



ONCE-MONTHLY
Bonviva[®]
Ibandronic Acid

9 out of 10

Over 9 out of 10 women with postmenopausal osteoporosis, respond positively to treatment with Bonviva.^{1,2}

one tablet, once a month. Building bones with one tablet, once a month. Building bones with one table, once a month.

Composition: Ibandronic Acid, Mannesdium salt, monohydrate. **Indications:** Treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis, to reduce the risk of fractures. Efficacy on femoral neck fractures has not been established. **Dosage:** One 150 mg film-coated tablet once a month. For further information on dosage and administration, please see full product information. **Contraindications:** Patients with known sensitivity to ibandronic acid or to any of the excipients, in uncorrected hypocalcaemia. **Warnings and Precautions:** Hypocalcaemia and other disturbances of bone and mineral metabolism should be effectively treated before starting therapy. Discontinue if patients develop symptoms of esophageal irritation such as worsening dysphagia, pain on swallowing, retrosternal pain or heart burn. Caution during concomitant treatment with NSAIDs. Not recommended for patients with a creatinine clearance below 30 ml/min. No adequate data for use in pregnant women. Not indicated during lactation. Osteonecrosis of the jaw has been reported primarily in patients suffering from cancer, anemia, coagulopathy, infection, pre-existing dental disease. **Side effects:** Common adverse reactions – dyspepsia, nausea, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, gastritis, reflux, oesophagitis, headache, influenza-like syndrome, myalgia, arthralgia, rash, muscle cramp, musculoskeletal pain / stiffness. **Interactions:** Calcium supplements, antacids and other oral medications containing multivalent cations (such as aluminium, magnesium, iron) can interfere with bisphosphonate absorption. **Packs:** Film coated tablets 150 mg 1's, 3's. Full details on composition, indications, contraindications, side effects, dosage and precautions are available on request. **Reference:** 1. Bonviva Prescribing Information. 2. Register JV et al. Ann Rheum Dis 2006;65:654-661.



Roche (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.
(Co. No. 11792-H)
Wisma Seiangor Dredging
142, Jalan Ampang
50450 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: 603-2161 1100
Fax: 603-2161 1805

BNV.27.028.RM



HOWZIT

MANIPAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
2008-2010**

PRESIDENT
Dr. Koshy Thomas
H/P: 019-2142293
Clinic: 03-33425693

VICE PRESIDENT
Mr. S. Arasu
H/P: 012-6851233

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Dr. S. Selvakumar
Tel/Fax : 05-506 3826
H/P: 012-518 5455

SECRETARY
Dr T.S. Jeyalan
H/P: 012-3717012
Clinic: 03-22845228
Fax: 03-22843103

ASST. SECRETARY
Dr. Simon Martin
Clinic: 03-22744868

TREASURER
Dr. S. Nagarajan
H/P: 012-2878012
Clinic: 03-22845228

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Dr. K. Vijayalakshmi
H/P: 012-3907012
Dr. Nirmal Singh
H/P: 012-3031428
Dr. Thomas Abraham
H/P: 012-3248463
Dr. Saravanan
H/P: 012-2333350

AUDITORS
Dr. Thomas John
Mr. M. G. Menon

Secretariat Address
c/o Klinik Pergigian Bangsar,
7A, Jalan Telawi Lima,
Bangsar Baru,
59100 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03-2282 7355
Fax: 03-2282 8355
email: manipala@streamyx.com
www.manipal.org.my

Bonviva at KK



It was my pleasure to be one of the participants for the Bonviva Teach-in that was organized by Roche. Thanks to the Good offices of Mr Mupindra, we Manipalites had a very enjoyable weekend at the Nexus Karambunai Resort in KK, during the Merdeka weekend.

The trip started with most of us assembling at KLIA. The usual greetings followed by some coffee and tea, a far cry from those old days, when all MAAM get together were over a Beer! Age is catching up!! arriving in KK was an eye opener for me, it was my first time in KK, and the new Airport Terminal had only been open for one week. Impressive.

