



January-February 2010



**BB ASIA begins
the New Year by
welcoming new staff...**



**FRANCIS
CHIONG**
Executive
Secretary

Francis comes with 11 years of fulltime BB working experience in Malaysia. He served as the Training and Development Officer in Sabah for 4 years and seven (7) years as the Executive Secretary of BB Malaysia.

He came from Sabah, Malaysia and joined the 3rd Kota Kinabalu Company as a young boy in 1993. He once served as a volunteer BB officer in 3rd Kota Kinabalu Company, 49th Singapore Company and 2nd Subang Jaya Company.



He is married to Ashley, a former BB officer of 3rd Sibu Company and has a 7 year old daughter.

Prior to his appointment as the Executive Secretary of BB Asia, he briefly served in YMCA Kuala Lumpur as the Senior Secretary for Program for one (1) year and a half.

He is certified by the Chartered Institute of Personnel Development, the United Kingdom as a training practitioner. He is an Associate Trainer for two US based leadership training organizations namely, EQUIP founded by Dr John C. Maxwell and Growing Leaders founded by Dr Tim Elmore respectively. Francis is also an active member of the Toastmaster International and is the current President of the Malaysia Institute of Human Resource Management Toastmaster chapter.



Francis conducting LDC 2 in Jakarta 2009.

Slow Down and Live

Many of our New Year's resolutions may actually accelerate our pace of life instead of helping us to slow down. In a quest for greater productivity and efficiency, we over schedule our days, the rush through meals, drive impatiently, and wonder why the joy of living eludes us.

Carol Odell, who writes a business advice column, says that slowing down can positively affect our lives at work and at home. She believes that rushing can cloud our judgment and cause us to overlook important things and valuable people. Carol encourages everyone to slow down, and even suggests the radical idea of welcoming red traffic lights and using the waiting time to meditate.

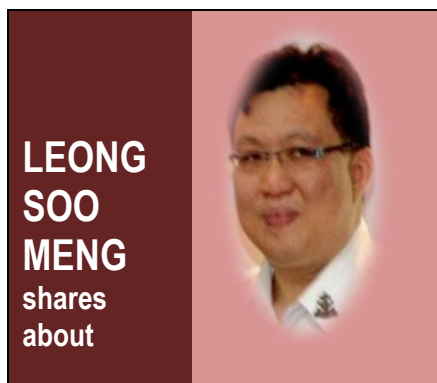
In Psalm 1, there is no hint of frenzied pace. It describes a person who enjoys the blessing of God. Instead of thinking and acting like those who rarely consider spiritual matters, "His delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night" (v2). The result is a fruitful life and well-nourished soul (v3).

Isaiah wrote, "You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You" (Isa 26:3). Just for today, try thinking about that verse whenever you have to wait. Isn't it time for all of us to slow down and live?

**Come apart and
rest awhile or you
may just plain
come apart!**

(Taken from Our Daily Bread Dec06-Feb07.)

January-February 2010



Mission trip to Taiwan

Between 17—24 December, 2009, 1st Kuala Lumpur Company visited the beautiful island of Taiwan. This tour was part of our company's 55th anniversary celebration programs. About 55 boys, girls, officers and parents made the trip. To make the tour more meaningful, we decided to take on the mission to introduce Boys' Brigade to Taiwan, since Taiwan has not established any company yet.



We visited the Peniel Church in Taipei on Dec 20. We attended the Sunday Service and worshipped God together with our fellow Taiwanese brothers and sisters. Pastor Hsu was very kind to squeeze our 15 minute-presentations in their services to introduce the BB ministry to the congregation. We managed to reach out to the youths and adults in three separate services held

that morning. Beside the slide-introductions, 1st KL boys and girls also presented a short song and dance of "Rasa Sayang" and "Dikir Barat" to our Taiwanese hosts.



After the services, our hosts treated us to a very tasty and sumptuous lunch, Taiwan style! During meal time, we also mingled among each other and had a great fellowship time. Since it was also the Christmas season, the church gave each of us a gift! We left the church with our bellies full and our hearts filled thanks to our hosts' great hospitalities.



The next morning, the boys and girls also pay a visit to the George High School in Taipei. This visitation was possible because Pastor Hsu's close relationship with the school. In fact, the school is located right behind the Peniel Church. We gave a short presentation of "Dikir Barat" and foot-drill to the students during the Monday school assembly. George High School students gave us in return their warmest and loudest applauds, which made the boys and girls felt that all the

hard work put in the practices really paid off.



