



PERSATUAN DAYBREAK

NEWSLETTER

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Disabled Adults & Young Being Rewarded, Encouraged & Accepted in Kinta

For Private Circulation only

The Official Opening of the New Daybreak Complex

The Official Opening of our New Training Centre cum Workshop was held on Thursday, 24 April 2003 at our new premises in Pengkalan Pegoh, Lahat. This grand event was jointly organised by the Perak State Government and Persatuan Daybreak in conjunction with the 75th birthday celebrations of His Highness the Sultan of Perak.



Sultan Azlan Shah signing the plaque

His Highness Sultan Azlan Shah and Her Highness the Raja Permaisuri Perak, Tuanku Bainun graced this function. They were welcomed when they arrived at 10.30 a.m. by several dignitaries that included the Menteri Besar of Perak Datuk Seri Mohd Tajol Rosli Ghazali, National Unity and Community Development Minister Datuk Dr. Siti Zaharah Sulaiman, State Secretary Datuk Dr. Isahak Yeop Mohd Shar, the Ambassador of Finland Unto Turunen, the Ambassador of Germany Juergen Alfred Robert Staks. There was a large, specially built shelter in the compound of the complex to accommodate about 600 guests present and in front of it was a big yellow canopy with a dais for the royal couple and the V.I.P. guests.



Our Dignitaries

The Executive Chairperson of Persatuan Daybreak, Datin Sandra Lee, in her speech said that they were extremely delighted to have Their Royal Highnesses for this special day for Daybreak and their presence reflected their concern and passion for the welfare of the less fortunate people. It will certainly serve as a great encouragement to the disabled as well as an inspiration for us to carry on such charitable activities. She thanked the Federal and State Welfare Departments for their annual grants. These contributions together with other generous donations from various organisations and individuals help Persatuan Daybreak to defray its operational costs, which amounts to about RM 30,000 per month.



A bouquet for our Sultanah

Daybreak was set up by the social concerns arm of the Canning Garden Methodist Church Ipoh in 1992. Eight years later at the end of 2000, we have had the good fortune to move to this new premises with excellent facilities

for training the disabled. Our new building accommodates the administrative office, handicraft production, the socks manufacturing and packaging departments. It also houses our new plant nursery project, which is generously funded by the Embassy of Finland in Malaysia as well as the New Horizon Society, an early intervention programme for the very young.

The disabled generally lack job opportunities and friends and live a bleak existence. Daybreak's goal is therefore to change the lives of the disabled, to raise self-esteem and dignity of the individual, and help them to be gainfully employed. There is a need for the more seriously disabled to work in a sheltered environment. We have set up socks manufacturing to accommodate this group. There are eight steps involved in making a pair of socks and this enables us to provide job skills training and employment for the disabled according to the degree of their disability. We are grateful to the State Education Department for allowing Daybreak to sell these socks to school students in Perak. The trainees are paid allowances based on their performance. Since its inception 11 years ago, more than 400 trainees of all races have benefited from our training programmes and many are now well employed.

His Highness Sultan Azlan Shah of Perak in his speech encouraged the people to play their role in supporting the efforts of non-governmental organisations in helping the disabled and needy. Besides extending their support to NGOs financially or in kind they should provide voluntary services. Non-governmental organisations complement the efforts of the state government in helping the less fortunate to lead more meaningful lives. His Highness Sultan Azlan Shah signed the plaque and declared open the New Training Centre cum Workshop of Persatuan Daybreak.



*Stretching and
folding socks*

*Carrom packing
activity*

Their Royal Highnesses and our honoured guests then visited an exhibition by the trainees. The staff and trainees in the Production Department displayed their sewing skills which included smocking of dresses and quilting of comforters and cushion covers.



43 trainees in the Training and Development Department were busy at their respective work stations demonstrating their various skills at gloves packing, carrom packing and socks manufacturing. Various handicrafts made by our trainees were available for sale at counters managed by our volunteers. All our honoured guests were treated to a sumptuous lunch after the official opening ceremony.

We would like to thank the organising committee especially Mrs Ellen Young for making this a successful function.

PERSATUAN DAYBREAK

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Business Hours: 8.45am to 5.45pm (Monday to Friday)

Donations:

We would be grateful for any donation to us. Cheques should be crossed and made payable to Persatuan Daybreak.