

City Watch

Botanical research history

The Malaysian Branch of the Royal Botanic Society will hold a talk by Derek Sim, *Old Ceylon: An Overview of the Flora of Ceylon*. An Overview of the History of Botanical Research in Malaya on Dec 12 at 7.30pm at Raffles Lecture Hall, Room 7, Jalan Simei, East Legation. For details, call 93-2274 8347.

Rare books auction

By Auctioneers S&S, Ltd will be holding an auction of valuable rare books at 8pm on Dec 12 at the Ansonia Mall, Singapore. There will be more than 200 books for the public to view and bid with prices starting from \$150 to \$2500. For details, call 65-7794 1177.

Holiday camp at FEAM

The Malaysian Nature Society is organising a FEAM Holiday Camp on Dec 21 and 22 for children aged 12 to 15 at the Forest Ecology Institute at Bukit Jalil, 207041. There are 100/50 seats. For details, call 65-463 4273 5725.

Course on computer virus

The Institute of Management will hold a Computer course on Virus, Prevention and System Recovery at 10am on Dec 16, at Wisma WIM, Jalan Alang Mall Upper, Tanjong Pagar, Island Ter. Details, call 65-7729 9929.

Charity concert

The Lions Club of Sentosa, in collaboration with Circle of Friends, will hold a Charity Concert, featuring Chinese instrumental, folk music at 7pm on Dec 12 at the Amphitheatre, Prince College, 4th floor, The Summit, Sulong Road, to raise funds for the St. Leon Eye Clinic and the Leon KJ, Rural Centre. Tickets are priced at \$2000 and \$1500. For details, call 65-412 7377 888 or Check at 924-2133 112.

Solo art exhibition

THE SIX ART GALLERY is holding an exhibition entitled "Ceylonland", a solo art exhibition by Indonesian, Thailand and Malaysian artists. Exhibition from Dec 10 to 17. The gallery is located at 71, Jalan Sentulok, Bukit Timah, East Legation.

Popular Times

	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
KLUMPAN	5.46	5.87	4.29	3.94	4.18	
SIAMBAHA	5.41	5.86	4.28	3.93	4.18	
SIAMBAHA	5.44	5.87	4.29	3.94	4.18	

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EDITOR: TAN JU-ENG

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By JAYAGANDI IYARAJI
Photos by AZIZAH ABDULLAH

PROBABLY the greatest clown is when he fails to make his audience laugh.

Worse still if the people he is trying to cheer up are those who gravely deserve some laughter in their lives, such as hospitalised children, under-cared for nursing homes, patients in psychiatric facilities, hospice patients or the homeless.

They deserve the services of a special breed of modern clowns called the caring clown.

"Caring clowns are different from party and corporate clowns as they are more focused on assisting people to forget their troubles than in generating applause or more laughter."

"They also break into make-up and use funny props," said Dr. Y. S. K. J. J.

Sometimes, "despite all the target and older clown-making centres in the world, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Clown Camp

"Caring clowns dedicate all or at least a special portion of their clowning time to assist physically, psychologically, spiritually or social needs of their audience," he said.

Clown, said that apart from working with sick children, they spend the remaining 80 per cent of their time on the streets, the underprivileged, caring clown

workshops. "The other 80 per cent of the camp were Dr. Lee Muthulu and Bruce Johnson from the United States, Rose and Gigi from Japan and Sam

The available professional who is also a clown. The camp was held at the Carling Club Programme - aimed at promoting volunteerism and training Malaysians to bring therapeutic healing of a different kind to people.

"The camp was meant to equip a new wave of community outreach programmes by tapping into the art of clowning among participants."

It provided anatomical, dramatic structure and activities to assist participants at becoming integral health therapists and care providers.

Among the participants were Wang Kai, 42, and his 37-year-old son, Jimmy.

Wang, who has experience in voluntary relief work in Cambodia and Bangladesh, said he joined the camp as he wanted to learn ways to become more approachable to people of all ages and backgrounds.

"I hope to be able to use the techniques I learn here when I take part in future relief efforts."

"I've brought my son with me as



The camp's biggest in their clowning glory (from left) J Bruce Johnson, Lee Muthulu, Gigi, Richard Sontag, Rose and Sam Lee.



Wang... wants to find more ways to connect with people from all walks of life.