All in all, the trip to Taiwan was really a memorable experience for all of us. We even get to experience the Taiwan version of earthquake!! The quake in Taipei registered around 4.5 at the Richter's Scale. To many of us, this was the first such encounter of their lives. We truly give thanks to God for providing us protection and enjoyment throughout the trip. We pray that Taiwan will be receptive to our wonderful organization, the Boys' Brigade. Maybe next time when we visit the island of Formosa, we are visiting our fellow Brigade brothers and sisters!!

Editor's Note: **LEONG SOON MENG** is an Officer with 1st Kuala Lumpur Company of The Boys' Brigade in Malaysia.

Announcing...



Date: 11-15 June 2010

(All international campers are requested to arrive campsite on 10/6.)

**Camp Fee: USD80 per person before 1/3
 USD100 per person from 1/3**

For more information please visit

www.bbamalyasia.org

January-February 2010



**The
 50th Anniversary
 celebration
 of BB Hong Kong**

Although our 50th Anniversary celebration has come to an end but we are very grateful to God for His continuous blessings upon the success of every event we planned and carried out.

Over the last 50 years, driven by devotion and love for the Lord Jesus Christ, tremendous work has been done in youth development, reaching out to almost 10,000 members.



Thanksgiving Service & Grand Dinner

To celebrate our 50th Anniversary, we had some significant events planned, including a Thanksgiving Service and a Joint Dinner on 7 November 2009. We had a overwhelming 93 tables reserved with a good number of local and overseas officers, brigadiers and guests to fellowship with us. Thus making the night a truly memorable one!



Founder's Day Parade

Another grand event was held the next day - The Founder's Day Parade – at the Victoria Park (one of the largest parks in Hong Kong). Unlike the previous years' practice this time we had 500 of our brigadiers doing a route march outside the park attracting thousands of Hong Kong citizens to witness our parade.



International Camp

Theme:
"Lift our lives, pass the passion"

Date:
30 December 2009-2 January 2010

It was no doubt that our international camp was a great event to conclude our 50th Anniversary celebrations.



This camp saw more than two hundred overseas campers from Australia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and Macau.

On 1 January 2010, we set The Guinness book of World Record by forming "The longest paper dolls chain" at Noah's Ark, where more than 2500 participants joining a 1200m long of 30000 paper dolls cut in the shape of BB figure.



Finally, BB Hong Kong would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to everyone for their support and may God continue to pour forth His blessings on The Boys' Brigade movement.



香港基督少年軍
 The Boys' Brigade,
 Hong Kong



Editor's Note: **EMILY CHAN** is the Deputy Brigade Secretary of The Boys' Brigade Hong Kong.

January-February 2010



BB Singapore Top Brass came a-calling – Dr Lee Soo Ann, Mr Lee Liat Cheng, Mr Sam Tan Boon Yeow, Mr Peter Tay & Mr Tan Kok Heng

The Dinner was held on Monday 4 January 2010 at the Burswood-on-Swan Reception Centre. There were about 150 guests, a number of whom came from faraway places in addition to Australia – USA, India and Singapore.



Centenarian
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF
A M CHERIAN M.B.E.
 in Perth, Australia on 4 January 2010

He later became the Captain of that Company until the outbreak of the second world war. When the war ended The Boys' Brigade in Singapore was revived and he held numerous positions in the Battalion, including Battalion President from 1956 to 1957. In 1957 he was made a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire by the British Colonial Office in Singapore for Social Services, especially services to The Boys' Brigade and other youth organizations in Singapore.

Centenarian Messages were announced, notably from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, from the Prime Minister of Australia Mr Kevin Rudd and his wife Therese, the Governor-General of Australia Ms Quentin Bryce and husband Michael, and others. Many present expressed that we should all be looking forward to Unc BINT's 110th birthday in the year 2020. Unc BINT gave a speech of thanks to all those who came, and he cut the Centenarian Birthday Cake, agreeing that all should gather again for his 110th Birthday. All responded heartily in the affirmative.



MR A.M. CHERIAN was going to be 100 years old on 4 January 2010, and for many months in the year 2009 his family had been planning to have a grand birthday for the Centenarian. Email messages were sent to many of his friends and relatives in Perth as well as to many parts of the world. His family were aware of the passion he has in The Boys' Brigade which he joined as a Lieutenant in 1930 when the Third Singapore Company was formed.



John Khoo with Mr Cherian

His position now is that of Honorary Vice President of The Boys' Brigade in Singapore. However, his friends address him as Mr Cherian, or Cheri, but a new name has been added during the past few years. As he was Born In Nineteen Ten, a number of his BB friends have been addressing him as Uncle BINT.

