

COMMUNITY CULTURAL HERITAGE PROJECT

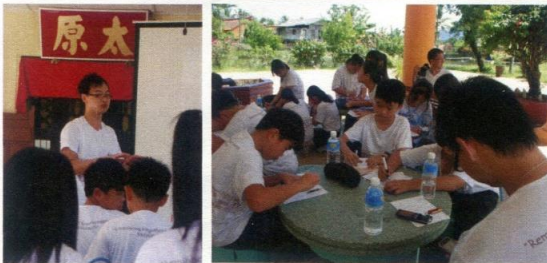
" Reminiscing forgotten treasures ... SINIAWAN"

This is a joint project implemented by Sarawak Heritage Society & The Talent & Art Performing Group, for Swee Gek Kung Siniawan Sarawak & supported by BlueScope Lysaght (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd.

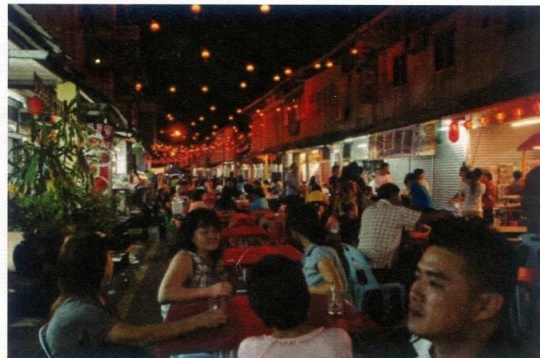
Date	Activities
2010	
05.04	Ancestor Worship Festival (Ching Ming Festival)
18.04	Exploring Rajah Brooke Retreat at Bukit Peninjau with Malaysia Nature Society (MNS)
05.06-20.06	Students Holiday Camp
06.06	Ong Mansion Site Visit (part of Students Holiday Camp)
30.07	Swee Guk Kung Deity Birthday Procession (Approximately 17 days)
23.08	Hungry Ghost Festival at Jalan Jugah
24.08	Hungry Ghost Festival at Siniawan
27.08	RTM Interview at Siniawan
04.09 - 12.09	Penang Study Trip
22.09	Mooncake Festival Celebration
25.09	Mid-autumn Festival Opening Ceremony
12.10	Start of Siniawan Weekend Night Bazaar
20.11	Expedition with Minister YB Dato' Dr. James Dawos Mamit to Rajah Brooke Retreat at Bukit Peninjau
20.11 - 21.11	Students Holiday Camp

This year, SHS has slowly begun to let the local community take lead of the project. This aim has been greeted with open arms by the local community as they strived to carry forward the work initiated with the Society. They started off the calendar of events with a community-run Mooncake festival, building on 2009's festival co-organized by SHS. This proved to be a great success and SHS would like to congratulate Siniawan's local community for its effort.

Under the Penghulu's lead, Siniawan has been given a new lease of life. The success of the Mooncake festival kick-started a weekend night bazaar that has been held since October 2010, organized exclusively by the local community. This night bazaar is still going strong and the local community has benefited greatly from it in terms of economy. According to the Penghulu, the event is bringing substantial revitalizing income into a town that seemed to be facing a bleak economic future before this project came along.



Students participating in various activities during the Ong Mansion site visit.



Vibrant festivities run by the locals during the weekend night bazaar in Siniawan town.

SHS's Siniawan Community Cultural Heritage Project has hit the year-and-a-half mark and is still going strong. This year, SHS, together with Wujiaoji and Wixin Photography, has been documenting the many key festivals in the second half of the year since its inception .

Amongst the important festivals that have been documented for the year 2010 are the Chap Goh Mei festival (Yuan Xiao Jie), Chinese All Souls' Day (Ching Ming Jie), the Hungry Ghost festival and Mooncake or mid-autumn festival.

This community project could become a template to other communities who wish to follow in the footsteps of Siniawan.

Ceremonial offerings in front of Liew Shangpang Temple during the Hungry Ghost festival, put out by the sub-community consists of 25 Chinese families.

