

Members of Kelab Motosikal Helang Malaysia handing over a dialysis machine to a representative from the National Kidney Foundation in Kemaman.



The bikers taking a group shot for memento.

Bikers with hearts of gold

IT WAS a cold and wet Sunday afternoon when Batu Pahat in Johor, was awoken by the roar of engine from a convoy of 38 huge bikes that was on a charitable mission.

Flashing big Harley Davidson bikes displaying proudly the Jalur Gemilang, the riders thundered into the town to visit PPIA (Pertubuhan Perkhidmatan Intervensi Awal), a centre for children and adults with learning disabilities.

The bikers were on the Malaysia Day Charity Ride that covered a total of 1,000km not only to celebrate the country's unity, but also to bring good tidings to various communities.

The route took them from Kuala Lumpur through Kemaman (Terengganu), Kuantan, Batu Pahat, Seremban and back to the capital city to complete the charity journey.

They were from the organiser Kelab Motosikal Helang Malaysia (more commonly known as HTC MC), Militia Riders MC, Johore Wingers and Dragon Bikers.

PPIA extends its services to about 100 children and adults who are coping with autism, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Down syndrome, Global Delay or various learning disabilities.

Having spent time to understand the needs of the organisation, president Simon Wong, members Lim Joon Seong and Alvin Seah committed a total of RM4,080 to support two needy children for one year on behalf of the club.

Through the support, PPIA can continue to provide this group of vulnerable children, adults and their families with hope and support.

The riders also took a tour of the place to see the facilities available to guide and train these special needs children and adults towards independent living.

Earlier, the group contributed a dialysis machine, costing RM40,000, to NKF Kemaman. They donated the first dialysis machine in 2017 to a centre in Alor Setar.

In Kuantan, the bikers contributed about RM6,000 to

Handicapped and Mentally Retarded Children Centre Kuantan to cover six months of electricity expenses.

As the group pushed back to Kuala Lumpur, they stopped at Pertubuhan Anak Yatim Darul Aminan in Seremban where they contributed RM7,800 to cover a year of rental for the centre.

"The purpose of this ride is not just to *syiok sendiri* (self-enjoyment), but to bring cheer along the way to charitable organisations," Wong said.

"This is our contribution for the betterment of society and our country, in conjunction with Malaysia Day," he said.

Seah, who is also a sub-committee member, added: "We, at the club, have a passion to help the needy.

"We are blessed to be a blessing, that's why we ride and do good together regularly. We promise many more of such efforts to come."

With big hearts and wide grins, these men on big bikes then continued their journey back home.