



e·voice

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR
MAY 2006 - OCTOBER 2006 ISSUE
FOR MEMBERS ONLY

“CONGRATULATIONS & CELEBRATION”

“SICB AIDS PROJECT”

“SIROM-SICB Children Personal Safety Pilot Workshop”
“OF FOOD AND SISTERHOOD”



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings and a warm welcome to those who recently joined Soroptimist International Club Bangsar.

It has been happening, happening and a lot of happenings these past few months. It's been simply an incredible year for Soroptimist International Club Bangsar. With the achievement of significant milestones unprecedented recognition came from Soroptimist International. Under "Economic & Social Development", we won the First Place, and International Overall Winner for "Goat Rearing Project".

President SISWP Lorna Mead accompanied by Secretary SISWP Margaret Mitchell, handed over personally to SIROM and SICB the Award Certificate on 7th November 2006 at Malaysian Petroleum Club at a Press Conference.

In conjunction with this, we shared the joy with SICB members at our "Celebration Dinner" on 7th November 2006 at Tea 4 Two in Bangsar. Guests from other clubs joined us and gave us great support.

Our club experienced success by living the "Projects Focussed Principle". SICB members walked the extra mile by giving much more than required, and in return gained beyond their expectations. For those who have worked unselfishly for the success of fellow members and for our club- I thank you.

It is indeed an honour to work with you, as we look forward to the next quarter and to bring SICB to greater heights!

Have a great Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Wonderful New Year!

With Warm Regards,

Yours in Soroptimism,

Dr Jaya Booshane

President SICB

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

The year 2006 is almost coming to an end. By all accounts it was a busy and satisfying year. Of significance is the fact that all our projects/activities have met with various degrees of success in bringing benefits to the recipients of our services. We are especially proud of the goat rearing project. Insignificant as it may seem when the idea was first mooted out, this particular project won international recognition with the Overall Winner Award as well as First Place in the category Economic and Social Development for the goat rearing project for Best Practice Award. It is hoped that further cajoling and sweet promptings by our Soroptimist sisters will inspire the "kambings" to produce more off-springs in the coming years.

But the most rewarding of all was seeing smiling faces all round from young to the elderly that greeted us during our regular visits to the community. Obviously our labour of love in bringing joy and a glim-

mer of hope for a new lease of life has impacted positively on the lives of our adopted community.

Well done and congrats to one and all for your sacrifices and untiring efforts in carrying out your respective tasks.

There are, however, challenges ahead. With the solid support of everyone, devotion and teamwork, I am positive further successes will be achieved in future in our shared vision for the betterment of the Orang Asli community.

As this is the last issue of E-voice for 2006, I take this opportunity to wish all our Christian community a joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all. Last but not least, our prayers are with you, Nina Wong, for a speedy recovery. GET WELL SOON!!!

Noor Laila Othman (Ella)

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR

OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 2006 – 2007

PRESIDENT
IMM. PAST PRESIDENT
PRESIDENT ELECT
HON. SECRETARY
HON. TREASURER
PROGRAMME
PUBLICITY
MEMBERSHIP
COMMITTEE

Dr Jaya Booshane
Doris Lim Swee Lian
Noraini Mohd Nor
Sehu Chai Kee
Rohayah Ahmad
Dr Chang Lee Hoon
Noor Laila Hj Othman
Beh Suat Pheng
Nina Wong

CONVENORS

Service / Fund-raising
Social
Friendship Link
Environment

Lam Swee Theam
Leong Swee Han
Datin Indira Naidu
Agnes Tan Mee Yoke

SPECIAL PROJECTS

AIDS Education
Janda Baik Project

Sim Chan
Noraini Mohd Nor

AUDITORS

Leong Swee Han
Helena Cheah

REGION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Dr Jaya Booshane
Sehu Chai Kee

PROXIES

Noraini Mohd Nor
Leong Swee Han

Who are we?

.01

We are part of an international service organization for Women in the professions & management, Soroptimist International, whose philosophy and objectives are spelt out clearly for us to proudly adhere to.

