



**International Inner Wheel
19th Convention
Manchester 2024**

“The Gift of Blood, The Gift of Life”

AN INNER WHEEL CENTENARY PROJECT
By the Inner Wheel Clubs of District 331

To mark Inner Wheel Day 2024, four Clubs in District 331 came together to organise a very meaningful Inner Wheel Centenary Project - **“The Gift of Blood, The Gift of Life”** , a Blood Donation Drive, in their respective towns.

This initiative is in line with one of IIW President Trish Douglas' areas of focus for 2023-2024... “Mental Wellness Brightens Lives”. As we support and brighten the lives of those who are hurt or in pain or struggling with mental anguish as a result of the turmoil, unrest, natural catastrophes, and stress in today’s world, let us also SHINE A LIGHT on the need for regular blood donations to ensure the continuous availability of blood products in the Blood Banks.

Blood transfusion and blood products save millions of lives every year. It not only helps patients suffering from life-threatening conditions, and lends support to medical and surgical procedures, but also plays an essential life-saving role in maternal and child-care scenarios, and during emergency responses to man-made and natural disasters. The availability of blood and blood products, which we sometimes take for granted, will not only help quell the anxieties of patients to a certain extent, but also give them and their families that much-needed peace of mind.

And as we help replenish our local Blood Banks, may we create an even greater awareness of our Inner Wheel presence and the work that we do in the East Malaysian regions of Sabah and Sarawak.



From the IW CLUB OF SANDAKAN, SABAH

A Blood Donation Campaign was jointly organised by the Inner Wheel Club of Sandakan and the Rotary Clubs of Sandakan and Sandakan North, and assisted by *Tabung Darah* (Blood Bank), Duchess of Kent Hospital, Sandakan to mark the 100th Anniversary of Inner Wheel. Although the event was a half day affair, the organisers were ecstatic to learn that an unprecedented total of 187 pints of blood were collected from about 300 registrants that morning. What an amazing achievement!



(Above and top left) Registration of blood donors, and successful donors eagerly waiting their turn to donate to their local Blood Bank



(Left) IWC Sandakan President Diana Quek happily doing her part in this project. Supporting her are the members of IWC Sandakan

From the IW CLUB OF MIRI, SARAWAK

The Inner Wheel Blood Donation Drive then continued in the town of Miri, Sarawak on Sunday 7th January 2024, to help top-up the blood supply in the Miri Hospital Blood Bank.

To mark this auspicious occasion, the Sarawak Transport Minister Datuk Seri Lee Kim Shin was invited to launch the event, which was jointly organised by IWC Miri, the Rotary Club of Miri Oil Town, the Malaysian Red Crescent (Miri) and the Miri Hospital Blood Bank at the MYV Mall in Jelutong, Miri. Of the 139 registrants, 95 were successful in donating their blood. It was a most fulfilling day for all, and the successful event was covered by both the national and local television stations... Radio Television Malaysia and TV Sarawak, and the local news media.



Standing third from right, GOH Datuk Seri Lee Kim Shin with IWC Miri President Cecilia Sman to his right and her IW members in blue

In the News...



Donors doing their part to help the local community (Left and right)



KEMPERN DERMA DARAH DI MIRI
SENTIASA MENDAPAT SOKONGAN MENGGALAKKAN

From the IW CLUB OF KUCHING & IW CLUB OF SIBU , SARAWAK

To round off the Inner Wheel Centenary Celebration in District 331, IWC Kuching and IWC Sibu collaborated with *Kelab Rekreasi Kampung Budaya Sarawak* (KRESKAB) and the Malaysian Red Crescent (Kuching) to organise a Blood Donation Drive on Monday 29th January 2024 at the Sarawak General Hospital Blood Bank Centre, in Kuching. As with the other blood donation drives held earlier in Sandakan and Miri, this event also exceeded the organisers' expectations. Of the almost 50 registrants, 44 were successful blood donors with 13 of them being first time donors.



Mr John Jong from the Malaysia Red Crescent, with PNR Alice Lau to his right and DVC Jane Labang to his left



Blood donation in progress at the Sarawak General Hospital Blood Bank Centre, Kuching



The Organisers -: President Koni Regod (fourth from Right) with members of IWC Kuching in pink; PNR Alice Lau from IWC Sibu (in a yellow top) with Mr John Jong from MRC to her left; and representatives from KRESKAB in black

The commitment of the members of the participating Clubs to ensure the success of this meaningful **INNER WHEEL CENTENARY BLOOD DONATION DRIVE** is truly commendable. The replenishment of the Blood Banks with over 325 pints of blood may be but a drop in the ocean, but it is the little drops that make the mighty ocean. And it is these little drops that will not only help those in urgent need of blood products, but also contribute to the well-being and peace of mind of the patients and their loved ones!