

# Golden Jubilee



**The Cerebral Palsy (Spastic)  
Children's Association of Penang**



# OUR PATRON



**TUAN YANG TERUTAMA  
TUN DATO' SERI UTAMA (DR) HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN BIN HAJI ABBAS  
D.M.K., S.M.N., D.U.P.N., S.P.D.K., D.P., D.M.P.N., D.J.N.  
YANG DI-PERTUA NEGERI PULAU PINANG**

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PJK, PJM  
President



Puan Latiffa Abdul Rahman  
PKT, PJK, PJM  
V. President



Mr. Tan Leong Theng  
PJM  
V. President



Mr. Khoo Yeoh Gan Hong  
DJN, PPN, PKT, PJK, PJM  
V. President



Mr. Cheah Keat Kok  
V. President



Ms. Ong Siew Guat  
Hon. Secretary



Mr. Nutan B. Shah  
PJK  
Hon. Treasurer



Mr. Saw Hock Eng  
PKT, PJK, PJM  
Imm. Past President



Mr. Vincent Lai Kong Leng  
PJK, PJM



Mr. Yeoh Kean Lai



Datin Vivienne Tneh Choo Heong



Professor Muhamad  
Bin Jantan (PhD)



Mr. Khoo Chye Poh  
PJM



Ms. Jenny Kam Phaik Har  
PJK, PJM



Mr. Foong See Yoke  
PPN, PK, PKT, PJK, PJM



Mr. Bobby Ang Choo Ming (FMI Arb)  
PJM

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DSPN, JP, PJK



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PJK



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PKT, PJK, PJM



Mr. Ng Fook On  
PJK, PJM

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Pengaruh Kebajikan Masyarakat Negeri



Tuan Haji Ahmad Tarmizi Kamaruddin  
Pengaruh Jabatan Pelajaran Negeri



Mr. Cecil Rajendra  
Legal Advisor



Dr. Alex Lim Kheng Seng  
Medical Advisor



Dato' Dr. Yee Thiam Sun  
DSPN, KMN, DJN, PJM  
Medical Advisor



Dr. Dan Giap Liang  
PKT  
Paediatrician

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Paediatric Neurologist  
Hospital Besar Pulau Pinang



Dato' Dr. Lim Huat Bee  
DSPN, DJN, PJK  
Dermatologist



Dr. Parameshwaran  
Consultant Orthopaedic and Spinal Surgeon  
Gleaneagles Hospital, Penang



Ir. Vincent Tan Hwei Meng  
DJN, PJK  
Engineer



Ir. Tan Yeow Joo  
Engineer





## President's Message

On this momentous occasion, I am reminded of what Winston Churchill once said. I quote, "You will never know what is at the end of the journey. But this so far from discouraging, only adds to the joy and glory of the climb." I begin this glorious journey with a historic reflection.

The Spastic Children's Association of Penang (SCAP) had its beginnings 50 years ago when a group of people came together out of necessity and compassion to shape a different future for people with cerebral palsy as they realized the lack of services for them in Penang. A meeting was convened at the Eastern and Oriental Hotel to draft a constitution which was subsequently adopted. On 29<sup>th</sup> August 1962, SCAP was officially registered.

As we celebrate 50 years of achievement, we recognize that the faces at the centre have changed. SCAP itself has transformed with the addition of a new building extension that now houses the Physiotherapy Department, the Occupational Therapy Department, the Sheltered Workshop, the Computer Department and the Early Intervention and Pre School classes. Even our name has undergone a change from The Spastic Children's Association of Penang to The Cerebral Palsy (Spastic) Children's Association Of Penang as we become more knowledgeable of the terminology used.

It would be impossible in this space to name all those who have helped make the Centre what it is today or even to summarize the five decades of incredible progress. Our anniversary theme "50 years of love and commitment" embodies everything we stand for here at the Centre. Our passion for helping children with cerebral palsy has never wavered.

The Celebration officially began in May 2012 with the Open Day at the Centre. Thereafter, we had a dinner for the staff in conjunction with Teachers' Day. Then came the Walk, Jog & Wheel With Us event which was held on 16th September 2012 at the Youth Park. Culminating the celebration is the Charity Dinner in November. In the midst of this hustle and bustle, the usual events like Sports Day and Prize-giving Day were carried out.

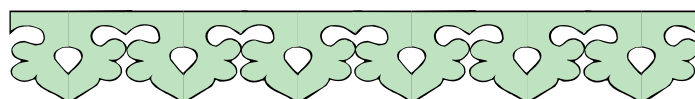
As I sit to pen in this 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Golden Book, I find my thoughts drifting back to when I was elected as president of SCAP in 2005. I became involved with SCAP by volunteering to sit on the Management committee as a Treasurer and eventually was elected its President. I cannot help but admire the foresight and diligence of the founding generation, and yet humbled by the reality that the hopes and dreams of people still involved unnecessary barriers and challenges in today's world.

Children are the reflection and extension of our very being. When we witness the miracle of the continuity of life, something basic to our being is stirred. What happens when this core experience is marred irreversibly by disability? Disability dashes the cherished dreams. Recovering from such a loss depends on one's ability to separate from the lost dream and generate new attainable dreams. This journey that is unplanned can have a profound effect on the family. The terrain families must travel is often rough in places and yet, the majority of families are able to find the strength within themselves to adapt and handle the stress and challenges that may accompany the child's disability. Here we read the real life accounts of inner resilience and perseverance and stoic determination of parents and students to keep going despite the curve balls that life inevitably throws at us. Through their example, we can say aptly, "When the going gets tough, the tough gets going." You are a testament to our existence.

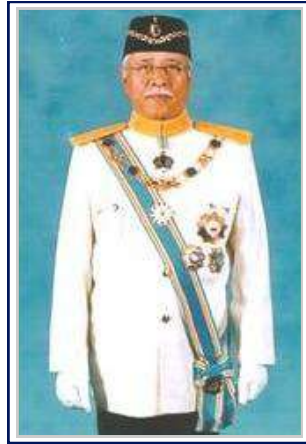
My heartfelt thanks to our Patron TYT Tun Dato' Seri Utama (Dr) Haji Abdul Rahman Bin Haji Abbas, Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Pinang and Yang Amat Berbahagia Toh Puan Seri Hajjah Majimor Binti Shariff for their dedication and constant support towards the mission and vision of our Association.

It is an occasion of great pride and joy to note that over the years numerous developments have taken place within SCAP. I would like to convey a tremendous debt of gratitude to all the members of the Management Committee, the Anniversary committee and their helpers, who performed the planning and overseeing the events throughout the anniversary year. This is also my opportunity to express my gratitude to our advisors, consultants, staff, well wishers, volunteers, donors who have rendered us their valuable time and moral as well as financial supports which enable us to provide meaningful services for the benefits of the individuals with cerebral palsy, spanning the period of 50 years.

What an incredible special year this has been!



# PATRONS



TUN DATO' SERI UTAMA (DR.) HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN BIN HAJI ABBAS  
D.M.K., S.M.N., D.U.P.N., S.P.D.K., D.P., D.M.P.N., D.J.N.  
2.5.2001 – PRESENT



RAJA TUN UDA AL-HAJ BIN RAJA MUHAMMED  
S.M.N., K.B.E., C.M.G.  
1.2.1966 – 30.8.1967



TUN SYED SHEH BIN SYED ABDULLAH SHAHABUDDIN  
S.M.N.  
31.8.1967 – 4.2.1969



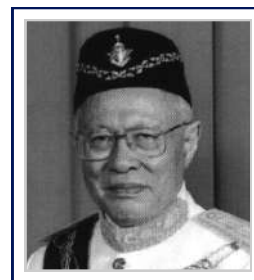
TUN SYED SHEH BIN SYED HASSAN BARAKBAH  
S.M.N., S.S.M., D.U.P.N., S.P.M.K., P.S.B.  
5.2.1969 – 4.2.1975



TUN DATUK HAJI SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR  
S.M.N., D.U.P.N., P.M.N., S.P.M.J., S.P.M.K.  
5.2.1975 – 30.4.1981



TUN DATUK DR. HAJI AWANG BIN HASSAN  
S.M.N., D.U.P.N., S.P.M.J.  
1.5.1981 – 1.5.1989



TUN TAN SRI DATUK (DR.) HAJI HAMDAN BIN SHEIKH TAHIR  
S.M.N., P.S.M., D.U.P.N., D.P., D.M.P.N., K.M.N.  
2.5.1989 – 1.5.2001

# PRESIDENTS



NG FOOK ON  
2005 – PRESENT



TEOH THYE MOH  
1962 – 1966



CHET T.S. CHUA  
1967 – 1969



FANSON KUO  
1970 – 1972



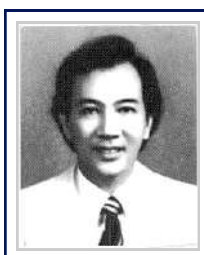
DATUK ONG KIM SENG  
1973 – 1983



TAN CHONG HENG  
1984 – 1985



MRS. CHAN KOK SWEE  
1986 – 1989



DATO' DR. DENIS MARK LEE  
1990 – 2000



SAW HOCK ENG  
2001 – 2004





**A HISTORY OF  
THE CEREBRAL PALSY (SPASTIC)  
CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION OF PENANG**

**1962 – 2012**

## The Sixties, 1962 – 1969: Spirit Of The Pioneers

It began in 1962 when a small group of people realized about the lack of services and treatment available for the children with cerebral palsy. The names of Mr. Teoh Thye Moh, Dr. C.H. Yeang, Mr. Chet T.S. Chua, Mr. Claude Vipond, Miss Lee Kooi Jong, Mr. D.M. McArdle, Mrs. Marjorie Labrooy, Mr. Fanson Kuo, Mr. Loh Boon Siew, Dr. Tan Ewe Aik would be long remembered as pioneers in formation and development of the Spastic Children's Association in the sixties. They took the initiative and responsibility to lead the other concerned individuals to found the Association, to raise fund, to set up treatment centre, to investigate the population of children with cerebral palsy, to bring in professional services and to monitor Building Plan. Their invaluable contribution had laid a strong foundation for the Association in its management, financial status, facility, treatment and educational programs. The highlight of the sixties was the completion of Spastic Centre at 425 Green Lane, Penang in 1967.

### 1962 – The Inaugural Year

- On 24<sup>th</sup> February 1962, an inaugural meeting was convened by the Malaysian Council for Child Welfare, Penang Branch, at the Rotary Room of E&O Hotel for the formation of a Spastic Children's Association. The meeting was attended by members of the Penang Rotary Club. Mr. Teoh Thye Moh presided the meeting. Opening addresses were delivered by Dr. C.H. Yeang and Mr. Claude Vipond. A Constitution was drawn up subsequently.
- On 29<sup>th</sup> August 1962, the Spastic Children's Association of Penang was officially registered.
- Mr. Teoh Thye Moh was elected as first President of the Association.
- Members of the Penang Rotary Club donated an initial grant of RM2,076.00.
- A fund raising project "Holiday On Ice" was launched under chairmanship of Mr. Chet T.S. Chua raised RM5890.00.



1967 - L to R;  
Dr. C.H. Yeang  
(Vice President),  
Mr. Fanson Kuo  
(Hon. Treasurer),  
Mr. Chet T.S. Chua  
(President), Mr. Ng  
Sui Cam (Vice  
President).



Standing from left: Mr. E.K. Lim, Dr. Tan Ewe Aik, Mr. Arulantham, Miss D. Sibert, Mr. Yeoh Phoy Chee, Mr. Tan Teik Beng, Mr. Ong Liang Ching, Mrs. Chan Kok Swee, Mr. K. Ponnampalam

Sitting from left: Mr. Tan Ban Hock, Dr. C.H. Yeang, Mr. Fanson Kuo, Tun Syed Sheh Bin Syed Hassan Barakbah (Governor of Penang), Mr. Ng Sui Cam, Mr. Loh Boon Siew, Mrs. K.E.M. Hussain

4 SUNDAY GAZETTE, FEBRUARY 25, 1962

### Spastic Children's Assn. formed

SURVEY TO BE MADE SOON

(By Gazette Reporter)

The Spastic Children's Association of Penang was formed at the inaugural meeting held under the Chairmanship of Mr. Teoh Thye Moh, at the Rotary Room of the E. & O. Hotel yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Teoh, who was elected the President, extended a warm welcome to all present and said that the idea of forming the association was initiated by the Penang Rotary Club and that Dr. C. H. Yeang, was one of the proposers of the Association.

Dr. Yeang expressed the hope that they would go ahead to form the association. Dr. Claude Vipond, who was elected as the adviser of the Association, said that it was difficult to say how many spastic children there were in the country. Generally, these children were either hidden or put away in isolated places. He said that a lot could be done for these children to meet their emotional needs. They should be made to feel that there were people who were interested in their welfare and their future. There was a great need to provide opportunities that these children should have.

**OBJECTS**

One of the objects of the Association is to make a survey of all spastic children under 15 years in the State of Penang.

Other objects are: (a) to provide and to assist in the establishing a school or centre for the physiotherapeutic, educational and welfare services for spastic children.

(b) To educate the public regarding causes and treatment of such handicapped children.

(c) To raise funds to develop and to maintain welfare and educational facilities for spastic children.

(d) To assist and to cooperate closely with Government, voluntary or religious bodies concerned with or interested in spastic children.

(e) To undertake any activities as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

The Registered Office of the Association shall be at the Medical Dept., Penang, subject to the approval of the Chief Medical Officer.

The annual membership fee is \$2 and is due and payable when joining and annually.

**OFFICE-BEARERS**

The following were elected office-bearers:—  
President.— Mr. Teoh Thye Moh; Vice-Presidents—Dr. C. H. Yeang, Miss Myra Wang, Mrs. Ang Ghee Hoe, Mr. Chet T. S. Chua; Hon. Secretary.— Mr. Shank Abdullah; Hon. Treasurer.—Dr. Chook Cheng Puk.  
Committees: Miss Lee Kooi Jong, Mrs. K. Roberts, Mrs. Philip Houtim, Mrs. Linn Chong Beng, Mr. K. Ponnampalam, Mr. Tan Kiar Liew, Mr. Beh Teik Jun, Mr. H. Shanmugam.  
Adviser.— Dr. C. Vipond.  
Hon. Auditors.— Messrs. Herbert J. Ho & Co.

First paper article about The Spastic Children's Association of Penang on 25.2.1962

### 50 years of Love and Commitment

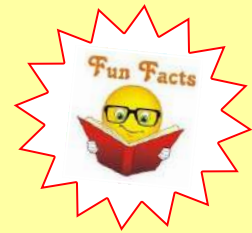
Since 1962, 884 students have come through our doors.

### Registered students

In 1962 we started with 5 students. For the year 2012, we have 154 students registered with us.

### First Student Entry

The first student entry on our register books belongs to Bernadette Chuah.



Pioneers at Nicol Hall: Mr. D.M. McArdle (standing 5<sup>th</sup> from right), Mrs. Marjorie Labrooy (standing 3<sup>rd</sup> from left)



First Treatment Centre at Nicol Hall, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church.



