

# The *southeast asia union* Messenger

March-April 1983 M.C. (P) No: 188/1/83

## *Amazing...* **DISCOVERIES**



... Story on page 2

# FANTASTIC . . .



## A Hit in the Lion City

"Never in the Singapore Seventh-day Adventist Crusade history were there such overwhelming crowds! More than 14,500 people in Singapore attended the "Amazing Discoveries" crusade held at the Singapore Conference Hall from March 21 to 24, 1983. *Pastor Peter Jack*, the speaker, had three to four sessions each day. The first session was at 5:15 p.m., the second at 6:30 p.m., the third at 8:00 p.m. when there was a Mandarin translation by *Mr. Wu Chook Ying*, and the fourth session was at 9:00 p.m. also with a Mandarin translation. One Tuesday, March 22, 1983 there was a fifth session specially for school pupils and college students at 12:00 noon."

"In the multi-screen film investigation into the past, present and future events, *Pastor Peter Jack* recounted dynamically, his experiences with the display of colourful photographs flashed on three giant screens. A computer co-ordinated a complex system of six slide projectors and one movie projector."

"*Pastor Jack* was able to enthral his audiences with his lectures on "The Wanders of Ancient Egypt," "In Search of Noah's Ark," "Lost Cities of The Dead," and "Elba: The City of The Gods."

"After the "Amazing Discoveries" Phase One program, there was a large number of people who wanted to attend the "Amazing Discoveries" Gift Bible Seminar and undertake Bible studies. The seminar at the Reception Hall, Singapore Conference Hall was conducted by *Pastor Pham Kow Seng*, March 28, at 5:15 p.m. Opening on Wednesday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. the other seminars were conducted at the following places: Balestier Church by *Pastor Sim Chor Kiat*, S.A.U.C. Church by *Pastor Ng Kah Seng*, Dunman Church by *Pastor P. Vijayan*, Queenstown Church by *Pastor Michael Ho* and Thomson Chinese Church by *Pastor Matthew Yuen*."

发现  
奇异的发现

Amazing...  
**DISCOVERIES**



Lim Tiong Wah Queenstown Church





## Seventh-Day Adventist Church of Thailand

12 Soi Kasempanichakarn, Klongtan Road, P.O. Box 11-234, Bangkok, Thailand Tel. 913595 Cable "ADVENTIST"



### The Bible—Blessing Or Curse?

On January 18, I had lunch in the house of brother Somsak Silikirt who is the elder of the Kam Chareun church near Ubon. After our meal, he told his story.

Ten years ago, brother Yotee Jantardi, a literature evangelist, came by and sold him a health book. The book referred him to the Thailand Publishing House where he purchased a book about the Sabbath. This book changed his way of life considerably.

In his small house he had drums for dancing and a Bible. One day his house was burned, but the drums and the Bible did not burn. About the same time, a storm came up and blew his house down in the rice field as well. He brought wood under the mango tree near his former small house and slept there on the pile of lumber. Two or three neighbours came and told him, he should throw away the Bible because the Bible was causing him all of this trouble. "Everything happened because of that Book," they said.

He said the Bible had nothing to do with the problem.

During the night time, he went on dancing and drinking as in the past. He prayed that even if he lost everything and there is God, he would still be a Christian. Coming back from another village where he did a performance with his drums, the truck had an accident and smashed the drums completely. Somsak was frightened. He sold everything that he had for dancing besides the drums and ran away. He now had only God and the Bible. He read the Bible and cried. Early one morning, he talked with his wife and decided to go to the mission school and church where Pastor Mun taught. He asked the pastor to baptise him. Pastor Mum said wait, so he could know him and let him study more and prepare. One day as he was sitting on his boards under the mango tree, a man came to see him and asked him to go and visit his wife who had fallen from the house. The people there claimed that the woman was dead already. He said, "Let me pray to God and give her an injection." The lady was healed. Her husband was so very happy that he gave Somsak all the wood and other materials to build a large house. The neighbours helped him build the quite spacious home where I ate lunch with all the members that day. Soon after building his house Somsak and his wife were baptised. He is now the enthusiastic elder of the church.—*CLS, Communication Director*

