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AgroMatters

What matters now, matters in the future



TPB 2ND
MANAGEMENT MEET

**The TPB's Way: Integrity, Pride, Passion
and Performance Excellence**

One on One with Lee Wen Giat

Exquisite facelift

LOCATION: Permai Palm Oil Mill



Contents

EDITOR'S NOTE	4
QUICK RECAP	6
ANNUAL GALA	8
QUICK RECAP	10

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Tradewinds Plantation



tpbmediamy

Unparalleled standard

LOCATION: Sisek Estate



EDITOR'S NOTE

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Charles Chow



QUICK RECAP

THE HEADQUARTERS HOSTS CHINESE NEW YEAR OPEN HOUSE



Date: 10 February

Venue: TPB Headquarters, Kuala Lumpur

The TPB Headquarters celebrated the Lunar New Year with a crowd of more than 200 people. Attended the celebration were staff of TPB and representatives of the Albukhary Group of Companies.

The celebration featured TPB CEO Dato' Dr Thomas Ong, members of the board of directors, and head of departments tossing Yee Sang at the start of the luncheon. The event was accompanied with an array of delicious spreads and sheer exuberance from everyone.



MARUBENI GROUP PAYS A VISIT TO GADEK ESTATE



Date: 17 March

Venue: Gadek Estate, Melaka

Marubeni Group paid a visit to the Gadek Estate to have a first hand view of an oil palm plantation and how plantation activities are carried out. When they tried their hands at harvesting and lifting up fruit bunches, their comments were 'very heavy!'. This shows how important mechanisation is in the oil palm estates. The back-breaking activities speaks for itself.

SBU SIBU CELEBRATES LABOUR DAY, "PEKERJA KREATIF PENCETUS INOVASI"



Date: 14 April – 1 May

Venue: Pelitanah Complex

Pelitanah Group celebrated Labour Day themed "Pekerja Kreatif Pencetus Inovasi", which was participated by all staff and workers. Various activities were organised – race, sepak takraw, volleyball, futsal, badminton, tele-match, singing, tug of war, appreciation night, zumba and more. The group also had award presentation – Long Service Award, Best Harvester, Best Field Worker, and Best General Worker.

MARDEC WINS IMPROMPTU ARM WRESTLING MATCH IN TWM GROUP FIESTA



Date: 6 – 7 May

Venue: MARDEC, Ampang

It was a split second decision to include arm wrestling match into the sports fiesta as the weather began to show signs of downpour when the tug of war was just about to start. The match was among three other games – volleyball, futsal, and bowling – that were held at the 3rd TWM Group Fiesta where TPB had the honour to host this season. Congratulation winners! See you next year!

Arm wrestling – MARDEC

Futsal – CSR

Volleyball – BERNAS

Bowling – BERNAS

CADET ENGINEERS TRAINING AT BOILERMECH SDN BHD



Date: 9 May

Venue: Boilermech Sdn Bhd, Subang Jaya

13 cadet engineers attended a training at Boilermech Sdn Bhd to familiarise with four topics: Basic Boiler Water Treatment; Function of a Boiler, Types of Boilers, Operation and Safety & Control Features; Effluent Treatment & Tertiary Plant Operation (including Regulation to Comply); and Back Pressure Steam Turbine in a Palm Oil Mill (Operation Principle & Efficiency).



The training was accompanied by Deputy General Manager of Mill Operation Dr Mohammad Mohan, Senior Manager of Mill Operation (Peninsular Malaysia) Ir. Sulaiman Abdul Rahman, Engineering Manager Mohd Fahmi Abdul Razak, and Training Manager Lai Chin Hor. The cadets were given written tests to gauge their command and understanding of the training topics. The trip provided an eye-opening experience for the cadets.

LOW TURNOUT AT THE 2nd BLOOD DRIVE



Date: 25 – 26 May

Venue: National Blood Centre, Kuala Lumpur

"Your 30 Minutes is Someone's Lifetime", that is the motto we uphold in TPB for our blood donation campaign that was first organised in 2016. Although the turnout may not be as high this time around due to the change of location, which was held at the National Blood Centre instead of the office's multipurpose room, it doesn't mean that the objective was any less meaningful. TPB would like to acknowledge our blood donors, who voluntarily took the time to donate their blood to save lives.

Watch out for details of our next campaign!