After checking in at the beautiful resort, we had lunch. This was followed by introductory lecture about Bonviva. I was very proud when two of the three consultants who were to lecture us were from KMC. I must say, each of them had a unique way of teaching us old dogs new tricks. Good Teachers! I know, I will have hardly a chance to use Bonviva in my practice but it's was a good revision of my orthopaedic memory banks. I have always believed that if you attend a medical talk, and go back with one new bit of knowledge it's a plus. I learned not to ignore a patient who complains of pains after an injury, and no fracture is seen on x-rays. Think of micro fractures! This was followed by the welcome dinner which was fabulous. Some of us senior citizens adjourned to the pub, but it proved to be too noisy, and we retreated to the ballroom.



The next day too was full of lectures, and question and answer sessions. The sessions were concluded, and in the afternoon we were all taken on a city tour. Some of us did not go to the Filipino market, and instead, we adjourned to a coffee shop, where we sampled almost all the different beers available in KK. On the way back we stopped at a seafood retailer's. They had pre-pack blocks of ice in which were excellent sea food like prawns, lobsters, abalones etc. You can order these, and they deliver to the airport just before flight your takes off. Convenient. Lots of us bought tons of seafood. Except Ravi of P.D who has his own boat in Admiral and Cove and can go fishing any time.(Ooi Ravi, how about a Manipal fishing trip?)

Back at that hotel, again a sumptuous dinner and late night gossiping about Manipal. The next day, as we returned. I made a mental note to return to KK again and lepak.....

After returning home my daughter, a seafood fan was thrilled by the size of the prawns. 5 prawns weighed 1 kilogram! 2 days later Sumathy served up dinner:

The menu was:

Fresh Oyster a la Roche

Ensemble de Tiger Prawns dans le fromage a la Mupindra

Sautéed- abalone de Bonviva

It was a great dinner.

Viva La Bonviva

Thanks MAAM and Roche. More such meetings please - I will never miss a micro fracture.

Dr. Surey

Founder President MAAM



CONGRATULATIONS & CELEBRATIONS

Ravi aka chief celebrated his 50th birthday @ his residence with family, friends & the 1977 Karkalites. It was your typical Manipalite rendez-vous...lavish food spread, flowing booze & great fellowship reminiscing our college days. I still get amazed how Ravibalan can remember some obscure moment in Swagath Karkala...yeah maybe because we had unforgettable magic times.



Meanwhile another good friend managed to sneak out from down under and also celebrate his 50th birthday party with family. I was not on the invite list so Mahinder you owe me big time for writing this & featuring your mug....hmmm maybe a ticket to the Australian Open may do the trick. *By the way Vijilakshmi & Padma where is your cake?*



Finally our sports sec. Nirmal & Meera celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in a secret location to escape paparazzi like me.

Did any of you get invited?

Anyway I still managed to install a cam in the hotel room. Please contact me for original DVD.

Membership comes with its privileges.

The 2008 Convocation of Melaka Manipal Medical College was held on Saturday, 19th July and the guest of honor was His Excellency the Governor of Melaka Tun Datuk Seri Utama Mohd Khalil bin Yaakob.

The Alumni was represented by the president Dr. Thomas Khoshy and three members of the executive committee lending support. The Chief Executive of Melaka Manipal Medical College Prof. Dr. John T. Arokiasamy, in his speech touched on the importance of the graduates joining the Alumni and the benefits they could reap from such membership. The Alumni donates four prizes to its best students in various subjects including Best Medical Student for the year. Following the pomp and regal ceremony, the Exco committee along with Dato Dr. R.L. Annandan convened a board meeting with the Manipal University Management being the Chairman Dr Ramdas Pai, CEO and M.D. Dr Ranjan Pai, Vice Chancellor Dr. Warriar and the Medical Deans of Manipal and Mangalore Colleges. It was truly a hallmark meeting, as our road map towards the future of our association looks to be in the right track. We are truly grateful to the Pais and Dr Warriar for being so generous in their assistance towards our programmes.

Below are the excerpts of the minutes of the meeting that were discussed and which will be expedited immediately.

- a) Each and every Malaysian student joining the varsity courses in Manipal and Melaka Manipal (Medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy) will automatically become a life member of the Manipal Alumni Association Malaysia on graduation. A payment of USD 100 per graduate will be borne by Manipal University.
- b) The Community Project will be funded to an amount of RM 5,000 by the Management of Manipal University.



