

# The Sun Bear Voice

November-December 2020 Vol.7, No.6

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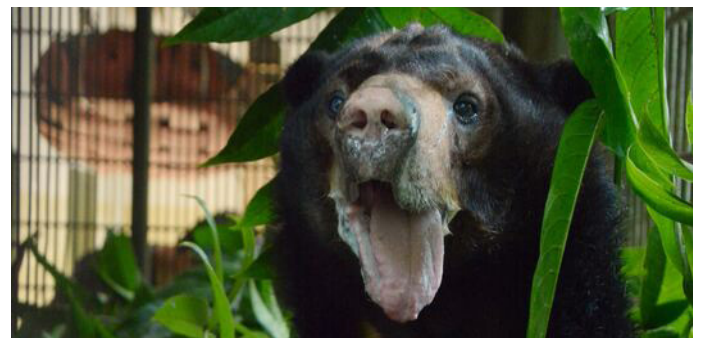


Cover page of this issue features our 56<sup>th</sup> rescued bear, Sika

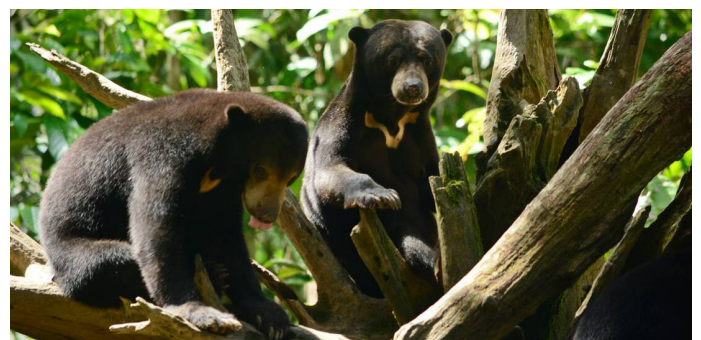


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**PAGE 2:** Our Strong Survivor, Diana



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## Bear Story

### Our Strong Survivor, *Diana*

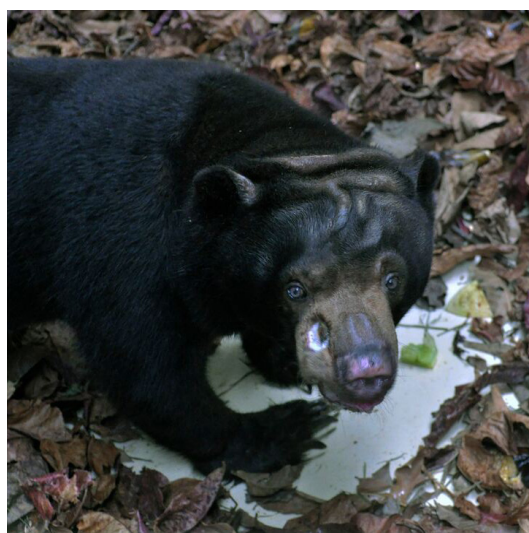
Diana is our 33<sup>rd</sup> rescued sun bear, arriving at the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (BSBCC) on July 2013 as an adult. She was initially living at View Top Resort in Tawau, Sabah where she was exhibited to visitors in a small concrete cage with another male sun bear that goes by the name of Ronnie. When she arrived at BSBCC, she was in poor condition, with an open wound on the right side of her snout and bald spots on the back of her head. It is suspected that she had these issues due to confrontation with Ronnie as they were kept in a small cage together. Besides that, she also had unhealthy gums due to a diet that only comprised of rice and bananas.

Diana was in need of constant, special care from the Bear Care team to ensure that she might continue to improve at BSBCC. She was initially a sensitive bear and was always making her displeasure known by giving out warning sounds in the presence of humans. Regardless of her reaction to the keepers, they continued to provide her with different types of environmental enrichment to ensure an improved living quality with us. As she slowly became more comfortable with her new environment, she would spend most of her time on the ground, but when it was time to take a nap, she would never fail to climb into her favourite basket, which was specially placed for her in the pen.

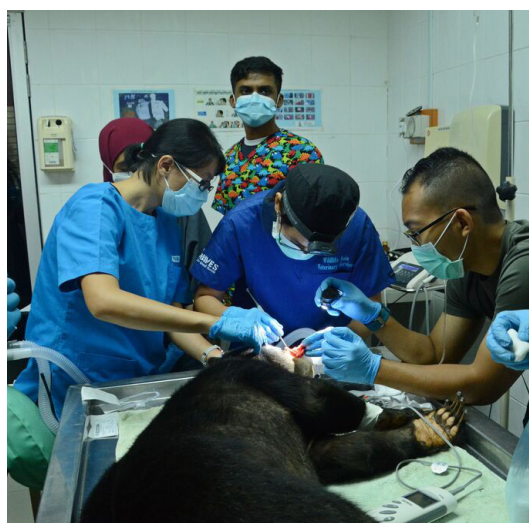
After a year at BSBCC, the injury on her muzzle and her dental problems still had not improved. In 2015, she was constantly brought onto the surgical table to address these issues, aided by multiple veterinarians from Sabah Wildlife Department, Wildlife Rescue Unit and others from within the region who came together to help her. When Diana was diagnosed with periodontal disease (gingivitis, dental calculus, gingival recession, and tooth fractures), she underwent multiple tooth extractions. Today, Diana is only left with one canine tooth on the upper jaw while her teeth on the entire lower jaw have been extracted. Due to this,



