concert also featured various singers with powerful vocals including PWW members, friends from VoxPop Choir Kuala Lumpur, Bayty, Kanna Jeyaratnam who sang duets with Jason and Kareem. Emcee for the evening PWW member Lim Pui San did a great job in announcing in both English and Mandarin and kept time for both the audience and the performers at a rapid pace as the evening's program was so full.



Photo from Dee Nagara

The PWW members were all dressed in multi-hued kebaya (traditional blouse-dress combination) to celebrate the lively occasion.

"We have managed to raise also RM60,000 and this amount will help PWW set up and maintain our new centre which is now placed at Market Street Ipoh, just above our PWW Shop. With this centre, we will continue to support and help victims of abuse and violence. We advise them and assist them. We will continue to conduct outreach programmes where trained members give talks in estates, schools, colleges, government agencies and factories on issues relating to domestic violence, sexual harassment, bullying and legal rights of women and children," Sumathi Sivamany, President of PWW explained.

"These outreach programmes are actually the first steps



towards awareness of any abuse and disadvantaged victims. It makes them realise that they are not to be blamed for the abuse inflicted on them and that they are actually victims who have legal rights," she added.

The PWW Shop is an empowerment project which sells new and pre-loved items donated by supporters as well as hand-woven crafts by the Penan tribes to help empower them to put their children to school.

The highlight of the evening was the five-act Cantonese opera performed by Kam Seen Kiu Art Crew (KSK Art) from Kuala Lumpur which depicted the common themes of love, hope, sacrifice and betrayal in a woman's quest to find eternal love.

A colourful and intricate art form rooted in southern China, Cantonese opera was declared part of the World's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in 2009. Meanwhile, Kam Seen Kiu Art Crew is helmed by the very talented Grand Master Kam Seen Kiu having over 50 years of performing and teaching Cantonese opera in Malaysia and abroad.

Happy guests went home with goodies such as homemade pouches, coffee scrub and vouchers. For more updates, visit the PWW's Facebook page.

To Advertise /Collaborate



YuGin Foo
016 5541178

Nostalgia

Yeoh Ghim Khoon, Transport Entrepreneur

By Ian Anderson

There was a time when Ipoh was said to be the town with more Mercedes cars than anywhere else in Malaya. Whether this is accurate, nobody knows, but there is no doubt that Ipoh had more than its fair share and they all came from that famous old company Cycle and Carriage, opened on Brewster Road in 1906. The company closed down in Ipoh in 1930, a victim of the world depression.

With the depression over, Cycle and Carriage rose again in Ipoh, through an agency in Silibin owned by Yeoh Ghim Khoon. He was the eldest son of Yeoh Khuan Joo, born into the Yeoh, Lim, Chew family group in 1903. He called his company Ipoh Motors which, after the war, took over the old Cycle and Carriage building. Here he was the local agent for a number of other makes, including Fiat and Renault, but while Italy and France lying in post-war ruins, he took on Plymouth, Hudson, Fargo, Willys and other American makes as these were more available.

In the early days, the Mercedes was owned by the richest towkays, most of whom made their fortunes from the tin mines in the Kinta Valley. Outside this ring of Tin Barons, there were no luxuries like family cars and the options to travel were few – the Gharry, the Rickshaw or the Omnibus!

The bus has a long history in Ipoh, which started when a Japanese businessman opened pony bus service between Ipoh and Batu Gajah in 1893. The carriage was drawn by two ponies. Next came the first motor bus service, started by Yeop Abdul Rani Idris in 1910. Based on a single bus it ran from the corner of Hugh Low Street and Laxamana

Road to Gopeng. This was a great innovation for the travelling public. Then, in 1913, C.F.F. Wearne started a service, driving his own bus from Belfield Street to Gopeng. He also built up a fleet of cars from his premises in Kenion Street, Ipoh, and then teamed up with his brother to start a chain of garages.

The idea of buses grew quickly and soon there were many different companies operating around Ipoh making it possible to travel to most of the towns in



Ipoh Omnibus Company 1985

Perak. However, as most of these were independent operators, with only one or two vehicles and there was no coordination and as everyone vied for the most profitable routes, the public suffered.