EMAC FETES UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN TO A BUKA PUASA

Date: 17 June

Venue: Eastwood Golf and Country Resort, Miri

40 children from Pusat Jagaan Anak Kesayangan Kami received raya gift packs at the buka puasa event organised by the East Malaysia Administration Centre (EMAC)

that was held at Eastwood Golf & Country Resort. The children, aged between three and 18, were given warm welcome by Deputy General Manager East Malaysia Sa'idon Senik accompanied by his estate managers of SBU Miri. The ceremony ended with the distribution of raya gift packs containing a pair of baju raya, a pair of shoes, and duit raya to the children. The buka puasa was also attended by EMAC staff.



THE HEADQUARTERS HOSTS BUKA PUASA

Date: 19 June

Venue: Hotel Istana, Kuala Lumpur



The Headquarters hosted a buka puasa with some 200 guests that include employees of TPB HQ, representatives from Tradewinds Malaysia, MARDEC, BERNAS, CSR and the Albukhary Foundation. Among the delicious menu include Arabic mandi rice, asam laksa, bubur lambuk, sup tulang, kacang pool, satay, and assorted desserts and local kuih. A big thank you to our sister companies for the continued support.



TPB'S INAUGURAL MEGA CELEBRATORY DINNER

CELEBRATION IN SHOW OF APPRECIATION TOWARDS TPBIANS



Tradewinds Plantation Berhad held its first ever mega dinner celebration across the East and the Peninsular Malaysia. The celebration was held over nine locations, which started from 1 April till 20 May involving some 4,000 guests.

Staff and family members were in attendance to schmooze, nosh, have the time of their life with their colleagues, and enjoy a line up of performances. They were entertained with acoustic performances, terrific lucky draw prizes, traditional dances, karaoke, and so many more.

The celebration will be an annual event to show appreciation towards the employees for their efforts and to recognise their hard work and contribution to the organisation's success.

**Thank you to all our sponsors, guests, and staff committee for making our event a huge success!
See you next year!**

1 April | SBU Lawas | Hotel Seri Malaysia



2 April | SBU Miri | Eastwood Valley Golf & Country Resort



8 April | SBU Sabah | Four Points by Sheraton Sandakan



14 April | SBU Northwest | Grand Alora Hotel, Alor Setar



15 April | SBU Southeast, SBU Southwest | Pulau Springs Resort



22 April | SBU Sibul, SBU Mukah, SBU Mato Daro / Kingwood Hotel



23 April | SBU Kuching, SBU Sri Aman | Grand Margherita Hotel



13 May | SBU Northeast | Renaissance Hotel, Kota Bharu



PMAC CELEBRATES THE SPIRIT OF GIVING WITH THE UNDERPRIVILEGED KIDS



July 21, Shah Alam – The Peninsular Malaysia Administrative Centre, or PMAC, held its Hari Raya Celebration and Charity Dinner at Concorde Hotel for TPB’s loyal vendors and suppliers.

The event also provided an excellent opportunity for TPB operations and management team to celebrate Hari Raya in a gracious atmosphere with a sense of goodwill in the company of about 80 underprivileged children from Yayasan Al-Khalifah (YAK), Persatuan Kebajikan Teratak Shifa Kuala Lumpur/Selangor (PRAKTIS), and Rumah Titian Kaseh. The children received duit raya and gift packs.

During the event, PMAC also took the opportunity to make a contribution of RM10,000 to each of the organisation, which were presented in the form of a mock cheque.

The contribution was made possible by the support from TPB’s strong relationship with its vendors and suppliers who attended the evening in support of the noble cause.

More than 200 guests attended the evening that included TPB General Manager of Plantation Operations of the Peninsular Malaysia Nor Azman Asmon, and Deputy General Manager of Plantation Operations of East Malaysia Sa’idon Senik.



THE HEADQUARTERS HOSTS HARI RAYA OPEN HOUSE



20 July, Kuala Lumpur – A sheer exuberance of the Aidilfitri spirit was felt throughout the premise of the HQ office during its open house.

Some 200 people comprising of its employees, representatives from its sister companies – CSR, MARDEC, and BERNAS – and the Albukhary Group of Companies attended the event.

Apart from being treated to delicious local delicacies like satay, roast lamb, and char kuey teow, the guests and the host also enjoyed the opportunity to network and mingle with one another.

Also present were TPB Chief Executive Officer Dato’ Dr Thomas Ong and Senior General Manager Charles Chow.

The CEO extended his gratitude to the guests for their continuous support towards TPB.



GREENPEACE AND THEIR OPPOSITION TO OIL PALM *By Dr Liew Voon Kheong*

The voices of opposition to oil palm came from Europe, specifically non-governmental organisations. Through these oppositions, came accusations that oil palm plantations have replaced forests and destroyed much of nature’s flora and fauna.