**Image:** The arrival of Diana and Ronnie at BSBCC.

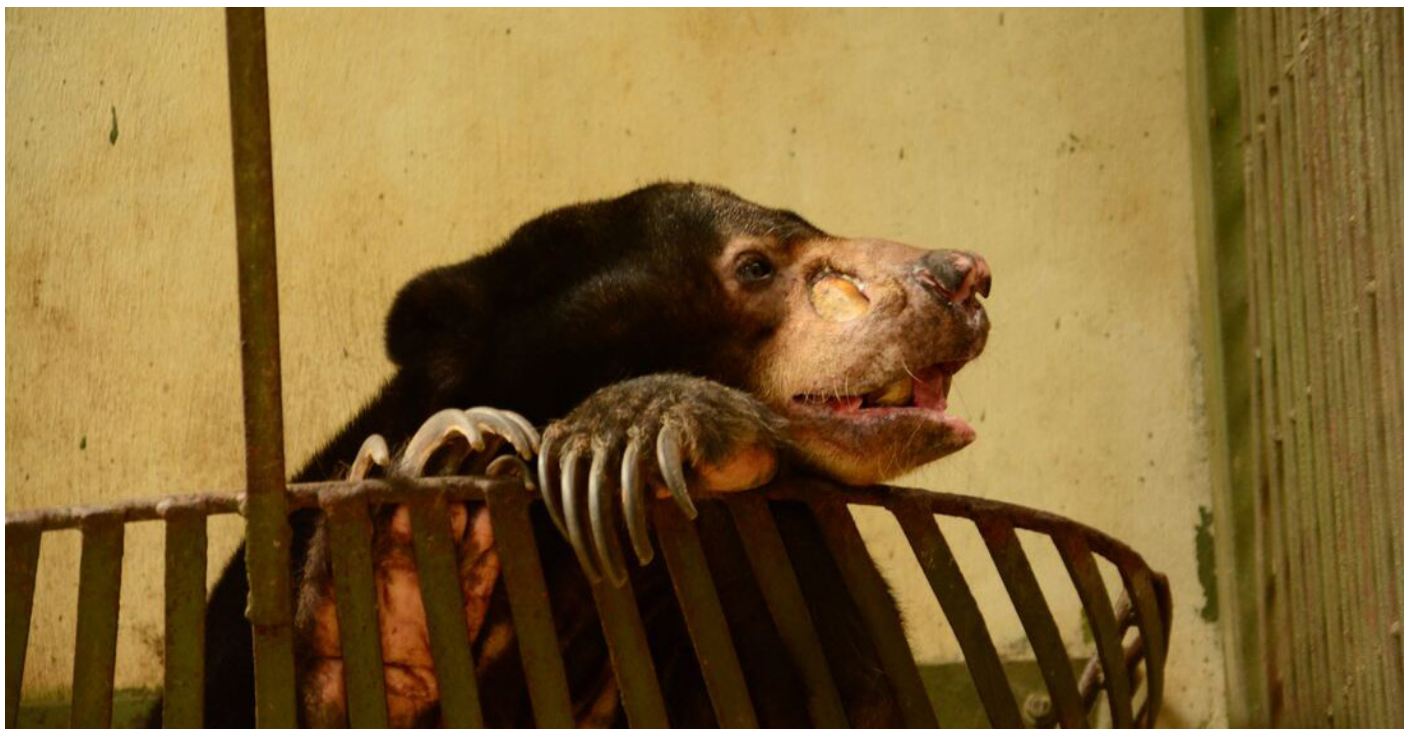


**Image:** Diana being provided with dried leaves in her pen at Bear House.



**Image:** Diana undergoing a dental procedure conducted by a number of veterinarians.





**Image:** Diana getting ready to take a nap in her basket.

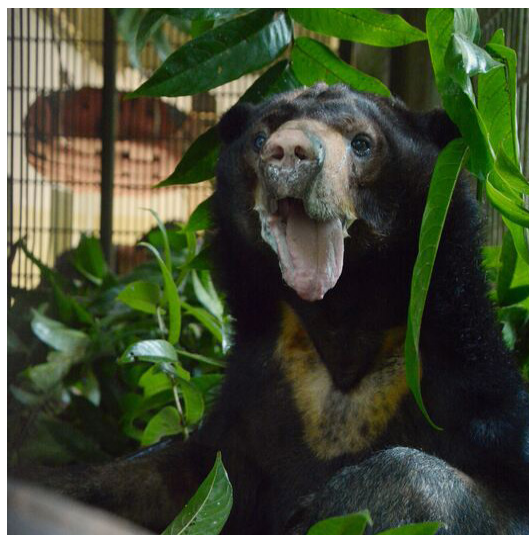
her lower jaw has been shrinking and she has to go on a soft food diet. She was also intelligent enough to choose fruits that are very ripe as they are softer for her consumption.

In May 2017, Diana was transferred to the quarantine section for continued special care from the Bear Care team. When Diana got healthier, she was then slowly introduced to other sun bears as well. She was first integrated with a group of young sun bears, Soo, BJ, Kina, and Sika. Diana loved playing around with Sika and Kina. At the beginning of the year, Soo, BJ, Kina, and Sika were transferred to the Bear House to continue with their rehabilitation process. It was then that Diana was introduced to Phin, a gentle adult male sun bear. Diana continues to enjoy playing with environment enrichments that are provided for her and sleeping in her basket. She particularly loves to play with enrichments made of gunny sacks. She would play and when she got tired, she would use it as a blanket when she sleeps in her basket.

Today, Diana is estimated to be 14 years of age. She is still being provided the best care that she can get from BSBCC.

If you would like to contribute to Diana's medical expenses, you may do so by clicking on 'Healthy Sun Bear' on this webpage: <https://www.bsbcc.org.my/gifts-with-meaning.html>.

*Story by Pradeep Gunasegaran*



**Image:** The change of facial structure on Diana due to the shrinkage of her lower jaw.

# Bear Story

## The Buddy Bears - Noah & Nano

There are two bear stories that began in the year of 2016 at BSBCC.

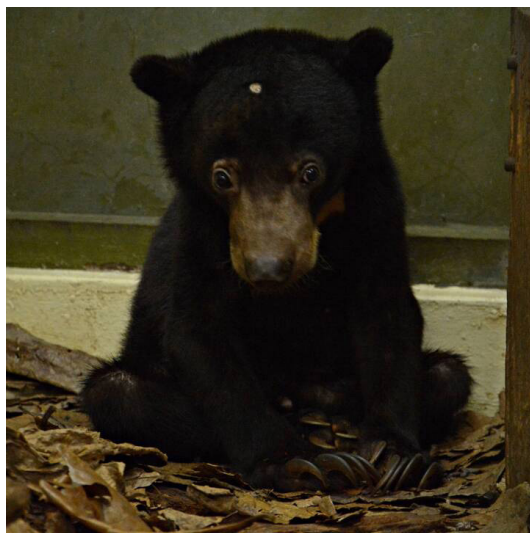
The first story began at a place named Nabawan, an area in the southern part of Sabah. One day in 2016, a villager saw a dog in her orchard. When she approached, she noticed the dog had round ears and sharp claws. She then realized the dog was actually a sun bear! The sun bear had been kept as a pet ever since. On the 19<sup>th</sup> of August 2016, the Sabah Wildlife Department (SWD) rescued him and sent him to Lok Kawi Zoo. The bear came to BSBCC when he was five months old and weighed 8.6kg on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2016. When he was first brought here, his four baby teeth were meant to be more curved and sharper but were found to have been reduced to a squarish and smoother condition which affected his teething structure and arrangement. Despite this condition, he has grown into a healthy four-year-old sub adult male bear and we call him Noah.

Another story happened in Kota Marudu, an area in the north of Sabah. This story belongs a six years old adult male bear named Nano. Back in 2016, Nano was kept in a small chicken mesh cage. A woman saw him and wanted to help him overcome his misfortunes. She knew the bear was going to suffer in that small cage and she decided to purchase Nano for a price of RM1,500 to save his life. After that, she surrendered Nano to the SWD, who sent him to BSBCC on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November 2016. When he first arrived at BSBCC, he weighed only 9.7kg.

