

STREETS NORTHERN **YOUR STORY**



S. Cheran Raj (left) and S. Sharvin Raj thanking the guests for donating generously at the charity gourmet lunch at Parkroyal Resort.



A model parading men's wear.



A model and a child show off dresses tailored for women and girls.



Francois Sigrist receiving a souvenir from House of Hope children.

# Raising hope among the underprivileged

**NOBLE CAUSE:** A charity lunch and auction was organised to raise funds for the House of Hope which shelters poor families in Rifle Range

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A CHARITY gourmet lunch to raise funds for the House of Hope was held at the Parkroyal Resort in Batu Ferringhi here recently. House of Hope is a non-profit organisation that provides shelter to underprivileged families living in Rifle Range, Air Itam. It runs various community programmes comprising educational, financial and medical aid to alleviate the burden of the less fortunate. The highlights of the luncheon were a "chicken dance" performed by children, and a gala fashion show featuring a bevy of beauties on the catwalk. Gorgeous female models and dashing

male ones strutted their stuff in front of the packed ballroom at the resort. Clad in casual attire designed by Brandon Tan, the fashion show attracted shutterbugs and media members from several lifestyle magazines covering the event. Tan is a Penangite who has made a name for himself in the local and international fashion scene. Present were House of Hope director Khoo Cheng See and Parkroyal Resort general manager, Francois Sigrist. Khoo was in tears as she gave her speech. She became emotional when she spoke with compassion about the plight of children who were victims of sexual abuse. The three women who chipped in to co-organise the charity gourmet lunch, which saw donors contributing gener-

ously towards the noble cause, were Karen Tan, Phillis Loh and Patie Tan. Guests had to buy tickets priced at RM100 each in support of the charity. They enjoyed a sumptuous buffet prepared by Parkroyal kitchen staff. An auction was held during the lunch as part of the charity drive to raise funds for the House of Hope. Children took part in fun-filled activities at game stalls, while the adults mingled with friends and made new ones. A lucky draw was held to give away prizes to the excited guests. A three-piece jazz band performed evergreen and hit songs to keep guests entertained throughout the leisurely Sunday afternoon. Some of the guests, together with their children, later swam in the resort's pool to enjoy the rest of the afternoon.



Children from the House of Hope performing the chicken dance at the event. Pic by Ramdzan Masiam



Brandon Tan with a bevy of beauties after the gala fashion show. Pix by Ramdzan Masiam



Organiser Pascal Martin-Daguett (left) receiving a painting from M. Harivaanatham, a House of Hope resident.