Greenpeace, a non-governmental organisation, started in 1971 by a small group of activists from Canada, is one of those voices. They are best represented by their boat called the Rainbow Warrior (Picture). Their vision was to realise a green and peaceful world. On the 29th July this year, they now have an office in Malaysia. This is the fourth office in Southeast Asia after Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia.



Figure 1. Percentage of land area under forest

During the launch in Malaysia, Greenpeace Southeast Asia executive director Naderev Saño said the Malaysian office is an important milestone in championing serious environmental issues in the region namely climate change, deforestation, energy issues and systemic problems like consumerism and corruption.

“Southeast Asia is a key battleground for us to win our environmental goals, it is a place where many battles cannot afford to lose,” said Saño.

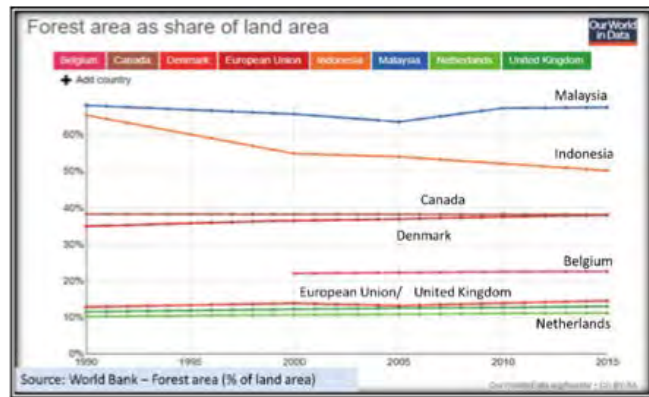


Figure 2. Percentage of area under forest - A comparison of different countries

“Malaysia is an important community for us to work with in realising the dream of a healthy and prosperous Southeast Asia. We want to see change and a transformed world where nature serves to the benefit of people. We are here to help the community change the destructive mindset and bigotry to achieve this goal.”

Greenpeace continued interest on deforestation in Southeast Asia and their solution to this issue is to “..change the destructive mindset and bigotry..” is misplaced. According to World Bank’s statistics from 1990-2015, shown in Figure 1 & 2, Malaysia and Indonesia holds the highest percentage of forest in relation to their land area. In comparison, Europe and United Kingdom only has between 10-40% of their land area under forest since 1990. The ‘destructive mindset and bigotry’ is more applicable to Europe and United Kingdom rather than the two largest palm oil producers.

Greenpeace, as the most visible environmental organisation in the world often courted controversy for its methods. Making statements not based on evidence is a controversial method, which Greenpeace is fond of doing.

“Dr. Liew Voon Kheong is the Head of Agronomy/Research and Development Department. He has spent 28 years in agricultural research ranging from Agronomy, Entomology, Soil and currently Tissue Culture.”



23 September, Miri – The Second Management Meet proved to be a successful event when it took place at Eastwood Valley Golf and Country Resort.

The meet, which was held on 21-23 September, had a total involvement of 201 participants that comprised of head of departments, general managers, SBU heads, estate managers, and assistant managers.

Incorporated with the theme, **“Integrity, Pride, Passion, and Performance Excellence are the TPB’s way”**, the focus of the meet were to strategise moves for the sustainability of the company’s operations, to manage industrial expectations now and in the future, and to recognise top performers from the operating units and staff.

The management meet was compartmentalised into three components: HOD presentations, case studies, and role-plays. HODs were tasked to present updates and future plans of their respective division, each special business unit presented a case study on a topic relating to their recent achievements or problem-solving approach based on real situation or hypothetical scenario.

On the first day of the meet, Senior General Manager Charles Chow opened the session with a presentation to deliver key takeaways from the 3-day session. At the closing ceremony, which was held on the final night, Chief Executive Officer Dato’ Dr Thomas Ong gave a closing speech highlighting ...

The event was also a success thanks to the support from our vendors – Humibox (M) Sdn Bhd, Wagro Trading Sdn Bhd, Virgo Blitz Sdn Bhd, Agro Aide Sdn Bhd, and Kingoya Enterprise Sdn Bhd.



LAUNCHING OF BASIC POLICY GUIDELINES

It was a historical moment for TPB as the first edition of the Basic Policy Guidelines was launched during the closing ceremony of the second management meet

by CEO Dato’ Dr Thomas Ong accompanied by SGM Charles Chow. As the CEO cut the ribbon that was tied to the white and blue helium balloons, it floated mid air and revealed the BPG to the audience. The book is a definitive guideline towards achieving the distinction of excellence for the plantation operation.