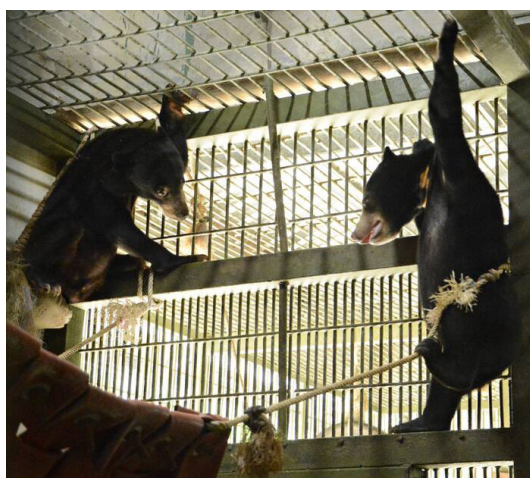
Noah and Nano were each other's first bear friends! They spent all their time together. They look different and have quite different personalities. For instance, Noah is a happy bear and an explorer. He seems like he has nothing to worry about in his life and is always curious about everything! Noah has a brighter colour snout and a longer body shape. In contrast to Noah, Nano is shy. He is very alert to his surroundings and



**Image:** The early days of Noah after came to BSBCC.



**Image:** Nano was barely 10kg at the age of two years old.



**Image:** The first meeting between Noah and Nano.





**Image:** Noah (left) and Nano (right) taking a break after spent their morning exploring the forest enclosure.

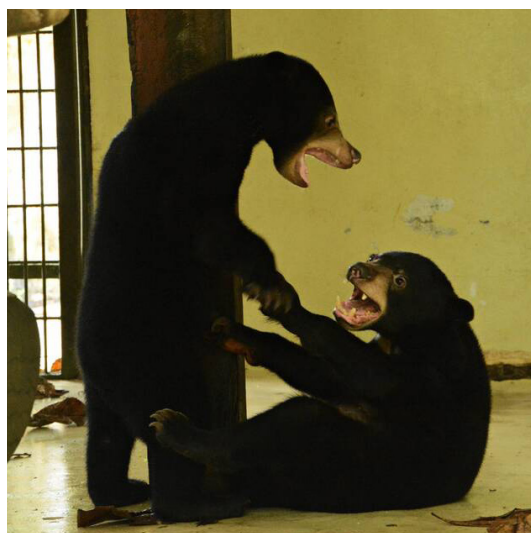
gets stressed easily. Nano has a shinier coat and a smaller body size. Noah's friendly efforts have changed Nano's life day by day. Nano has changed from being aggressive and inactive to peaceful and active. Due to their friendship and interactions, Nano has become braver and brighter!

After a year of rehabilitation, Noah and Nano explored the forest for the very first time in 2017. Noah was excited about the adventure outside. He was confident and enjoyed freedom. However, Nano showed more distress in exploring a new environment. Nano timidly took his time to go out, but Noah never gave up on him. After a few months, Nano finally put his trauma behind him and enjoyed the forest activities with Noah. Even though they are "beary" good friends, they still fight sometimes. However, if Nano is in trouble, Noah will run towards Nano and help him out. No bears in BSBCC can bully Nano! Nano feels more secure whenever Noah is around. They just can't leave each other alone!

Noah and Nano really enjoy their daily forest activities such as digging, foraging, and climbing. Noah is like Nano's big brother. Noah starts the adventure of the day and Nano is happy to be his follower. They both are foodies. Before and during the food giving, Nano

always guards food and Noah will respond as if they are communicating in Bear Language. It is a joy to see them always together like Best Bear Friends! We hope they will gain more courage and sharpen their forest survival skills to ready themselves for their release together in the wild one day!

**Story by Seng Yen Wah**



**Image:** "I'll always have your back!"

## Bear Story

### Don't Worry, Little Betung

#### *The promise of a bright future*

On 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020, BSBCC received their third rescued cub of the year. It is not a proud number and all these rescued sun bears have the same underlying problems. How much more pain and trauma must these bears have to endure? We cannot imagine a bright future for sun bears if this poaching and illegal pet trade continues at this rapid rate. They are being threatened!

Rescued at an estimated five months of age, the story we were told was that the cub was found by a villager's dog and she was 'wandering alone' in the orchard at Kampung Betung in Ranau district. She was a tiny little cub – no teeth yet. She was taken and kept as a pet for about five months in a chicken wire mesh cage. She was fed with Lactogen milk powder only. The villager was willing to surrender Betung to Sabah Wildlife Department. Wonder what happened to her mother...? A mother will risk her own life in her cub's defence and would never abandon a cub at that young age. Little Betung would still be constantly with her mother.

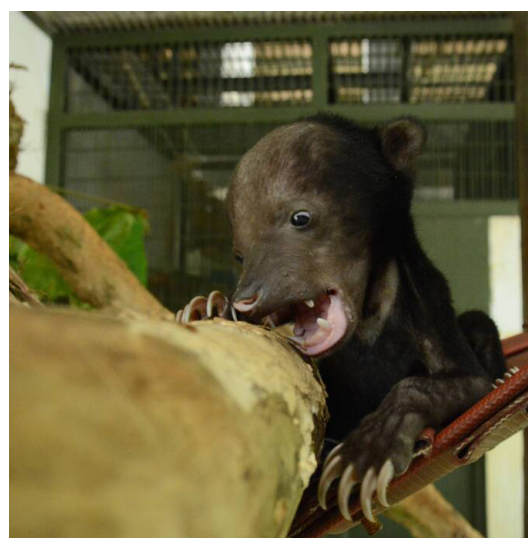
Her weight was 1.4kg and she was in poor condition, with stunted growth, and was underweight, super weak, malnourished, emaciated and suffering with alopecia on the head and body. She has been placed into quarantine while a health assessment, nutritious diet and care plan is put into place. She receives treatment with medicated shampoo to treat her pruritus.

Betung needs to be nursed back to health before starting to venture out to the forest. She has already begun to take her first steps on the LONG road of recovery. Little Betung is beginning to settle into her new home. The surroundings are still very new to her. She has a lot to overcome having lost her mother and forest home at an early age.