Nicol Hall

### 1963 – The Beginning of Treatment Centre

- First Annual General Meeting was held on 27<sup>th</sup> March.
- A Case Committee was formed under Mr. D.M. McArdle. 21 spastic children were registered. Members of the Case Committee visited the homes of the children.
- A Fund Raising Committee was formed under Dr. C.H. Yeang.
- In August, the Association acquired first van, a Fiat 600D Multipa.
- In August, first Treatment Centre was set up at the Nicol Hall of the St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Codrington Avenue. Mr. D.M. McArdle was appointed as Honorary Director of the centre.
- First treatment session started on 12<sup>th</sup> August 1963 with 5 children.
- Dr. Tan Ewe Aik commenced his voluntary service as medical advisor of the Association. He served as the medical advisor for 43 years till 2006.

### 1964

- The Association received exemption of tax on donations from the Controller of Income Tax.
- 1 acre of land leased from Trustees of Lam Wah Ee Hospital was obtained. Mr. Loh Boon Siew was instrumental in the land acquisition. Phase I Building Plan consisted of 2 classrooms, a hall, office, store-room, kitchen and toilets were drawn by Architect Mr. Johnny Heah.

### 1965

- Phase I Building Plan accepted by Spastic Committee and submitted to City Council for approval.
- First Supervisor appointed – Miss Yong Kee Lee – on departure of Mr. D.M. McArdle for Australia on repatriation.



## 1966

- Raja Tun Uda Al-Haj Bin Raja Muhammad, Governor of Penang, became the first Patron of the Association on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1966.
- Phase I Building Plans approved by City Council. Foundation stone laid on 27<sup>th</sup> June.
- The President Mr. Teoh Thye Moh passed away on 4<sup>th</sup> August. Dr. C.H. Yeang was appointed acting President.
- Miss Yong Kee Lee resigned. Mrs. Marjorie Labrooy was appointed as Supervisor.
- Treatment Centre moved to the mansion of Mr. Lim Cheng Ean at 67 Northam Road.
- Mrs. J. Wynn, a teacher of handicapped children, and Miss Rose .G. Forney, a speech therapist from U.S. Peace Corps commenced their voluntary service.



Ms. Rose Forney, U.S. Peace Corps Speech Therapist

## 1967 – The Opening of Spastic Centre

- Tun Syed Sheh Bin Syed Abdullah Shahabuddin, Governor of Penang, became the second Patron of the Association on 31<sup>st</sup> August 1967.
- Mr. Chet T.S. Chua was appointed as President of the Association.
- Building Sub-Committee formed comprising Mr. Fanson Kuo, Mr. Loh Boon Siew, Mrs. Higgins, Dr. Tan Ewe Aik and Mrs. Marjorie Labrooy.
- Official Opening of Spastic Centre at 425 Green Lane, Penang on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1967 by the Governor of Penang, Raja Tun Uda Al-Haj bin Raja Muhammed, SMN.
- Foster Parents Appeal was started as suggested by Mr. Fanson Kuo.



Mr. Khoo Khay Teong, first trained teacher at the centre



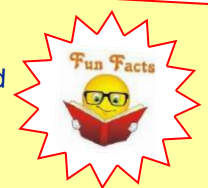
Miss Elizabeth Anthony, trained teacher from the Education Department



Bird's eye view of Spastic Centre

### Staff Employed

In 1968, we had 10 staff and today in 2012, we have 52 staff.



## 1968

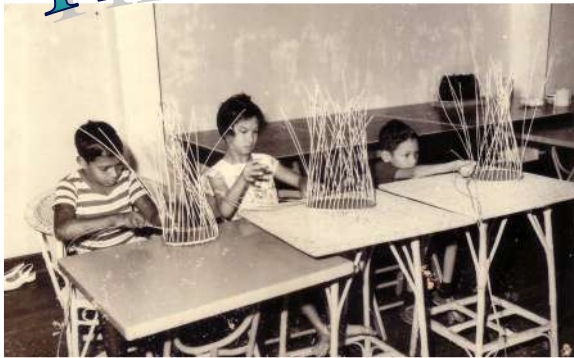
- Mrs. Linda Crabtree, first occupational therapist from U.S. Peace Corps commenced her voluntary service for 2 years.
- An Education Sub-Committee was formed under Mr. Ong Liang Ching.
- Management Committee approved the Phase II Building Plan.
- Mr. Khoo Khay Teong, first trained teacher was employed.

## 1969

- Tun Syed Sheh Bin Syed Hassan Barakbah, Governor of Penang, became the third Patron of the Association on 5<sup>th</sup> February 1969.
- The school section was officially registered with the Education Department.
- Miss Elizabeth Anthony and Mrs Kamala Sharma, trained teachers from Education Department commenced their service.
- Mrs. Barbara Allsop, occupational therapist, commenced her voluntary service for 3½ years.
- Phase II Building Plan completed – 3 classrooms, medical clinic and store-room.

# The Sixties

## Nicol Hall (1963 - 1965)



Clockwise from top left : Basketry; Painting; Music and singing; Stretching exercise

## Spastic Centre (1967 - 1969)



Clockwise from top left: Classroom; Weaving; Playing time; Feeding time



## The Seventies, 1970 – 1979: An Eventful Decade

The educational classes underwent three times reformation and addition in 1970, 1974 and 1977. It reflected the effort in exploring an effective educational system to adapt children from all ages and essentially, to provide maximum education to each individual despite their different complications and disabilities.

The Seventies was characterized by many first time events. It enriched the school life of the children. Parents Day and Sports Day would become the annual events of the Association. Besides, the co-curriculum activities with cubs and scouts were started. Another noticeable was the formation of Production Group and Ex-Pupils Club which concerned the issues regarding older children and adult with cerebral palsy.

Hence, the Spastic Centre had its complete package. The prototype for its future had been developed. Educational classes, therapy departments, Production Group (workshop), Parents Day, Sports Day, fund raising food fair and charity dinner, Foster Parents Appeal, Ex-Pupils Club and so on would still remain the main features and events of the Spastic Centre till now.

### 1970

- Mr. Fanson Kua was elected as the President of the Association.
- In February, Mrs. K.E.M. Hussain was appointed as Supervisor.
- Miss Jane Bissel, physiotherapist from U.S. Peace Corps commenced her voluntary service for 3 years.
- Pre-school section was set up to accommodate younger children.
- School section was graded into 2 classes, Stage I and Stage II.
- Production Group was formed to begin handicraft work with older children. Paper bags and Christmas cards were made to generate income.
- First Parents' Day held. Guest of honour was Mr. Tan Teik Beng, Chief Education Officer of Penang.



Above - Pre-school Section formed in 1970.

Left - Production Group, making paper bags for sale.

Top left - First Parents' Day, children are performing play "Journey to Bethlehem".





Far left: Swimming pool

Left: Dr. Lim Chong Eu, Chief Minister of Penang, speaking on Parents' Day 1971

### 1971

- Therapy pool measuring 20 × 25 feet was completed with initial donation from Empat Nombor Ekor Sdn. Bhd.
- Miss E. Anthony, teacher, underwent a 9 month British Commonwealth Scholarship Course in United Kingdom on the Specialized Teaching of the Handicapped.
- Annual Parents Day held. Guest of honour is Dr. Lim Chong Eu, Chief Minister of Penang.

### 1972

- Training hours extended for afternoon session 2.30 pm – 4.00 pm.
- Phase III Building extension project began under chairmanship of Mrs. Lim Say Huat.
- First Social Welfare grant of RM5000.00 received.
- First Sports Day held. Children participated in music and rhythm exercises, dancing, field and obstacles race, and swimming events.



**Clockwise from top:** First Walkathon 1974, President Mr. Ong Kim Seng flagging off the walkers ; Miss Caroline Thompson, speech therapist from Volunteer Services Overseas (UK) ; First Sports Day in 1972, a participant in obstacle race.

### 1973

- Datuk Ong Kim Seng was elected as the President of the Association.
- Phase III Building extension completed. It had occupational therapy room, production room, a classroom and shower room.
- First Open Day with Food and Fun Fair held under chairmanship of Mrs. Lim Say Huat. First Souvenir Year book was printed.
- Mr. Vivian Bastion was appointed Chairman of Foster Parents' Appeal. Foster Parents' Appeal had become a major financial source to the Association for many years.

### 1974

- Miss Caroline Thomson, speech therapist from Volunteer Services Overseas (U.K.) commenced her voluntary service for 2 years.
- School section was reshuffled into three classes, Stage I, Stage II and Stage III.
- First Walkathon held under chairmanship of Mr. A. Arulanantham.
- Foster Parents' Appeal Year started with 14 children fostered and ended the year with 75 children fostered.
- Group scheme implemented.



### 1975

- Tun Datuk Haji Sardon Bin Haji Jubir, Governor of Penang, became the fourth Patron of the Association on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1975.
- Post of Guru Attachment granted by Education Department.
- Miss Irene Wen, a local physiotherapist was employed.
- Spastic Cubs / Scouts group registered.
- Spastic School Board of Managers formed under chairmanship of Mrs. Lim Say Huat.

### 1976

- Formation of Centre Co-Ordination Committee under Mr. Tan Ban Hock.
- Children's Playground built. Designed by Architect Mr. Ko Boon Cheng. Mrs. Lim Teng Kong donated half the cost.
- Inter-com System donated by Lion's Club of Georgetown.
- Miss Jennifer Douglas, occupational therapist from Australia commenced her voluntary service for 2 years.
- First Spastic Lottery conducted by Mr. A. Arulanantham.

### 1977

- Mrs. Lim Say Huat represented the Association to join North Malaysia Week in Adelaide, Australia. She visited Woodville Spastic Centre, Adelaide Children's Hospital and the Regency Park Centre.
- Number of educational classes increased to 8 with new formation of Assessment Class and Special Class.
- Miss Usharane, local physiotherapist was employed.
- Ex-Pupils Club was formed.

### 1978

- Arranged by Penang Medical Practitioners, Dr. Charles Ong Ewe Chye commenced his voluntary service at the Association.
- Miss Helen Sebastian, therapy assistant was sent for 1 year training and observation course at the Regency Park Centre with aid from Rotary Club of Penang and Adelaide.

### 1979

- Miss Margit Roessing, teacher cum speech therapist, and Miss Brihitte Thomson, nurse cum occupational therapist, both from German Development Services commenced their voluntary service for 2 years.
- Abu Hassan bin Abd. Hamid with Scout Mistress Miss Christine Danker attended Spastic Scout Meeting in Osaka under the sponsorship of the Japanese Government.
- First Mount Kinabalu Climb was organized by Mr. and Mrs. G. Klose. The group reached the summit on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.



Miss Brigitte Thomson, occupational therapist from the German Development Service.



Charity Mount Kinabalu Climb 1979, Mrs. Ingeborg Klose and friends at the summit.

# The Seventies



Staff and volunteers, 1972. Seated second front row from L to R: Mrs Lim Say Huat (Committee member and physiotherapist), Mrs. Barbara Allsop (Occupational Therapist), Mrs. K.E.M. Hussain (Supervisor), Mrs Tan Ban Hock (Volunteer).



A child receives foster parents donation. Looking on is Mr. V.S. Bastion (second from right), Foster Parents Appeal Chairman and Mr. Tan Ban Hock (right), Honorary Secretary.



Santa Claus distributing presents at the Christmas Party.



Tun Syed Sheh bin Syed Hassan Barakbah (fourth from right), H.E. Governor of Penang and Toh Puan (second from right) visit the Spastic Centre in 1970.



First School Board of Managers, 1975. Seated L to R: Mr. Cheah Chuan Sooi, Mrs. Lim Say Huat (Chairman), Mr. Cheah Tat Huat (Director of Education and Adviser), Mr. Ong Kim Seng (Spastic President), Mrs. Lim Teng Huat, Mr. Nagoorgany

Standing L to R: Mr. Khoo Yeoh Gan Hong (Education Dept.), Mr. Yew Lye Hin, Mrs Kanya Tan (Acting Supervisor), Mr. A. Arulanatham, Mr. Tan Ban Hock (Ex-Officio)



Visit to Tentera Udara Diraja Malaysia on 1.7.1978.



## The Eighties, 1980-1989: An Educational Review

Since 1981, School section followed a normal school syllabus and curriculum with emphasis on 3R (Reading, Writing and Arithmetic). The School section's syllabus was reevaluated in 1986. Mrs. K.E.M Hussain in her supervisor's report 1986 quoted: "After careful evaluation of the education system at that time, and taking into consideration the varying degrees of interest, motivation and ability of these students, also feed-back and concern from parents regarding the future of their children, it was deemed necessary to stream the pupils into a more practical and realistic set-up." Therefore, a new educational program was introduced in 1986 which emphasized on both academic skills and vocational skills. In 1987, a special school curriculum was implemented. Mrs. K.E.M Hussain in her supervisor's report 1987 quoted: "The special school curriculum mentioned above is actually in preparation for the "after school era" through physical skill training, independence training, leisure training, social and emotional development, communication skills & counseling." It was indeed a revolutionary effort to establish an educational system that recognized individual's interest and ability, and promoted holistic development of the students.



"Buy A Brick" fund raising 1980. TYT, Tun Datuk Haji Sardon bin Haji Jubir buys the 1<sup>st</sup> brick.



Tan Gim Hoon hands over a posy of flowers to TYT Tun Datuk Dr. Haji Awang bin Hassan and YAB Datin Khadijah bt Dato' Abdul Rahman during their official visit to Spastic Centre on September 1981.

### 1980

- Attachment teacher position in school raised to 2.
- Building Extension Fund Project: Buy A Brick Fund under chairmanship of Mr. Stephen Lim. Launched by our Patron, Tun Datuk Haji Sardon bin Haji Jubir.

### 1981

- Tun Datuk Dr. Haji Awang bin Hassan, Governor of Penang, became the fifth Patron of the Association on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1981.
- Launching of The International Year of Disabled Persons (IYDP) 1981 conducted on New Year's Day by Rotaractors and Committee members. 30 children fostered during the function.



YAB Datin Seri Dr. Siti Hasmah, wife of Prime Minister, visits the Spastic Centre on November 1981.

- In April, Royal visit to the Spastic Centre by D.Y.M.M. Puan Hajjah Siti Bidayah bt. Haji Din, Sultanah of Kedah.
- In August, 16 children from Spastic Centre participated in the IYDP National Sports Meet for the Disabled at Merdeka Stadium, Kuala Lumpur.
- In September, official visit of new Patron, TYT Yang DiPertua Negeri Pulau Pinang, Tun Datuk Dr. Haji Awang bin Hassan and YAB Datin Khadijah bt Dato' Abdul Rahman.
- In November, visit of YAB Datin Seri Dr. Siti Hasmah, wife of the Prime Minister, with a donation to Spastic Centre from Badan Amal dan Kebajikan Tenaga Isteri-Isteri (BAKTI).

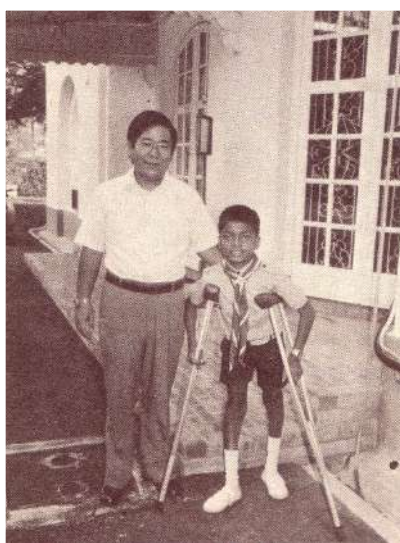


### 1982

- Mrs. Merie Baird, speech therapist from New Zealand Volunteer Service Abroad commenced her voluntary service on a two year contract.
- Educational classes underwent reformation: Assessment Class, Pre-entry Class, Introductory Class I, Introductory Class II, Pre-School Class and School Section classes Stage I, II and III.
- Production Group replaced by Therapeutic Workshop. The students were taught handicraft as well as various living skills.
- Phase IV Building Plan submitted to City Council for approval.



