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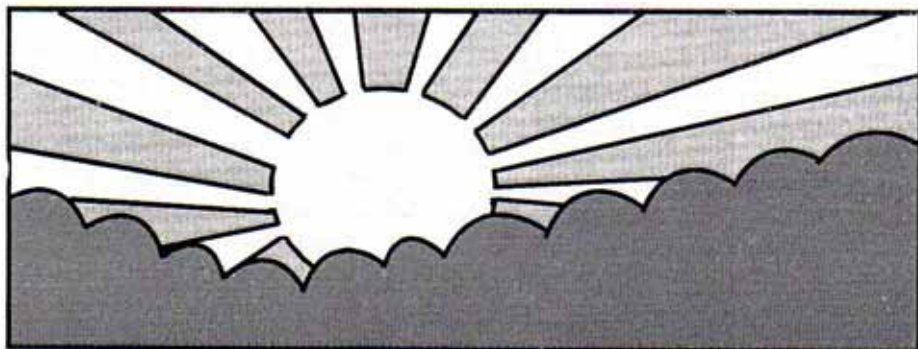
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# DAYBREAK

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CENTRE

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Disabled Adults & Youth Being Rewarded, Encouraged & Accepted in Kinta April - July 1996

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For Private Circulation Only

*We may not always achieve a 100 percent success with all the disabled we bring in as trainees. But we are certainly encouraged by the success stories of some of the boys and girls we have managed to help so far.*

## *Woo Wai Meng*

*Nineteen-year-old Woo Wai Meng's story will give hope to parents with children having learning disabilities. And also to make society realise that we have to give the handicapped an opportunity to fend for themselves.*

*Wai Meng, when he came into Daybreak Centre, was not an easy person to deal with. He used to get into scrapes and we had to call his mother to explain to him that what he had done was wrong.*

*Moreover, Wai Meng was also not interested in the making of handicrafts and very often got restless. After a few months of discipline of having to sit down at one place for a period of time, the assesment officer decided that it was time for him to go out into open employment. With the co-operation of his mother, he was sent to work at a factory in Bercham.*

*Today, he is still working at the factory and his mother is as pleased as punch that finally Wai Meng is leading an independent life of his own.*

Monica agreed to help Jessie adjust to her new job. At that time Jessie was also moving out of the Group Home to stay on her own.

During the adjustment period, Monica was encouraged to bring Jessie home for weekends and also to accompany her back to the family home in Shah Alam for the Chinese New Year holidays.

For someone who initially was too afraid to even step out of the front door of Daybreak and who could not get along with her family, Jessie had certainly come a long way!

In January this year, Jessie had to make another major adjustment as Monica and her family had moved to Johore Baru because of her husband's transfer.

Recently, she complained of loneliness and made the decision to attend Church where before no amount of persuasion would convince her.

This has come out as a blessing in disguise. As there was no one to fetch Jessie to church, she had learnt to come by bus from Sillibin to Canning Garden -- an achievement indeed considering that in the past she would not leave the front doors of Daybreak.



## *Norashikin Bte. Haron*

Norashikin bte. Haron, 33, or simply just Nora works as a salesgirl in Daybreak Centre.

When she was 12 years old, Nora met with an accident and sustained head injuries and was in a coma for about a month.

"The doctor had to perform an operation, on my head because there was a blood clot. I don't know what happened after that. But when I opened my eyes, there were many wires sticking in my head, legs, and throat.

"And after I got out of hospital, my mummy had to carry me everywhere.

"After many years going in and out of hospitals, I was finally able, at 18, to lift my legs and hands. I went through a really difficult time before I finally recovered the use of my legs and hands. By then, I was already 23 years and much time had been wasted.

"In 1992, Yayasan Sultan Idris Shah recommended me to try for a job in Daybreak Centre. I was extremely happy when Daybreak Centre agreed to hire me as a sales person.

Said Mrs Woo: "As a mother I have always worried about Wai Meng... his future and what it holds for him. He had always been quite a sickly child was operated on twice when he was quite young.

"He was also much slower than most children of his age and this of course created a rift between him and friends who often made fun of him.

"His grades were also unsatisfactory and mostly he preferred not to talk. I was upset and worried about him. At this cross road, I was told about Daybreak. I decided that I had nothing to lose and decided to send him to the centre for training.

"Today, my son is working at a factory near where we stay. He is happy and so am I, knowing that his future is secured and that he will be able to take care of himself."



## Jessie Chen

The other person with learning disability and who is now working and leading a fairly independent life is Jessie Chen, 27.

She works for a factory in Silbin and rents a room within walking distance to the factory.

When Jessie first came to Daybreak, she was placed out for work with a garment factory in Silbin. However, things did not work out well there and she was placed into her present job where, thanks to the understanding and co-operation of the Management, Jessie has been able to learn to work well with her other colleagues.

In Jessie's case too, Daybreak had to get the co-operation from her sister, Monica, with whom she was living with until Jessie was placed into our Group Home.



Now, I am independent!

"It was my first job and I was 28 years old. It was tough for me in the beginning as I did not know how to sell things or how to talk to people. Then I started having confidence in myself as I improved in my job.

"I now enjoy meeting people! What I like about working in Daybreak is the feeling of being in a big family -- we work as a team and everyone is important to the organisation."



Now, Nora enjoys meeting people!



## How Can You Help?

Our store has a full range of gifts ranging from hand-towels, aprons, stuffed toys, cushion covers, basket ware, framed pictures, vases, mugs, canisters, soap dishes, towels, smocked dresses, hand-painted t-shirts and shoes for adults and children, hand-crafted cards, quilts, smocked cushions, placemats and wall hangings.

When you buy any item from Daybreak Centre you will be buying with meaning too, because, besides acquiring something that is beautiful and useful, you will also be contributing towards a charitable cause.

Alternatively, you could send us a donation. Any amount is acceptable because every bit of financial support we receive counts. Cheques should be crossed and made payable to Daybreak Centre.

Gift wrapping problems? Leave it to us at Daybreak. When you buy any of our products, do allow us to gift wrap it for you. Or let us put the products into a rattan basket of your choice so that you will have a lovely hamper to give away. As for rattan baskets, we have an assortment of them to suit all your needs. All these baskets are made by people with disabilities.

## SPECIALS !

SUNFLOWER Series on Sale from April 1996



We're at:-

DAYBREAK CENTRE  
64, Jalan Bandar Timah (Leech Street),  
30000 Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia.  
Tel.: 05-2558951

Our Opening Hours Are:-

9 AM - 5 PM (Mon - Fri)  
9 AM - 2 PM (Saturday)