

From: Dato V L Kandan <kandan@shearndelamore.com>

Date: Sun, 26 Aug 2018 at 1:10 pm

Subject: SEND US YOUR BEST KIRKBY STORY!

Dear Kirkbyites

Yesterday, in the Armada Hotel in Petaling Jaya, we had a very enjoyable Get-together, so ably and efficiently organised by our Social Secretary, Leela Unnithan. The food was very good, excellent company of 65 Kirkbyites and relatives, and memorable merriment until 4.00pm. Thank you Leela.

Please note that the next Get-Together, the last for the year, is on Saturday 15 December 2018.

At the Get-together yesterday I launched the 'SEND US YOUR BEST KIRKBY STORY!' (Kirkby Story) project. That launch is now being brought to you. Please see the appeal from Jack Lim below.

As I informed at the Dialogue during the Kirkby Reunion 2018 in Johore Bahru, through the introduction of Chong Hong Chong (1958-1959) some three months ago, I became acquainted with Jack Lim and his wife Lynn and their friend Andrea Lim, all multi-talented Toastmasters, in different professions, anxious to depict the historical significance of the Kirkby experience in documentary and/or feature film form. Cynthia Lim (1960-1961) and I have met with the team several times to discuss their proposal, the last two with Honey Ahmad, a Script Writer of considerable repute. They are rearing to put us in the memory lane for posterity!

In the attached appeal you see Jack asking for 'best memories/ stories/ anecdotes'. It need not be a freshly written story. I am aware many of you have written stories and recollected memories in writing. You may submit them too. The project team plans to weave your stories into poignant entertaining movie.

Let us together make this exciting project a reality through these volunteer creative artistes! There is no financial implication for us, save the possibility of some form of reward for the Best Story!

Yours in service

V L Kandan

SEND US YOUR BEST KIRKBY STORY!

Dear Kirkby-ans,

Firstly, let us introduce ourselves. We are a bunch of Malaysians from varied professional backgrounds who recently became acquainted with Dato' Kandan. Through him we heard great stories about Kirkby College and the impact it had on his life. The more we read up on Kirkby and get to know more Kirkby graduates, the more intrigued we became about it. Since some of us are from a production and storytelling background, we think that it's a shame that not more people know about this very interesting era in Malaysian history.

So we thought, why not look into making a film or documentary set in this very unique time of history. Travelling far away from home and family for an education in a time when it was not common makes us think that all of you were incredibly gutsy and spirited. It must have been an amazing time to be Malaysian especially as part of a newly minted country after Merdeka.

Here's our pitch. Give us your best memories/ stories/ anecdotes to help us kick-start our story-telling process. We want to know how it feels like to be pioneers of Malaysia's modern education system, to set up elaborate stage shows and cultural exchanges or even to fall in love in a foreign land. It can be funny, poignant, sad, tragic or simply something you still think about these many years later. We love details because that is what transports an audience.

We also want to make it interesting for you, so Dato' Kandan has graciously agreed to run a competition for Best Kirkby Story. Here are the details.

Name and year you were in Kirkby

Best thing you remember about your time there or even the journey there

A story about 500 words in length

Email them to: runnyhoney@gmail.com by 30th September 2018

Best story will win a prize and who knows, your story could be the inspiration for a film or part of a documentary.

Good luck and look forward to reading them!

Jack Lim

25.08.2018