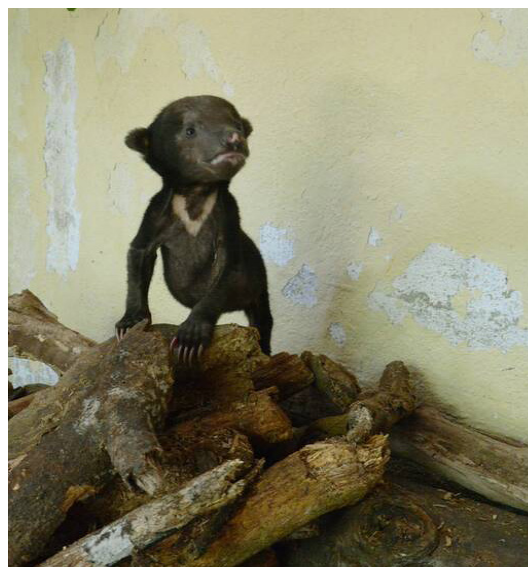
She is now in quarantine and receives intensive treatment from our vet and bear team. She requires



**Image:** Betung is fed with milk 7 times a day.

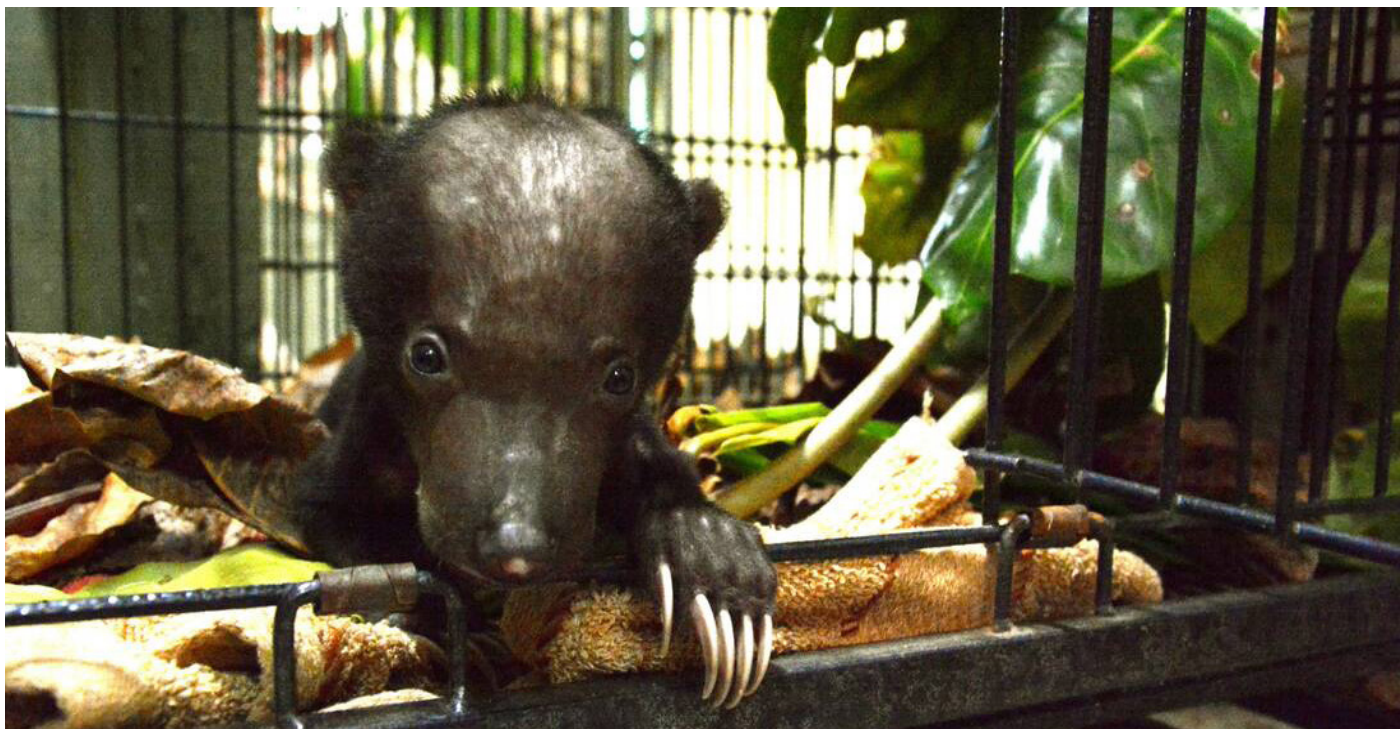


**Image:** To grow big and strong, Betung requires a lot of exercises – digging, tearing, and climbing.



**Image:** Betung exploring her wood pile.





**Image:** Betung will be given care treatment and begin rehabilitation to teach her how to be a wild sun bear again. Hope she recovers to have a good life.

24 hour care and 7 feeds a day. A huge thanks to the Wildlife Rescue Unit of Sabah Wildlife Department for taking care and help us get the vet care Little Betung needed. Finally, she is now safe and loved.

Being so young she would not have been able to survive on her own - we are ready to provide Little Betung with a healthy diet, veterinary care and enrichment activities to stimulate her.

She has settled in quite well. She is keen on the new menu and loves the food she is receiving - MILK. On 29<sup>th</sup> August 2020, we moved her to a larger den filled with climbing structures, toys and treats to keep her enriched and stimulated. Slowly, she is learning that the bear world means a lot to her. She loves being in the den – ready to explore everything!

Thanks to our dedicated cub keepers, Adrian and Danny who teach the cubs forest life skills! Even so tiny and weak, Little Betung NEVER MISSES the chance to climb!! She has improved in her tree climbing abilities. But, she will take some time and think about how to get down from the climbing structure or platform, and she never stops trying!

She will find the best digging spots. She spends her day foraging and digging dead wood. She will bite and

play with the small branches or dried leaves!

She has logs to dig with, dried leaves to destroy, bear balls to roll with and a gunny sack hammock to sleep on – cubs just love this! She will keep herself entertained throughout the day. She loves exploring new smells, sights and textures. She finds dead logs very amusing and it often looks like her first time surrounded by the dead logs. She can have endless fun with them! She enjoys her quiet time and does not appreciate any disturbances as she can sometimes get quite feisty. Cubs vary a lot in the amount of sleep they need. After she finishes drinking milk, she spends her time snoozing with her bear toy or inside the gunny hammock to recover and regain back her energy.

She is a little cub who can be very expressive. When digging into wood, you can find her keeping an open mouth or showing off her sharp canines which indicates the wood dust has stuck on her tongue – she thinks of a way to remove it!

She will prove to be a natural fighter! Imagine the future for this little cub who would have been able to live in peace with her mother in the wild. Please remember sun bears are NOT PETS and should NOT BE STOLEN from the wild to live with humans.



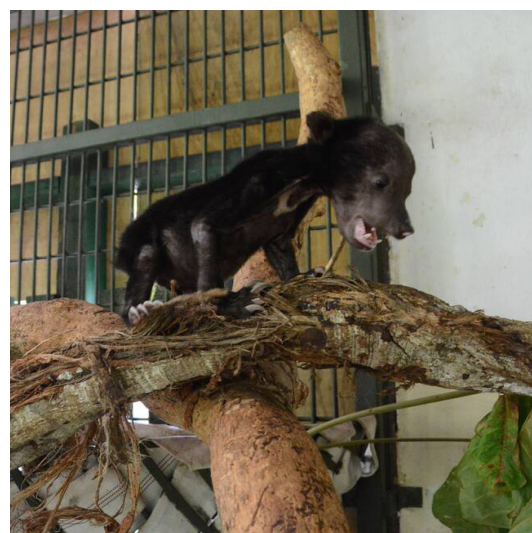
**Image:** It was a tough start for little Betung, Far too young to be left alone, No protection and love from mum, No forest for foraging, No freedom, Poor diet left her severely malnourished... Now, she has a bigger space that allows her to express her natural behaviour – live the life she deserves!