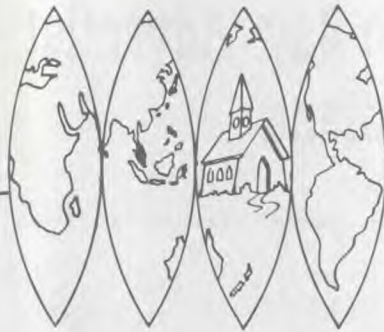
### Up To 30 Bible Studies In One Hour

Enthusiasm ran high as members unaccustomed to reading the Bible or to giving Bible Studies gathered in 8 churches of the Ubon area of Thailand from January 15 through 26 for inspiration and instruction on using the "Bible Speaks" course. Fortunately instruction did not end with lectures in the churches. Deeply spiritual messages on the necessity of connecting with Christ, the Living Vine, to bear His fruit, were followed by earnest commitment to Him in prayer. After formation of teams, all participants went prayerfully to the surrounding homes of the community and began giving Bible Studies. In the Namyeon church, under the leadership of Pastor Peng, over 30 Bible Studies were arranged in the first hour of door-to-door visitation. This is an exciting indication of the potential interests in the study of the word of God in Thailand.

One day was basically devoted to each church in which they received instruction, practice, and work in the field. The same format was followed in the second week. In the intervening week, many members gave Bible Studies. Their enthusiasm both in learning and in their outreach was a thrill to the pastors who will work diligently to keep this sowing program going continually. Pastors Vichen, Sopon, Peng, Subin, and Mun are planning to conduct harvesting crusades later this year. Much prayer is needed in support of this new venture in faith in northeast Thailand.—*CLS,*



TERRITORY:  
West Malaysia & Singapore



## Seventh-day Adventist Church of West Malaysia & Singapore



L to R: Prasath Rau, Mary, Kamala Selvi, Parvathy, Pushpa and Pastor Joseph.

### Sungei Siput Tamil Group Is Growing

Recently six souls were baptized in Sungei Siput by Pastor V.N. Joseph. Another three were baptized by Pastor S. Money on February 12, 1983. Now the Sungei Siput group has nine locally baptized members. The work in Sungei Siput was started by Pastor Calvin L. Smith in October, 1982.



Mr. Samuel first gave his 80 year old grandmother Bible studies.

### Old Ladies Responding To Our Message

The philosophy that only young people are responding to our message was proven wrong at the Sungei Way Tamil Church, where two grandmothers, who are more than 70 years of age, were recently led to Christ and baptized by Pastor P. Benjamin.



Mr. Balachandran, estate manager cutting the ribbon during the opening ceremony of the chapel with Mr. C.B. Lim looking on.

### Bukit Jelutong Chapel Needs Financial Help

There is a need for electricity and water at the recently opened Bukit Jelutong Chapel, Bukit Jelutong, Selangor. The members there, mostly rubber and oil palm estate workers, need a minimum of \$800/- for bringing electricity and water to the church building. The chapel was recently built and declared open by estate manager Mr. Balachandran. Pastor P. Benjamin is the pastor of this chapel and Mr. Nyanamuthu is the elder and leader of this group of believers at Bukit Jelutong Estate.



The Melaka Youth singing a special song during the Better Living Crusade.

### Better Living Crusade Held At Melaka

Recently a two weeks crusade meeting was conducted at the Melaka S.D.A. Church by Pastor Simon Siew, the church pastor. Brother Sim Tian Sang translated the messages from English to Mandrin. A total of about 50 people attended each night. At the close of the series ten persons accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. A baptismal class has been organized.



Part of the audience during the crusade.



A group picture after the Banting Tamil Church Service.



Pastor Heisler with the Kuantan believers.