Vision

.02

To be a global voice for women through awareness, advocacy and action. Together with international goodwill and understanding and friendship, we shall strive for:

- The advancement of the status of women
- High ethical standards
- Human rights for all
- Equality, development and peace

Core Purpose

.03

To advance human rights and the status of women

Core Values

.04

We are committed to:

- Service to local, national and international communities
- Active participation in decision-making at all levels of society
- International goodwill and understanding

Focus Areas

.05

Human Rights/Status of Women
Education
Economic and Social Development
Health
Environment
International Goodwill and Understanding

For enquiries, please contact:

Honorary Secretary at cksehu@yahoo.com

Membership Convenor at spbeh88@streamyx.com

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR

CONGRATULATIONS & CELEBRATION !

On 7 Nov. 2006, SI South West Pacific President Mrs Lorna Mead presented the Overall International Best Practice Award to SICB at the Petroleum Club, Kuala Lumpur.

SICB won the SI Good Practice Award for the Economic & Social Development Sector and nabbed the Overall SI Good Practice Award in the process – the first time for Malaysia and the first time for SI South West Pacific.

The project that SICB presented was its goat rearing project for the Orang Asli community at Kg Cempuruh, Janda Baik, Pahang. Funding of Yen 500,000 came from SI Kyoto Toka, who donated the money in celebration of its 15th anniversary.

Such an honour called for celebration which SICB did in conjunction with its 13th anniversary. A celebratory dinner was held at Tea for Two on 7 Nov. and our guests were Mrs Lorna Mead and Margaret Mitchell (SISWP Hon. Secretary), SIROM President and SI Singapore President as well as our sisters from other SI Clubs.

For winning this coveted award, a representative from SICB will be invited, all expenses paid, to the United Nations in Feb. 2007 to present our project. This is the first time in the history of SI world. Wow, what an honour! Of course, we unanimously proposed the hard working Janda Baik Special Project Convenor, Noraini Mohd Nor, to represent us at the UN. Thanks to her and her team of dedicated committee members, SICB banner flies high in SI world.

Sehu Chai Kee



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR





SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR
EDUCATION/HEALTH



SICB AIDS PROJECT

Year 2006 is coming to tail end, the SICB AIDS Project did have some good activities during the past months to make up another good year. Here are some interesting photos with short snippets of the various activities

MISS MALAYSIA-INDIA CARE (MMIC) WORKSHOP

SICB was invited to give a talk on HIV/AIDS at the Self-Empowerment Workshop organised by MMIC for the Miss Malaysia India 2006 participants. The workshop was held at Crown Princess Hotel, PJ on 6th August 2006 for some hundred over beautiful young ladies.



Pei Li: Creating Awareness on HIV/AIDS



Datin Indira: Organising an awareness activity

FACILITATORS TRAINING

A facilitators training workshop was held on 26th August 2006 at WIM. 17 participants from different communities, NGOs, professions took part in this workshop. We saw both learning and fun at the training.



Our new member Wendy facilitating a teenagers AIDS workshop.

AIDS WORKSHOP FOR TEENAGERS

SICB was invited to conduct AIDS workshops at Universiti Putra Malaysia and Sekolah Sri KDU. Educating the young with accurate information on HIV/AIDS continues to be the main objective of the SICB AIDS Project



Group activity at the facilitators training - How HIV works?



"What we girls want from a relationship..... Respect, Understanding, Honesty..... AIDS workshop at UPM – 25th June 2006



Discussions with the teenagers at Sri KDU.



Teenagers learning about AIDS at Sri KDU – 20th July 2006

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR SOCIAL

OF FOOD AND SISTERHOOD

The 5th September 2006 General Meeting wasI cannot really remember the matters discussed but I can still taste the food in my mind!

Our guest, Nicole Tan, from Seremban and 3 potential members came to observe the famous SICB meeting camaraderie. Some observers were intrigued but some were (slightly) taken aback by the passion and ferocity of the manner things are done the SICB way.

Three new members were inducted during the meeting. Anna See Tho, Pushpa Ratnam and Wendy Chua became part of the SICB family. Welcome ladies!

Mdm Secretary Chai Kee was very gracious in opening her home for the meeting which ensued with a barbeque fest. Suat Pheng's (son-in-law's) lamb chops were superb and Anna's cempedak-banana dessert tantalising. Datin Indira's chapatis and (special) dhal curry, which was kept warm in a flask, were out of this world. Agnes' konyaku jelly was refreshing. Somehow the corn Maryati and Ella got were extra 'padat' and addictive. It felt only right to stop when all were demolished.