Thus, in 1937, the British administration reorganised the public transportation industry for the first time. The Ipoh companies were consolidated; Ipoh Internal Transport, Kinta Omnibus, General Omnibus, Reliance, Omnibus and Century Omnibus were to be under one flag – the Ipoh Internal Transport Company. Control of the new company was awarded to Yeoh Ghim Khoon. It is said that he was chosen as he was English educated and was already involved in business dealings in Ipoh. His company subsequently formed a subsidiary, the Ipoh Omnibus Company, around 1960, when the Bumiputra participation laws were introduced. Today we have Perak Transit.

So where did these wonderful old vehicles go? All we have today are memories.



A Cycle and Carriage letterhead July 1926



Ipoh Motors Ltd c1954

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.

Abuse of OKU Parking at AEON Midtown Falim



I have complained about this matter before and was referred to their management based in KL. It appears the situation remains unchanged.

Nandhini Krishnan

A Most Enjoyable Trip

Ever wondered what the secret is to have the most enjoyable trip possible on Malaysia Day? On September 16, 10 YMCA Ipoh Toastmasters Club members went for a Papan heritage trail walk with a cultural heritage activist.

It was a rare experience, walking among ruined buildings on a quiet misty morning. Facing across the only main road was a row of derelict buildings with trees almost covering the masonry and birds swooping in and out, enjoying the wilderness. It reminded me of "Combat", an American television series in the 60s, where Rick Nelson and Vic Morrow walks through war-torn towns like Papan.

In the mid-1800s, due to tumultuous conditions, many Chinese from Fujian and Guangdong province in the south-east coast of China came to Malaya in the hopes of escaping a life of poverty in China. Clans such as Hokkien, Cantonese and Hakka fled their homeland to pursue a new life in Malaya, some of them came to Papan during the tin rush period.

We started our walk from the Goddess of Mercy Temple in Papan which has epigraphy dating back to 1847. Then, we headed to a big bungalow which is situated on the left-hand side before the entrance to Papan town. In 1906, Dr Sun Yat Sen, a revolutionary leader, had visited this place for soliciting funds for the cause of the revolution in China.

Our next stop was the Sybil Kathigasu museum which was closed. However, I knew that Kathigasu's family came here on December 16, 1941. Here they found accommodation in this shophouse which was to become famous as the refuge of many resistance fighters.

From here we proceeded to a shophouse which is notable to be haunted.

Perak Quarry Association

It has come to the attention of the quarrying industry in Simpang Pulai, Perak, that caving activities have been conducted which trespasses and encroaches into caves found at Gunung Lanno in Simpang Pulai. These are private properties that have been gazetted as Quarry Zones. Perak Quarry Association (PQA) is further informed that the members of the public and certain WIPs have been lured into joining the cave exploration activities, thus giving more publicity over cave exploration activities in Simpang Pulai.

PQA wishes to state that quarrying activities have been conducted for decades in these areas and countless quarrying and blasting activities have been undertaken under the strict supervision of various government authorities. Hence, PQA strongly stresses that all blasting activities conducted earlier directly and indirectly created severe and extensive fractures to all the hills in and within the Gunung Lanno Quarry Zone where the caves are located. PQA is duty-bound to make it known that cave exploration in such areas in and around Gunung Lanno and Simpang Pulai areas are no longer safe or suitable for leisure activities.

PQA regrets that operators and proposers of this eco-tourism park where the main activity includes cave exploration has been irresponsible in inviting the members of the public and WIPs to be involved in such dangerous cave exploration activities at Gunung Lanno and its surrounding.

PQA unequivocally states that we strongly support the eco-tourism industry in Perak and urges parties involved to fully utilise and develop the area outside of the designated Quarry Zone and within the Kinta Valley Geopark which has been established recently in 2018 by the state government where the aforementioned activities can be safely conducted.

PQA hereby would like to urge all parties involved to cease and desist in cave exploration activities around Simpang Pulai especially Gunung Lanno area for their own safety and the safety of the public and the WIPs.

S.K. Chong
President
Perak Quarry Association

Since some of our group had certain phobias, we quickly walked to the Mandailing mansion. Here we saw a timber house called Rumah Asal built in 1882. We meet Pn. Hafizah Kamaruddin, the great grand-niece of Raja Bilah. We were told that Raja Bilah succeeded his uncle Raja Asal in 1879. He made his living as a tin trader, moved with his people to Papan. Later he built this mansion which is made of local hardwood such as cengal, merbau and damar laut. At the main entrance door, one can admire the fanlight decorated with a pierced carving of foliage and birds.