Little Betung is still in the process of recovering and we look forward to seeing the difference that living without trauma makes to her – growing and thriving.

We hope one day her weight and skin condition will show improvement, then she can climb up into the trees, build her self-confidence, be free once more and safe from any harm! She still has a long road of rehabilitation ahead of her. Little Betung needs you to help with her medical recovery. Please consider helping and supporting Little Betung by donating towards the on-going care and emergency medical treatment. Purchase a wonderful gift today! Your donation will be on its way to support this little one.

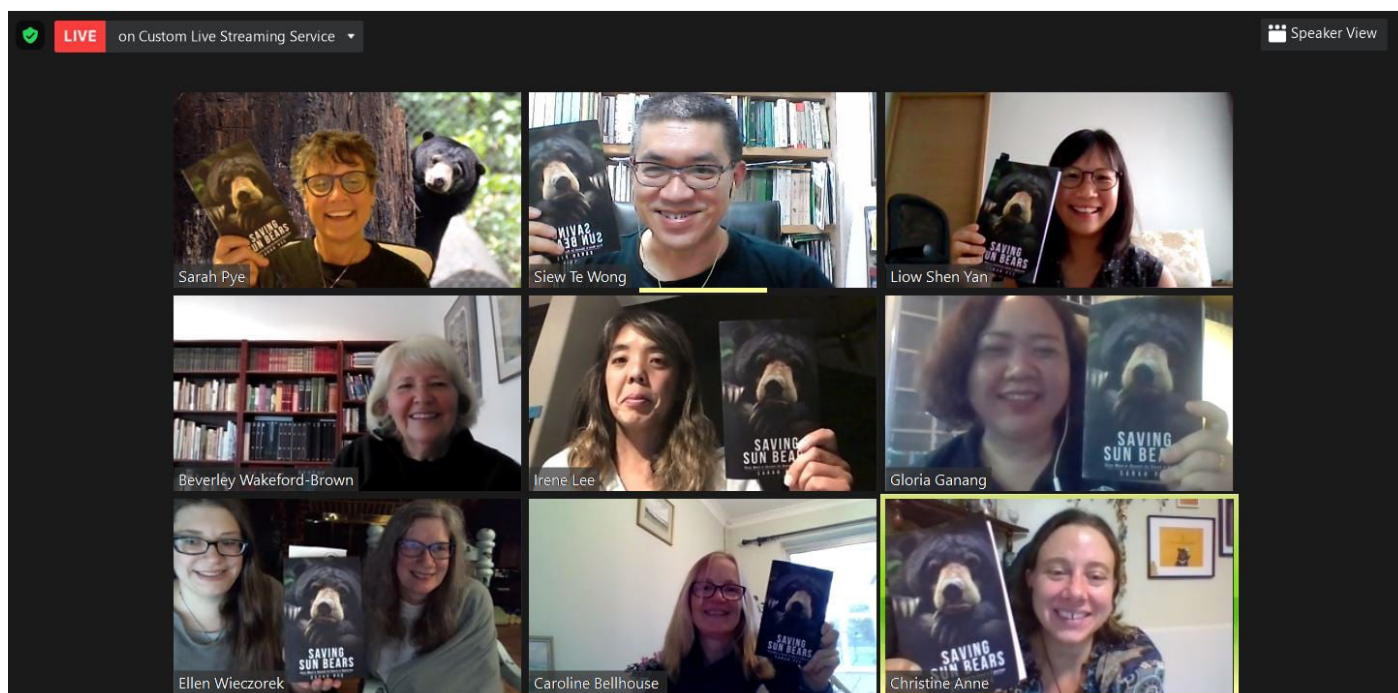
Stay strong, Little One!

*Story by Chiew Lin May*



**Image:** Adventurous little climber! She is excited when reaching the peak of branches!





## BSBCC Corner:

### Saving Sun Bears virtual book club

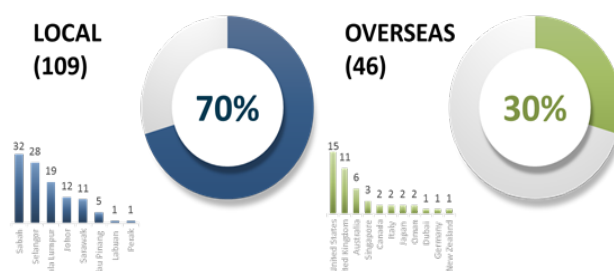
A virtual book club Zoom session for Saving Sun Bears was broadcast live on BSBCC's Facebook page, on October 3, 2020 at 4 pm (Malaysia time), and 6pm for Brisbane time. This was an opportunity for readers and supporters to have all their questions answered while getting to know more about Dr Wong Siew Te (The Hero) and Sarah Pye (The Author).

Participants also stood a chance to win some merchandise from BSBCC! There was a mini-quiz during the session to hype things up. By this time of writing, the live session recording has reached up to 1.4k views in Facebook. Thanks again to everyone that participated in the Zoom session, the supporters of 'Saving Sun Bears', and the viewers! Check out the recorded live session from this link here: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=771235267051957>

### Sun Bear Virtual Run

To our runners who registered and completed their run, we would like to congratulate and thank you for being a part in bettering the lives of our rescued sun bears! As of the completion of the event, a total of MYR 19,315.23 has been raised through this event. Your support has helped to cover over ONE month's worth of healthy food supplies to all of our 45 rescued bears! This means a lot to us and the bears, especially when our major dependence is still barely recovering from the global pandemic of COVID-19.

We would like to give a big shoutout to our supporters and participants: a total of 155 participants, comprising 143 adults and 12 kids from 12 countries worldwide including Malaysia had registered for the run!



# SVBR participants

Thank you for the support towards BSBCC's Sun Bear

Virtual Run.