Speech therapist, Ms. Francesca Bierens, and her assistant, Ms. Aina



Cub Abdul Mukhtar represents Malaysia at the 4<sup>th</sup> Nippon Agoonoree, National Camp for the Handicapped in Japan 1983

### 1983

- Miss Sharon Arneson, educational specialist of handicapped from U.S. Peace Corps commenced her voluntary service for 1 year and conducted training courses for the staff.
- Miss Fransesca Bierens, speech therapist from New Zealand Volunteer Service Abroad commenced her voluntary service on a two year contract.
- Spastic Scout Abdul Muktar selected to represent Malaysia at the 4<sup>th</sup> Nippon Agoonoree National Camp for the Handicapped in Japan.

### 1984

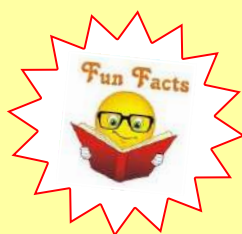
- Demise of the President Datuk Ong Kim Seng on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 1984.
- Mr. Tan Chong Heng was appointed as the President of the Association.
- Phase IV Building Plan completed and officially opened by TYT Yang DiPertua Negeri Pulau Pinang, Tun Datuk Dr. Haji Awang bin Hassan.
- Children from Spastic Centre participate in Sports Meet for Handicapped Persons held in Kuala Lumpur.
- Therapeutic Workshop's name changed to Therapeutic Class.
- Spastic Workshop was formed. One of its workers, Yeap Chor Khoon absorbed into Pusat Jaya Diri Workshop run by Welfare Department.

### 1985

- Staff members attended a 4 day course on "Management and Caring of Cerebral Palsy Children" organized by the Malaysian Physiotherapy Association and the British Council held at the Lam Wah Ee Hospital, Penang.
- Miss Janice Griffioen, speech therapist from New Zealand Volunteer Service Abroad commenced her voluntary service on a two year contract.

#### Most expensive popiah

During our fund raising food fair in 1982, the late Datuk Ong Kim Seng's wife bought the first popiah of the day for RM 1000.00



#### SCAP Song

Our school song was composed by Joseph Pragasam, Bernadette Lau and a few senior students in 1984.



Athletes from Spastic Centre in International Sports Meet for Handicapped, 1.9.1984.

### 1986

- Mrs. Chan Kok Swee was elected as the President of the Association.
- Mrs. Bernadette Lau, trained teacher, was employed.
- New educational program was introduced in School section. The new educational program evaluated the varying degrees of physical ability and cognitive level of the students, emphasis on both academic and vocational skills.
- Spastic Silver Jubilee Celebration sub-committee formed.



Staff and children post for the Silver Jubilee Celebration 1987.

### 1987

- Silver Jubilee Celebration were spread out over the year with a series of events, began with Spastic Open Day on 1<sup>st</sup> March, followed by 10km Charity Run on 14<sup>th</sup> June and highlighted by The Tea Party on 21<sup>st</sup> November.
- School section divided into three classes – Academic Class, the Slow Learners Class and the Practical Training Class, following the introduction of new educational program in 1986.
- “Spastic Ex-Pupils’ Loan Scheme” was started under the sponsorship of the New Zealand Commission in Kuala Lumpur. Two ex-pupils had taken loans to start their small business.

### 1988

- National Council of Spastic Children’s Association in Malaysia  
A pro-tem committee, comprising representatives of three Spastic Children’s Associations from Johore, Selangor & Federal Territory and Penang was formed on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1988 to discuss on the formation of a National Council of Spastic Children’s Associations in Malaysia. The pro-tem committee held its first meeting in Selangor and the second in Penang where the draft constitution of the National Council was approved and adopted for registration.  
The objective of the council is to coordinate and introduce the progressive improvement of policies and implementation of services governing the education, rehabilitation, and general welfare of the spastic children with the consensus of member organizations.
- Individual Educational Plan (IEP) was implemented in Pre-school section.
- Children from Spastic Centre participate in National Sports for Disabled in Kota Bharu, Kelantan.

### 1989

- Tun Tan Sri Datuk (Dr.) Haji Hamdan Bin Sheikh Tahir, Governor of Penang, became the sixth Patron of the Association on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1989.
- Miss Debbie Buchanan, occupational therapist and Miss Kim Isler, special education teacher, both from New Zealand Volunteer Service Abroad commenced their voluntary service for 2 years.
- Parents / staff Liaison Committee was formed with Mr. Khoo Yeoh Gan Hong as the Advisor. Its aim was to foster a closer rapport between parents and staff members.
- Special Needs Unit was set up under the supervision of Ms. Kim Isler to provide training to children with cerebral palsy who were severely handicapped.
- The Transitional Class was initiated to cater for students between age 18-21 years old who had graduated from the school section. Its aim was to train the students to be independent at home as well as in the community.
- The Computer Club was formed to involve the students in learning computer.





# The Eighties

## Therapeutic Class



Pic 1: Teacher Anita is guiding the students in making stool.

Pic 2: Teacher Norliza is teaching Ah Aik to weave.

Pic 3: Teacher Diana is guiding Soon Bee in ironing.

Pic 4: Mazlina is sewing a cloth.



(Clockwise from far left)

Pic 5: Arrival of TYT, Tun Datuk Dr. Haji Awang bin Hassan, at Spastic Open Day on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1987, accompanied by the President, Mrs. Chan Kok Swee.

Pic 6: Lion Dance at the Spastic Open Day.

Pic 7: TYT is visiting a food stall.

Pic 8: Teacher Joseph and ex-pupil Yeoh Boon Leng are entertaining the guests.



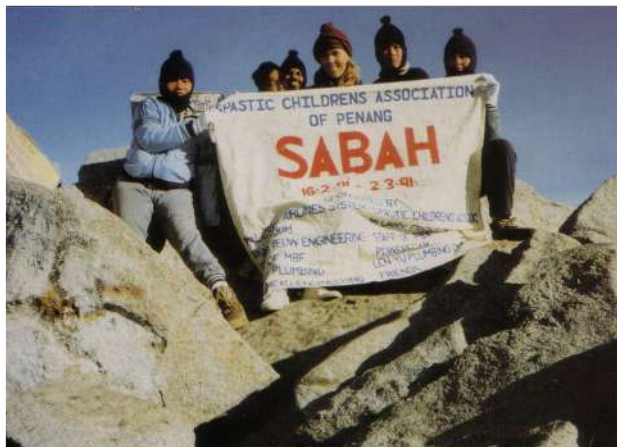
## Silver Jubilee Celebration, Open Day 1st March 1987

## The Nineties, 1990 – 1999: Human Resources Investment

The Association had been receiving voluntary services from foreign therapists and special needs teachers for three decades. While the local staff and children had benefited from their knowledge, experience and expertise, the progress of the departments was interrupted once they ended their short term service. The search for long service qualified therapists and special needs teachers persisted since the seventies. Mr. Ong Kim Seng in his President's report 1978 quoted: "The Spastic Centre continually suffered from a shortage of therapists as those recruited locally did not remain with us for long. Some were newly qualified and had sought our employment to gain experiences while waiting for jobs with better prospects elsewhere." Therefore, the Association started an important human resources investment policy with a selection of local staff to be sponsored for Certificate, Advanced Certificate, Diploma or Degree courses in therapy and special education pursued overseas or locally. In return, they were to serve in the Association according to the terms agreed by both parties after they have completed their courses. The policy was extended into the next decade in which it also sponsored qualified professionals for continuing education in their respective fields.



Jason Goh Boon Jin receives his award from DYMM Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Bainun Binti Mohamed Ali



Allen David Oorjitham, Rhonda Mitchell, Debbie Buchanan, Haris bin Hameed and the students Loke Loo Hong, Chooi Wei Leng, Lim Sing Leng, Looi Chee Gin reach Lowes Peak, Mount Kinabalu, 4101m.

## 1990

- Dr. Denis Mark Lee was elected as the President of the Association.
- Mrs. K.E.M. Hussain, being the Supervisor since 1970, retired on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1990.
- Ms. Lim Say Hua succeeded Mrs. K.E.M. Hussain but resigned on the 21<sup>st</sup> August. Mr. Foong See Yoke was appointed in the new post of Executive Administrator.
- Miss Rhonda Mitchell, occupational therapist from Australian Volunteers Abroad (AVA) commenced her service in July.

## 1991

- Miss Lorena Handley, special education teacher from New Zealand Volunteer Service Abroad commenced her service on 1<sup>st</sup> March.
- Mr. Foong See Yoke, the Executive Administrator resigned from his post on 1<sup>st</sup> June. He was replaced by Mr. Hudson H.H. Lee.
- Jason Goh Boon Jin won the Anugerah Kanak-Kanak Khas Terbaik Kebangsaan (Kategori Sepastik).
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mount Kinabalu Climb was organized with 4 teachers and 6 students participated in the trip.



## 1992

- Ms. Valliammal Allagappan was appointed the Centre Administrator on 1<sup>st</sup> June.
- The Spastic Children's Association of Penang won the Matsushita Electric Industrial Workers Union "International Volunteer Prize" for Malaysia. Mr. Yew Lye Hin, the Honorary Secretary, received the award on behalf of the Association in Osaka, Japan on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1992. It carried a cash prize of US\$20,000.00.
- Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony was launched by the Hon'ble Dato' Napsiah bte Omar, DSNS, Minister of National Unity & Social Development on 9<sup>th</sup> June. The Association was given a special grant of RM500,000.00 for its building extension project.
- Launching Ceremony of Brick Fund was performed by the Hon'ble Datin Paduka Hajjah Zaleha Ismail, President of MKKM, on 12<sup>th</sup> September.

## 1993

- Lim Shiao Pei won the Anugerah Kanak-Kanak Khas Terbaik Kebangsaan (Kategori Sepastik).
- First in the history of the Association, seven students sat for the Ujian Peperiksaan Sekolah Rendah (UPSR). One student, Koh Yin Tsang, passed the examination.
- Mr. Manoharan Ramasamy was sponsored for a two year Speech Therapy Course in Kasturba Medical College, Karnataka, India. This was the first time the Association had undertaken such investment in human resources.

## 1994

- The Cerebral Palsy (Spastic) Children's Association of Penang was awarded the Prime Minister's Quality Award Certificate.
- Mr. U Kyaw Myint, physiotherapist from Burma, Mrs. Johanna Wong, a speech therapist from Sydney University Australia and Mrs. Kim Nathan, special needs teacher, were employed.
- Tan Soon Beng won the Best Sportsman of the Year title in the National Sports for the Disabled held in Johore Bharu.
- A new Outreach Program of home-based therapy under Special Needs Unit was carried out to provide training for the children who were unable to come to the centre.



Mr. Yew Lye Hin receives the Matsushita Electric Industrial Workers Union "International Volunteer Prize" Award in Japan.



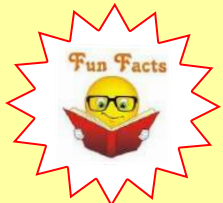
YB Dato' Napsiah bte Omar DSNS launches the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony, accompanied by the President Dr. Denis Mark Lee.



YB Datin Paduka Hajjah Zaleha Ismail launches the Ceremony of Brick Fund, accompanied by the President Dr. Denis Mark Lee and the Vice President Puan Latiffa Abdul Rahman.



Lim Shiao Pei receives her award from Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Bainun.



**Fish Pond**  
The fish pond behind the cafeteria was started by Joseph Pragasm and Pretha Thiruvengadam in 1993.

**SCAP Name**  
Our centre's name had been changed from The Spastic Children's Association of Penang to The Cerebral Palsy (Spastic) Children's Association of Penang in 1994.

**Artist**  
Syahril Yusmar is an artist whose artwork has been featured in various magazines. His art works appeared in the cover of annual magazines in 1994 and 1995.



### 1995

- The Association hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Seminar on Cerebral Palsy on 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> October. The theme was “Current Issues and Challenges in Cerebral Palsy”. National Seminar is an annual event organized under the umbrella of the National Council of Spastic Children’s Association in Malaysia.
- Training of potential athletes was embarked under Mr. Joseph Pragasam to participate in national and international meets.
- Four of our young athletes were invited to take part in the Paralympic trials in Kuala Lumpur.
- Computer class was formed under Ms. Kim Isler and taken over by Mr. Mahendran Ramalingam, a full time computer teacher.

### 1996

- The Building Extension was completed. The new building accommodated a Snoezelen, a kitchen, a sheltered workshop, a new physiotherapy unit, an audio-visual room, a library and a gymnasium.
- The Halliwick Swimming Method was introduced and the swimming pool was renovated to meet the requirement of the Halliwick method. It was developed for teaching disabled people to swim and for therapy. A two day workshop was conducted by Mr. Joseph Pragasam and Mr. U Kyaw Myint for the staff.
- Mrs. Helen Rajoo, senior teaching assistant, completed the Advanced Certificate in Community Services (Disability) course held in Teluk Intan.
- Mrs. Diana Leong was selected for an exchange program on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of the Disabled in Japan, sponsored by the Japanese Association for Employment of the Disabled.
- 9 medals were collected by the athletes from the Spastic Centre in the National Sports for Disabled held in Kuching, Sarawak.

### 1997 - Snoezelen

- Snoezelen was introduced. Equipment in the Snoezelen room provided exciting sensory activities and experience for the children. A training seminar on Snoezelen equipment was held for all teaching and therapy staff.
- Ms. Shanthi Jaganathan was sponsored by the Association to do Advance Certificate in Special Education for Persons with Multiple Disability (Physical and Neurological) course in India conducted by the Spastic Society of Tamil Nadu.
- Mrs. Mary Khor was employed as the Administrator of the School section.
- Ex-pupils Trip to Pulau Langkawi was organized on 15.12.1997 – 18.15.1997.

### 1998

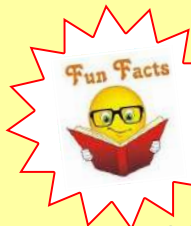
- Cik Roziah bte Ali was sponsored by the Association for a Certificate in Special Education course in India, conducted by the Spastic Society of Tamil Nadu.
- Early Intervention Program was expanded to provide a quality and multidisciplinary service to children with cerebral palsy from 0-6 year olds.
- 11 medals including 5 golds, 1 silver and 5 bronzes were collected by the athletes from Spastic Centre at 9<sup>th</sup> Paralympic Sports held in ITM, Shah Alam, Selangor.

### 1999

- The Association hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> National Seminar on Cerebral Palsy on 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> May. The theme was “Our Role in Their Future”.
- Puan Azlina Yusoff and Mrs. Manogari were sponsored by the Association for a Certificate in Special Education course, conducted in Penang by the Christchurch College of Education from New Zealand.
- Mr. U Kyaw Myint, Head of the Physiotherapy Department passed away in a road accident.