- c) A full page colour advertisement of Melaka Manipal will be carried in our quarterly newsletter. The cost of RM 8,000 will be borne by Manipal University
- d) A publicity drive for membership recruitment will be initiated with letters forwarded by the Vice-Chancellor Dr Warriar and Dr Koshy Thomas (President MAAM). The task of postage and printing will be undertaken by the administration office of the Melaka Manipal College. We will forward the names of all Malaysian graduates from Manipal, who are not members of the Alumni (estimated 5,000 Manipalites)
- e) Continuing Professional Development will see a smart partnership between Manipal University and MAAM. Lectures, workshops, hands on courses and seminars will be conducted by the experts from Manipal University. The mechanics of working out a structured programme for the various professions



- f) It was duly confirmed that 5 seats per intake would be made available to children of members of the Alumni for the Melaka Manipal programme. A minimum qualification has been put in place. The applicants will be vetted by the Association.
- g) International Alumni meeting: MAAM will host the International Alumni meeting in the year 2011 in conjunction with our 25th Anniversary. Manipal University has agreed to sponsor this programme. The de-recognition of the Manipal University by Indian Medical

Council and Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare has caused a stir and now the University has been given the recognition till 2013. A letter by Dr. Warriar appealing to all Alumnus for their support, and the reply by MAAM, respectively to the Prime Minister, President and the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare of India can be viewed at our website.

Dr. T.S. Jeyalan
Sec. MAAM

MELAKA-MANIPAL MBBS TWINNING PROGRAMME



Students selected for the programme do 2½ years of pre-clinical training in Manipal, India, Followed by 2½ years of clinical teaching and training based at the Melaka and Muar Hospitals of the Ministry of Health Malaysia. There are two intakes per academic year; March and September. Applicants with suitable grades in any three subjects out of Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics in their STPM or equivalent examinations will be considered for admission.



MELAKA-MANIPAL MEDICAL COLLEGE

Jalan Batu Hampar, Bukit Baru, 75150 Melaka
 Tel: 6(06) 2925849/50/51 Fax: 6(06) 2817977
 E-mail : info@manipal.edu.my
 Website: www.manipal.edu.my

Wide Aim
 Precise Treatment



Pharmaceutical form: Xorimax 250 mg coated tablets, contains 250 mg of cefuroxime (as cefuroxime axetil); Xorimax 500 mg coated tablets, contains 500 mg of cefuroxime (as cefuroxime axetil). **Posology of Xorimax tablets:** Adults-Mild to moderate lower respiratory tract infections; 250 mg twice daily, Severe lower respiratory tract infections or if pneumonia is suspected; 500 mg twice daily, Uncomplicated lower urinary tract infections; 125-250 mg twice daily, Skin and soft tissue infections; 250-500mg twice daily, Uncomplicated gonorrhoea; single dose of 1000 mg, Pyelonephritis; 250mg twice daily. Children aged two years or older with otitis media or with more severe infections; 250-500 mg twice daily. Xorimax tablets should not be crushed. **Therapeutic indications:** Xorimax is indicated for the treatment of: upper respiratory tract infections, lower respiratory tract infections, uncomplicated lower urinary tract infections, skin and soft tissue infections, uncomplicated gonorrhoea. **Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to cephalosporins and/or any ingredients of the tablet. **Special warnings and special precautions for use:** The drug should be administered with extreme caution to patients with demonstrated hypersensitivity to penicillins or other β -lactam antibiotics. As with other antibiotics severe diarrhea may also occur during the long-term treatment with cefuroxime axetil. Therefore, it is necessary to take into consideration the possibility of fatal pseudomembranous enterocolitis, in which case the treatment should be immediately discontinued and the use of another suitable antibiotic initiated. Care should be taken in patients with phenylketonuria as the tablets contain Aspartame. **Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction:** Drugs which reduce gastric acidity may result in a lower bioavailability of Cefuroxime compared with that of the fasting state and tend to cancel the effect of enhance post-prandial absorption. As a false negative result may occur in the ferricyanide test. It is recommended that either the glucose oxidase or hexokinase methods are used to determine blood/plasma glucose levels in patients receiving Xorimax. This antibiotic does not interfere in the alkaline picrate assay for creatinine.

Sandoz Marketing Office c/o IDS Services (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd
 Lot 12, Jalan Sepadu 25/123, Axis Premier Industrial Park, 40400 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan
 Tel : 603-5121 7978 Fax : 603-5122 8272 www.sandoz.com

4WD JOURNEY OF BLISS

Certainly, travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on deep and permanently, in the ideas of living.

- Miriam Beard.

