

# NEWSLETTER

SABAH WETLANDS CONSERVATION SOCIETY



Group photo after Rotary Club Kota Kinabalu district Tree Planting Project at Kota Kinabalu Wetlands Ramsar Site

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## THE LAUNCHING OF ROTARY CLUB KOTA KINABALU DISTRICT TREE PLANTING PROJECT

"PLANT FOR THE FUTURE" is the slogan of the tree planting project organised by the nine Rotary clubs in Kota Kinabalu. The launching was held in Kota Kinabalu Wetland Ramsar Site on the 26th November 2017 and launched by Datu Rosmadi Datu Sulai, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Tourism, Culture, & Environment representing Datuk Seri Panglima Masidi Haji Manjun, Minister of Tourism, Culture & Environment.

## SABAH WETLANDS CONSERVATION SOCIETY

A Non-Government Organization working on Conservation of Wetlands in Sabah

Established on 22 August 2005

## OBJECTIVES

To promote the conservation of wetlands in Sabah and the variety of plants, birds and other kinds of organisms found in them.

To raise public awareness and appreciation of wetlands and public involvement in protecting wetlands.

To manage Kota Kinabalu Wetlands (KKW) as a model wetlands centre for the purpose of conservation, education, recreation, tourism and research.



## Planting 10 000 Trees

Rotary International President-elect Ian H.S. Riseley challenged every Rotary club to make a difference by planting a tree for each of its members between the start of the Rotary year on 1 July and Earth Day on 22 April 2018. Protecting the environment and curbing climate change are essential to Rotary's goal of sustainable service, he added. Therefore, we wide arms open, SWCS together with other government authorities are very fortunate to be part of this project. The launching ceremony has been officiated by Y.Bhg Datu Rosmadi Bin Datu Sulai, representing YB Datuk Seri Panglima Masidi Hj Manjun. Also present were Director of Department of Environment, Sabah, YM Tunku Khalkausar Binti Tunku Fathahi @ Fathi, Mayor of Kota Kinabalu City, Y.Bhg Datuk Yeo Boon Hai, District Governor Rotary 3310, Datuk Lee Chuen Wan, former MPWS Chairperson, Datuk Noni Said, Assistant Governor, Mr. Francis Chan, President of all Rotary Clubs and over 60 other Rotary Members.

In this tree planting project, Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society (SWCS) responsible as a source and guidance to plant mangrove tree at Darau river and Sulaman Lake Forest Reserve, Tuaran area. As an environmental NGO's, SWCS really committed on the conservation of wetland areas. On his speech, Datuk Rosmadi said "The Darau river site once planted with mangrove trees, has potential to create a sustainable economic development for the people in the surrounding area. He added, "This will create awareness to the local people in that area the importance and significance of the mangrove trees to their livelihood".



*Datu Rosmadi Bin Datu Sulai (right) Datuk Suzanna Liaw, President of Rotary Club KK Pearl (left)*



# Rotary's 10,000 tree-planting move hailed

**Lorena Binisol**

**KOTA KINABALU:** Preservation and conservation of environment is the responsibility of all sectors - from the Ministry to schools, NGOs, volunteers, every citizen as well

as the tourists, said Datu Rosmadi Datu Sulai (pic), Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Environment Sabah.

Rosmadi especially acknowledged Rotary Club of KK Pearl headed by Datuk Suzanna Liaw (president) to take up the lead role to spearhead the project to see to its success in planting 10,000 trees.

He was representing State Tourism, Culture and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Masidi Manjun for the launching of the Rotary District Tree Planting project at KK Wetlands Centre during the weekend, with the slogan "Plant for the Future".

He said her efforts and commitment in leading the club to take up the challenge is something to be proud of and deserved recognition. The other eight Rotary Clubs in Kota Kinabalu also took part in the project and were attended by their respective presidents and members.

"We, in the Ministry, are committed to assist and be collaborating partner in this good cause. I support all your efforts in providing and giving out this huge responsibility for the sake of our environment," he said.

Ten thousand trees are expected to be planted in the city area, Penampang, Putatan and Tuaran districts within the time



Group photo at the launching of the Tree Planting Project by RC KK Pearl.

frame of the Rotary term which will end by June 30, 2018.

Rosmadi also recognised the dedication and passion of Datuk Zainie Abdul Aucasa, President of SWCS, in the preservation of KK Wetlands which was officially recognised and named as one of the Ramsar sites in the world.

"Zainie is a very important figure when it comes to conservation work. His immense contribution towards the preservation of the environment has left great impact not only in our State, but worldwide."

"To be recognised as one of the Ramsar sites is proof that your years of dedication, commitment and hard work did not go unnoticed," Rosmadi said, commending Zainie.

He also said NGOs like Rotary Clubs are important in making a great difference in shaping the society for greater heights.

"This would go a long way to see a healthy and positive environment for many more generations to enjoy," Rosmadi said.

Meanwhile, Zainie recalled the dilapidated condition of the site several years ago.

"It was a shocking sight in 1996. The mangroves were barely grounded and there were evidence of squatters."

"But over the years, rehabilitation took place with joint efforts from Sabah Wildlife Department, WWF-Malaysia, Likas Wetlands Sanctuary Management and SWCS together with volunteers to

make the site into what you can see now.

