



The late Stephen Hawking's visit to Malaysia in September 1994

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Dato' Dr Cheah Cheng Huat
Mr Tan Kim Seng
Major Munusamy

Malaysian Invention & Design Society
C3A-10, 4th Floor Block C
Damansara Intan
1 Jalan SS20/27 47400 PJ
Tel: 03-71182062 HP: 012-9032312
Email: minds.invent@gmail.com
Website: www.minds.net.my

Percetakan Soon Lee Heng Sdn Bhd
15 Jalan Besar, Selayang Baru
68100 Batu Caves
Selangor



Editorial Message
Dr. Leo Ann Mean
MINDS Newsletter Editor

In this issue of the MINDS newsletter we would like first and foremost to pay tribute to the late Sephen Hawking, the world reknown theoretical physicist, cosmologist and author who passed away recently. Prof. Dr. Stephen William Hawking was invited by MINDS in 1994 to deliver a public lecture and a technical lecture. Both lectures were very well received.

As MINDS enters its 31st year we are proud to host the 29th edition of our annual flagship event the International Invention, Innovation and Technology Exhibition (ITEX 2018) from 10-12 May 2018 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

MINDS is also organising the 3rd Arts and Creativity Exhibition (ACE 2018) this year. With “A Thing of Beauty is a Joy Forever” as its theme, the winning entries in the creative writing and illustration component will be exhibited during ITEX at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre from 10-12 May 2018.

In addition we are introducing the Tan Sri Augustine Ong Award this year to recognise the contribution of teachers who are the mainstay of school teams participating in the invention exhibitions organised by MINDS over the years starting with the Malaysian Young Inventors Exhibition (MYIE) in 2003 followed by the Asian Young Inventors Exhibition (AYIE) in 2010 and as from last year the World Young Inventors Exhibition (WYIE).

Please feel free to download the e-version of this newsletter as well as previous issues from our new website www.minds.net.my.

We are glad to be able to continue informing our members of all our programmes, projects and activities in a timely manner. Do give us your constructive feedback so as to enable us to serve you even better in the coming issues of MINDS newsletter.

**Featuring “Oblique Bat”
The Journey of Idealisation to Commercialisation
By Lim Sze Choong**

Necessity was not the mother of this invention.

This one was born from Innovation and Fun. And I had so much fun with it that I felt there must be others out there who would enjoy it, too. I was proven correct when they started contacting me to buy my bat!

It all began in the 1980s when I cut and fashioned a piece of plywood into a Ping Pong bat with an oblique handle – just for the fun of it. And fun indeed I had, wielding this bat and watching my friends cower in fear each time I approached the net to smack the ball! How we laughed over it!



When our laughter died down, I decided to file for patent rights. And that was the beginning of my journey. The initial part was exciting. I signed up for MINDEX '93, and many friends came along to lend support. I even appeared in the local newspapers!



MINDEX '93 was a mixed adventure. I was disappointed when I overheard one of the judges commenting that the bat would be no good unless it was approved by the ITTF. “Hello!” I thought to myself. “Did the Wright brothers have the approval of the Aviation authorities when they flew their prototype?” But encouragement came when members of the public asked whether I had any bats for sale!

The next stage of my journey was waiting for the patent rights. It turned out to be a fifteen-year wait! Such were the days before the internet! When it finally came in 2007, there was much celebration! By then I had spent some RM8,000 on legal and other fees.

Then I entered a tunnel. There were no ping pong bat manufacturers in Malaysia, not even in nearby ASEAN countries. I approached several sports personalities and companies, personally as well as via email, but none were interested. Meanwhile, the annuity (annual maintenance fees) for my patent rights was beginning to take a toll.

By 2016, I had paid about RM7,000 in annuities. With no breakthrough in sight, that was the darkest part of my journey. The thought of giving up did occur to me, but deep down in my

heart I knew there were people out there waiting for the Oblique Bat! So I tightened my belt and journeyed on – all the way to Hong Kong.

Having located an amiable manufacturer, I flew to Hong Kong, prototype in hand, and secured a consignment of 300 bats. When news of the bat was published by Star Metro in 2017, orders began trickling in. Then came orders from enthusiasts overseas, who had caught the news online! Finally... finally, light was appearing at the end of the tunnel!