Just collected my airline tickets to Italy & Australia for my up coming April/May vacations when my mobile rang, it was Halim Abdul Rahman the Expedition Leader of the Petronas Adventure Team [PAT]. He invited me to join them as the Expedition Doctor for the Petronas Trans EuroAsia Expedition 2008. It was going to be two months of intense gruelling travel from Europe to Asia on 4-wheel drive.

My love story with travel began during college. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to my friends Timothy Longacre, Joseph Alagaratnam and Randy Towne who introduced me to this world. There are some moments where you realize a lifetime is not enough. Imagine an exhilarating journey, amazing adventures combine with exotic locations with charming hideaways that provide a true sense of place.

This year the PAT had an influx of new blood, most are in the form of battle hardened drivers who have more than 10 years experience on this 4-wheel drive circuit whilst I was a newbie!

The contingent consisted of 50 women & men from all walks of life in 18 vehicles. The team spent over 60 days together, traversing rough terrain and extreme weather to complete the journey from Amsterdam, Netherlands to Kerteh, Malaysia with a mileage 21,000 kilometers. Everyone on this expedition are called by their "callsign" and mine is VERTIGO! [song by U2]

The Medic team consist 3 of us, Air Sejuk, Cargo who were the drivers and me, Vertigo the navigator/expedition doctor. FORD Everest vehicle number 5 was spacious and comfortable with high tech equipment in terms of dials and gauges. It is equipped with Satellite Navigation System,



radio communication device, inverters to provide power to charge any electrical devices. With all systems go, our vehicle was shipped along with the others to Hamburg, Germany with MISC.

With my bag packed and provisions loaded, I was ready for great adventures. And so, on a late June evening, I was off to explore new worlds along with this irresistible curiosity of what was installed for me. Bid farewell to my families and friends, I dragged myself to KLIA. The flight Boeing 747 was packed with passengers bound to Amsterdam and as usual the flight was delayed!

The flight was pretty bumpy, shook violently

couple of times. You see, I have this wonderful relationship with planes since my crash, tried really hard to doze when suddenly Halim and Head Steward woke me up as medical assistance was required for one of the Dutch passengers on flight. What a way to start a great journey!?

On this expedition, we had three vehicle accidents with minor injuries, multiple common ailments and a couple of minor surgeries. We had missed two bombings, floods, earth quake, multiple landslides and

the worst of all two of our vehicles had major break downs.

What I enjoyed most was the Community Relation Programme [CRP] at Turkmenbashi, Tashkent and Changai Rai which was organized by PAT along the expedition route especially in countries where PETRONAS has business interests. The journey of thousands of kilometers on lesser travelled roads enabled the team members to experience first hand the living conditions of communities who have not had the benefit of development. In the name of humanity, PETRONAS through PAT often graced schools, orphanages, welfare homes as well as meeting the less fortunate along the way and looking into their basic needs through donations ranging from food to educational tools.

From Amsterdam to Kerteh, we took in a phenomenal diversity of cultures, places and people. We discovered Europe, Central Asia, Asia and experienced fourteen amazing destinations- the coffee shops and cycling, yurt camps at the second largest high-altitude salt lake, driving through the Silk Road, largest open air bazaars in



Asia, sand dune surfing, terracotta warriors, the horrendous border crossings and many, many, many more!!!

Travelling to your favourite destinations can often be as interesting and as much fun. The people you meet, the hotels you stay at, the meals you eat [it's a real bummer being a vegetarian!], the trips you take on the local trains, buses or cabs – once you return home your memories of your visit will be of the journey and the whole experience, and not just of the destination itself. So, if you remotely considered 4WD as your dream, stop resisting. Take a plunge and go. Your mind and your life will be enriched by the experience.