Whatever is said and done during the meetings (previous, current and future), we always put aside our differences and do what sisters do at the end: eat, laugh and have a good time. This is what sisterhood is all about. I am lucky to be part of this special bunch of SICB ladies!

S. T Lam Holloway



Members & guests enjoying the BBQ

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR HUMAN RIGHTS/ SOCIAL

PICNIC

On 19 August, Janda Baik Committee organised a picnic for children/ students from Rumah Kebajikan Nur Zaharah at Maryati's house place in Janda Baik. Noraini and her housemate, Akmal went there early to make preparations for the picnic. Maryati was not there (cos she's now a grandmother) but as usual, allowed us to use her place and facilities. Since it was a joint project between SICB and Nur Zaharah, guardians from Nur Zaharah cooked nasi lemak, boiled eggs, cucumber, peanuts and fried ikan bilis.

From our side we took sambal tumis ikan bilis, choc chip cakes (donated by my colleague and Ella, boiled tapioca and keropok lekor.

All the 14 children loved to "swim" in her river. After swimming, the kiddos had their lunch.

Ella and Noraini bought watches for the orphans/children. But before Giving away those presents - watches, chocs, pens, diaries and brooches, Noraini advised the children - that they should study hard, be disciplined, listen to the caretakers etc. etc.

Though the picnic was only for 3 hours, the kiddos had a lot of fun in The water, ate food that they requested for and received useful presents. They deserve this treat and a few more in the future because they went through rough times in the past. They were all beaming from coast to coast when we bid farewell to them. It was just a simple picnic but we went back to KI feeling so "full" seeing happy faces at the picnic.

Noraini Mohd Nor





SIROM-SICB
CHILDREN PERSONAL SAFETY PILOT WORKSHOP

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR EDUCATION / HUMAN RIGHTS

SIROM initiated the idea of implementing projects on prevention of violence against women and children to celebrate 15 years of Soroptimism in Malaysia. Through SIROM's efforts, funds were raised from Yayasan Nanyang Foundation (Nanyang Press Foundation).

Why does SI Bangsar focus on personal safety programme for children with emphasis on preventive measures from sexual abuse?

Child sexual abuse is the exploitation of a minor for the sexual gratification of an adult or any significantly older person. It is called incest when it occurs between family members.

Studies in Malaysia showed that 80% of rape victims knew the offenders. Child sexual abuse happens in all racial, religious and ethnic groups and at all social-economic levels.

In 2002, reported sexual offences, including rapes, totaled 2903 cases against 1932 in 1995. An estimated 50 – 60 % of these cases involved minors. However, many went unreported due to family and social reasons/taboos.

The minute we have the green light from SIROM, it was full steam ahead. Our committee, comprising Sim Chan, Yeo Pei Li, Lam Swee Theam and Sehu Chai Kee, held meetings in the evenings to plan and prepare the manuals for 3 age groups : 3 – 6, 7 – 9 and 10 – 12. Research was undertaken, materials and training were tracked down from various sources. Our idea was to make it as interactive as possible and to create awareness through fun activities.

We are most grateful to have a great co-partner, SK Taman SEA, whose Principal, Mr Lim and his senior assistant, Puan Theah, gave us strong support to run the pilot with their students and made available the staff, premises and facilities.



Active Participation to Pei Li's Interactive delivery

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR EDUCATION/ HUMAN RIGHTS



How I see myself!

Once confirmed, members held a pre pilot meeting to prepare the shopping list of items. We bought some small inexpensive gifts like cards, lollipops and chocolate wafers to entice active participation.

The pilot workshop catered for the age group of 10 – 12. The 55 multi racial participants were mainly 12 years old.

The pilot was run on a bright Sat 9 Sept 2006 from 9 am – 4.30 pm.

We welcomed the support from our SIROM President who encouraged other SI sisters to attend. She turned up bright and early and together with 9 sisters from SI Ampang, Bangsar, Petaling Jaya, Johor Baru, Damansara and teachers as observers, our facilitators conducted the programme in an interactive and fun mode.

Feedback was obtained from participants and observers. Encouraging and complimentary responses were received. Not only did the students enjoy the fun filled educational activities but we, facilitators, also received a positive high. We have already received invitation to run such workshop for next year from a parent of a participant in the school she teaches!