- Aaron Liew Shun Yao
- Aaron Peterson
- Abigail Beall
- Adam Chiew
- Adam Pienaar
- Aisling Usun Bagly
- Alex Katsifolis
- Alex Leong Kok Hing
- Allison Terlacher
- Amelia Peterson
- Andyson Luna Anak Naim
- Angel Chin Tze Ting
- Anna A Barber
- Annie Shin
- Annietha Anak Bigam
- Ardiah Jamali
- Aw Yong Guey Ing
- Aw Yong Guey Jen
- Barbara Katsifolis
- Bernadette Chin
- Bernadette D. Joeman
- Bryan Wai Hong Ong
- Burhanuddin Ismail
- Camelia Ellesha Nazri
- Camesha Aleeya Nazri
- Carolyn Curtis
- Catherine Tang
- Chan Ah Kiyu
- Chan Yew Cheong
- Chang Suet Mooi
- Chang Wai Xiang
- Charleen Blangkat Anak Jim
- Chase Keon
- Cheong Kian Hung
- Cherry Atkinson
- Cheryl De Souza
- Chiam Sim Ai
- Chiang Sheen Nie
- Chin Kok Chung
- Chong Li Yin
- Chong Yee Ling
- Christal Chong Siau Teng
- Christina Annette Jinam
- Christina Katsifolis
- Clodagh Mcguire
- Colin Hoare
- Cordelia Keon
- Corry Bazley
- Darby Buschmann
- Darren Curtis
- Deb Canterford
- Deniz Lam Yee Jeng
- Derek Yeung
- Douglas Barber
- Elena Garavelli
- Ellen Mc Arthur
- Ellen Mc Arthur
- Emily Douglas
- Evelyn Chang
- Geogina Monjuil
- George Katsifolis
- Ginka Mastoridis
- Glynes Layun Ganang
- Goh Wai Kuan
- Grace Teo Chiaw Ling
- Grace Teo Chiaw Ling
- Greg Bustin
- Haruna Saito
- Hew Si Yuan
- Hew Yee Jin
- Irene Lee
- Issam Wawi
- Jaemah Risful Muin
- Jennifer Logan-Porter
- Jerlyn Joan Jenius
- Kariss Peterson
- Keith Isaac Anak Noni @ Boni
- Kelly Stevens
- Keong Hui Ling
- Kho Zhi Quan
- Khor Yuan Chun
- Lee Mei Yi
- Lee Siew Guet
- Lee Woan Shin
- Leona Wai
- Liew Vui Keong
- Lisa Garforth
- Lo Shen Loon
- Louis Pienaar
- Luis Chai Lui Yee
- Mandy Bright
- Margaret Bustin
- Masanobu Saito
- Maxwell Graham
- Mintshe Tan
- Mohamad Hisyamuddin
- Bin Mohammad Nasir
- Mohd Zaib Bin Mohd Faizal
- Moniqua Nelson-Tunley
- Muhammad Luqman Bin Md Nor
- Muhammad Zaim Razak
- Nazri Ason
- Nazrul Nazri
- Nevdon Jamgochian
- Ng Haw Kuen
- Ng Jun Xian
- Nicholas Bawing
- Nulin Chong
- Pamela Keon
- Patricia Khan
- Paul Mccarthy
- Peter Golotta
- Peter Shadix
- Razak Aman
- Riccardo Andrian
- Samantha Graham
- San Ai Ching
- Siew Shen Leong
- Silvana Velten
- Sim Jia Qi
- Sim Kai Li
- Sim Miow Hui
- Siti Aisyah Sidik
- Siti Mashilah Binti Abd Malik
- Siti Sarah Affendi
- Spencer Pienaar
- Stacy Watts
- Stephen Lo
- Suphannsa Ong
- Susan Lim
- Suzanne Lyons
- Sybrina Ng Wey Yee
- Tan Chen
- Tan Rui En
- Tan Wei En
- Tanya Pienaar
- Taylor Gallagher
- Tee Zhi Mei
- Teh Hui Shin
- Tioh Beng Siong
- Tok Han Lin
- Vaenessa Anak Noni @ Boni
- William Peden
- Wong Bing Haw
- Wong Meng Li
- Yeoh Poh Gaik
- Yong Chun Tah
- Yoo HOUNG
- Yoo Jie
- Yoo Min
- Yoo Seng Kheng
- Yoo Yang
- Yuka Yoshimura
- Yvonne Hui Yue Ng
- Zanariah Yahaya
- Zola Chang-Jamgochian



# Educational Activities

## Exhibitions

### *Celebrating Malaysia Day @ Rainforest Discovery Centre, Sepilok*

Each year on September 16<sup>th</sup>, Malaysians commemorate the establishment of the Malaysian Federation (the union of Malaya, Sabah, Sarawak, and Singapore) which occurred in 1963. Before, it was only celebrated in the state of Sabah but Malaysia Day has become a nationwide public holiday since 2010. For this year's Malaysia Day, the Rainforest Discovery Centre (RDC) has invited us to open up a booth for their small scale celebration, together with Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre. Visitors coming from around the area were entertained with family-friendly activities provided, which includes flying Squirrel Zipline, mask colouring, and puzzle games.



**Image:** BSBCC booth with information banners at the background.



**Image:** The animal masks focused on our local species such as the Sun Bear, Orangutan, Elephant, Clouded Leopard, Hawksbill turtle, Proboscis monkey, and Bornean Bristlehead.



**Image:** Mask colouring activity during the Malaysia Day celebration at Rainforest Discovery Centre.

## Volunteers & Internships

BSBCC currently houses 45 rescued Sun Bears in our two Bear Houses and a quarantine facility. Each day, the once captive Sun Bears are provided with ample food and activities to stimulate healthy bear behaviour. Volunteers and interns help our keepers to achieve our goals in looking after the welfare of these bears and helping them in their rehabilitation process.

### BSBCC Volunteer Programme

BSBCC continues to receive help from volunteers across the world. The BSBCC volunteer programme, conducted in collaboration with APE Malaysia, has been active up to the mid-March 2020, before the COVID-19 pandemic has put a hold on the programme until further notice. Volunteers in this programme were supervised by BSBCC staffs with much-appreciated assistance from the APE Malaysia team. Besides helping the keepers in caring for the bears at the Centre, volunteers also helped to spread awareness on the plights of Sun Bears through the education booth at our visitor Centre.

### Internship at BSBCC

BSBCC welcomes students from any local and international institutions for their internship at the Centre. Interns will have the opportunity to learn about the rehabilitation of once captive Sun Bears. Interns will also study the importance of bear enrichment and of cleanliness of the facility. They will also have a rare opportunity to learn about the behaviours of this little known species up close.

### BATs group

The BATs group programme at BSBCC will learn about Sun Bear ecology, helping in basic building techniques and develop their teamwork and leadership skills in the challenging environment.

If you would like to make a difference and enjoy the experience of a lifetime, please join us. Learn about our volunteer programme on our website [www.bsbcc.org.my/volunteer.html](http://www.bsbcc.org.my/volunteer.html) or email us at [info.bsbcc@gmail.com](mailto:info.bsbcc@gmail.com) for further enquiries.