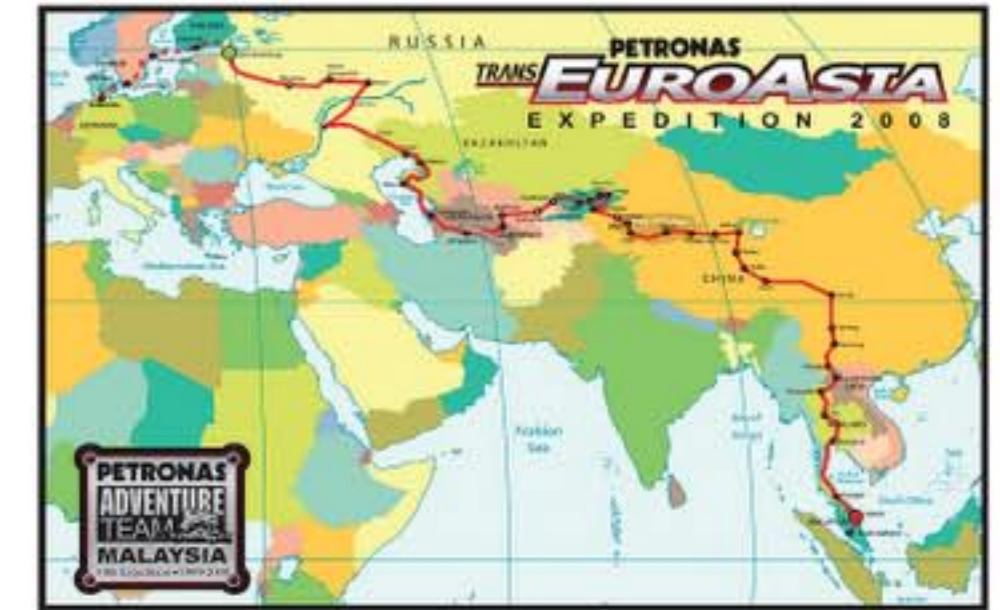
It has been a journey of self discovery, not just of the cultures, people and places. I have truly gained more than I bargained for on this trip, and at the end of the day I learnt a lot about myself, about the others and from things I've observed along the way. The end result, I think I have become a better person, at least much more tolerant, patient and adaptable to different situations.

So what's next??? Back to reality ... the holiday is over! Spending two months together away from home really put us through all kinds of situation and as a result I have developed a strong bond with this bunch of people. We started out as complete strangers, they are like family to me now – we share a common bond.

As a newbie, I must say I really enjoyed this trip. And given the chance I couldn't hesitate to sign up again. The memories of the PETRONAS Trans EuroAsia 2008 will always be a part of me. It was a fantastic journey and greatest adventure of my life.

This is Vertigo signing off.

Dolly Lingam



Reunion Dinner of the KMC Manipal, Class of 1988 - 1993



Reunion Dinner of the Kasturba Medical College Manipal, Class of 1988 - 1993
Legend Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9th August 2008

Reunion dinners are never dull, not when a bunch of rambunctious former classmates, some of us who have not seen each other for more than a decade, get together in a room. There were surprised wide-eyed enthusiastic shouts of joy along with hugs and kisses (some, just a good old handshake) at the reception hall when good friends greet each other during the pre-dinner cocktails and registration.

The evening's events got underway with speeches from the guest of honour, Dr. Santhosh Pai who enthused about our spirit of camaraderie. The president of the Kasturba Medical College Manipal Alumni (Malaysian Chapter) was next and he urged all of us to join the Alumni to promote co-operation and cultivate familial bonds among all alumni members. Following the chairman, Dr. B. Vijayan's welcoming speech, a short presentation was presented which brought us down memory lane and highlighted the many changes in KMC, Manipal in the last twenty years. Several awards were also handed out including the one with the Most Children (tie between Dr. Selva Ganesan and Anita Pelly, 4 children each), Oldest Child (Dr. Jessie Tang, 12-year-old child) and Youngest Child (Dr. Arun Kumar, 4 month-old twins). Dr. V. Akila



who had come all the way from New York was voted the one who Travelled Farthest and had the most rousing applause of the night. The Most Follicly Challenged (Baldest) was awarded jointly to Dr. Bala Appoo and Dr. Suresh.

Lucky draws conducted and some of us had gone back bearing gifts courtesy of Dr. Arun Kumar, Manipal Alumni, Heritage Bay Hotel, Trengganu, La Cocina Restaurant, Seri Pacific Hotel and the Legend Hotel. Dr. Jimmy Loi contributed a video camcorder for the grand prize draw.

There was a delicious continental food buffet followed by dancing by those who were light on their feet. A couple of exotic belly dancers also performed which helped raised the temperature in the room. The night came to an end at 1 am. There were hugs and kisses again and long drawn out goodbyes. Some of us lingered in the hallway before adjourning and continued to party in one of the private rooms till dawn.

Until our next reunion, adieu ...

