

Sarawak fund-raiser on target

By SHAUN ORANGE
shauno@thestar.com.my

Sarawak charity tournament aims to top RM1mil to assist rural schoolchildren

IN a noble and hugely humanitarian gesture, the coming together of like-minded persons is set to benefit thousands of rural school children in Sarawak, via a charity golf tournament.

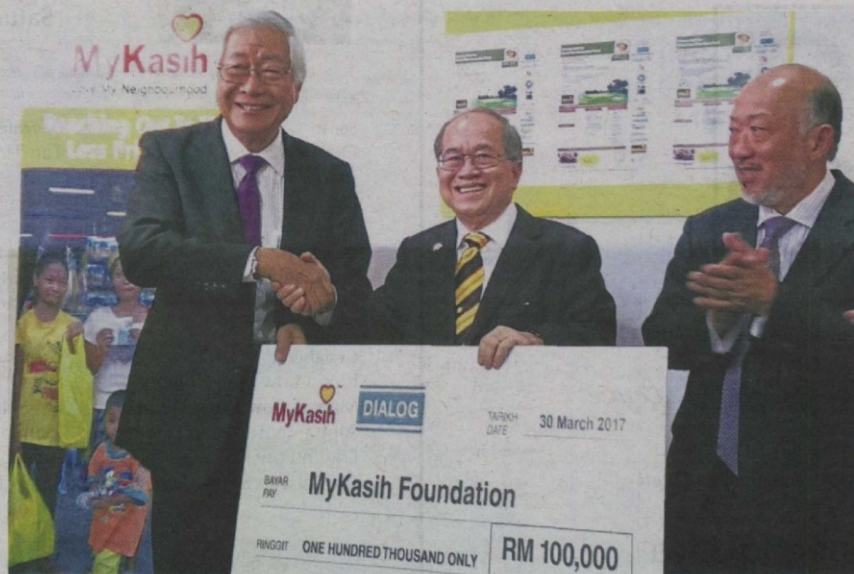
Samarahan Country Club in Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, MyKasih Foundation and group of well-wishers have collaborated to host the Charity Golf for Rural Kids Education Fund Tournament at Samarahan Country Club in Sarawak on April 30, with the proceeds going to underprivileged school children in the rural areas of Sarawak.

Indeed, speaking at the recent launch of the tournament, whose entries closed yesterday with a full field, Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister and Minister of Modernisation of Agriculture & Rural Economy Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas said that the main objective of the fund-raising project was to "help the needy of Sarawak and our appeal goes out to people who wish to help us in this undertaking.

"It is done for the benefit of underprivileged school children in the rural areas of Sarawak – to buy school bags, uniforms, books, stationary and selected essential food items.

"The means with which we aim to accomplish this is through MyKasih Foundation," he added.

The golf tournament was initiated and organised by a group



MyKasih Foundation chairman Tan Sri Dr Ngau Boon Keat (left) with Amar (centre) and Lee.

of volunteers, along with Samarahan Country Club and MyKasih Foundation, which is an established charitable and non-profit organisation in Malaysia, and has helped over 200,000 underprivileged families

throughout the country.

"In order to make a success of this important fund-raising project," said Amar, "we are appealing for donations and sponsorship from local businesses."

He added: "Generous donations

from you (those who committed to the event) are the key to the success of the tournament and we are pleased that we can count on your support to help turn this worthy event into a roaring success."

Meanwhile, the tournament's

organising chairman Datuk Richard Lee said they were "very close" to attaining the target.

"As you know we aim to raise RM1mil from this project and at the moment we are in the region of RM800,000.

"For us, as the organisers of the fund-raiser, this is encouraging and we are quietly confident that we will get even closer to the target by the time the tournament come around," said Lee.

He added: "We are also happy to have MyKasih Foundation on board. Founded in 2009, their aim is to help poor and needy Malaysians through food aid, education and training programmes.

"And as they use the chip technology of the MyKad to disburse welfare aid to recipients, we believe this is the right way to go. To date, they have distributed some RM180mil throughout Malaysia – RM15mil for 6,600 Sarawak families."

Assisting Lee on the organising committee are secretary Ir. Chiew Chung Lee, treasurer Datuk Wee Yaw Hin, tournament director Brian Chien Chai Ung and ladies' director Puan Seri Loma Enan, who have broken down the sponsorship categories to include platinum, gold, silver and bronze.

The cost for a flight (of four) is RM5,000 while individual entry is RM1,000. For more information, please contact 019-866 7668.