"It has now been transformed from its humble beginning to a beautiful hub for anyone to come and enjoy its nature," Zainie recalled.

He added that the wetlands is now part of tourism products and over the years have proven to be one of the favourite spots for nature lovers.

The main objectives of SWCS are to promote the conservation of wetlands in Sabah and variety of plants, birds and other living species found in the area; to raise public awareness and appreciation of wetlands as well as the involvement of public in protecting it and to manage KK Wetland as a model wetland centre for the purpose of conservation, education, recreation, tourism and research.

District Governor, Rotary 3310 Datuk Lee Chuen Wan congratulated all nine clubs for their participation and untiring efforts in addressing issues pertaining to conservation of environment.

He said planting of trees are done concurrently in other parts of Malaysia under Rotary clubs project in their respective districts, saying the preservation of planet earth is one of Rotary International's area of focus.

"This is such an important issue as it has everything to do with our ecosystem, protecting the environment and ensuring the healthy condition of the surroundings. Therefore, I urge everyone to continue participating in this good cause for the betterment of our society."

"This project will continue for the years to come because protecting environment is a continuous efforts," Lee said.

Mayor Datuk Yeo Boon Hai thanked all those involved in the project saying, it helped in his task which is in line with beautification and maintenance of the city. He congratulated all NGOs who had contributed in one way or another to make Kota Kinabalu a beautiful state with better living environment.

According to Tulip Noorazry, Chairperson of the tree-planting, in greening the environment: entailed planting of over 7,000 mangrove trees along Darau river (4,000 trees) and Sulaman mangrove site (3,000 trees) in Tuaran and 3,000 landscape, fruit trees at UMS and other sites identified by DBKK and schools.

Also present were former MPWS Chairperson Datuk Noni Said, Assistant Governor Francis Chan, presidents of all Rotary clubs in Kota Kinabalu and members.



Group photo at the launching of the Tree Planting Project by RC KK Pearl.

Daily Express, 28th November 2017

*gallery*





3rd November 2017, Environment & Education Programme with SK Monsok Tengah, Tambunan



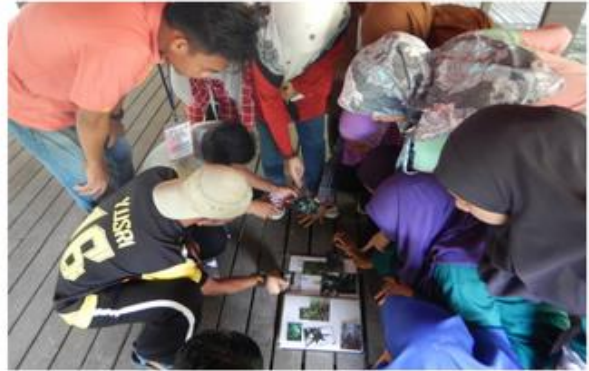
8th November 2017, Environment & Education Programme with SK Pekan Pitas II



*10th November 2017, Wetlands Conservation & Awareness Programme in collaboration with Acacia Forest Industries Sdn Bhd. SWCS has invited ANBATAR & one of the local community to give a talk on the importance of wetlands and wise use of mangrove.*



*23rd November 2017, Environment & Voluntary Work with Kolej Vokasional Likas*



28 November, Environment and Education Programme with SMK Desa Kencana

## Guests' comments

Very good! especially liked seeing a collared Kingfisher.

- **Mark Gelder, UK**

I was pleased to be able to see many species, thank you.

- **Kevin Reilly, England**

As a Biologist, I really enjoyed this tour. Very nice, with the opportunity to see many interesting animals plus a really cool flora.

- **Ageiland Lossa, Switzerland**

It is very beautiful. Would be great to have a guide. enjoyed the scenery.

- **Joelle, Karen, Denise Sharon, Joseph, Malaysia**

## Upcoming Events

### Environment Education Programme

- Fiona Primary School
- Hokkaido Teachers, Japan
- Yamanashi-Eiwa High School, Japan

### Environment Voluntary Work

- Girls Brigade

## VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

### 01 Volunteering is good for your heart

Volunteering for KK Wetland Ramsar Site can be great fun! If you have passion for the environment or just want to gain more outdoor experiences, this is the appropriate channel. Do not miss the chance! Sign up to be a volunteer now or contact us for more information.

### 02

### Monthly Bird Monitoring



Join our monthly birding activity on every 15th-17th day of the month



FOR  
MORE  
INFO

How to  
**REGISTER**

Call us at  
088-246955  
or drop us an email at  
swcs@sabahwetlands.org

## membership

### Benefits of being our member

- ### 03
- As a member, you will be able to participate in members' events and enjoy free entry to Kota Kinabalu Wetland Ramsar Site
  - Eligible for 50% discount for binoculars rental\*.
  - Most importantly, you know you are helping this ecosystem to survive and provide essential services to it.

support us by joining our programmes

### 1. Environment Education Programme

- KK Wetlands Mangrove Experience Programme
- Mangrove Conservation Experience Programme
- Handcrafting from Mangrove

### 2 Environment Voluntary Work

- Nursery Work
- Mangrove Clean-Up

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