VIP guests in Opening of 3rd National Seminar on Cerebral Palsy. From left, National Council President Dato' Lam Peng Chong, Organising Chairman Puan Latiffa Abdul Rahman, Guest of Honour YB Dr. Hilmi Yahya, President Dato' Dr. Denis Mark Lee, Datuk Paduka Saleha, Prof. Aziz Nather.



**Taipung Community Services Society**

Ex-pupil Stephen Chow Chee Keong is the Founding Director / Chairman of Persatuan Perkhidmatan Komuniti Taipung, also known as ESDA (Taiping Community Services Society). The centre started in 1999 and their webpage address is - <http://esda-ppkt.org/wp/>.

# The Nineties



Children put up a Hawaiian Dance on 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spastic Charity Dinner.



Kwang Hua Jit Poh reports the Spastic Annual Sports Day 1996.



Teachers and parents practice the Halliwick Swimming method with the children in the newly renovated pool.



Snorkeling at Pulau Payar during Ex-pupils trip to Pulau Langkawi 1997.



TYT, Tun Tan Sri Datuk (Dr.) Haji Hamdan Bin Sheikh Tahir, together with VIP guests visit the Snoezelan Room during its official opening 1997.



Left to right: Parents Day Children Performance - Charlie Chaplin impersonation by Hasbullah.;  
Tan Soon Beng is posing as a guest poser during the Mr. Penang Competition 1999.



Staff photo 1998





## The 21<sup>st</sup> Century, 2000 – 2011: Intervention Revolution and Bridging the Digital Divide

Introduction and implementation of Conductive Education, Sensory Integration and Neurodevelopmental Therapy marked the revolution of the concepts and methods used in rehabilitation programs of the Association. It was the realization of the principle of the Association to bring in the latest treatment methods in conjunction with new development of the rehabilitation ideas for children with cerebral palsy. The treatment methods changed our view and deepen our knowledge in early intervention, motor development, sensory processing, behavioral management, cognitive and learning, and social-emotional aspects of the children with cerebral palsy.

Accessibility to computer and time factor are two barriers presented to the children with cerebral palsy in learning computer. Computer class, which was started at 1995, was upgraded in establishment of Dell Learning Centre in 2006. Dell Learning Centre was equipped with high-end computers, assistive devices and broadband internet. Children with cerebral palsy learned to access the computer and internet through various assistive devices. Expansion of the unit allows the students to have longer session to learn their access skills and computer knowledge. The exciting and fascinating digital world was disclosed. The children were taught to connect and communicate with different people worldwide through emails, social networks, blogs and webpage.

### 2000

- The Cerebral Palsy (Spastic) Children's Association of Penang won the Excellent Service Award from the Ministry of Social Welfare.
- The Sheltered Workshop, donated by Mini Circuits Technologies (M) Sdn. Bhd., was established in July. Its objectives were to provide gainful employment for adult with cerebral palsy and to prepare them for open employment.

### 2001

- Tun Dato' Seri Utama (Dr.) Haji Abdul Rahman Bin Haji Abbas, Governor of Penang, became the seventh Patron of the Association on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2001.
- Mr. Saw Hock Eng was elected as the President of the Association.
- Traditional Chinese Massage Program, headed by physiotherapist Miss Wei Gurong from China, was introduced.
- Tan Chin Chin, ex-pupil of the Spastic Centre, scored 5As, 3Bs and 1C in her SPM examination.

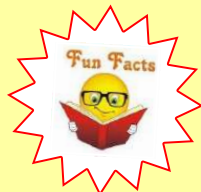


Mr. Kelvin Kiew (left), the President of Mini Circuits (M) Sdn. Bhd. presents a donation of RM100,000 to Mr. Saw Hock Eng (right), Vice President of the Cerebral Palsy (Spastic) Children's Association of Penang to set up Sheltered Workshop. Looking on are Mr. Harvey Kaylin (second left), the President of Mini-Circuits Corporation, and Tan Sri Dr. Koh Tsu Koon, Penang Chief Minister. Photo taken from THE STAR press released on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2000.



### Murals at the Centre

The murals adorned around the centre were mostly done by UK students doing their gap year between the year 1997-2001.







IMSD, the children are trained to wipe their hand before feeding.



Osaka Forum



Teacher Anita conducts a play group in Outreach Program at Bukit Mertajam

## 2002

### - Conductive Education

Intensive Motor Skills Development (IMSD) unit was set up and merged with Early Intervention Program. IMSD unit was headed by Miss Wei Gurong. IMSD unit practices the principles and concepts of Conductive Education. Conductive Education is a holistic integrated education system which provides intensive and repetitive practice for the children to develop daily living skills.

- Outreach Program in Bukit Mertajam Branch was set up to cater the children with cerebral palsy from the Mainland.

- Mrs. Mary Khor, the headmistress, resigned from the post.

- The President Mr. Saw Hock Eng, the Centre Administrator Mrs. Valliammal, teacher Mr. Christopher, ex-pupils Mr. Teh Kar Wei and Koh Yin Tsang attended International Forum on Disabilities on 21<sup>st</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> October in Osaka, Japan.

## 2003

- Mr. Mahendran Ramalingam, Head of the Computer Unit, was sponsored by the Association to pursue a Degree in Multimedia Communication at Open University of Malaysia.

- Koh Lee Peng (ex-pupil), won a gold medal and a silver medal in the swimming events and Tee Beng Heng (ex-pupil) won a gold medal and a bronze in the field events, at the ASEAN Paralympic Games in Hanoi, Vietnam.

- Tan Chin Chin achieved principle-level passes in all four subjects for her STPM examination. She pursued a Degree in Social Science at University Sains Malaysia.

- Koh Yin Tsang (ex-pupil), obtained Advanced Diploma in Information Systems. She pursued a Degree in Computer System Engineering at Olympia College, Penang.

## 2004

### - Sensory Integration

Sensory Integration Treatment Unit, the first in Malaysia, was established. Mr. J.R. Karthikeyan, Head of the Occupational Therapy Department, was instrumental in initiating this unit and implementing the sensory integration treatment for the children with cerebral palsy. The unit is set up with enhanced sensory experiences to allow children to process sensory inputs in meaningful and child-driven activities.

### - Neurodevelopmental Therapy (NDT)

Led by Mr. J.R. Karthikeyan, and the physiotherapists' team consisted of Mr. Santosh Kumar, Mrs. Mubina Shaad and Mrs. Kanchi Sumalini had conducted a series of talks to introduce the Neurodevelopmental Therapy to the staff and parents. The primary aim of NDT treatment is to enhance everyday activities such as sitting, standing, walking, feeding etc through a variety of therapeutic handling and facilitation.

- The Association hosted the 10<sup>th</sup> National Seminar on Cerebral Palsy on 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> October. The theme was "Journeying Together for a Better Tomorrow".

## 2005

- Mr. Ng Fook On was elected as the President of the Association.
- Spastic Charity Merdeka Lucky Draw was launched to raise fund for the new Building Extension project.
- The Koperasi Cerebral Palsy (Spastik) Pulau Pinang Berhad was officially registered in July. Mr. Saw Hock Eng initiated the project and became its first President.
- Koh Lee Peng won 2 gold medals and a silver medal in swimming events at the ASEAN Paralympic Games, Manila. She broke the records for the 50m breast stroke and 100m freestyle.
- Tee Beng Heng won 1 gold medal for the shot putt and a silver medal for javelin and discus at the ASEAN Paralympic Games, Manila.

## 2006

- Dell Learning Centre  
The Computer Unit underwent a major restructuring. The Dell Asia Pacific Foundation donated 20 high end computers with three touch screen monitors and sponsored the acquirement of special education software and assistive devices. It was renamed Dell Learning Centre, and was officially launched by Mr. Simon Wong, Dell VP-Asia Operations on 11<sup>th</sup> August.
- Ms. Lesley Cannings, Senior Development Officer from UK, conducted a two weeks training program in Conductive Education.
- Tan Chin Chin graduated from USM. She obtained Degree in Social Science and won the University's Gold Medal.
- Koh Yin Tsang graduated from Nottingham Trent University (NTU), Olympia College. She obtained Degree in Computer System Engineering.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mount Kinabalu Climb. The group reached the summit on 19 March.

## 2007

- "Special Needs Unit" had been phased out. The children who were severely handicapped were integrated into classroom setting together with the mild to moderate affected children.
- The Association hosted the 13<sup>th</sup> National Seminar on Cerebral Palsy on 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> August 2007. The theme was "Have We Done Enough?"
- Koperasi Cerebral Palsy (Spastik) Pulau Pinang started a store selling sundry goods and a self help Laundry Project.



Spastic Charity Merdeka Lucky Draw 2005. Guest of Honour YB Mr. Teng Chang Yeow and the President YB Mr. Ng Fook On draw out the number.



Tee Beng Heng poses with the official mascot of ASEAN Paralympic Games Manila 2005, Buboy Butanding (Buboy the Whale Shark).



Koh Yin Tsang obtains a degree in Computer System Engineering.



Tan Chin Chin is congratulated by friends on her graduation convocation.

### Independent drivers

Ex-pupils Abdul Mukhtar, Kong Chee Keong, Ganesh a/I Nadaraja and Teoh Soon Tee have driving licenses and own their own vehicles.

### Home owner

Ex-pupil Yeoh Bee Lian owns her own flat where she lives with her daughter.



# Sensory Integration



Cik Shariza is working with Jehesah on platform swing which provides more support to perform vestibular activities



Mr. Karthikeyan is working with Wan Chean in ball pool for tactile and proprioception activities with encouragement of trunk rotation



Teacher Shanthi is pulling Wei Han on a scooter board which encourages body alignment and improves in muscle tone



Han Wei is given a motor planning activity which encourages him to think what to do next

## Various Assistive Gadgets to Access Computer in Dell Learning Centre



Devendran attending to his task with Point-It PC Joystick



Chee Keong is using the headpointer to control the BIGTrack mouse



Jeanette is using Intellikeys, a programmable alternative keyboard to complete her work.



Fredrick accessing the computer with Maltron Single Handed Keyboard



2008

**Dell Learning Centre**

- Dell Asia Pacific Foundation further contributed to upgrade the facility of Dell Learning Centre and classrooms. It provided computer to every classroom and therapy department, established a well organized computer-based educational environment for the children in the Spastic Centre.

2009

- Koperasi Cerebral Palsy (Spastik) Pulau Pinang Berhad received a grant from Suruhanjaya Koperasi Malaysia for the project to build a cafeteria. The project aimed to create more job opportunities for adults with cerebral palsy.

- School of the Arts, University Sains Malaysia initiated a Research Project of Music and Movement on Children with Cerebral Palsy under Professor Emeritus Dato’ Dr. Mohamed Ghouse Nasuruddin and Dr. Mumtaz Becker.

2010

- Discharge age extended from 18 to 21 to provide more time for the students in enhancement of their functional education, pre-vocational training, and social skills.

- Building Extension project was completed. The new building provided better equipped classrooms for Early Intervention Program and Pre-school section.

- The Association hosted the 15<sup>th</sup> National Seminar on Cerebral Palsy on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> November. The theme was “Stop Press!!Are We One?”.

- Professor Emeritus Dato’ Dr. Mohamed Ghouse Nasuruddin and Dr. Mumtaz Becker conducted music and movement sessions for the children, caretakers and staff.

- Teh Kar Wei, the computer teacher, received the Anugerah Pekerja Orang Kurang Upaya (OKU) Cemerlang 2010 from our Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

- The cafeteria project was completed under Koperasi Cerebral Palsy (Spastik) Pulau Pinang Berhad.

2011

- Pre-vocational Training Unit was set up, funded by Leader Universal Holding Bhd. for the first three years.

- Mr. Santosh Kumar (physiotherapist), Mr. Teng Wei Ping (speech therapist), Puan Shariza bt. Mohamad Subky (occupational therapist) and Mr. Mahendran Ramalingam (Head of Dell Learning Centre) were sponsored to attend the 7<sup>th</sup> Cerebral Palsy Symposium and Workshops in Singapore on 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> September.

- Kedai OKU Dobi Koperasi was established under Koperasi OKU Pulau Pinang Berhad.



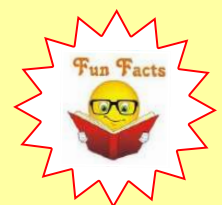
Music and Movement Research project by USM



Teh Kar Wei receives his award from the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.



Cafeteria – Green Town Cafe



**Marital Bliss**

3 of our ex-students are married with children –

1. Stephen Chow Chee Keong with three children.
2. Abdul Muktar with two children.
3. Yeoh Bee Lian with one child.

**Like us!**

The Cerebral Palsy Children’s Association of Penang has a Facebook Page and our address is <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Cerebral-Palsy-Spastic-Childrens-Association-of-Penang>

# 21st Century



Penang Spastic Boccia Team



3<sup>rd</sup> Mount Kinabalu climb, they reached the summit on 20 March 2006



Left: Key Presenter, Roy McConkey, Professor of Learning Disability from University of Ulster, Northern Ireland at 13th National Seminar on Cerebral Palsy 2007.



Right: Parents Day Children Performance – the Fairy is granting three wishes to Cinderella.



School outing to Pusat Sains Negara, Alor Setar 2010



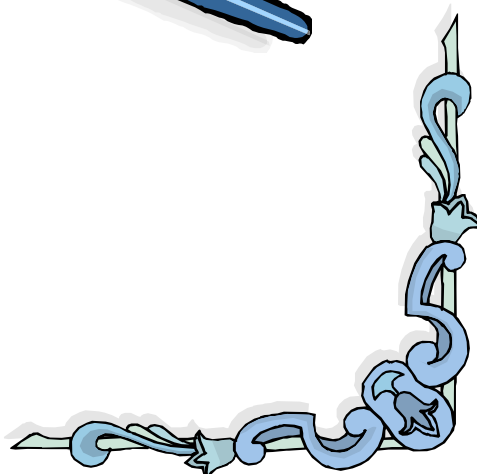
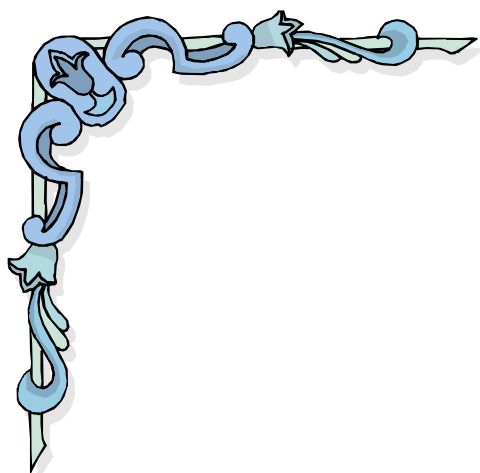
Parents Day Children Performance – Wayang Kulit “The Boy and The Forest” 2011, written and directed by Prof. Ghouse from School of the Arts, USM.



Parents Day Children Performance – Little Red Riding Hood, beware of the Big Wolf!



Spastic Charity Dinner 2011 – Tan Wei Jie is singing a Tamil song “Vaada Mappillai” with his dancers.