From all of us at **BB Asia**
BLESSED BIRTHDAY &
CONGRATULATIONS,
Uncle BINT!

Editor's Note: Due to insufficient space in our newsletter, the full account of this grand event can be found on our website www.bbasia.org.

Editor's Note: **DR JOHN KHOO** is the former Vice-President of The Boys' Brigade in Singapore who is now residing in Sydney, Australia.

**News from BB
 Singapore**



**BB Singapore's
 80th Anniversary
 Calendar of Events**

19th March 2010 (Fri)

Charity Golf

18th-20th June 2010 (Fri-Sun)

Youth Leaders Conference

2nd October 2010 (Sat)

80th Anniversary Dinner

08-12 December 2010 (Wed-Sun)

Camp Temasek V

(International)

For more details, visit:

<http://www.bb.org.sg>

(The above programme is subject to
 change without notice.)

Attention

all BB Asia Executive Members.

The 3rd Executive Committee Meeting will be held on **Saturday, 12 June 2010** in Penang, Malaysia. Please confirm your attendance by 15 May 2010.

INTERNATIONAL CAMPS

coming your way

2010

BB MALAYSIA

11-15th June

18th National Pesta, Penang

For more details please visit

<http://www.bbmalaysia.org>.

BB ASIA

18-22 August

1st Full-Time Workers
 Conference

It is proposed that the conference be held end April in Malaysia. This conference is opened to all full-time staff of BB Member countries.

BB SINGAPORE

8-12 December

80th Anniversary

Camp Temasek V

For more details please visit

<http://www.bb.org.sg>

2011

BB AUSTRALIA

Catch The Spirit

6-15 January

17th Pan Australian Camp will be

held at Ulverstone in Tasmania

For more details please visit

<http://boys.brigadeaustralia.org>.

BB ASIA

3rd BB Asia Academy

It is proposed that the academy to be held end December. This academy is opened to all BB members and officers 18 years and above.

BB INDONESIA

International Camp Bersama

In celebration of BBI's 25th
 Anniversary.

("Bersama" means together.)

**News from BB
 Indonesia**

**74 trainees for LDC
 in Jakarta**



Group Photo

On 5 February 2010, 74 trainees, 10 Officers and 4 trainees gathered at Pondok Remaja PGI in Puncak, Bogor for a 3-day Leadership Development Course. 53 were for stage 1 and 21 for stage 2. This course also saw the attendance of 6 trainees from 1st Semarang Company. They travelled 10 hours by bus to attend this course.

A new challenge! The trainees were woken up at 1am. The stage 2 ones were asked to eat worms while the stage 1 trainees were tasked to put a cricket in their mouth. They actually did it and won a "Proven-Tough Boy/Girl" stamp on their certificate!

The message was "Don't mess with us, leaders. We're tough!"



Camp Officers with 1st Semarang Trainees.

January-February 2010



**PRAYER
 POINTS**

**Pray for BB Asia
 that God will bless...**

- the office-bearers 2009-2010 with wisdom as they stir the entire ministry to a greater height.
- the 3-year development plan of the BB Asia.
- continue to unite and strengthen the bond of the Member Countries.
- our ministry with generous financial contribution to support work that being done.
- their endeavors to raise SGD491,000 to support the ministry for the next three years.
- the work of the Secretariat in fulfilling its responsibilities.
- Francis that he will find his new calling meaningful, challenging, exciting & enriching.
- for the travels of both the staff with protection, good health and fruitful effort.

**Pray for our BB Asia
 Member Countries.**

Brunei

PRAY for sustenance and continuing support from their church because of the political structure, they are only allowed to form one company.

Singapore

• **PRAY** their 80th Anniversary celebration preparations. That God will give them insight and inspiration as they plan and organise and guidance and strength as they work

Hong Kong

- **THANK GOD** for their successful 50th Anniversary Camp held at the end of 2009.
- **PRAY** for their target to reach 10,000 BB members by the end of 2009.

Indonesia

- **PRAY** for the success of the registration of BB Indonesia as an organisation which is now in the final stages.
- **PRAY** that God will instil passion and the ability in every Officer the to serve in the BB ministry.
- **PRAY** for that God will provide them with two suitable staff – one for Sumatra and one for Jawa.
- **PRAY** for there will be stability in their newly opened companies.

Macau

- **PRAY** that God will continue to bless the BB work and for their new leadership.

Malaysia

- **PRAY** the preparation of their 19th National Pesta. It is a camp where 1500-2000 campers from all over Malaysia gather for competitions, fellowship and fun.
- **PRAY** for that s right person will be called to serve as Executive Secretary for their Headquarters soon.