Name	Role	Country	Duration
Jenny Wong Jenn Ney	Intern (USM)	Malaysia	1 <sup>st</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup> September
Lee Min Yi	Intern (USM)	Malaysia	1 <sup>st</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup> September
Bryan Lee Jia Wei	Volunteer (RASMA)	Malaysia	5 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> September
Terence Kok Ju Wei	Researcher (Sunway University)	Malaysia	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2020 - 2021
Wan Poh Yee	Volunteer (RASMA)	Malaysia	1 <sup>st</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup> October
Yashena Thigaraja	Volunteer (RASMA)	Malaysia	1 <sup>st</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> October



A huge **thanks** to our volunteer, Bryan Lee Jia Wei from Roots & Shoots Malaysia Award. Thank you for supporting a great cause and we are very grateful. We wish you all the best, Bryan!



# Volunteer Stories

## What Can You Do in 30 days?

*by Jenny Wong Jenn Ney*

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, Min Yi and I from the Universiti Sains Malaysia were some of the first volunteers at the BSBCC. Our volunteer programme was cut short from 8 weeks to just a little over 5 weeks (30 days). It might be a brief amount of time to achieve anything.

What can you do in 30 days?

You could be a bear housekeeper who cleans the bear house, sweeping up enormous bear scats so that every cute little bear can have a pleasant place to sleep for the night.

You could be an engineer or architect who designs and builds hammocks, treats or your own project, as enrichment so that every bear can have a little fun and would not feel left out in their own dens.

You could be a chef who helps cutting pumpkins, sweet potatoes, watermelons and papayas into suitable shapes so that every bear can gorge themselves on their kind of Michelin-star food.

You could be an expert in Bear Etiquette who knows their behaviours and biology including what to do and what not to do for their well-being.

You could be a nurse who helps with the medical examination of a bear, checking their wounds, pulse, teeth, X-ray and even taking "pawprints" to monitor the general health of bears.

You could be an Animal Behaviourist (which is actually my favourite!) who closely observes and monitors every single movement of bears in a controlled environment, so that the data can be used to determine if the bears can get along with one another.

You could be a bookworm who immerses herself in the story of a man's quest to save Bornean sun bears, Dr.

Wong Siew Te the founder of BSBCC from the book "Saving Sun Bears" written by award-winning author Sarah Pye.

Most importantly, you could be an advocate to benefit and help wildlife conservationists for Bornean sun bears, the world's smallest bears, whose lives may be on the brink of extinction in the next decades due to poaching, illegal pet trade and deforestation.



**Image:** Preparing food for the bears.



**Image:** Sharing session with Dr Wong.

## Rebecca and The Bears

by Rebecca Kimlaw

Hi! I am Rebecca Kimlaw, one of the staff at the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre. My staff training program started on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July and ended on the 27<sup>th</sup> July. I was fortunate enough to spend my two amazing weeks with the bears. It gave me a glance to see how the operations are generally carried out in the bear house. It was a good chance to learn more about the bears.

My two-week volunteering here was one of the most precious experiences in my life. There was a lot of work to do in the bear house and required a lot of energy. The tasks I was assigned doing were cleaning the bear dens, preparing a lot of food for the bears, feeding bears inside and outside the bear house area and so on. I started falling in love with the bears. Although they are so adorable, we must all bear in mind that it's illegal to keep them as pets. I hope people have awareness about this, so we can protect these beautiful bears together.

I felt comfortable at the bear house because the bear keepers helped me so much. They taught me a lot about the bears. One of my favourite moments is making an enrichment for the bear. Normally, we use leaves, banana, and other accessible nature resources to make an enrichment for them. I enjoyed feeding the bears inside and outside the bear house area. I felt satisfied when I saw the bears enjoying their food.

All the bears are cute. But the one that I like the most is Om. Om is a 15 year old male bear. He is a very energetic bear and enjoys his food. He spends a good deal of his time in the forest. Sometimes he is quite content playing all alone, especially with small pieces of dead wood. So, my buddy (Mizuno) and I made an enrichment for him. We could tell that he liked it.

Special thanks to my buddies Danny, Bithrenley, Mizuno and all the bear keepers at the bear house for giving me information and helping me during my training programme. I sincerely recommend this place

to anyone who would like to participate in volunteering programmes. You will not regret it! Hopefully I will have a chance to enrol in this kind of program again.



**Image:** A mini platform in the making.



**Image:** Quality checking with my buddy, Mizuno before letting Om explore it.



**Image:** Making food enrichments with junior bear keeper, Mr Bithrenley.



## Weeks with Bears

*by Nurul Haslinda binti Abdul Kahar*

Hi! My name is Nurul Haslinda Binti Abdul Kahar, one of the ticketing staff at BSBCC. All of the ticketing staff was given two weeks to do the task as a bear keeper at the bear house and I am the third staff after Khoirul. These two weeks actually have been a great chance for me to know more about the bears, for instance, what do they eat? Which bears don't get along when they are together? Why are some of the bears given a different diet? Most of those questions I used to wonder about have been answered by working at the bear house in those two weeks. I was also able to recognise the bears inside the bear house during my training period. YEAH!

During my two-week training, I did the same work as all the other bear keeper staff. No exception. Hahaha... It took a few days for me to get used to all of the tasks, such as fence checks, food preparation for the bears inside the bear house and in the forest enclosure, faecal checks with my buddy (Roger), husbandry work and many more. All of the tasks given actually required lot of energy every day! Now I understand the bear keepers' daily routine before releasing the bears into the forest enclosure.

This two-week training has given me so much experience and profound knowledge about the bears. Now, I am able to share this knowledge with visitors who visit this centre. Here I want to say thank you to those who helped me during my training at the bear house, especially my buddy, Roger, and all the bear keepers.

I hope in the future I will have this kind of opportunity again.

Here are some pictures taken during my training program:



**Image:** Hand-picked mealworms, the best for the bears.



**Image:** A quick wipe before feeding the bears in the forest enclosures.



**Image:** Making enrichment with Bith, David, and Mizuno.



**Image:** Thank you all!

# Adoption Programme

Welcome a Sun Bear into your family, class, club or corporation by adopting a Sun Bear or buying a gift of Sun Bear medicine, food, or toys to show you care and support the valuable work of BSBCC.

Adopting a bear is a great way to learn about Sun Bears while helping BSBCC meet the costs of rehabilitation. Funds raised by the adoption program are used to better the lives of all bears.