## Recollections Of My Time At SCAP

Name: Mrs. K. E. M. Hussain  
Post: Ex Administrator  
Tenure: 1970 – 1990  
Age: 78 years  
Date of birth: 25<sup>th</sup> May  
About myself: An optimistic person  
Favourite food: Nasi goreng and cottage pie  
Favourite place: Switzerland and Pulau Langkawi  
Hobbies: Sewing and jigsaws  
Values: Trustworthiness, reliability and caring spirit  
Inspiration: Individuals showcasing good works and dedication. Children at the Centre who made progress.  
My time at SCAP: Started as a volunteer  
Helped out as a speech therapist aide  
Became the Supervisor in 1970 to 1990



**Standing from L to R:** Mr. Vivien Bastion,  
Mrs. K.E.M. Hussain, Mr. Tan Ban Hock

I feel very privileged on being requested to recall some of the memories of my 20 years spent at the Spastic Centre, which are full of poignant memories of the large number of extremely kind and generous people who gave not only of their time, but their expertise and knowledge in this specialized field, as well as financial assistance, which obviously and ultimately assisted in the long term goals of the children with cerebral palsy.

I was fortunate in meeting a variety of individuals who had come into my life, and just wanted to volunteer their time to be with the children in whatever way they could, be they housewives, students, retired persons, members of various clubs in schools, offices or factories etc.

Through the untiring efforts of the late Mr. Vivien Bastion, a large number of volunteers were attracted and many became sponsors for the Foster Parents' Scheme. He would go out daily and successfully raise thousands of ringgit for the Centre for many years. A great Vice President and a good friend to everyone!

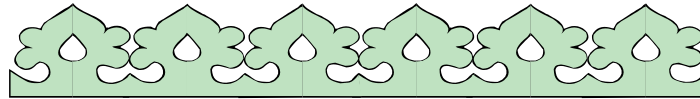
The Honorary Secretary, Mr. Tan Ban Hock was another extremely active and efficient member who was and had to be involved in every aspect of the Centre. He was one of the pioneers and a great asset to the Spastic Children's Association.

Another great pioneer, Datuk Seri Dr Peter Tan Ewe Aik, was the first Honorary Medical Consultant for the Spastic Centre. He was the person who introduced the filing systems, whereby every child's medical history was meticulously recorded and individually filed.

Although he had a long list of his own private patients to visit, he still managed to come to the Centre each week to examine any new cases for possible admission as well as to attend to any health problems of the children.

These three gentlemen are forever etched in my memory as some of the "pillars of the Association". I was very honoured to have worked together with them.

Congratulations indeed on attaining this memorable 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Spastic Children's Association of Penang. May the dedicated management committee, staff and volunteers continue in their quest to provide the important and necessary education and also the various skilled programmes that are required in order to enrich the lives of these special children with cerebral palsy. This would assist the long suffering parents and families who are also very "special" people.



## **REMINISCENSE AT SCAP** By Mrs. Ong Kim Chye

Ooh! Not too long ago! That was when we were younger, more energetic and robust some would say. Has time slowed us down? Definitely not!!

As volunteers at SCAP, life was not static. It was simple and easy. I came in once a week. But I was on call 7 days a week to follow with the children to functions and activities whenever short of staff. I did visitation calls whenever the need arises.

Since I was a trained nurse, I was in charge of the first aid boxes at the centre. There were not many classes as there are now today. I dispensed the cough mixture to those who had coughs. I treated minor cuts and changed their plasters. Sometimes the children came in to show me their rashes, I then applied antihistamine cream. Nowadays I need not come in to dispense with the cough syrup and change their dressing as the centre has their own doctor. However I am still helping out to replenish and check the first aid boxes.

There used to be a sewing and needlework class. We made stuffed toys and stuffed fish as toilet roll holders to be sold and raise funds for the centre. We also made blankets out of patchwork cloth pieces. Sometimes we do cooking to break the monotony of sewing and stuffing toys. The children got to meddle in the kitchen and made curry puffs, biscuits and fried noodles.

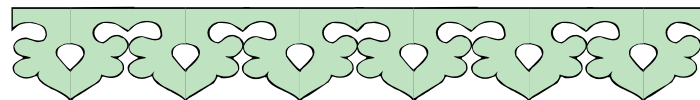
When the Penang Bridge was officially opened for public use, all of us- the children, parents, caregivers and staff went across to the mainland and back. It was an exhilarating trip. We went on outings and took day trips. On one occasion I remember going to the Taiping Zoo. We first took the ferry from Penang Island across to the mainland and then the train to Taiping.

I introduced and brought in many expatriates to help out at the centre. The services of the volunteers very much needed and appreciated because there was not enough staff to children ratio. The centre now has more staff, to see to the needs of the children.

My brother, Mr. Tan Ban Hock was instrumental to introducing me to SCAP, Penang. I had a lot of memorable time and joy helping out at SCAP. It continues to give me the motivation to be of help and service. We need to find the time and be disciplined to help and interact with the less fortunate. The children were a picture of innocence and always cheerful. We need to have the fortitude and patience.

Let me leave with this phrase from an unknown author, "A smile is the light in the window of your face that tells people you are at home."

*I WAS AT HOME AT SCAP!*



## WORKING WITH CEREBRAL PALSY CHILDREN

by Mr. Foong SeeYoke

I was appointed as Supervisor of Special Education in January 1985 and was invited to sit in some of the Boards of Management of some special schools in the State of Penang. I joined Spastic Centre's Board of Management in early 1985 representing the Director of Education, Penang. My mission was to ensure that the provision of the relevant Education Acts were complied with and report back to my Director on the discipline of the teachers and staff of these schools as well as to give any advice on matters related to policy. However I was invited to stay on in the Management Committee after my retirement to help the spastic children especially the less severe cases to enter mainstream schools where they would continue their education in schools with normal environment.



In the year 1990, I was appointed the Executive Administrator of SCAP but resigned in April 1991 to proceed to Kuala Lumpur to look after my parents who were in poor health. In 1993, I was elected as Honorary Secretary of SCAP and I remained in this capacity until I relinquished my position in 2011.

My involvement with Spastics Centre Penang began over 27 years ago and at one time a newspaper reporter asked me "Mr. Foong, since you have been in SCAP for over 20 years, do you feel sad working with the spastic children?" I replied, "No! On the contrary, I feel very happy working with these very special children. They really inspire me to do more for them and this reminded me of a poem by William Wordsworth in Ode to Immortality

Thanks to the human heart by which we live  
Thanks to its tenderness its joys and fears  
To me this meaner flower their blooms can give  
Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears

The other aspect of my concern as the secretary was the quality of rehabilitation work carried out at the Spastic Centre Penang. Although this work was given free of charge to the children, it must in all respects bring results. Therefore from time to time the effectiveness of the rehabilitation programmes were evaluated and updated as well as upgraded. This was done with the help of the Centre Administrator who performed an excellent job.

With the current dynamics of technological advancements in disability care, new approaches have to be adopted as well as adapted for use by the Association. We are always improving to serve the children better. To us as the Management Committee, "Good isn't good enough" To enhance our services further we need to constantly improve our services from time to time. Old methods must make way for new technological advancements. "Our minds must always remain opened like the parachutes, they only function when they are open"

If your mindset has not changed then you would not be able to log on to the progress which was then currently taking place at the centre. Before I conclude I would advice all to be as follows:-

Be active in body, mind and spirit  
Be knowledgeable and read a lot  
Be humble and love God  
Be focus on your weakness and strength  
Be able to accept the inconsistencies of others  
and tolerate their behaviour  
Be able to keep an open mind  
Be optimistic and positive  
Be proactive not reactive





## As I Look Back

by Puan Latiffa Abdul Rahman



The Cerebral Palsy (Spastic) Children's Association today is one of the outstanding Welfare Organizations in the State of Penang. The objectives of the Association are to develop and implement rehabilitation with special education programmes to suit the immediate and long term requirement of children with cerebral palsy and to harness qualified personnel locally and internationally so as to provide the best services incorporating the latest technology in order that children with cerebral palsy may be integrated effectively into the community. Since its inception in 1962 till today, 50 years down the road, we have remained true and are still going strong with our objectives.

My involvement with this Association started in 1985, where in the eighties new educational programmes were being introduced which emphasized on both academic and vocational skills in preparation for life after school. Fifty years is indeed a long period of time and much has been achieved at the Association. Without a doubt, the Association has passed through various stages and has managed to keep abreast with the modern and latest techniques, equipment and treatment approach as in helping the children with cerebral palsy improve their quality of life. We saw a few of our children reaching tertiary education and pursuing degrees at universities. Some of our children also participated in National and International meets and one was awarded "Best woman Athlete" of Penang in 2010.

The Association has from time to time taken bold steps in introducing changes in programmes and approaches. It has invested much in getting professional therapists and qualified staff. In meeting the 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges, the Association strives and carries the Centre's legacy of introducing practices that go beyond the traditional. Thus the IT laboratory was established at the Centre to equip our children with some IT knowledge. This era demands to be IT literate and savvy.

I am confident that the Association will not rest on its laurels but will continue to strive further to improve the quality of the services in line with the mission and vision statement of the Association; with the ultimate goal of making children with cerebral palsy take control of their lives and lead a life of self sufficiency and dignity.

## ***A Personal Insight With A Very Versatile Administrator, Puan Valliammal Allagappan***



**NAME:** Mrs. Valliammal Allagappan  
**BORN:** 9<sup>th</sup> September 1948  
**CAREER:** Administrator of The Cerebral Palsy (spastic) Children's Association of Penang  
**FAVOURITE FOOD:** Assam laksa. I can eat it at any time of the day.  
**FAVOURITE PLACE:** I choose India and also love to relax in Cameron High lands

“I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good thing therefore, that I can do or any kindness I can show to any fellow human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I may not pass this way again.” -- Stephen Grellet

### ***How do you perceive the development of SCAP from the day you held the position?***

In the 90's, there were 112 children in our enrolment. The rehabilitative programmes were already there but there were shortage of therapists in the respective departments as most of them were volunteers. It was very difficult to employ therapists and the departments were manned by centre assistants. The management viewed this issue seriously and had to then employ foreign trained therapists to fill the vacancies. Today SCAP has come a long way. We have introduced new and improved programmes to be offered to the children. There is no longer a waiting list. There is overall expansion in the infrastructure as well as in the programmes. We have an initial assessment with the pediatrician, therapists and teachers for the placement of the child. A full time Early Intervention class and the principles of Conductive Education have been introduced. We have a computer laboratory in operation. There is the Functional Academic class, Pre Vocational Skills Training Unit and Sheltered Workshop. In 2002, an outreach programme was started in Bukit Mertajam in the mainland.

### ***Can you share your secret or strategies on how to run the Centre?***

Management of cerebral palsy is staff intensive. To provide quality rehabilitative programme, one must have the right professional to carry out the task. As we do not have a waiting list, we have adequate programmes and staff to provide the services. The management committee also understands the need for quality services and commitment to the children.

### ***What is your future vision for the Centre?***

I hope the Centre could continue to provide an education based programme, which means students will be able to read and write so they could access to the computers, and be able to voice their needs. I would love to see that our young adults are placed into gainful employment. Independent and interdependent living should be encouraged and provided for. Adults with CP should also be given the opportunity to live like their able bodied counterparts.

### ***Why do you think the cerebral palsy children need education?***

Education is fundamental and is the basis to everything. Before a child is born parents have lots hopes and dreams. We can also have a dream for these children and gear them towards education, a goal which is meaningful and realistic. All children are educable and they may learn at different levels, regardless of their disabilities. The programme should be tailor made to suit their individual needs.

***What are the beautiful memories that you have while working at this Centre?***

There are many beautiful memories; when the children I worked with utter their first words or take their first step. These events had given me a feeling of achievement. I am very happy and proud of our children when they do well and succeed in their life for example our ex student, Tan Chin Chin who graduated in Social Science from University Sains Malaysia. I am proud when students succeed in the area of their interest such as sporting events and win medals for the competition that they represent. The pride is not only experienced by me but by all the staff of SCAP.

***What are the three words that you can describe about SCAP?***

SCAP gears to meet its objective, vision and mission statement.

- Objective - to strive and see that the children achieve their goals set for them when they leave the Centre.
- Vision – not only to provide education but also prepare the children to get gainful employment and towards independent living.
- Mission- to source all available resources as well as human resources to meet the growing needs of the children

***What are you proud of your administrative job?***

I am proud of the school administration job because I not only get to work within the scope of administrative affairs of the Centre but also monitor and be part of the activities carried out at the Centre.

***What makes a successful administrator?***

To become a successful Centre administrator, I have been open to views and comments from various quarters, including parents. Close relationships between management, staff, students and their parents also play an important role in facilitating the Centre administration.

***In your years of administering, what was your most memorable experience and why?***

At one time, there was a staff whose self-esteem is very low and felt depressed for not being able to help the children in their studies. I motivated him not to give up by telling him the story of a farmer and a cracked pot. After hearing the story, his spirits was high. He left the office with confidence.

***What would you consider to be your greatest achievement?***

My greatest achievement is to able to take the Centre one step further and introduce new programmes to benefit the students and their families.

***Who would you consider to be your greatest motivator or advisor?***

When I first joined the Centre, I had very little experience as an administrator. I was only a speech therapy aide when I took up the post. I really thank the senior management committee members who have guided me in many ways. I look up to them as my mentors. My God fearing nature and a willingness to learn, had helped me to humble.

***After having achieved so much, what regrets do you have in your line of administration?***

There are still gaps in our programmes like after the discharge age, not all students will be able to be placed in employment. I hope the after care programme could be provided by more qualified services.

***Are you satisfied with your organization's progress?***

Yes, in a way, but there is still room for improvement. We should bring the organization to a higher level by introducing more programmes to reach the needs of all the students.

***What has been the most disappointing experience?***

I do not have any disappointments. I always look at the positive side and believe that all is well and solutions can be found.

***How do you manage your time and balance between work, family and social needs?***

I presume I have spent more time at work than home. However, the time spent at home was quality time. I have an aged mother and I play my duties well as a daughter and I am a dutiful mother to my daughter.