From the Rumah Asal, we walked to town to celebrate Malaysia Day the Toastmasters way. A few of us spoke about the three different personalities of this place that made history. It is our differences that make us stronger, we stand as one for you Malaysia. Similarly, this anniversary magnified our resilience, our huge heart acceptance of all of us, diverse or different with the same hope for a good life for all Malaysians.

S. Sundralingam

Sport

Tuanku Zara Aquatic Centre

By Luqman Hakim

Formerly known as Ipoh City Council (MBI) Swimming Complex, the Tuanku Zara Aquatic Centre has successfully undergone an RM43mil upgrade.

Executive Councillor for State Youth and Sports Development Howard Lee Chuan How said that upgrading works on the aquatic centre completed in February 2018, which took 17 months.

"An Olympic-size pool with 10 lanes for world standard competitions which is at the closed complex can accommodate up to 3,000 spectators at a time," he said. "A pool and a diving tower at the open section are built according to the International Amateur Swimming Federation (FINA) standards."

The Raja Permaisuri of Perak, Tuanku Zara Salim was present to officiate the aquatic centre named after her.

"Back in my school days, I was active in swimming and I was near representing Perak for competitions," Tuanku Zara said.

The aquatic centre was utilised for swimming and diving events of the 2018 Perak Malaysia Games (SUKMA).



Pokemon Go's Tournament

By Chris Teh

Held at various spots in Ipoh, the first season of Pokemon Go's player-vs-player (PVP) championship hosted by Silph Arena, an international PVP tournament system, concluded with a 'Mirror Cup'-themed tournament during the whole month of August.

Rules of the tournaments limit certain types of six chosen Pokemon to be challenged in a battle. In view of the Great League, only Pokemon with a combat power (CP) of 1,500 and below are allowed.

August's 'Mirror Cup' entailed a three-weekend tournament based on previous tournament themes happening since January this year as well as a regional tournament. Each tournament lasted four rounds.

The first tournament on Sunday, August 4 at DR Park was 'Rainbow Cup'-themed that allows only Pokemon with at least one of Fire, Water, Grass, Bug or Electric typing to be used in battle. The tournament resulted in a four-way tie. By name and in-game username, they were Devendran (Badboy2812), Muhamad Fahmi (Fahmiikun), Nazrul Naim (NazrulNaim1007) and Ooi Yan Sheng (GamerYS21). Each won three rounds and lost one round.

"PVP enabled us (players) to train and develop strategies in battles," Nazrul said after finishing the tournament. "It also enhanced my friendship with other players because we get to share and learn tactics to cope with the in-game challenges."

Muhammad Izzuddin (LattDean) was victorious in the second tournament on Sunday, August 11 at Birch Memorial Clock Tower, winning all four rounds. The tournament was 'Twilight Cup'-themed that disallows Pokemon without at least one of Fairy, Dark, Ghost or Poison typing to be used.

"PVP is indeed the most fascinating feature I have experienced by far," Izzuddin said. "In my opinion, devising and developing a strategy for the best battle combo with others is also an art. I'm really enjoying what the game has to offer."

Held at Padang Ipoh on Sunday, August 18, the third tournament was once again victoriously reaped by Ooi, winning all four rounds. This tournament was 'Kingdom Cup'-themed that allows only Pokemon with at least one of Fire, Ice, Dragon or Steel typing to be used.

Winners and first three runner-ups of the three-weekend tournament were given passes to be eligible for the fourth and final 'invite-only' regional tournament challenge.

Held at Laksa Leaf Café on Sunday, August 25, this scribe won all four rounds, achieving victory in the regional tournament. Pokemons with typings featured from the three-weekend tournament were allowed for the challenge. This tournament concluded August's Mirror Cup and also the first season of Pokemon Go's PVP championship.

Champion was given a RM50 cash prize and a trophy, first runner-up a RM30 cash prize and second runner-up a RM20 cash prize. Certificates were given to all winners of August's weekly tournaments.



A Day with Khairil Anuar aka Beto

By Ivana Qartika

Adidas held its first 'Back To School' programme in Anderson School, Ipoh, recently. Twenty lucky students were able to try out the test boots from Adidas, in conjunction with the launch of their NEMZIZ, PREDATOR, X and COPA from the Hardwired Pack. The one-day event included an exclusive sharing session by Coach Aminuddin and famous Malaysian footballer Khairil Anuar, also best known as Beto.