Chin

Thayahlan Memorial 2008 By Nikhil Singh Jassal

Terasek Sports Complex, Bangsar, 3rd August 2008 – Simon Martin sat on the green grass overlooking the futsal pitch, a glummer look on his naturally morose face. His finely dyed moustache drooped as if a physical manifestation of his sour state of mind. For it would have been a perfect august morning 'cept for the absence of metallic vessels filled to the brim with fermented malt and hops.

Nevertheless, his undying thirst and drooping moustache could not forever bog down his spirits. For it was the morning of the late Dr. Thayalan Memorial Futsal game, this time organized (again) by the socially sensitive Bangsar Residents Association.

For the benefit of the uninitiated, the late dentist Dr. Thayalan, a man who loved children, began these Games as a platform for the younger members of his extended family to participate in sport. As time and the Games' reputation grew, many more came to partake in its legacy.

This 8th reincarnation of the Games saw Dr. Thayalan's target market pitted against the wily skills of newcomers hailing far and wide; from prime city Bandar Utama up till the quaint but flood-prone riverside township of Taman Sri Muda. Two of the teams in attendance were and still are coached by Taman Sri Muda's wet market's mutton man: Sri Muda A and B. Another team was Dr. Thayalan's nephews themselves – officially known the Beefy Boys. Good lot of Hindus they are. Last to notably mention is Krong Laap, none of whom were Thais.



The 5-a-side tournament kicked off with the group stages at 08:00 GMT+Kuala Lumpur (0Beer:00 GMT+Manipal). The boys lashed, kicked, spat and touched each other ferociously throughout most of the games. Usually some fellow had the presence of mind to kick a ball into the back of a net, usually not his own. And that's how it continued up till the end of the preliminary stages.

At that point in time, to award the athletes a break and to truly and fully entertain the crowd, an intermission game of the Manipal Veterans vs. the Bangsar City Council team was played. One of the participants was yours truly, putting the meaning of the word veteran to test. Needless to say, Manipal trounced the Council team 8-1, but props to the Council team for conceding defeat with good sportsmanship. Just to note, I believe I scored a hattrick. Or was it more? Never mind not quite important.

And then there were eight – the final stages. The heat of the day and the athletes' love for nicotine took their tolls as the quality of futsal deteriorated a fair bit. Therefore I will omit most niggling details. However, Dr.'s Nirmal and Simon did take on cheerleading duties



for Sri Muda A (as Coach Mutton Man was in-absentia) who were playing house favourites Beefy Boys. Their robust and hooliganesque war cries managed to rattle the beefsteaks who turned with tearing eyes to their Beefy Mothers to moo away the bad guys. Nevertheless, Sri Muda A prevailed to prove that leaner and gamier meat always tastes better and will kill you far later in life.

Fast forward to the finals, Sri Muda A versus Krong Laap. The crowd stood still. The silence

was deafening. The light breeze bellowed as if a hurricane. The dust rose off the ground. And then the ref sounded his whistle: Kick-Off. Sri Muda A dominated the possession, slowly trying to unlock the Thai defensive front. Classically tragic for A, Krong Laap's Pan-Asian bald-headed forward sprung what pundits call the one man show counterattack and



took the lead. From then on, A played catch-up the rest of the match, always conceding a goal to baldie right after equalizing. Somehow though, right at the very death, they levelled the score at 3-all. But fortune favoured the bald on the day. Once again, the baldie booted in another spectacular goal at the absolute death of the game,



bringing glory to the Thai kingdom. But, football is usually never a one-man sport, and hats off to Krong Laap for taking the bull by the horns, balls and all. Congratulations, fellas. To A, in my not-so-humble opinion, you were the best team in the tournament but things just went wrong in the finals. Also, please don't use this newsletter to wrap mutton.

Post the usual award ceremony and glorious speech by visiting dignitaries, the Manipal group then retired for ~~numerous~~ just three drinks at Canteena's, Bangsar. In attendance was everyone, including Aunty Thevi. I was there to ~~get sloshed~~ document proceedings. Short story long, since facts are very important in reputable publications, we started off with one beer as it was still a balmy 3pm. Graduating on to stouts along with a few bites, the winners of the Games joined us upon invitation. ~~A few~~ No more malty beverages along the way, ~~many many~~ one tequila toasts was proposed in the name of Dr. Thayalan, may his good work live on. All of us then moved on back to our cars, demonstrating sobriety by continuously touching the tips of our noses with fingers from alternating hands and hopping on one leg all the way to the parking lot. And for the first time that day, Dr. Simon Martin's moustache won the battle against gravity.