## Ms. Anita Pragasam, A Teacher Committed To Her Work

Cikgu Anita is conducting outreach programme at Bukit Mertajam. (2000s)

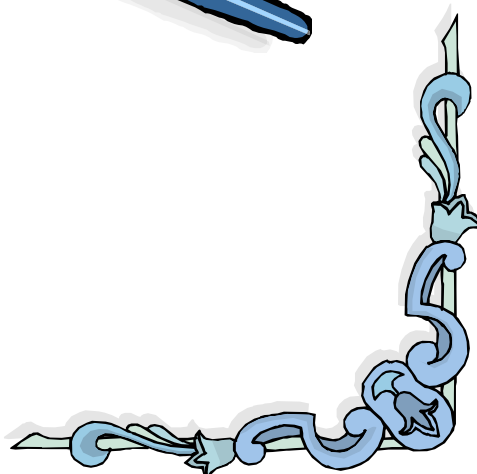
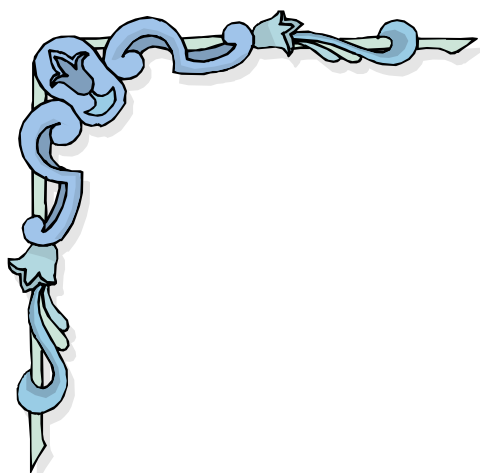


Born:	September 17, 1951
Zodiac:	Virgo
Hobby:	Reading, listening to music and handicraft
Favorite food:	Fish, vegetables, fruits
Favorite place:	Sabah and anywhere pleasurable to be
Inspiration person:	Father
Duration of service:	40 years



Cikgu Anita is teaching a student to cook (1980s)

- Q.** Tell us a bit about yourself.
- A.** I was born in Johore. However I stayed and was brought up in Penang. Presently I am staying in Kulim with my son.
- Q.** What is your pedagogical philosophy?
- A.** I will guide you along the best pathway of your life; I will teach you and help you progress.
- Q.** What is your greatest strength as a teacher?
- A.** I am patient, caring and understanding towards the needs of the students. I am a good listener and committed while doing my work.
- Q.** How do you handle the different ability levels of the student?
- A.** I will see to the needs and the abilities of the student individually and work towards their level and interest.
- Q.** How do you involve the parents in the students' learning process?
- A.** The parents are with the children when they come to school, so I work closely with them. I am not just teaching the student but also the parents, so they have ideas on how to teach and handle their child at home. I also discuss with them about their child's problems and progress. The parents always inform me if the child is sick, shows improvement or cannot attend school.
- Q.** What is the most difficult situation you have faced while working?
- A.** The complexity of the parent and teacher relationship. For parents of children with special needs, the issue can be further heightened by anxiety. Anxiety can cause a break down in relationship. Parents and teachers fear for the child's future, school performance, behaviors and progress at the academic level.
- Q.** Are you satisfied with your career to date? What would you change if you could?
- A.** Yes, I am satisfied in what I am doing and I don't think I will change it.
- Q.** What is your definition of success at work?
- A.** Be happy, enjoy and love what you do. Allow room for improvement. Always be willing to learn. Understanding teamwork is essential in order to achieve the goals and successes.



## *A mother's abiding love*

*( The late Mary Teoh gave us this article when collected articles for this souvenir book.  
However she and her daughter, Patricia are not with us to see the article published)*

Being a mother to normal children is already a great responsibility in itself. What more being a mother to special children. Raising special children is indeed tough. Anyone can give up easily if they do not have enough strength to cope with the situation. Strong motivation, strength and moral support are important when meeting with the difficulties in our life. Here, we have a wonderful woman and a mother who is willing to share her experiences in bringing up two special children. Hence, we can see how this mother goes on with her life with joy and happiness.

The late Mary Teoh Kim Ngoh, a 69 year old mother has two special children age 43 and 39. Both of her children were born through caesarean at the General Hospital of Penang. The late Patricia, her first daughter was born on 12<sup>th</sup> November 1969 and her second daughter Cecilia on 19<sup>th</sup> January 1973. According to Mary, both of them have slow development during their childhood. Patricia had a fever and measles and her condition become worse. Then, she brought Patricia to see the doctor and the doctor diagnosed her as a cerebral palsy child. At that time, when the doctor told her about her children, she and her husband just accepted it because they do not know what cerebral palsy is. The doctor explained everything to them. They did not know what to do and where to get help. However, they were able to accept about their children's condition and cope with the situation. The doctor later recommended her to send her children to the Spastic Centre of Penang. Patricia was admitted to the Spastic Centre of Penang on 17<sup>th</sup> August 1972. She was diagnosed as mild cerebral diplegia of lower limbs. She was discharged from the spastic centre on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1990 due to maximum age to be schooled at the centre. Meanwhile, Cecilia was admitted to same centre with her sister on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1974. She had been diagnosed as spastic diplegia and she had been referred to the Spastic Centre of Penang by Doctor Wee. Cecilia was discharged early from the centre and she was transferred to the other centre which is Handicapped Children's Appeal. She was discharged on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1984.

She and her husband gave all the love they had to their children. Luckily, she had a matured and responsible husband who made her life more meaningful despite having two special children. They come out with a schedule whereby they took care for their children. They were a support to each other and sometimes they even challenged each other in order to make them stronger to cope with the situation. There are no big challenges that she faced during raising Patricia and Cecilia. Other small challenges that she faced, she received from their family and friends. When the children are still young, her late mother helped her to take care of them when she went to work as a teacher. At one stage she had to take care of the children because her mother was not able due to health problems. Mary never mixed her personal and work problems together. At home she enjoyed her time with her children, at work she enjoy with her students. She was a highly motivated person.

Besides that, she has a good faith towards God. She trusts God and believes that God had arranged everything for her. Therefore, she continues her life with joy. Her good intrinsic motivation where she always thinks positive helps her faces tough life. She is even proud that she has special children because she believes that only the chosen one receives it. It is a gift of God to be blessed with and to raise special children. So, she does her duty as a mother to love and nurture them.



A mother's love never ends. Even though, she now has a medical problem, she still takes care of her children. Sometimes, she says she cannot walk and she looks tired but she still does what she can do in taking care of them. She has a good husband who helps her to bathe both of her children every morning. They take turns to care for their daughters. Besides that, her neighbors and friends always will help her to take care of her daughters when she goes to the General Hospital of Penang to seek treatment for her illness.

She willingly shares her experience and she has her own motto in raising her children. Therefore, she likes to share her motto and quotes in order to give inspiration to parents with special children in raising their children. Her advice to parents with special children is to love your child sincerely. She also advises parents to be strong, do what they can and give the best to their children. Lastly she suggests them to work out a time table or schedule in taking care of their children. Here is a poem that she wrote describing her life with two special daughters.



*Two Special Daughters*

A life that I have to strive,  
In order to stay alive.  
I have to decide whether to destroy or to enjoy,  
Of course with God's grace I can still live with joy.  
Live each day a happy day,  
So that I can stay hay and gay.  
Live today like a bonus day,  
Then I will not be astray.  
Lately, I find my crosses are hard to bear,  
But the Lord says, "I have another one for you to care."  
Willingly, I accept them with love,  
Only then I know what is to serve.  
Another gift is for me to evangelize,  
So that God's words will become alive.  
I feel God has given me a vision,  
For me to fulfill my mission,  
The crosses God has given me are good,  
To help me to be understood,  
Instead, I must thank Him for the special gifts,  
Only the chosen receives.  
Lord, I thank you for "Your Bread of Life"  
To enable me to survive.  
I am not afraid to carry my load,  
For I know you are here to help me to unload.



## *A Mother's Courage Rewarded*



Bringing up a child with disability is not easy. However, it brings sweet memories and smiles to her mother's face whenever she recalls interesting bits and pieces of her daughter, Chin Chin's childhood. Since Chin Chin was a few months old, her mother would bring Chin Chin to the General Hospital to attend physiotherapy and occupational therapy sessions. When Chin Chin was about 2 to 3 years old, the physiotherapist asked Chin Chin to crawl like a "harimau". Chin Chin was totally confused and crawled in her own way. She would call the physiotherapist "harimau" whenever she saw him.

Chin Chin was enrolled at this Spastic Centre when she was about 3 to 4 years old. An incident occurred at that time that stamped in her mother's mind till today. Chin Chin was unable to walk yet.

One day, Chin Chin and her brother were moving towards the bedroom at the same time. Her brother walked into the bedroom before her. Chin Chin became upset and cried furiously. She demanded that her brother come out off the room. She would like to be the first to enter the room. Chin Chin crawled to the door of the bedroom and entered in before her brother. Her mother noticed the never give-up and indomitable spirit within her. It proved to be an important trait for Chin Chin in her life.

When Chin Chin was 8 ½ years old, her mother was asked to send Chin Chin to a kindergarten. The mother went to a few kindergartens but Chin Chin was rejected due to her physical disabilities. Finally, a church-based kindergarten accepted her. She studied there for half a year. Chin Chin was later enrolled in standard one at Sekolah Rendah Kebangsaan Jelutong Barat when she was 9 years old. It was not an easy time for Chin Chin. The class teacher could not read her handwriting and thought Chin Chin was incapable of studying. Chin Chin was discouraged to buy any workbook. Fortunately, this class teacher was transferred out shortly. The second class teacher showed great understanding in Chin Chin's condition and did her best to help Chin Chin. Chin Chin soon improved tremendously in her study. She was first in standard one at the end of the year. She presented the first class teacher with a rose. She broke down.

Ever since Chin Chin started schooling, transportation had always remained to be the main problem for her mother. When she was a young kid, her mother would carry her to on the public bus. On rainy days, Chin Chin would wear a raincoat and her mother carried an umbrella. Together they would rush to the bus station. When Chin Chin was older and studying at the primary school, it was not convenient for them to travel by public bus anymore. The school bus drivers refused to take Chin Chin along with her mother to school. It required much wisdom and courage from her mother to solve the problem. She fixed a baby chair to the back of the bicycle for Chin Chin to sit. Thus she sent Chin Chin every morning to school with this "reformed" bicycle. The "reformed" bicycle became Chin Chin's main mode of transportation from age 9 to 11. After dropping Chin Chin in the classroom, her mother would go to the market. She would then return back to the school to help Chin Chin with toileting and feeding. She would then cycle home to prepare lunch. After cooking lunch, she would go back to school to pick Chin Chin up. She did this till Chin Chin was in Form 3. Then her friend helped to send Chin Chin to school by car.

Chin Chin's time at primary school was not smooth sailing. The headmaster wanted to send her to the secondary school when she was at standard 5. She was 12 then and would be turning 13. Her mother therefore asked a letter from a doctor to send it to the Kementerian Pendidikan to ask permission to study in standard 6. Chin Chin cried when she hears the sound of school bus engine when school reopened because of the uncertainty whether she could still be in the school or be transferred out to a secondary school. Fortunately, they received a reply from the Kementerian Pendidikan just two days after school reopened. Chin Chin was allowed to complete her studies in standard 6. She passed her UPSR and entered Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Sri Mutiara.

Chin Chin had a lot of helpful friends since kindergarten till secondary school. After Chin Chin passed her Sijil Tinggi Pelajaran Malaysia (STPM), she was offered to pursue a degree course at University Sains Malaysia, Penang. Initially her mother worried that Chin Chin would not be able to handle herself independently in the campus. At one time, she even thought of asking Chin Chin to reject the offer. But Chin Chin was determined to realize her dream. She contacted Dr. Tiun from USM for help. Together with 2 teachers from the Spastic Centre, Mr Joseph and Mr Mahendran, they went to USM to survey its surroundings. USM was aware of the importance of a disable friendly environment and had designed its campus and hostel to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Chin Chin persuaded her mother. Her mother reluctantly agreed although she still had worries and fears in her heart. She felt she should not stop Chin Chin's progress towards a better life. Chin Chin and her mother came together with Mrs. Valiamamal, the administrator of SCAP to register at USM on the first day of the orientation week. Chin Chin studied and lived independently in the campus with a strong support from her friends. The mother would go to the hostel twice a week to help Chin Chin with the washing of clothes and cleaning the room.

Chin Chin graduated with flying colours in 2006. It is amazing what you can achieve if you believe you can. She won the Anugerah Pingat Emas. This was the mother's happiest moment. Chin Chin worked at the Spastic Centre Association, Penang as a computer teacher for 2 years before she was employed as a research officer in USM. Chin Chin is one of the rarities who worked in an open employment environment. Without the love and dedication of her mother, Chin Chin would not have achieved thus far. All her struggles, hardship and determination have been worth it. The bond between mother and daughter is now ever stronger and invincible.







### *A Mother's Love*

31<sup>st</sup> March 2003 was an unforgettable day for Mrs.Chong Shiew Leng. It was the day when her third son, Ooi Kok Ming was born. Previously she had had her monthly checkup. Everything seemed to be all right. She was fully prepared for the third delivery without any anxiety. At about 11.30 p.m. on that fateful day, she felt the contractions and decided to go to the hospital for delivery. However, after about 8 hours in the labour room, the doctor suggested speeding up her labour with medication. As she was quite tired, she agreed. She didn't realize that it would be the last decision she made for the delivery. When she opened her eyes, she was so surprised to see her parents who stayed in Johor Baru and most of her close relatives outside the ward.

She noticed the baby was not in her womb anymore. Her husband told her that her heart stopped beating for about 20 minutes during the labour due to a rare and incompletely understood obstetric emergency in which her amniotic fluid entered the blood stream via the placental bed of the uterus and triggered an allergic reaction. Therefore, the doctor had to take a rapid action to deliver the baby through caesarean. Thus she loss a lot of blood. The doctor had told her husband to prepare for the worst as she might be in a coma or lose her memory. Her husband did not give up and kept shouting her name to wake her up. Finally she woke up and didn't lose her memory. She almost fainted when she was told that her new born was confirmed to suffer from brain damage due to lack of oxygen in her womb. Kok Ming was in fact born without any heart beat but they managed to save him by using automated external defibrillator. Due to birth asphyxia, Kok Ming was born with dystonia cerebral palsy. He was in the incubator for a week and could only breathe by himself after three days. After a week, they took Kok Ming home but Mrs.Chong knew things would not be fine, "Why didn't my baby cry?" Doesn't a baby cry often? But, she didn't hear him cry. During that week, they had to set the time and fed him every 3 hours.

Mrs.Chong was so elated when she heard his cry for the first time when he was almost two weeks old. Her tears just rolled down. During the first check up at the hospital, the pediatrician told her, "A plant with damaged roots would definitely never grow up as healthy as you want it to be." She understood the message that he was trying to convey to them. She kept asking: Why? Why was she the one?

If the probability of having this rare delivery is only 0.0001%, why it has to be her and her baby? Why? She was lost. Nobody told her what to do, she cried every day, together with the baby. Kok Ming used to cry for no reason and there was no way of soothing him down. It was really a nightmare. She was going through her confinement period and was very moody. Moreover, she has another two boys age, five and three years old to be taken care of. She kept blaming god for giving her this challenge. Fortunately, she went through the hard time with the support of her husband and all her relatives.

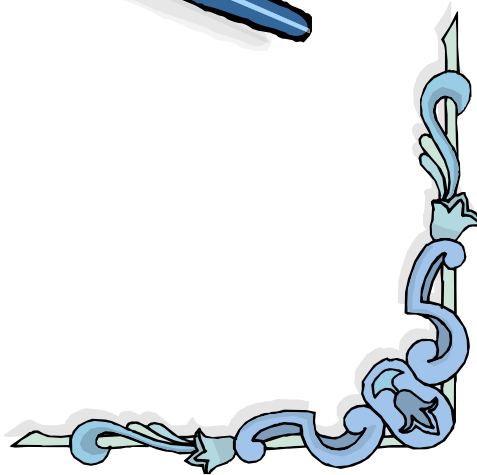
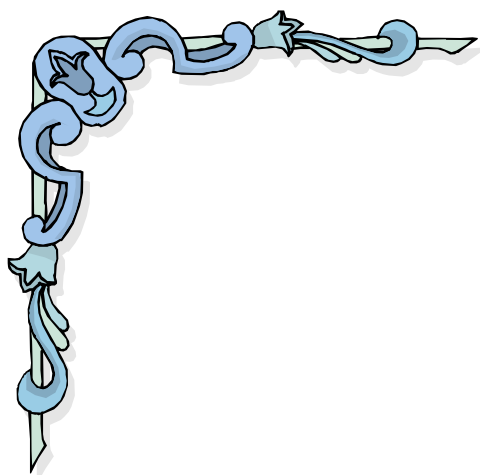
When Kok Ming was about 3 months old she met two pediatricians who diagnosed that her son had asthma and slow development as compared to other infants. One of them suggested Kok Ming to have proper physiotherapy at the General Hospital. He also recommended her to have Kok Ming trained while he was still in early childhood. That was how she walked into The Penang Spastic Center and started her son's new journey in January 2005. She really trusted that the center was the exact place for him to undertake all kinds of therapies to enhance his development.