We hope to continue running the workshop as well as training facilitators so that the message can reach far and wide. Plans are also afoot to translate the manual into the Malay language for rural schools.

Sehu Chai Kee

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR ECONOMIC & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

UPDATE ON GOAT PROJECT

The goats are doing well, especially with caretakers such as Asip and Imak. Asip allows his goats to roam around. Others have caged up their goats. Imak's shed is the biggest, so his goats are looking healthy. These people harbor the interest to become successful breeders. Perhaps if we can get more donations then the goats can be multiplied faster.

Noraini Mohd Nor



Asip or fondly known as Pak Ram and his healthy goats



Imak and his favourite goat

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR
VISIT OF SISWP PRESIDENT & SIROM PRESIDENT TO JANDA BAIK





LEGAL LITERACY FOR eHOMEMAKERS



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR EDUCATION / HUMAN RIGHTS



The Legal Literacy workshop, conducted by two SICB members, Sehu Chai Kee and Rohayah Ahmad, was held at Pusat e-Komuniti Lembah Pantai, Bangsar on 7 Sept. 2006. The objective behind SICB's Legal Literacy programme is to impart knowledge on legal and practical issues in purchasing a residential property and how to go about financing it. Thanks to our sponsor, Deutsche Bank Asia Foundation, this is knowledge that women should know in owning an asset and protecting their rights.

Peck Lin, the project coordinator, arranged the workshop as part of a soft skills and motivational training for eHomemakers, whose membership comprises ladies who work from homes. The group of 25 ladies that morning came from different backgrounds - single parents, jobless, part-time workers and also a few disabled. Chai Kee and I were deeply touched seeing some of these ladies entering the room in wheelchairs and crutches just to widen their knowledge on property ownership.



Chai Kee started off in the area on property ownership, the critical issues to consider and the pitfalls to look out for. There was so much to impart and so limited time! The participants were responsive and Chai Kee had quite a time explaining and answering their queries. After a short break, Rohayah began her enlightening session on the housing loan process which ended at 1 pm. It was encouraging to share our knowledge and to respond to their concerns.

All in all, the workshop was a success. Participants confided that they knew very little about property ownership and housing loan process. The knowledge that we shared that day was valuable and practical and some of them wished that they had more time to talk to us. We were emotionally touched seeing the disabled making an effort to attend and participated actively in the questions and answers session. We bid farewell, feeling light headed that another programme to share some legal knowledge with our women friends in eHomemakers had gone on well.

Rohayah Ahmad

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR SISWP BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2006 IN BRISBANE



Participants from SI Clubs Of Malaysia

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME TO SICB!

Members of SICB extend a very warm welcome to Anna See Tho, Pushpa Ratnam and Wendy Chua who were inducted at the 168th General Meeting. Held at Secretary Chai Kee's House, in conjunction with our barbeque night, President Dr. Jaya Booshane, presented each inductee with a SI badge, the club constitution, a rose and a letter of welcome. Membership Convenor, Suat Pheng, gave a short introduction of each inductee. Anna, Pushpa and Wendy spoke about what they hope to achieve in SI. The three new members then led club members in taking the Soroptimist International Pledge.



From left: **President Dr. Jaya, Wendy, Pushpa and Anna taking the Soroptimist Pledge**

Anna is a school teacher at Bukit Nanas Convent and is already involved in the education aspects of Janda Baik Orang Asli projects. Pushpa, a lawyer specialising in family law, will be helping in our legal literacy programme. Wendy, an electrical and electronics engineer by profession, now, a free lance business consultant and corporate trainer, is already actively involved in SICB's projects and is instrumental in composing SICB's submission on women's issues to NCWO.



From left: **Anna SeeTho, Beh Suat Pheng, President Dr. Jaya Booshane, Wendy Chua and Pushpa Ratnam**

With the addition of Anna, Pushpa and Wendy, SICB now has a total of 26 members. We look forward to adding many more members before the next AGM.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR

SHARING & BONDING: SELAMAT HARI RAYA AIDIL FITRI

Our Muslim sisters shared their festive spirit and culinary skills with us on 10 Nov. 2006. Thanks to Ella, Noraini, Maryati and Rohayah, we gleefully partook of the many Hari Raya delights they placed before us. Also thanks to Ella and Haris for opening their beautiful home for us to enjoy the occasion. Yummy! Yummy!

Sehu Chai Kee



