

## **KIRKBY ALUMNI REPORT - December 2019**

As 2019 draws to an end, recapitulating on an eventful year, the Alumni ExCo submits this report on the discussions and decisions made at the 9th ExCo Meeting of the Kirkby Alumni Association held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

### **1. Final Get-Together for 2019**

Leela Unnithan, our social Secretary, in her inimical fashion, organised a most enjoyable Get-Together on Saturday 14 December, 2019 in the Crystal Crown Hotel in Petaling Jaya. It was such a joyous occasion to meet and greet and be convivial. Leela got hugs and many appreciative remarks for almost singlehandedly organising such a successful Get-together. A significant number, 68 by the final count, of Kirkbyites friends and relatives attended. There was a surprise attendance by David Thambyrajah Rajasingam from the third Batch. He took the train from Ipoh in the morning just to attend the Get-together and returned by train the same evening. He said he did that to make up for not attending the Reunion 2019 in Taiping in September!

### **2. The Year That Was**

The Year also saw a most successful and historic **Kirkby Revisit 2019** in August with wide TV and press coverage locally and in U K. Hopefully, there will be biennial visits to the place of our Alma Mater in Kirkby.

That was followed by what has now become an annual, instead of biennial, event, **Kirkby Reunion 2019**. Taiping a Heritage City with a beautiful lakeside was the venue for yet another most enjoyable Reunion.

### **3. Kirkby Reunion 2020**

The ExCo reaffirmed its earlier decision that the next Reunion will be in Kuantan (Gambang) from Friday 3 to Sunday 5 in July 2020. Please mark these dates in your diary. In early January, the Officers of the Alumni plan to go to Kuantan to set up an Organising Committee for the 2020 Reunion.

### **4. Kirkby Heritage Book**

We still have some 500 unsold copies of the Heritage book. No progress has been made to distribute the remaining copies to schools and educational institutions. This is because we are trying to persuade the National Library to buy the book when budget becomes available in the new year.

### **5. Kirkby Website**

On Lau Sau San and Prof Dr Lee Sing's offer to transfer the website, [www.kirkbyites.net](http://www.kirkbyites.net) to the Alumni, there has been little progress on the takeover. This is because our appeal to Kirkbyites and Associate Members for

technical assistance has not met with any success. Work is in progress to reach out to professionals for assistance at a cost.

6. **Visit to Arkib Negara**

The Secretary will contact the Arkib for a next date for the visit. You will be notified in good time. Please be ready to submit whatever material you may wish to hand over to Arkib Negara.

7. **Kirkbyites' Children's Programme**

As decided earlier, the President was to make a survey of the interest, if any, in such a programme. On November 6 the President invited Associate Members (Children and relatives of Kirkbyites) and others who may be interested to a Luncheon Meeting in his house to discuss this programme. There was a solitary response – which was in the negative. There was also no positive reaction from Kirkbyites. In this situation the ExCo decided not to proceed with this programme.

8. **Amendment to the Constitution of The Alumni Association**

Consequent upon the decision to cancel the Kirkbyites' Children's Programme, the ExCo decided not to proceed with the earlier decision to amend the Constitution of the Alumni Association.

9. **Education Advisory Committee**

One of the most significant decisions of the Alumni in the year was the formation of an Education Advisory Committee with Dr Mohd Thalha as the Chairman to study the National Education Policy and make recommendations to the Government for improvements/changes. Dr Thalha has started his research and consultations. We look forward to submit a report thereon in the new year.

Next year is election year for the Alumni. A new leadership will be at the helm from March 2020. We can expect better and greater service to Kirkbyites.

We wish all Christians a Merry Christmas and everyone Good Health and Happiness in the New Year.

Dato V L Kandan  
President  
Persatuan Alumni MTTC Kirkby, Liverpool, England