So, have I made my money yet? No, not yet, but I probably will, soon, with another round or two of consignments from Hong Kong. But it is not about the money! It is about seeing an idea morph into reality! It is about creating something that like-minded people appreciate! This is what makes the Inventor's day!

As for approval from the ITTF, I will let the bat fight its own battle. If it is good, it will catch on. If not, it is all right! Life is short, and it is OK to just have fun! And, for your information, my Oblique Bat does NOT contravene existing ITTF rules, which, to me, is more than half the battle won!

Announcement

Mr. Lim Sze Choong is organising an event to launch the "Oblique Bat". MINDS encourage active participation of all members and the public to attend the launching of this product in the spirit of supporting the commercialisation of a Malaysian idea, in particular one borne out of FUN!

The product launch's details are as follows:

Date: 7 July 2018

Time: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Venue: Ground Floor Concourse, Seremban Prima Shopping Mall

**Featuring “Heal Mask”
The Malaysian Delegates for Beijing Youth Science Creation Competition
By Mohd Faizal Zainul**



Heal Mask is a new green product invented by young inventors. This green product is inspired by sugar cane where spilled sugar cane is processed into an air filter with a combined effect of aroma therapy.

As a green technology product, Heal Mask functions as a filter against dirty air, hazardous gases, bacteria, and trapped dusts in the air. It serves to prevent people from flu. The production of this product aims to protect the wearer from hazardous substances trapped in the contaminated air.

Heal Mask uses 100% of unused sugar cane which it proves that it is completely a green product. It is totally environmentally friendly since it uses 100% natural ingredients through its production. This product is also easy to dispose without polluting the environment.

This product targets few industries to be commercialised. They are paint industry, car factories, flies mill, factories of dye colours, paints and inks, shipbuilding factories and furniture factories.

This product is invented by 6 young inventors; Mohd Faizal bin Zainul, Ayu Suhana bt Wan Jan, Mohd Subri bin Abu Bakar, Rafis bin Md Zahid, Najah bt Zakaria, Nurul Aishah bt Nazri and Athirah bt Md Shukri in cooperation with Universiti Malaysia Perlis and Universiti Utara Malaysia.

The inventors took part in the Beijing Youth Science Creation Competition (BYSCC) 2018 and won first prize for Outstanding Youth Science and Technology Innovation Award. The competition took place at University of China and Sciences (UCAS) in Beijing, China on 24-28 March 2018. It was organised by Beijing Association for Science and Technology.



Featuring “The Late Stephen Hawking”
By Dato V.L. Kandan
First published on The Star Newspaper dated 16th March 2018

The unexpected news of the passing of Stephen Hawking is a shock to us.

In 1994 when Dr Augustine Ong, President of the Malaysian Invention and Design Society (MINDS) was conferred the PSM making him a “Tan Sri”, we established the Tan Sri Augustine Ong Fellowship Trust (TSAOFT) to provide fellowships and conduct lectures through leading scientists of Nobel Prize repute. We wanted to start with a “Big Bang”. When Stephen Hawking’s name was proposed as the first Fellow there was a lot of skepticism – the man is wheelchair-bound, physically incapacitated and cannot make the long journey to Malaysia! With the help of the then Director of the British Council, I called Stephen Hawking in Cambridge University. The response was positive. Stephen Hawking always wanted to visit Malaysia as he had heard glowing reports about the country from his Ipoh born Malaysian Chinese nurse. There was just a question of getting relevant authorisation from, and a fee of £10,000 due to Cambridge University. We were thrilled that this great physicist had agreed to come. With financial assistance from the public and MAS providing return first class air tickets for Stephen Hawking and his then wife Elaine Mason, we planned for the “Big Bang” Lecture.

Three days before he was to arrive in Kuala Lumpur, we received information that the UMNO Youth were going to demonstrate and prevent Stephen Hawking from coming into the city. Reason: perceived negative views of Stephen Hawking on the existence of God! We approached then Prime Minister and UMNO President, Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who happened to be the Patron of MINDS. Dr Mahathir assured us that there will be no demonstration and encouraged us to go ahead with the preparations. He also wanted to meet Stephen Hawking.