For the first few months Kok Ming comes to the centre once a week and each therapy session lasted about an hour. The therapists were great and they trained her son's motor skills by teaching him the right way to roll over, sit, crawl and all sorts of simple tasks including swallowing. Her son had a very slow progress but they never gave up. She observed the improvement and that create her confidence toward them. Hence, she never missed any of the therapy session although the journey to and from the centre took her about 3 hours, as she was staying in Balik Pulau. At home, she did whatever remedy that the therapists taught for her son in order to accelerate the results. She felt very disappointed when her son could not walk even at the age of two. Thus, she went to the pediatrician to ask whether her son would ever walk. He was not able to give a satisfactory assurance or answer. She then asked herself, "Does this mean that my son will not be able to walk for the rest of his life? Do I want this? No! Definitely not! "

Since then, she just wanted to prove that her son can do everything that the others can. She took him for swimming therapy as suggested by the therapist to develop his limbs muscle. At the age of 4 years old, he finally managed to walk with her help. It was definitely worth it. This enhanced her self-confidence and she never thought of quitting. She sent him for therapies more frequently. She wanted him to talk, walk and eat like others.

Now at the age of 9 years old, Kok Ming has shown much improvement. He can now gradually manage himself and control his emotions. Although he is not able to talk now, but at least he can call "mama" and say some simple words. There is still a long way to go before he accomplishes the same progress like others of his age. I will never quit. I will never give up, Mrs.Chong said. But she added, "I will do whatever I can to spur him on. He is a gift from god to our family and we will never ever renounce him."







### Three Success Stories from Early Intervention Programme

Muhammad Israq bin Abdul Wahab berusia 4 tahun. Dia mula masuk ke kelas IEP pada September 2011 bermula dari sesi petang, kemudian dimasukkan ke sesi pagi pada tahun 2012. Dia sudah berada di pusat ini lebih kurang sepuluh bulan. Walaupun baru sepuluh bulan dia dimasukkan ke pusat ini, Israq telah menunjukkan banyak perubahan.

Dahulu anak saya tidak tahu mengatur langkah dengan mengangkat kakinya semasa berjalan, tetapi setelah mendapat latihan dan terapi daripada guru-guru kelas dan guru terapi anak saya mulai dapat berjalan dan tidak begitu takut seperti dahulu. Anak saya mulai memegang *ladder frame* semasa belajar berjalan. Dia juga sudah mampu mengangkat kakinya lebih tinggi semasa berjalan. Daya tumpuannya menunjukkan perubahan yang positif. Sekarang dia mampu memberi perhatian semasa aktiviti dilakukan tidak kira samaada aktiviti berkumpulan atau sendirian. Pergerakan tangannya juga sudah mulai baik dari dulu yang mana sangat perlahan dan lambat. Satu lagi yang membuat saya rasa gembira ialah sekarang dia sudah pandai menjarakkan masa ke tandas. Walaupun kadang – kadang dia tidak memberitahu bahawa dia mahu pergi ke tandas tetapi oleh kerana aktiviti ini di jalankan oleh guru-guru kelas secara rutin anak saya secara tidak langsung tahu masa tiba ke tandas.

Saya rasa bertuah sangat dapat memasukkan anak saya ke sekolah ini. Dan ucapan setinggi –tinggi terima kasih kepada semua guru-guru kelas, dan guru-guru terapi yang telah mendidik anak saya sehingga kini.



Mohammad Israq is practicing walking with ladder frame

Jacelyn Wong is 5 years old now . She has been at the centre since she was one year old . At the beginning she only joined the physiotherapy and speech therapy programme. When she was 3 years old, she joined the early intervention programme, which is under the supervision of Cikgu Diana and Cikgu Azlina. When she was 3 years old in the year of 2010, she always fell asleep in class due to epilepsy. After one year of training, she is able to tolerate and enjoy some of the sensory simulation. Sometimes she is quite moody and other times she would cry and refuse to do any of the activities.

After two years of joining the Early Intervention Programme, I saw some improvement in her. She is able to lift her head for a few minutes and able to sit for 5- 10 minutes with minimal support. She is also able to give us some response when she likes or dislikes something we have done for her.



Jaselyn Wong performing bridging activity on the plinth

I would like to give a special thanks to Mr Teng, the speech therapist, for training her to drink water without choking, chew her food better and swallow her saliva. This is a big improvement I can see in her.

I would like to give a special thanks to Cikgu Diana and Cikgu Azlina for training my caregiver how to help my daughter to exercise, toilet trained and about various stimulation activities. I also would like to thank the physiotherapist and occupational therapist for helping my daughter to improve in certain areas.

Lastly, I really appreciate my caregiver, Ms. Tuminah. She is really very patient with my daughter. She looked after her very well and loved my daughter very much. I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to her.

My son is Kok Kai En. He is 3 years old and is attending the spastic center for Early Intervention Program for one and half years. When my son was enrolled in the spastic center, he was attending afternoon sessions 3 days per week from 2pm-4pm. Kok Kai En received ½ hour therapy sessions for speech, physiotherapy and occupational therapy. I remember he was only bottle-fed and swallowed nes-tum cereal with the help of a pacifier during that time. In the feeding therapy sessions, Kai En had learned to accept a variety of food. I would like to thank specially Cikgu Teng, speech therapist, for his patience and guidance in improving my son's feeding. The first semester in a classroom ,he was not able to adapt to the school environment. He just threw tantrums or slept all the time.

Next semester he was shifted to morning sessions. He came to school five days per week. His teachers were Cikgu Diana and Cikgu Azlina. The teachers guided him in learning various living skills and participating in classroom activities. He had shown his interest in listening to songs. He had learned his toileting routine. He had improved in sitting on a chair, standing and walking. I would like to thank Cikgu Diana and Cikgu Azlina for their guidance in helping me to carry out the right approach and exercises at class and at home.

Thank you very much...



Kok Kai En being assisted to pull himself up on the plinth

# Success stories from the Primary School Section



## UPSR CANDIDATE

My name is Ng Yong Nian. I am 15 years old and I will be sitting for UPSR examination in September, 2012. I understand this examination is very important for me to lead a better life and brighter future. Hence, I have to try my best to pass and even to score A's in this examination. Besides that, my teachers have given me a lot of encouragement and support whenever I faced problems in my homework and advising me not to worry too much.

2009 was a tough year for my family. My father passed away due to cancer and his death brought a huge impact on us. However, I knew I need to be strong and I did not want to make my mother worry about me so much. Thus, I told myself that I need to work hard and do well in my UPSR examination. I have been in and out of tuition classes as most tuition teachers are unable to cater to my special needs. At home, my brother and sister would help me with my homework whenever they are free, as they themselves are preoccupied with their own assignments.

I would thank my class teachers as they are always with me whenever I needed them.



Science lesson in progress, Yong Nian is concentrating on doing science experiments in class





My name is Sin Yhee Hwan. I was diagnosed with spastic quadriplegia. I sat for UPSR examination in the year 2003 with two other friends of Class Merah; Eileen Lee and Mohd. Faizul. We were happy with our examination results though our results are not the same. It proves that we can do it and be at par with non-disabled students.

The reason I wanted to sit for this particular examination, despite going through so many difficulties, is that I wanted to gain more knowledge and did not want to be looked down upon by others. Really, this examination benefited me a lot, for instance, I became much stronger in my personality, dare to voice my opinions and more capable in handling challenges in life.

I would like to thank my teachers in Kelas Merah for making my dream come true.



Yhee Hwan is busy attempting UPSR module questions on his own



Yhee Hwan is having a fun time playing skittles when he was 14 yrs old

## **Occupational Therapy Department: Success Story of Farisha**

Hi, I am Issha. I will turn 4 years old by end of 2012. Now, I am starting kindergarten where I start to learn writing, reading, counting and socialize with other children. Let's I start my story... I was born on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008. I am a premature baby where I was born 30 weeks compared to normal baby, 38 weeks. This is because my mom had too high blood pressure. My birth weight was only 800 grams. Then, I stayed in NICU for about 1 month. I have slowed in developmental and speech delay. Due to my problem, a physiotherapist in private hospital had suggested to my parents to go to SCAP.

First time I came to SCAP on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. At that time, I was 1 year and 3 months. I can creep but my left leg is not moving, I am able to roll but my hand stuck under my body. I was unable to perform from lying position to sitting and I need maximum assistance when I walk. For my speech, I can only say a few words like baba & mama. I am good with my right hand but not with my left hand. All of these was noted when a group of therapists and a doctor assessed me. Then, I needed to come to rehabilitation team with Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech Therapy at SCAP every week.

Starting my session was at occupational therapy (OT) department, the therapist teach my mother how to perform exercise on me. She teach how to position and how far the range of my joint can go. It was hard for first few times but my mother got it. For me it was painful for awhile but my body became much more relax and easy for me to move. At one time I keep on saying pain, it hurt my mother's heart but she still continue to perform activities and always update my condition to my therapist now and then.

When I was in OT department, she asked me to play. Then, slowly I started to be friend with her and start playing with her. I have gone through many activities during OT session which is fun and challenging. Even though I always play at OT department but my mom believes that there are some aims and objective besides the activities. I have enjoyed and learned a lot during playing activities. She taught and guided me to use my left hand while playing. It was taking a long time to do it but after several activities involving hand function, I started to use my left hand. Before this, my left hand is always in a fist position. So, I have difficulty to grasp and release. Then, after session with OT, slowly I can grasp and release, pinch small objects and have follow normal fine motor milestones. At OT department, I have to follow instructions from therapist and I will get reward if I behave nicely.

By the age of 2, I was able to sit independently and start to crawl but my left elbow is bending. The therapist still encouraged me to use my left hand during activities given. One of the games that the therapist asked me to do is to climb up and down on soft surface which the game was named as obstacle course. This was a way to make me learn how to plan my movements and how use my body. Then, I started climbing sofa at home and I start to stand. My mother told her that I am very active at home and I am likely to crawl around the house. At that time, my crawl pattern was improved where my left elbow is straighter compare to before and I can use my left hand much more easily.

When I was started to stand, the therapist gave more activities in standing position. I was able to balance for a few seconds. Then, I did activities which need me to stand, bend and pick up things from floor. At that time, the therapist has identified my limb length is shorter. Thus, the therapist suggest to increase shoe sole for one and half (1 ½) inch. After that, I started to step and the therapist suggested my mother buy proper shoes for my foot arches and gait. I was starting to walk independently by age of 2 years and 7 months. Then, I started to run and play with my cousin when almost 3 years old.

However, now, I am very talkative, speak more clearly and more vocabulary I have learned compared to before. For this year, I have changed my kindergarten and I still continue my OT session. I can hold the pencil with tripod grip and training for prewriting skills. However, my mom complains that I am too active and I refused to use my left hand. In the future, the therapist has advised my mother to keep continue doing the exercises and continue to encourage me using left hand. But my mother still worries about my hand performance, my gait and my position.

## Speech Therapy Department: The Success Story of Han Wei and His Mother

Chuah Han Wei was admitted in 2009 when he was 3 years old. Han Wei's mother said that it was a struggle during his first year in the Spastic center. He was a hyperactive child with attention deficit. He was not able to attend to the tasks given in the classroom and therapy sessions. After the discussion with the therapist, both agreed that to improve Han Wei's attention span and sitting behavior was the priority of the program. The mother remembered that the therapist used play and reinforcement system to deal with Han Wei's attention problem. He was rewarded every time he sat on the chair and attended to his table tasks. It indeed helped a lot in managing Han Wei's behavior and also in facilitating his language learning. He had build up the listening attention which was essential in development of his understanding of language. In addition, the behavioral management and improvement shown on his attention also helped the mother in daily caretaking job. He showed more cooperative and responsive to carry out his daily routine.

With the advancement shown in his attention span and preverbal skills, selection of an effective communication mode had been the focus of ongoing discussion between the therapist and the mother. He was not able to use verbal communication during that time due to his inconsistency in language understanding. The mother had been exposed to the usage of Makaton Handsigns to aid the communication for non-verbal children. She suggested to give Han Wei a tryout in learning Makaton Handsigns. The therapist supported her decision and started to use Makaton Handsigns in the therapy session. In the initial stage, Han Wei had difficulties in understanding the meaning Handsigns and needed assistance in imitating them. However, the mother never lost her belief and persisted in teaching him the Handsigns. With continuous effort from both the mother and therapist, the child started to show progress after many repetitive teaching had been carried out.

He started to use Makaton Handsigns in his daily life activities since 1 year ago. He used Makaton Handsigns to greet family members, teachers and friends, to request, and to name surrounding objects. The mother agreed Han Wei had improved his communication skills including his language understanding and social interaction when he started to learn Makaton Handsigns. Besides, the mother always shared with the other parents about the usage of Makaton Handsigns. She introduced CDs of the "What is baby sign language?" to therapist, teachers and parents to compliment with Makaton Handsigns. Her willingness to share her knowledge and her concerns toward other children were much appreciated.

We had ups and downs along the journey in Han Wei's intervention. The partnership between the mother and therapist enabled the child to progress in a joyful learning environment. The mother continues to play the key role in Han Wei's intervention and education with great motivation and spirit. We end this story with a quote from the mother:

**"I think loving your child is the most important thing you can do as a parent."**



L to R; Han Wei and his mother, the child was able to self feed at mealtime ; HanWei learned the symbolic play by using the fruit set ; Child performed the Makaton Handsign "cikgu", together with mother and therapist



## DELL Learning Centre: Success Story of Fua Chee Keong

Fua Chee Keong, 16, is like other teenagers who love to make friends and posting pictures on his Facebook and writing his feelings on his Weblog. Over the period, since the inception of DELL Learning Center he has shown constant progress.

Chee Keong has Athetoid Cerebral Palsy which affects his all four limbs, and has involuntary movement. He is not able to write with pencil and feed himself. He needs assistance in his daily activities. He is a fast learner although he has limitation due to his condition.

Chee Keong first attends computer session when he was 11 years old. He couldn't use regular keyboard and mouse to access computer, but there is an alternative device called "Jelly Bean Switch" which can help persons with disabilities like Chee Keong (Refer to Picture 1). It is an assistive device; a round clicking plate that plugs directly into the computer with on-screen keyboard. Chee Keong learnt to use it and gradually he developed the skill to make use of the switch to explore advance activities. With the switch, he typed his first sentence and drew his first star on computer. However, this device's main drawback is it takes time for users to select each action because it is in step-scanning mode.