Once again, the spirit of the good Dr. Thayalan manages to live on. As a footnote I believe we all, as the Manipal Malaysia Alumni collective, would like to thank the Bangsar Residents Association for graciously organizing the games, as well as all participants and also the City Council team for making the Thayalan Memorial 2008 an event to remember. Adios, I'm off to have a strong one. Writing columns for retirees drains the youthful soul.

Ed Note-For the record I do not dye my moustache-my hair maybe but never my moustache.Any of you have VKL's tel. no?

The President & Committee extend their warmest greetings to all members of MAAM and hope all of you are gearing & rearing up for our Convention in Dec.

Before I dwell into that let me brief you on our recent happenings. Firstly we are very proud to inform you that our membership is growing @ a steady rate ie. if you can figure out what that means. Secondly I would like to introduce you to our new administrator @ the Secretariat Mr. Kulen replacing Ganesh who is grazing in Idiki pastures. Please drop by and Kulen will treat you to his famous homemade tuna sandwiches & green tea if you give him prior notice of course.

Dr. Warriar paid us a recent visit and had a closed door meeting with the committee & trustees in KL and also another closed door meeting in Melaka with Dr. Ramdas & Dr. Sanjan Pai. The discussions were very open though.... anyway I will let Jeya fill you in with the official details in his report.

While the planet was counting down to the Beijing Olympics ... classmates of Manipal '88 had a get together at a leading hotel in KL. We were invited hardly for our good looks but rather for the small donation we made for their goojals and in return we bribed new membership without any arm twisting. The camaraderie was amazing.... Akila a stunning classmate who practices in the USA managed to make it for the occasion. Kudos to Vijayan, Selva, Bala, Ganesh, Chin & gang- your organization skills were awesome. Chin have you considered taking over the website yet?

The expected political crossover in Sabah may not have materialised but MAAM in collaboration with Roche did crossover and conduct a CPD in KK. Well- like all our events (collars up & buttons down) it was a sold-out house -full runaway success. Surey's partly censored cover story due to the current KHDN rulings should give you all the plentiful insights.

MMA (thanks to Manalan) has also recognized our CPDs in future as accreditation points meetings or something like that.



Editor's Desk



Meanwhile please be informed that our Community Service date has been changed to 23-Nov.-2008. The venue will be Bedford Estate @ Kuala Sepat in between Morib & Sepang. If you have time on your hands or just simply feeling guilty driving that brand new Merc/ Beamer around without contributing anything back to society please contact Kulen @ the Secretariat for details. Bring a Coleman along if you want to buy fresh seafood & oru maram kallu at ridiculous prices.

On the topic of prices apparently there has been some mumbling, grumbling & rumbling @ the grapevine with regards to our Convention price tag. Let me once again enlighten you my dear fellow Manipalites:

Bangsar Restaurant (Since Jalan Alor is non-existent now)

Appetizer + Main Course + Dessert + 1 glass of Wine = RM150/pax

Manipal Convention 2008

5 Star hotel lodging-2 nights

Free T-shirt (pic) + Cap + Bag

***2 Breakfast + 2 lunch + 2 dinners incl.**

1 Riverboat Cruise Cocktail Lunch (TBC)

Free flow of "Assorted" Beverages

"Mama Mia" Entertainment and +++ = RM500/pax

***All meals melamine free**

I hope I have made my GLARING points clear esp.

when I have on purpose ignored fellowship viz.

PRICELESS, the financial tsunami & the petrol hike.

Finally I would like to thank the following for their contribution to this issue of Howzit- Surey, Jeya, Nikhil, Chin & Dolly... you have exiled me to the mainstream.

If you require me to publish any interesting events of relevance involving Manipalites please e-mail it to me. Watch out for the last flyer with all the details on the Convention coming soon to your mail box. The next issue of Howzit will be in a brand new magazine kind format which I hope will make an impression on both you & the sponsors. Please visit our new website @ www.manipal.org.my and leave your comments on the shoutbox or @ the blog. Lastly thanks Siva for all the good times in Seremban- deeply appreciated & I hope all of you guys like this years Convention T-shirt & cap.

Happy Deepavali

Bye for now

Simon Martin

Editor/Asst. Sec.

howzitnews@gmail.com