In September 1994 Stephen Hawking arrived. His first engagement was with three Malaysian Lou Gherig and Motor Neuron sufferers in a meeting room in the Istana Hotel, Kuala Lumpur where he was accommodated. In an hour long session he showed his humane side. He counselled them to be courageous and fight the disease as he was doing. He said to them in his metallic voice, sounding like C-3PO robot in “Star Wars”, “look at me, I was given less than two years to live twenty five years ago. I keep alive by keeping my mind alive!”

Later Stephen Hawking paid a courtesy call on Dr Mahathir.

On 16 September 1994, was Stephen Hawking’s public lecture entitled “Life in the Universe” in the Merdeka Hall in PWTC. There was a record attendance of nearly 5000 people. The Hall had a capacity of 3000 and the spill-over crowd in the foyer had to be content with watching him on CCTV. Stephen arrived 20 minutes late for the lecture, and when he did, he “danced” his way onto the stage in his special wheelchair. It was an enthralling lecture in simple language on the origin of the universe that was easily understood by the layperson.

The next day he gave a more technical lecture in the National Planetarium arranged by Dr Mazlan Othman. Prime Minister Mahathir was present at this lecture.

That evening at the farewell dinner at the Carcosa, Stephen Hawking was very happy and “danced”, yes, he deftly manoeuvred his wheelchair and danced, first with Elaine and then with whoever wanted to dance with him! He was a very happy man as was evident by the glint in his eyes.

After Stephen Hawking, in 1996 we had Dr James Watson lecture on the Human Genome Project. Since then TSAOFT has been unsuccessfully looking for speakers of similar calibre. Three years ago I went to Cambridge to invite Stephen Hawking for a second visit to Malaysia. I was informed he was too ill to travel and will not be able to make the long journey. When I saw video clips of him ‘swimming’ in space in a simulator, getting ready to go into space, we tried again to invite him. It is in that situation we received this sad news of his sudden demise.

Upcoming Events ITEX 2018



Once again for the 29th consecutive year MINDS will be organizing its flagship event the International Invention, Innovation and Technology Exhibition popularly known as ITEX. The 3 day exhibition will be held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre from 10th-12th May 2018.

ITEX '18 will bring together a melting pot of ideas and aspirations to enhance the quality of our life. A few thousand inventors, young and old, local and foreign will be showcasing their inventions to all visitors including investors, venture capitalists, manufacturers, entrepreneurs and technopreneurs, academicians and researchers, teachers and students as well as members of the public.

So join us at ITEX 2018 and get a good glimpse of what we have to offer to bridge the gap from idea to the market place.

MINDS 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) 11TH MAY 2018



MINDS will be celebrating its 30th anniversary on 11th May 2018 at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in conjunction with Malam Budaya Cipta, the gala dinner of ITEX 2018. Named as iG-NiTE it will be a memorable inventors' gala night. The highlight of the evening will be the awards for inventors. Tickets for the event are available at RM100 each, including the 30th anniversary book and a goodie bag. Call the MINDS Secretariat now to book your seat.

Special Announcement

31st Annual General Meeting 2018

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE 31st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MALAYSIAN INVENTION AND DESIGN SOCIETY WILL BE HELD AS FOLLOWS:

VENUE: CRYSTAL CROWN HOTEL, CRYSTAL HALL 2, LEVEL 4, NO. 12, LORONG UTARA A, OFF JALAN UTARA, 46200 PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR

TIME: 11.00 AM

DATE: SATURDAY, 21 April 2018

Members are strongly encouraged to attend the AGM. Light refreshment and lunch will be provided.

Ir Prof Dr. Leong Wai Yi, Dean of Engineering & Information Technology, MAHSA University and Datuk Dr. Choo Yuen May, Vice President of MINDS will be giving short talks at the AGM. Excerpts of the talks are as follows:

Ir Prof Dr. Leong Wai Yi Innovation Design + Discovery => for Industry Revolution 4.0

In this talk, various Industry Revolution 4.0 innovation designs and projects will be shared and discussed to further explore the new ideas into this industry. Industry 4.0 is the merging of real production with the virtual world – a world in which information technology is fully incorporated into production processes. Systems in mechanical engineering, logistics and services all communicate with one another in a new, intelligent way. The "internet of things" has truly brought a revolution to the entire industrial sector - and new benefits for customers: Production cycles are shortened, customer needs are incorporated in real time, maintenance is largely carried out automatically, orders are automatically filled in the right order. The result: The "smart" factory.