**Mission And Union Presidents On A Visitation Campaign In Peninsular Malaysia**

Pastor Robert L. Heisler, Southeast Asia Union President, Pastor Joshua Mok, West Malaysia-Singapore Mission President and Pastor S. Money visited all the 25 churches, companies and groups in Peninsular Malaysia during an eleven day visitation campaign, from March 2 to 12, 1983. A total of 1,700 miles were travelled on road during the expedition.

Pastor Heisler conducted revival meetings at night at Pontian, Melaka, Kuala Lumpur, Kota Baru, Penang, Bukit Mertajam and Ipoh. He also spoke during the worship services at Petaling Jaya Chinese Church, Sungei Way Tamil Church, Banting Tamil Church on Sabbath, March 5, 1983. The following Sabbath, March 12, 1983. The following Sabbath, March 12, 1983 he preached at the Bagan Datoh and Teluk Intan Indian Churches.

The purpose of the visitation campaign was to get acquainted with the local church plans for 1983 and to visit some of the church members.



L to R: Pastors Chan, Heisler and Elder Lee.

While at Kuantan we met with Pastor and Mrs. Chan Chong Kee. "The Kuantan group has a good basis to start new work," said Pastor Heisler. "It has a Pathfinder program led by Brother Anderson Lee, it has a language school spear headed by Brother Tan Kok Chin and it has a door to door witnessing program led by the colporteurs."



Pastor Heisler giving the diploma to the student. Pastor Mok is looking on cheerfully.

While at Kota Bahru, we visited almost all the church members there. The members there were very friendly. We visited Elder Poh and his family. Three days later while we were at Ipoh we received the sad news that the aged Mrs. Poh had passed away the day after we left Kota Bahru.

During the revival meeting held at Kota Bahru church on March 7, 1983, Pastor Heisler spoke in English, Pastor Chan translated it into Mandarin while Elder Lee further translated it into Hakka for the benefit of all the listeners.

While at Chemor, Pastor V.N. Joseph showed us a plot of land given by the Kelabang Rubber Estate Manager, Mr. Phang, to grow crops. The land is behind the Chemor chapel.

While at Bukit Mertajam there was a graduation of a VOP student during the revival meeting. Pastor V. Thevarajuly had prepared this candidate several months ago.



Pastors Mok and Heisler with the newly organized Sungei Siput Tamil Group.



With the inmates at the Ipoh Old Folks Home.





## Hospital Advent

(Penang Adventist Hospital)

465, BURMAH ROAD, PENANG, MALAYSIA.  
TEL: 24134 CABLE "ADVENTIST" PENANG

# Hospital's first close-heart operation

By ANTHONY CHEW

PENANG, Fri. — A seven-year-old schoolgirl underwent a successful corrective heart surgery at the Penang Adventist Hospital today.

The operation — a "close-heart" surgery — was a first to be conducted by a private hospital in the State.

Close-heart surgery is less complicating than an "open-heart" operation.

The last close-heart surgery in the State was carried out by the Penang General Hospital in the 70s.

Today's operation on schoolgirl M. Rada was conducted by a Malaysian team of three surgeons, a consultant anaesthetologist, three nurse anaesthetists and seven staff nurses.

The team, led by the Adventist Hospital general and cardiothoracic surgeon, Mr Alfred Charles Poey, took an hour to correct Rada's heart defect which is called



THE SUNDAY STAR, May 1, 1983

Rada... able to lead a normal life now.

"hypertensive, patent ductus arteriosus."

The defect is caused by the failure of a pulmonary artery to close after birth. During, the first two months after birth, the artery normally changed into a fibrous cord. Its occasional failure to close causes a definite cardiovascular handicap.

Rada, a Standard One pupil of the Kullim Convent School, had been suffering from weakness and difficulty in breathing

because of the defect.

In today's operation, the surgeons performed a ligation of the artery to correct the defect.

According to a member of the surgical team, Rada would now be able to lead a normal healthy life.

He said the operation was a "tricky" one because of "high blood pressure on the lungs." "We have to drop the pressure at the time of ligation of the artery," he added.