As Chee Keong grows older and his computer skills become better, he wants something faster and flexible which enables his to do more things on computer. Big Track Ball is another assistive device for users who lacks fine motor skill to control the mouse cursor coordination using regular mouse and this device also can be used with On-Screen keyboard (Refer to Picture 2). This device appears to be much easier for Chee Keong because he just needs to control it with his head pointer.

He has created few Microsoft Power Point Presentations with animation and music. He knows how to convert audio/video files to other formats, etc. Recently, Chee Keong was trained to use two new applications, Photoshop and Microsoft Excel in computer classes. He found both these applications give him new challenges as he has to memorize formulas in MS. Excel, while in Photoshop, he learns to edit images such as cropping, resizing, add effect to the images etc. He once had a big laugh when the computer teacher taught him how to "apply makeup" on his friend's photo.

Over the time Chee Keong has develop a good degree of frustration tolerance and positive learning attitude which improves his academic performance. He is a hardworking person and always tries his best to complete the tasks given during computer classes. We believe, if given more time and opportunities, Chee Keong will be able to acquire more advance skills in computer assisted learning, thus he will be able to make use of his skills not just academically, but also for leisurely activities.



Chee Keong with the 'Jelly Bean Switch'



Chee Keong is accessing computer using head-pointer and the big track ball mouse

## Sheltered Workshop: Success Story of Tan Soon Beng

Tan Soon Beng is currently the assistant supervisor of the sheltered workshop. He has been working at the Centre for ten years. However, his connection with the Centre started years ago in 1976.

He was six years old when he first entered the Centre as a student. He was a good student who enjoyed reading English and Malay story books. He also excelled in sports. One of his favorite sports is swimming. During his school years, he actively participated in sea scouts and took part in various swimming competitions. When he was fourteen, he became very keen in body building as a sport and it would further become a life long passion of his. He later joined Mr. Penang Body Building competition in 1999.



Winning a medal from a swimming competition



Soon Beng at 6 years old

When he graduated from the Centre at nineteen years old, it did not take him long to gain employment outside as he is a dedicated person with good work ethics. Unfortunately, he faced many adversities working in the factories. He was bullied and under paid. After six years, he made the decision to find a new job that would understand and cater to his needs.

He came back to the Centre in 2000 and underwent two years of training. In 2002, he was promoted to staff and he has been with the Centre since.

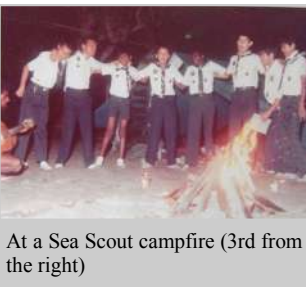
His regular work day starts at 8am and he clocks out at 4pm. There are 10 workers under his care and he ensures that the daily operation of the workshop runs smoothly. A testament to his success, Soon Beng won the staff appraisal award in 2009. He is honest, responsible and committed.



Making handmade paper

On his days off, he enjoys going to the gym, swimming, surfing the internet and shopping. However, one thing he looks forward to is spending time with his niece and nephew. A dotting uncle, he spoils his niece and nephew by buying toys and trinkets for them.

When asked about his future ambitions, he says simply 'I hope to own a sports equipment store some day.'



At a Sea Scout campfire (3rd from the right)



Tying a bundle of newspaper for recycling



His favorite lunch break activity - working out at the gym

## ROLL OF HONOUR

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3. Tun Syed Sheh bin Syed Hassan Barakbah  
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S.M.N., D.U.P.N., P.M.N., S.P.M.J., S.P.M.K.
5. Tun Datuk Dr. Haji Awang bin Hassan  
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S.M.N., P.S.M., D.U.P.N., D.P., D.M.P.N., K.M.N.
7. Tun Dato' Seri Utama (Dr.) Haji Abdul Rahman bin Haji Abbas  
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2. Mr. Yap Hong Kuan (1973 – 1974)
3. Mr. Tan Boon Lin (1975)
4. Mr. Cheah Tat Huat (1976 – 1977)
5. Mr. Saw Chu Thong (1978 – 1980)
6. Encik Razak bin Ator (1980 – 1986)
7. Encik Mohd. Ali bin Mohd. (1987 – 1988)
8. Encik Abdul Rahim bin Busu Mat Nor (1989)
9. Tuan Haji Ghazali bin Uda Umar (1990 – 1991)
10. Tuan Haji Abdul Rahman bin Abdul Majid (1992)



11. Encik Haji Mohd. Ismail bin Othman (1993 – 1994)
12. Tuan Haji Ismail bin Salleh (1995 – 1998)
13. Haji Ahmad Farook b. Abd. Majid (1999 – 2000)
14. Dato' Haji Dawa@Dewa bin Abdullah (2001 – 2004)
15. Haji Salleh b. Abdul Karim (2005)
16. Haji Ahmad bin Husain (2006 – 2010)
17. Tuan Haji Ahmad Tarmizi bin Kamaruddin (2011 – Present)

#### HONORARY AUDITORS

1. Mr. Herbert J. Ho, Jr. (1963 – 1991)
2. Mr. K.C. Liang Liang & Co (1992 – 1998)
3. C.L. Ooi & Co. Chartered Accountant (1999 – Present)

#### HONORARY CONSULTANTS

1. D.S. Willie (Orthopedic) (1977 – 1983)
2. Dr. N. Paramasvaran (Paediatrician) (1977 – 1983)
3. Dr. Lim Huck Boon (Ophthalmologist) (1977 – 2006)
4. Dr. Fong Kheng Phoy (Orthodontist) (1977) (1988 – 2010)
5. Dr. Wee Ch'ng Keow Hiang (1977)
6. Dr. Santokh Singh (ENT Specialist) (1979 – 2010)
7. Dr. Daljit Singh Nagreh (Dermatologist) (1984 – 2006)
8. Mr. E. Thomas (Orthopedic) (1984 – 1990)
9. Dr. Adele Tan (Paediatrician) (1984 – 1985)  
(1988- 2010)
10. Dato' Dr. Tan Chee Khuan (Psychiatrist) (1989 – 2006)
11. Dr. Samuel Easaw (Neurologist) (1989 – 2006)
12. Mr. Dennis Y.S. Liew (Chartered Architect) (1991 – 2004)
13. Dr. Jamaludin B. Mohamad (Orthopedic Surgeon) (1993 – 1997)
14. Ir. Vincent Tan Huei Meng (Engineer) (1993 – Present)
15. Dato' Dr. Lim Huat Bee (Dermatologist) (1994 – Present)
16. Dr. Vigneswari Ganesan (Paediatric Neurologist) (2011 – Present)
17. Dr. Parameswaran (Orthopedic Surgeon) (2011 – Present)
18. Ir. Tan Yeow Joo (Engineer) (2011 – Present)

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Mr. K. Ponnampalam (1962 – 1966)
2. Mr. Beh Teik Jim (1962 – 1963)
3. Miss Lee Kooi Jong (1962)
4. Mrs. P. Hoalim Jnr. (1962)
5. Mr. Tan Kiar Liew (1962 – 1965)
6. Mrs. K. Robert (1962)
7. Mr. R. Shammugam (1962)
8. Dr. I Pak Shong (1962)
9. Mrs. Ung Guan Hoe (1963)
10. Miss S. Hasnah (1963 – 1965)
11. Mr. D. McArdle (1963 – 1965)
12. Mr. J.E. Oorjitham (1963 – 1964)
13. Mr. Yoon Kai Fook (1963)
14. Mr. Oon Chong Kie (1963)
15. Mrs. R. David (1964)
16. Miss Alice Yap ( 1964 – 1966)
17. Mr. Gulzar Singh (1965)
18. Miss A. Morden (1965)
19. Mrs. Chia Hock Chye (1965)
20. Miss Yong Kee Lee (1965)
21. Mrs. Chris Kent (1966)
22. Mrs. M. Labrooy (1966)
23. Mr. Ft. Lt. W. Magill (1966 – 1967)
24. Mrs. F. Anderson (1966 – 1967)
25. Mrs. E. Kamaluddin (1966)
26. Mr. Ayoub b. Zakaria (1967)
27. Mrs. T. Howley (1967)
28. Mrs. B. Beatty (1967)
29. Mrs. K.F. Higgins (1967)
30. Mr. Tan Ban Hock (1967 – 1969)
31. Mr. Heah Hock Aun (1967 – 1969)
32. Mrs. M. Jenks (1967 – 1968)
33. Mr. Ong Liang Ching (1967 – 1974)
34. Mr. Lee Chee Ewe Pean (1968)
35. Mr. B.C. Engel (1968 – 1969)

36. Mr. A. Arulanantham (1968 – 1985)
37. Mr. Yeoh Phoy Chee (1968 – 1979)
38. Mr. SMI Shaik Ibrahim (1969 – 1970)
39. Mrs. L.M. Crabtree (1969)
40. Mr. Lim Earn Khoon (1969 – 1970)
41. Mr. Teoh Cheng Keat (1970 – 1971)
42. Mr. Teoh Cheng Ean (1970 – 1973)
43. Mrs. Chan Kok Swee (1970 – 1973)
44. Mrs. Lim Say Huat (1970 – 1983)
45. Mrs. S.B. Cheah (1971 – 1972)
46. Mr. Khoo Thean Tiew (1972 – 1990)
47. Mr. V.S. Bastion (1973 – 1986)
48. Mr. Toh Boon Hoe (1974 – 1989)
49. Mr. Yew Lye Hin (1974 – 1977)  
(1987) (1993)
50. Mr. R.S. Moorthy (1975)
51. Mrs. Ingeborg Klose (1980 – 1988)
52. Mr. Lau Kooi Seng (1981 – 1984)
53. Mr. Wong Hen Meng (1982 – 1984)
54. Mr. Stephen Lim Lee Chay (1982 – 1984)
55. Mr. Khoo Yeoh Gan Hong (1984 – 1990) (2007 – 2008)
56. Mr. Saw Hock Eng (1985 – 1989)
57. Mr. Khor Moh Hang (1985 – 1988)
58. Mr. Lim Teong Ghee (1986 – 1987)
59. Dr. Tan Chee Khuan (1988 – 1989)
60. Ms. Rhina Bhar (1988)
61. Datuk Zainal Alam Hj. Zainal Abidin (1988 – 1989)
62. Mr. A. Thanabalan (1989)
63. Mr. Sonny Khor Yuen Hock (1989 – 1990)
64. Mrs. Kanya Tan (1990)
65. Puan Kuraisa Bee bte Abdul Majid (1990 – 1992)
66. Ms. Jassie Khoo Suan Cheng (1990 – 1993)
67. Puan Latiffa Abdul Rahman (1990 – 1991)
68. Ms. Doreen Lim Swee Hoon (1990)
69. Ms. Jenny Kam Phaik Har (1991 – 1994)  
(2011 – Present)
70. Mrs. K.E.M. Hussain (1991)
71. Mr. Bobby Ang Choo Ming (1991 – 1993) (1996 – 2004)  
(2011 – Present)
72. Mr. Abdul Mukhtar (1991 – 1993)
73. Mr. Cheah Keat Kok (1991 – 2010)
74. Mr. Teoh Ee San (1992 – 1993)
75. Ir. Vincent Tan Huei Meng (1992 – 2001)
76. Mr. Law Hock Chye (1994 – 2010)
77. Ms. Linda Goh (1994 – 1998)
78. Mr. Tan Leong Theng (1994 – 2004)
79. Mr. Ng Fook On (1994)
80. Mr. Oh Eng Choon (1995)
81. Mrs. Miki Hoalim (1997 – 2002)
82. Ms. Ong Siew Guat (1999 – 2010)
83. Mr. Nutan B. Shah (2001 – 2006)
84. Mr. Vincent Lai Kong Leng (2002 – Present)
85. Ms. Teoh Siew Fong (2005 – 2008)
86. Mr. Yeoh Kean Lai (2008 – Present)
87. Datin Vivienne Tneh Choo Heong (2009 – Present)
88. Professor Muhamad bin Jantan, PhD (2009 – Present)
89. Mr. Khoo Chye Poh (2009 – Present)
90. Mr. Foong See Yoke (2011 – Present)

#### MATRON / SUPERVISOR / CENTRE ADMINISTRATOR

1. Mrs. R. David (1963)
2. Miss Alice Yap (1964)
3. Miss Yong Kee Lee (1965 – 1966)
4. Miss Marjorie Labrooy (1966 – 1968)
5. Mrs. K.E.M. Hussain (1970 – 1990)
6. Ms. Lim Say Hua (1990)
7. Mr. Foong See Yoke (1990 – 1991)
8. Mr. Hudson H.H. Lee (1991)
9. Puan Hamidah bte. Hj. Zakaria Marican (1992)
10. Ms. Valliammal Allagappan (1992 – Present)

## **TEMPUS FUGIT! (TIME FLIES!)**

### **A VISION OF 2 SPASTIC CHILDREN**

PERSEVERANCE will see each day through  
It's the keyboard for me and you  
Together we'll strive year by year  
For another 25 with a smile and a cheer

Advances in therapy for cerebral palsy  
In the end will benefit all and sundry  
The struggle is long but the future's bright  
We visualize a tough but worthwhile fight

Hope and faith will pull us through;  
Perseverance and patience too .....  
So, fight with strong hearts, heads held high  
And we'll see another 25 years roll by.

**- Gregory Khoo Yeoh Gan Hong**



The above poem is taken from the SCAP Silver Jubilee Celebration magazine 1987. Twenty five years ago, I composed the poem with the help from Mr. Cecil Rajendra, our well known international poet. Now, with the passage of TIME, another twenty five years have rolled by with the twinkling of an eye! I find the following quotation from Henry Ford fits into the structure of the Cerebral Palsy (Spastic) Children's Association, Penang.

“Coming together is a beginning  
Staying together is progress  
Working together is success”

### **COMING TO TOGETHER IS A BEGINNING**

It was a good beginning in 1962 when a small group of caring people CAME TOGETHER, when they realized that there was a great need of services for the children with cerebral palsy. So on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1962 an inaugural meeting was convened at the Eastern and Oriental Rotary Room for the formation of a Spastic Children's Association, Penang.

The Centre had a good start with volunteers from various international organizations coming to help that is Australia, United States Peace Corps, New Zealand Volunteer Service Abroad, German Development Services and Volunteer Services Overseas (United Kingdom)

### **STAYING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS**

The early pioneers – Presidents, managing committees, staff and supporters STAYED TOGETHER to make continuous PROGRESS for the Association.

### **WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS**

By working together in harmony they have achieved success. It is TEAMWORK that makes the difference. They are prepared to walk the extra mile!

And so it was from a handful of students who received treatment on 12<sup>th</sup> August 1963, there are now 153 students and an outreach programme was set up in 2003 in Bukit Mertajam.

From borrowed premises there is now an extension of a two storied building on land through the courtesy of the trustees of Lam Wah Ee Hospital. And the challenges continue. The Penang Rotary Club initial grant in 1962 was RM\$2076 and in the same year raised RM\$5890 through “Holiday On Ice”. Now our monthly expenses are about RM\$100 000. So we need to have ongoing fund raising projects, food fairs, concerts, dinners, exhibitions and so on. Since we are committed to serve we shall continue and endeavour to make sure that our special children get the best. TOGETHER WE EXCEL!

**- Gregory Khoo Yeoh Gan Hong**



**The Cerebral Palsy (Spastic) Children's Association of Penang**  
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