Industry Revolution 4.0 allows the integration of processes and systems across sectors and technologies, revolutionizing production, services provision, logistics, and resource planning. In the interaction of virtual and real worlds, communications involve a large number of interfaces. Here is where new standards are needed. Projects, competition and animation on Industry Revolution 4.0 will be shown at the end of the talk.

Datuk Dr. Choo Yuen May Commercialisation of R&D of Palm Oil

Oil palm is the highest oil producing crop. The oil palm is unique as it produces two types of oil: from the mesocarp, the crude palm oil and from the kernel, the crude palm kernel oil. Both of these oils are physically, chemically and physiologically different. Besides providing the calorie needs of the world population, palm oil has been found to be versatile in its applications and to possess healthful attributes. The many applications include food, feed, nutraceuticals, oleochemicals and bio-energy. Besides, crude palm oil is well endowed with a bouquet of phytonutrients (present at 1% in the oil) such as carotenoids, tocotrienols, squalene and co-enzyme Q which contribute to the thermal stability and nutritional value of palm oil.

This paper relates the personal experience of the author and her PORIM/MPOB research team in the commercialization of R & D of palm biodiesel, palm phytonutrients (carotenoids and tocotrienols) and carotene rich red palm oil. The patented production technologies, proven new applications and the impacted benefits of these projects to the community and the Oil Palm Industry will be described and highlighted.

ACE 2018



The 3rd Arts and Creativity Exhibition which has as its theme “A Thing of Beauty is a Joy Forever” showcasing Malaysian Heritage comprises two components. The first component which is the creative writing and illustration workshop for teachers has been completed. For the second component which is the write and illustrate competition for students, we received an enthusiastic response from schools around the country. 41 entries were shortlisted and will be exhibited during ITEX 2018 from 10th-12th May from 9:00am till 6:00pm at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre. Winners will be announced on 12th May 2018.

ACE Shortlisted Entries

Category A: Primary School

No.	Title of Story	Name of Writer	Name of Artist	School
1	"Syurga Di Bumi" Paradise On Earth	Pratheeksha Nishanth P.	Pratheeksha Nishanth P.	MAZ International School (Shah Alam)
2	Revenge	Marcus Lim Shen Yew	Yap Sui Xuan	SJKC Kuen Cheng 2, Kuala Lumpur
3	The Blue Mansion	Cheong Yee Xuan	Cheong Yee Xuan	SJKC Tun Tan Cheng Lock SJKC Kuen Cheng 2, Kuala Lumpur
4	The Conquest	Ashton Yang Li	Kuan Jie Li	SJKC Kuen Cheng 2, Kuala Lumpur
5	The Goddesses's Batik	Chauntel Wong Xin Le	Chong Xin Yi	SJKC Kuen Cheng 2, Kuala Lumpur
6	The Golden Bunga Raya	Zoe Ho Sze Lin	The Sue Vann	SJKC Kuen Cheng 2, Kuala Lumpur
7	The Beauty of the Ibans and Nature	Low Yew Qing	Ooi Qian Qian	SJKC Kuen Cheng 2, Kuala Lumpur
8	The Life of A Malayan Tiger	Chew Jing Xuan Sean	See Jia En	SJKC Kuen Cheng 2, Kuala Lumpur
9	The Regretful Tiger	Ng Le Anne	Ng Le Anne	SJKC Kuen Cheng 2, Kuala Lumpur