● TURN TO PAGE 2



## **Hospital waives \$6,000 charge**

### ● FROM PAGE ONE

Rada, who is now recovering at the hospital's intensive care unit, was admitted to the hospital on Wednesday. She had earlier sought treatment at the Kulim and Bukit Mertajam district hospitals.

The members of the surgical team are all attached to the Adventist Hospital.

The public relations director of the hospital, Mr S. Vellu, said the hospital would not charge the patient although the whole operation cost about \$6,000 including follow-up treatment.

He said some of the instruments used in the operation were brought back by a doctor when he returned from England last month.

"Today's success is an encouragement for the hospital to perform more such heart operations in the near future," he said.

Mr Vellu added that a committee headed by the hospital's president, Mr John Lee, was now studying the possibility of opening a heart surgery centre at the hospital's proposed eight-storey new building.

● PICTURE 2: Taken at 12.03p.m. shows doctors performing a ligation of the affected artery.

● PICTURE 3: Taken at 12.09p.m. shows doctors completing ligation of the affected artery.

● PICTURE 4: Taken at 12.23p.m. shows doctors sewing back a wound that was opened for the surgery.

**Pictures by C.Y. LEOW**





Heart-girl Rada leaving the hospital with Madam Acheamal

## I want to be a doctor, says heart girl

PENANG, Sat. — "I want to be a doctor when I grow up," heart girl M. Rada said today at Penang Adventist Hospital.

"Where is my doctor? I want to give him a kiss to say thank you before I go home," a perky Rada said.

She was discharged today — a week after her operation to correct a congenital defect. The close-heart surgery was the first carried out by a private hospital in Penang.

The Adventist Hospital has waived all fees for her operation and stay. Even her follow-up checks after her discharge today will be free.

When asked why she wanted to be a doctor, Rada said she wanted to help the sick.

She also said she was

not easily tired now and that there was no discomfort in her chest.

Rada was operated on by a team led by general and cardio-thoracic surgeon Mr Alfred Charles Poey.

Rada is a Standard One pupil of the Kulim Convent. She was brought up by her guardian Madam M. Acheamal.

Her mother ran away after leaving her with Madam Acheamal after her birth.

Rada had been told that she has to take it easy for at least another three weeks before she can go back to school.

She had been pestering her guardian to allow her to go back to school as soon as possible.

PENANG, Fri. — Seven-year-old M. Rada's wish is coming true at last.

Just before being wheeled into the operation theatre today, she said: "I want to be normal like other girls. I want to be able to run and play with my friends."

And soon she will be able to do so. For the "close-heart" surgery she underwent at the Penang Adventist Hospital was a success.

As she was taken to the operation theatre, she said: "Terima kasih."

The Penang Adventist Hospital did the operation free of charge.

Rada was born at the Kulim district hospital. Soon after birth, her mother, S. Marakatam, left her with a friend, M. Acheamal, 50.

The mother told Mdm Acheamal that she would return to take the baby but she did not.

So, Rada was brought up by Mdm Acheamal with the help of her father,

P. Muthusamy. But Mr Muthusamy died about six months after her birth.

Since then, Rada was looked after by Mdm Acheamal and her bus driver husband, M. Palusamy, 63.

Rada's heart problem came to light when she entered the Kulim Convent School. She began to get tired fast while playing with other pupils. She also complained of chest pain and discomfort.

Mdm Acheamal, who was at the hospital today, said she took Rada to the Kulim district hospital and was told that Rada had a heart defect.

She took Rada to the Penang Adventist Hospital last Wednesday and arrangements were made for surgery today.

Mdm Acheamal, who has two sons and a daughter, treats Rada like her own.

She said she would not give up Rada.