Thailand

- **PRAY** that God will continue to grant the National Executive and the staff wisdom and guidance as they take steps to develop the ministry and to improve relationships.
- **PRAY** for every company that they will produce capable leaders with the right heart and spirit to lead the company. Also that they will continue to work well with other companies and with the national executive.

- **PRAY** for their Annual Officers Retreat that will be held on 22-25 May 2010. During this meeting God will provide solutions to their various problems, a renewal of dedication in service and closer ties will forged.

**Pray for our potential
 Member Countries**

Philippines

- **THANK GOD** for the BB Introduction seminar on 23 January 2010. Let us continue to pray for those who have capture the vision to nurture new generation of Christian leaders will implement through the BB ministry.
- **PRAY** for God's wisdom be upon the Pro-tem Committee to organize and develop the BB ministry.

Cambodia

- **PRAY** for our full-time team at the BB Learning Centre.
- **PRAY** for a potential BB company in a Methodist School. The group is already meeting but lack experienced leaders.



*...pray for each other...
 (James 5:16)*

**To influence others
 for God, intercede
 with God for others**

Be **OUR** Partner

We believe that the BB ministry is worthwhile and God-inspired for our young people in Asia. Let's be a blessing to them and make a **difference** to their lives **TODAY!**

Therefore we would like to appeal to the generosity of each and every one of you reading this newsletter to **support** our cause by...

...**making** a personal pledge or contribution.

...**encouraging** as many friends as possible to support.

...**speaking** to your church leadership to consider BB as one of their mission pledges.

...**introducing** corporate or commercial companies who might give regularly as part of their social commitment.

To make our plans a reality

WE NEED TO RAISE

SGD 491,000

CONTACT US AT

bb.across.asia@gmail.com.

If you wish to receive or send Across Asia to a friend or friends, just drop us an email stating the individual's name and email address.

We gladly welcome comments, news, announcements, prayer items, articles, photographs etc.

(Kindly note that we reserve the right to edit or not to publish any contribution deemed unsuitable.)

Executive Secretaries' Diary



January 2010

21-25 – Manila, Philippines (LT&FC)

- Introductory Seminar

27-09/02 – Jawa, Indonesia (LT)

- Introductory Seminar in Semarang
- Officers Training & LDC in Jakarta

February 2010

04-08 – Jakarta, Indonesia (FC)

- LDC

March 2010

15-17 – Medan, Indonesia (LT)

- For Meeting

20 – Singapore (LT&FC)

- Officers Bearers' Meeting

21-25 – Bangkok, Thailand (LT)

- Annual Officers Retreat

April 2010

05-13 – Bangkok & Korat, Thailand

- BOTC

07-12 – Manila, Philippines (FC)

- BOTC & Introductory Seminar

June 2010

11-15 – Penang, Malaysia (LT&FC)

- 3rd BB Asia Executive Meeting
- BB Malaysia's National Festa

26-6/7 -Medan, Indonesia (LT)

- BOTC
 BB Indonesia's Annual General Meeting

Disclamation:

Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of The Boys' Brigade Asia.

THE BB OBJECT

The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among young people and promotion of habits of obedience, reverence, discipline, self-respect and all that tends towards a true Christian character.

BB ASIA

Purpose

BB Asia has been formed out of a desire to maintain the unity, purpose and specific character of The Boys' Brigade everywhere. It came into being to give The Boys' Brigade an international organisation which would advance its growth, interest and cause.

Objects

The objects of BB Asia are:

- to promote the development and extension of The Boys' Brigade to new fields and territories.
- to strengthen the work of The Boys' Brigade internationally and within each member country
- to help its members to develop and adapt their respective programmes to the needs arising out of the conditions in which young people live and work
- to develop sympathy, understanding, and cooperation among all its members.

BB Asia Executive Committee 2009-2010

Mr Michael Moorthy (*President*)

Mr Sunny Wu (*Vice-President I*)

Mr Tan Kok Heng (*Vice-President II*)

Mr Lim K Tham (*General Secretary*)

Mr Albert Ching (*Asst. General Secretary*)

Mr Tye Yew Meng (*Treasurer*)

Ms Eva Kong (*Executive Member*)

Ms Resien Chiu (*Executive Member*)

Mr Samuel Choo (*Executive Member*)

Mr Ong Teong Hoon (*Executive Member*)

Rev Dr Li Ping-Kwong (*Chaplain*)

Rev Richard Tok (*Asst. Chaplain*)

BB Asia Secretariat

Mr Francis Chiong (*Executive Secretary*)

Mr Lawrence Tay (*Executive Secretary*)