Category B: Secondary School

No.	Title of Story	Name of Writer	Name of Artist	School
1	A Day To Remember	Jasveeni A/P Gopalakrishnan	Dhurgashree A/P Parthiban	SMK Datuk Onn, Jalan Gangsa, Butterworth, Penang
2	A Fighter's Spirit: Ab'salute	Bhrinda Rekhraj	Nuraqisyah Bt Mohammad Iesa	SMK Seksyen 3, Bandar Kinrara, Selangor
3	A Peek Into Malaysian Heritage	Krishal Jang Gurung	Krishal Jang Gurung	MAZ International School
4	A Slice of History, The Pride of Nation	Reehana Rekhraj	Chong Jia Yuet	SMK Seksyen 3, Bandar Kinrara, Selangor
5	A World Without Colour	Juzee Katerina Tajudin	Jasmine Arrisa	Labuan International School
6	Abacus - The Eternal Gift of Love	Cherrie Ting Li Fay	Amy Wong Siew Ming	SMK Tung Hua, Sibul, Sarawak
7	Colourful Reminiscences	Nicodemus Tan Tze Sern	Tan Han Hao	SMK Seksyen 3, Bandar Kinrara, Selangor
8	Cryptic Crossbuck	Hidni Bt Muhammad Hanif	Ainul Jamaliah Bt Ismail	SM Agama Persekutuan Labu, Negeri Sembilan
9	Enggu's Ngajat	Fatimah Al-zahra' Bt Azman	Muhammad Darwizy B. Mustafani	SM Agama Persekutuan Labu, Negeri Sembilan
10	Farah and Sarah	Qistina Allyssa Bt Norisman	Xie Anqi	Nilai International School
11	Home	Lim Siew Jiun	Lim Siew Jiun	SMK Seksyen 3, Bandar Kinrara, Selangor
12	Home Is Where The Heart Is	Tan Li Ann	Sara Safia Bt Masiri	SMK Sultan Abdul Samad, Petaling Jaya, Selangor
13	How We Became One	Wan Nurhusnina Wan Abdul Rahim	Wan Nurhusnina Wan Abdul Rahim	Labuan International School
14	Magnificent Incompleteness	Daing Nor'Aina 'Adawiyyah Bt Zailani	Haniyyah Bt Ahmad Hilmi	SM Agama Persekutuan Labu, Negeri Sembilan
15	Malaysian Food	Janice Oo Jie Ting & Loochana Sangar	Jeong Yoonchae	Nilai International School
16	My Native Land - Malaya	Nathania Chieng Shao Yin	Jewel Chieng Shao Li	Labuan International School
17	Of Faith and Betrayal	Jared Lim Heng Ghee	Nor Aleeya Qistina Bt Mohamad Arif	SMK Seksyen 3, Bandar Kinrara, Selangor
18	Rice Barrel	Lau Chian Nee	Wong Shin Yau	SMK Tung Hua, Sibul, Sarawak
19	Rojak - The Beauty of All	Julia Wong Wei Ching	Amily Lau Hui Fang	SMK Tung Hua, Sibul, Sarawak
20	Soaring Through Memories	Athirah Bt Ahmah Ramizu	Tracy Cheong Wan See	SMK Sultan Abdul Samad, Petaling Jaya, Selangor

21	The Beauty Within	Chan Sue Ying	Nuraqisyah Bt Mohammad Iesa	SMK Seksyen 3, Bandar Kinrara, Selangor
22	The Berembang Musang Village	Ahmad Ilham Bin Jawahar Ali	Tan Jun-Li	SMK Kota Kemuning
23	The Boy Who Found Better Than Gold	Sivanathan Lee	Hew Wei Ding	SMK Seksyen 3, Bandar Kinrara, Selangor
24	The Cursed Shield of Lakhurma	Demetra Tang Xin Yi	Demetra Tang Xin Yi	Labuan International School
25	The Eye of Beauty	Amelia Chong Yee Wen	Amelia Chong Yee Wen	Labuan International School
26	The Fascinating Sites In Malaysia	Tanisha Kulaseharan	Fathmath Ruba Nadhir	MAZ International School
27	The Legacy of Our Ancestors	Carolyn Tan Hui Xuan	Carolyn Tan Hui Xuan	Labuan International School
28	The Pearl of the Orient	Wong Zong Xian	Woo Si Hui	SMK Kota Kemuning
29	The Thirst-Quencher of Malaysia	Aditi Karthikeyan	Aditi Karthikeyan	MAZ International School
30	Together, We Are Art	Jasmine Arrissa	Jasmine Arrissa	Labuan International School
31	Tugu Negara	Levi Valberg	Shawn Christian Vanathas	SMK Seksyen 3, Bandar Kinrara, Selangor

Category C: Tertiary/Higher Institution

No.	Title of Story	Name of Writer	Name of Artist	School
1	Comfort Food	Lim Siew Fern	Lim Siew Fern	Tunku Abdul Rahman University College



ITEX'18

29TH INTERNATIONAL INVENTION, INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION, MALAYSIA

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