**YOUNGBERG MEMORIAL  
ADVENTIST HOSPITAL**

"TO MAKE MAN WHOLE"



309 UPPER SERANGOON ROAD, SINGAPORE 1334 TEL:889271



*Baptism of former patient Jimmy Sumanti in Canada.*

Canada. Jimmy was a patient of Dr. Joseph Nozaki, M.D. a few years ago. From this contact, he came to know of our college in Canada and enrolled as a pre-medical student at Canadian Union College. He was very much impressed by the teachers and students and became interested in the gospel. This led to Bible studies and baptism by Pastor Leavitt of the Alberta Conference. In his recent letter to the writer, Jimmy wrote, "I now rejoice with others in the family of God. As a choir member, I enjoy singing praises to the Lord. I plan to attend Loma Linda University for my medical course. Do continue to pray for me and my studies." Praise the Lord for the collective efforts of our dedicated staff at the hospital.—*Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Officer, Youngberg Memorial Adventist Hospital*

**Hospital Patients Baptized**

Mrs. Khoo Mui Ah, an 80 year old patient of Youngberg Memorial Adventist Hospital, first came in contact with Adventist message through Dr. G.H. Coffin, M.D. in 1955. Later on she introduced her daughter, Mrs. Yap Ai Lian to Dr. Coffin. Subsequently, Mrs. Yap had all her three children delivered at Youngberg Hospital. Both Mrs. Khoo and Mrs. Yap became friends of our hospital staff. They were very appreciative of the help given by doctors and nurses. About 10 years ago hospital Bible worker Esther Khor began visiting them in their homes. All of Mrs. Yap's children became christians later on and they too tried to influence their mother to accept the gospel. Recently, they requested for Bible studies and invited Chaplain Jonathan Ng to remove the family

altar and idols from the house and on March 12, 1983, they were baptized at the hospital church.

The Chaplaincy Department recently received a letter from a former patient Mr. Jimmy Sumanti that he was baptized at the College Heights SDA Church by Pastor Brian Leavitt in February, 1983 at



*Picture shows (left to right) Chaplain Jonathan Ng, Mrs. Yap Ai Lian, Mrs. Khoo Mui Ah and Esther Khor.*



From page 12



People queuing up for Blood Pressure Test and Counselling.

For instance, rent of the floor space at People's Park for a commercial exhibition of the same duration would cost S\$19,000, but was provided free.

Thus far, the People's Park Health Exhibition is the biggest Community Health Project ever launched by the Adventist Community in Singapore. By God's grace, it's hoped that it will usher in a new era of evangelistic approach in Singapore—Health Evangelism.

## When We Care Enough To Give The Best

I am reminded that the best gift of all is one's self. Wouldn't relationship be easy if we are led by that principle?—Well, after all, it is not easy to share one's inner thoughts, feelings, ideas and values. But we are grateful that God has chosen some men and women who are willing to give the very best, and that person is our new publishing director for the West Malaysia-Singapore Mission, Peter Ching.

He worked as a literature evangelist in this mission and became an assistant publishing director before he was called to Sabah Mission as publishing director in 1980. God used him in a mighty way in Sabah and then he branched into Brunei and before



long a house which was established there.

We know the Lord will richly bless the ministry and selfless efforts of Brother Peter Ching in the West Malaysia-Singapore Mission.—Winnie Elorta



by Robert H. Pierson

## Dwell Upon the Good!

"Shelley, honey, this dinner is super!" Henry glowed. Then, turning to me, my Sabbath host continued, "My wife sure knows how to cook!"

Shelley beamed. I chalked up 25 Brownie points for Henry. He knew how to express appreciation. He not only enjoyed Shelley's dinner, he told her so.

The apostle of love also knew how to express sincere commendation. In a short letter to Gaius John wrote, "You are doing a fine faithful piece of work, dear friend, in looking after the brothers who come your way." (3 John 5, *Phillips*).

"Dwell upon the good qualities of those with whom you associate, and see as little as possible of their errors and failings," Ellen White counsels (*Ministry of Healing*, p. 492).

With whom do we associate more than the members of our own families? Yet whose faults and failings are we most prone to see? Who receives the fewest words of appreciation?