## Gifts with meaning



A pot of **honey!**



A **hammock!**



**Food** for one week!



**Enrichment** toy!



**Medication** for one year!

## September/October adopters 2020

1. Albert, Margaret & Amanda Chiang
2. Alexander Kirkham
3. Alicedean
4. Angelika Hansen
5. Betty Fisher
6. Beverly Smith
7. Bibi Ho
8. Caroline Hornberger
9. Caroline Marchand
10. Carolyn Fairclough
11. Cathy Dent
12. Cheryl De Souza
13. Ch'ng Guat Peng
14. Christoph Fricker
15. Claire Boulton
16. Colin Hoare
17. Colleen Rolls
18. Cordianne Chau
19. Danya Furda
20. David Lepoint
21. Dennis Milde
22. Diong Swee Gaik
23. Elisabeth Mason
24. Elizabeth Claire Reichstein
25. Ellen Wiczorek
26. Emma Hoare
27. Esther Troxler
28. Farben Technique (M) Sdn Bhd
29. Fatima Lung Fung Ping
30. Fleur Suzanne Carter
31. FounderMike
32. Georgina Wilson
33. Gloria Esposito
34. Goh Boon Choo
35. Gry Nymo
36. Hock Seng Wong
37. India & Levi and
38. Irene Lee
39. Ivy Brower
40. Jackie Ramm
41. Joel Buccellato
42. Julia Janicki
43. Julia Wan
44. Kara Wozniak
45. Katharina Strauss
46. Kathleen Giel
47. Lam Wei Yen
48. Lee Yuet Yee
49. Lim Ai Lee
50. Linda Hardiman
51. Lisa Leong
52. Low Ghee Bee
53. Low Ghee Hong
54. Luca Elek & Pierre Garcia
55. Maggie Briones & How Wai Kin
56. Mallory Quaintance
57. Mark & Catherine McCoy
58. Mark Billington
59. Mark Liu
60. Matsubayashi Hisashi
61. May Leng Tan
62. Megan Weckert
63. Michael Kucharski
64. Mrs Brenda Gurney
65. Nadine Orme
66. Nola Moore
67. Philipp Misura
68. Robin Koh
69. Rowenta Wong Syn Wann & Tan Suan Neo
70. Sha Fen Chua
71. Sheshadri Sridar
72. Stefan Soltau
73. Suh Chien Doh
74. Susanna Kwan
75. Susanne Max
76. Tan Chek Yin
77. Terri Yeager
78. Tim & Michelle
79. Urs Mattle
80. Wong Bing Haw
81. Wong Jennifer
82. Zbynek Cernik

Find out how to adopt a Sun Bear from our website:

<http://www.bsbcc.org.my/adopt-a-bear.html>



# BSBCC in the news



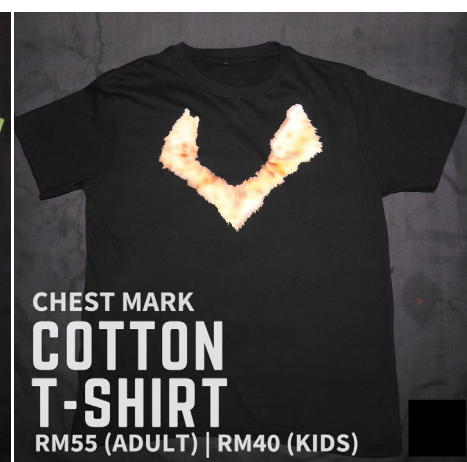
Govt Wage Subsidy to the Rescue. The Star. 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

**BSBCC was also featured in the following online news and newspapers:**

- **[Live Podcast] 马来西亚的瑰宝 (Treasures of Malaysia).** Kuala Lumpur Photography Festival. 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020. <https://www.facebook.com/sunbear.bsbcc/videos/4501678129904703>
- **Govt Wage Subsidy to the Rescue.** The Star. 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020. <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/09/20/govt-wage-subsidy-to-the-rescue>
- **100,000 East M'sian businesses benefit from Prihatin, Penjana schemes.** Borneo Post Online. 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020. <https://www.theborneopost.com/2020/09/20/100000-east-msian-businesses-benefit-from-prihatin-penjana-schemes/>
- **吁国盟政府继续援助 (Call on the Perikatan National Government for continuous assist).** 詩華日報 Online See Hua Daily News. <http://news.seehua.com/?p=606046>
- **[Blog] A Malaysian State Well-Known for its Islands and Wildlife Parks, Sabah Provides Ample Wildlife Experiences in the Outdoors.** Travel Weekly. 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020. <https://www.travelweekly.com.au/article/four-unforgettable-experiences-found-in-malaysian-borneo/>
- **[Blog] This Virtual Run Lets You Help The Endangered Sun Bear In Sabah.** KL Foodie. 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020. [https://klfoodie.com/this-virtual-run-lets-you-help-the-endangered-sun-bear-in-sabah/?fbclid=IwAR0S2N3a-ajXm6mdjpq5ADpGcJmenm46jevCeRmM9VTE3NdD66\\_Kka7sYLg](https://klfoodie.com/this-virtual-run-lets-you-help-the-endangered-sun-bear-in-sabah/?fbclid=IwAR0S2N3a-ajXm6mdjpq5ADpGcJmenm46jevCeRmM9VTE3NdD66_Kka7sYLg)
- **[YouTube] Pusat Konservasi Beruang Madu Borneo sambut baik bantuan Kita Prihatin.** KiniTV. 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FY--gMhZNFk&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2fa-nSNRSS2MtRNQBKLW4MXVnkzymPX4gTE8k6ntgrwudMHL0kLhr554>
- **[Radio Podcast] Warna-warni Sabah – temu bual bersama-sama penerima peruntukan PRIHATIN dan PENJANA di Sabah.** Bernama Radio. 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020. <https://www.facebook.com/bernamaradio/videos/370860503941931>
- **'Green Fingers' to keep K'batangan from mega threat.** Daily Express. 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020. <https://www.dailyexpress.com.my/read/3923/green-fingers-to-keep-k-batangan-from-mega-threat/>
- **[Blog] "The Pandemic Killed Everything We Had Planned".** Macaranga. 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020. <https://www.macaranga.org/the-pandemic-killed-everything-we-had-planned/#more-2396>
- **[Blog] Sandakan Bucket List: Best Activities and Amazing Places to Visit in Sandakan.** Out of Town Blog. 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020. <https://outoftownblog.com/things-to-do-in-sandakan/>
- **Stories of despair in Pan Borneo Highway documentary.** Borneo Post Online. 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020. <https://www.theborneopost.com/2020/10/23/stories-of-despair-in-pan-borneo-highway-documentary/>
- **Local entrepreneur with a cause holds online art bazaars to help artisans.** The Star. 24<sup>th</sup> October 2020. <https://www.thestar.com.my/lifestyle/people/2020/10/24/malaysian-entrepreneur-with-a-cause-holds-online-art-bazaars-during-the-cmc>

## Bear Shop

Whether it is for you or a gift for your loved ones, all purchases help us to protect, save and enrich the lives of the endangered Sun Bears.



Please click or scan on the QR code for the order form if you are interested in purchasing our merchandises.

Terms and conditions:

1. No cancellation upon confirmation of purchase.
  2. Price shown are inclusive of GST 0%.
- Additional charges for shipping will be incurred.





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