Coach Aminuddin and Beto gave their guidance and taught the boys lessons on shooting, passing, dribbling scoring and tackling. The two also gave the boys a few tips and tricks that would further help them in their future training sessions. The topics shared included their personal training regime, daily routines, food consumption and lifestyle habits.

The students were split into two groups for a friendly match as Coach Aminuddin, their friends, their family and Beto gave their utmost support. They were ecstatic in seeing their favourite hometown player personally giving them lessons. When asked about how he felt, Beto was proud to be back in his alma mater as he was an Ipoh Andersonian himself.

"We should focus on the growth of the youth and shape them from an early age," Beto told Ipoh Echo. He admitted that it was a delight teaching the kids, and although some of them had a tough time understanding directions in English, they showed high levels of eagerness and obedience.

"I see a lot of potential in these kids and I am certain that they will bring our country's name to great heights in the football world" Beto personally told Ipoh Echo.

At the closing ceremony, Beto presented a signed jersey and 20 footballs to help inspire the students in their training. Two students were awarded for their great performances and hard work after being observed. Yugendran s/o Jayashanker and Adam Danish bin Awal Hadi both received full body kits courtesy of Adidas. The kits included football boots, a jersey, shorts and socks which would later come in handy for them during future training.

Beto confessed that it was a very memorable day. "I would not think twice if I was asked to be involved in similar events in the future," he added.

Adidas Kids store recently opened its doors in IOI Putrajaya on August 3. The store would be the first Adidas Kids' store in the country. For more information on their upcoming events and product release, visit facebook.com/adidasMY and their Instagram page.



Muay Thai

By Luqman Hakim

Malaysia's arena of Muay Thai boxing continues to shine on the international stage in Hong Kong's 2019 East Asian Muay Thai Championships.

Under women's category, 51kg Nur Amisha, 17, knocked out host boxer Wong CK by 5-0. Nur who won gold this time had also won gold in the 2016 World Muay Thai Championship.

Under men's category, 48kg Mohammad Rifdean, 17, and 67kg Mohammed Mahmoud, 22, had also defeated the host boxers by the same 5-0. Despite their opponent's advantage in physical aspects, Rifdean and Mahmoud had no trouble taking them on.

Bernard Radin, Perak Muay Thai head coach was satisfied with his trainees' performance.

"They've done well and showcased their utmost competency in defeating their opponents," he said. "I will be preparing Rifdean and Mahmoud for the upcoming Youth World Championships. Hopefully, they will be able to perform at their usual best like this time."





Double Storey
Link Home

20'x70'

4 Bedrooms

3 Bathrooms

Club House

Freehold

From RM369,800



Inspired by nobility and stability, the values of the mighty tree, Oak is ideal for young busy families seeking for their first or second homes.

Offering a sense of tranquillity with a courtyard, perfect for those who enjoy the outdoors but lack the time to upkeep, putting you in a state of Zen just perfect after a long day.



Visit Today

012 500 8018 | kintaproperties.com

5% discount for Bumiputera on Bumiputera lots

Phase : 5G2 (Oak) Developer Licence: 8456-38/09-2021/0858(L) Licence Validity Period: 25/09/2019 - 24/09/2021
Advertising Permit: 8456-28/10-2019/02936 (P) Permit Validity Period: 25/09/2019 - 24/09/2021 Exp. Completion Date: September 2021
Total Units: 136 Land Encumbrances: Nil Land Tenure: Freehold Price: Min RM369,800 Max RM511,800
Approved Plan No.: L901/0002825/0004/18/F00/P00/L00 Approving Authority: MBI

IKLAN INI TELAH DILULUSKAN OLEH JABATAN PERUMAHAN NEGARA

A Premier Development by:

KINTA™
PROPERTIES

Developed Kinta EcoCity Sdn. Bhd. (58562-M)
No. 2, Jalan Sri Klebang A/12, Bandar Baru Sri Klebang
31200 Ipoh, Perak sales@kintaproperties.com

Everyone is welcome to

OAK Neepavali
OPEN HOUSE

13.10.19 | 10:00am

HEALTH CHECK | LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
DIWALI CRAFT | MANDALA WORKSHOP