Today, be a John. Don't let the sun go down without speaking words of encouragement and appreciation to every member of your family.





SOUTHEAST ASIA

UNION MISSION

OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS



**SAUM Welcomes New Education  
and Stewardship Director**

It is a distinct pleasure to welcome Pastor Geoffrey Pauner to the staff of Southeast Asia Union Mission. Pastor Pauner, former president of the Sabah Mission, has been called to serve as education and stewardship director.

A very kind, cordial Christian gentleman, he comes to us with a real vision to strengthen the educational work throughout the Union. He takes a deep personal interest in the total educational development of young people. His education and experience as teacher and secondary school principal fully qualifies him for this post of ser-

vice. He attended Southeast Asia Union College and graduated from Avondale College in 1963. He received his Masters in Education from Philippine Union College in 1972.

Pastor Pauner is married to Kathleen Leong of Kuching and they have two children, Richard Allen, age 11 and Roger Lee, age 7.

We pray that the Lord will richly bless Pastor Pauner and grant him special wisdom, guidance and success in these important roles in the Southeast Asia Union.—*Calvin Smith, Communications Director*

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### HEALTH EVANGELISM IN SINGAPORE

If you were to ask any Singaporeans or tourists whether they had been to People's Park Complex, you would most certainly get an affirmative reply. Strategically located in the throbbing heart of the city, People's Park Shopping Complex is perhaps the most popular shopping paradise in Singapore. It was in the concourse of this bustling complex that a three-day Health Exhibition cum Blood Pressure Screening was held from November 13-15, 1982. Jointly organized by the People's Park Management Corporation, Youngberg Memorial Adventist Hospital and Seventh-day Adventist Community Services, the Health Exhibition highlighted the harmful effects of smoking, heart diseases and high blood pressure. In addition a Blood Pressure Screening program was rendered free of charge.

It was a privilege to have Dr. Ernest Steed, Executive Director of the International Commission for the Prevention of Alcoholism to grace the occasion. In his opening address, Dr. Ernest Steed, stressed on the preventive approach to health, focusing on the theme that prevention is better than cure.

Even before the Exhibition started, a large turnout was expected. In order to cope up

with the workload, publicity was deliberately toned down. Additional voluntary workers were called from all SDA Churches in Singapore. Altogether 150 members responded by sacrificing their time and effort for the three-day Exhibition. Touched by the Holy Spirit, armed with cheery smiles and united with the love of God, the whole workforce of voluntary workers from all the SDA Churches in Singapore were prepared to face the big challenge together.

True to expectations, the Health Exhibition was indeed a crowd puller. Wanting to know what was going on, many shoppers paused for a moment in the concourse, and were attracted to our free Blood Pressure test. It was indeed a situation of crowd attracting more crowd.

Altogether, 1,986 people, mainly shoppers, had their Blood Pressure checked. Of these, about 150 people came to know of their Hypertensive conditions for the first time. They were referred to their personal physicians for treatment. On a brighter note, 1,351 participants were enrolled in the "Pathway to Health" correspondence course conducted by the Voice of Prophecy. Another 161 people requested for "Power to Cope"—a

four-lesson course based on Bible promises to cope with stress. Admittedly, the Exhibits and the Smoking Sam demonstration had convinced some smokers of the harmful effects of smoking. About 120 smokers signed up for the 5-Day Plan to quite smoking, while others donated their cigarettes to Smoking Sam! Some 50 participants registered for the Heartbeat program which was subsequently held at Youngberg Memorial Adventist Hospital.

It is interesting to note that there were quite a number of tourists who participated in the Hypertension Screening. Many came from Asian countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Taiwan and the Philippines; while other came from as far as Australia, New Zealand, U.S. and Europe. Therefore, it was not surprising when someone came up to ask for a list of SDA Churches in his home country, while others requested to have the "Power to Cope" and "Pathway to Health" course sent overseas.

Without any doubt, God has been with us in many ways to overcome the big challenge at People's Park. He has open doors which were considered impossible.

*Continued on page 10*