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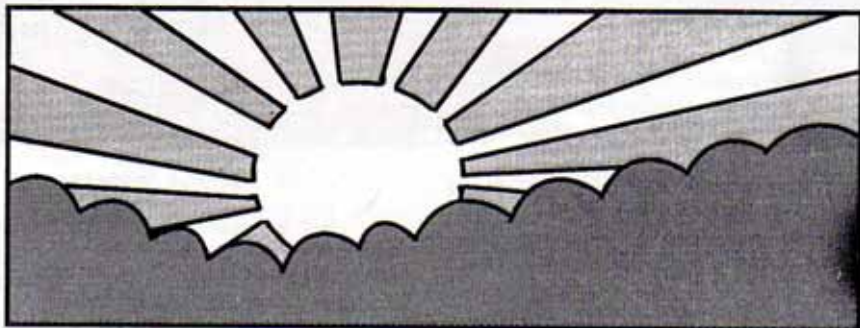
PERSATUAN

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# DAYBREAK

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Newsletter No. 6



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Disabled Adults & Youth Being Rewarded, Encouraged & Accepted in Kinta December 1996

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*For Private Circulation Only*

## *Gopeng Training Centre*

Daybreak Centre, Ipoh expanded by faith and set up another Training Centre for disabled people at Gopeng in 1993. This branch was to provide for the disabled trainees living in Gopeng, Lawan Kuda and Malim Nawar areas. At first, training sessions were held only on two days a week and they were supervised by our instructors from the Ipoh Centre. We were then sharing the building with two other welfare organisations. Because of limited space and other facilities we obtained permission and made an extension to this building in Gopeng. This building project was financed by the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives. The Centre was then able to accommodate more

trainees. This new extension of the Gopeng Centre was officially opened on 18th March, 1995 by the Canadian High Commission First Secretary, Mr. Daryl Copeland.

The Training & Development Department of Daybreak Centre, Ipoh has moved to Gopeng as from 3rd July 1996. The Gopeng Centre now operates from Monday to Friday and is open from 8.30am to 5.00pm. The trainees have fellowship and social activities on Friday afternoons. The Programme Co-ordinator for this centre is Mr. Lan Choong Fah, who is an occupational therapist. He is assisted by a staff nurse Mdm Liew Pey Cheow and a therapist

aid Miss Elizabeth. There are now 19 trainees with various physical and mental disabilities. They are from various places in Kinta — Ipoh, Kg. Kepayang, Lawan Kuda, Malim Nawar etc. The Centre has three vans for their transportation. The trainees are also provided with lunch at midday.



A trainee will only be placed in the training programme after an initial assessment. There will also be a briefing and discussion on the training programme with family members to get their co-operation and understanding. The training programme is designed to develop the work habit and their potential skill, physically and mentally. Activities given to a trainee will be upgraded as the trainee shows progress. Trainees with specific interests and skills

### A Training Session

will be placed in skill activities such as sewing, quilting, smocking and T-shirt painting. Trainees who are ready for employment will be placed in factories. Some trainees are also absorbed into Daybreak Centre in its production and sales departments. However, trainees who need continuous care and supervision are placed in a sheltered work section of the training centre.



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

### Our Trainees

1. Chee Chee Keong, 32, is a quadriplegic dependant on a wheelchair. He was a construction worker until he met with a bad accident while riding his motorcycle in 1993. He sustained serious spinal injury resulting in severe physical disability of upper limbs and paralysis of lower limbs. He lives in Air Kuning with his

parents who work as rubber tappers. He was helpless and lonely at home for 3 years until he was referred to the Gopeng Training Centre. He was put on occupation therapy sessions initially and selected therapeutic activities were planned for him. The photo shows him picking buttons of different shapes and

putting them properly into a plastic bag. This is an activity to gain improvement in his upper limb functional movement. His active participation in the occupational therapy sessions and his interaction with other trainees has helped him learn to cope with his disabilities. Besides he also shows improvement in his wheelchair manoeuvre and all this adds to a boost in his self esteem.



*Chee Keong at work*

2. Preetam Singh, 21, suffers from cerebral palsy since birth. His left arm and leg are partially paralysed. He lives with his mother and a younger brother in Ipoh. He studied until Form 5 and has obtained 3 certificates in computer courses. A friend advised him to join the Gopeng Training Centre this year. He was placed in the work therapy sessions and was taught to perform his tasks more efficiently. He showed ability to adapt well to his work environment and had a good social interaction with his colleagues. At present he is on attachment to the Sales & Administration Department at Daybreak Centre, Ipoh for exposure and practical skill training. The photo shows Preetam Singh attending to a customer in the shop.



*Preetam Singh as salesman*



*to organize social and sporting events and to raise money for Malaysian charities.*

*We were fortunate to be introduced to MANZA following a visit to our Daybreak Centre, Ipoh, by the Public Affairs Officer from the New Zealand High Commission in June this year. They not only sent us*

*The photograph above shows our committee member Mrs. Nancy Teoh receiving two units of heavy duty sewing machines donated by MANZA.*

*booklets for "craft ideas", they responded promptly and generously when we wrote to them for assistance to purchase two units of heavy duty sewing machines for training more trainees (especially females) in making handicrafts and to secure contract works such as shoe-making.*

*MANZA refers to THE MALAYSIAN AUSTRALIAN NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION, formed in 1950, to serve as a social network for Australians and New Zealanders living in Malaysia, whilst making donations to the local community. The principle aims of MANZA are to provide its members with information and support,*

*We would like to record in this newsletter our sincere appreciation for this very kind and generous support from MANZA.*



## *Christmas & New Year Gifts!*

*We have many beautiful gifts for your loved ones and will be happy to gift wrap all presents bought at our shop. Besides buying gifts that are beautiful and well made, you will also be helping some disabled and needy people. We will be grateful for any donation to us. Cheques should be crossed and payable to Daybreak Centre.*



**Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy New Year.**

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**Business Hours**  
9AM--5PM ( Mon. -- Fri.)  
9AM--2PM ( Saturday )