

Tuesday March 12, 2013

# He authors not one, but three books

By JADE CHAN

[jade@thestar.com.my](mailto:jade@thestar.com.my) Photos by LIM CHENG KIAT



Warm support: Toh signing copies of his books for well-wishers at the launch.

RETIRED consulting engineer A.S. Toh can now proudly declare that he has achieved one of his missions in life, with the publication of his books.

“It took me a couple of years to compile the three books, as most of the content had already been posted on my website — *NakedEyeView*.

“I then roped in my daughter Su Mei and son Wei Ming to help proofread and edit the books,” the 73-year-old said at the launch of his books, which was also attended by his family members, former employees and friends.

The three books are entitled *My Memoir*, *Jottings to the Media*, and *Adventure Travel & Recreation*. The third book is split into two volumes — *Off the Beaten Track* and *Mountain Trekking and Scuba Diving*.

“The first book details my experiences as a consulting engineer, what it was like dealing with government agencies and the extensive work I did in the field of civil engineering as it covered roads and highways, sewerage, and water supply structure — from treatment to distribution and supply,” said Toh.

“The second book features a collection of my writings to English media publications, dating back to the first letter in the mid-1990s.

“The third book is about the travels I did after I retired. I have been keeping busy with mountain trekking, scuba diving and adventure travelling.”



With charity in mind: All proceeds from the sale of Toh’s books will go to the Kiwanis Down Syndrome Foundation.

Between scuba diving and mountain trekking, Toh said the former was more dangerous despite the numerous safety measures involved. He explained that this was because of the unpredictable nature of water and weather.

Toh said he forked out RM50,000 to have 300 sets of his books printed. Each set of three books is priced at RM200.

“All proceeds from the sale of the books will go to the Kiwanis Down Syndrome Foundation. This is my way of contributing to the foundation where my son and his father-in-law are council members,” he said.

Toh said he was in the midst of looking for book distributors and is hoping to print a second edition of his books, should there be demand.

“I have always enjoyed writing and painting since my school days. My next mission in life is to master Chinese ink painting,” he said.

“My Chinese ink painting techniques so far have been purely self-taught. The next step for me is to learn the basics from a Malaysian master. Once I’ve mastered that, I will go to China to learn from a Chinese master and paint the beautiful landscapes of that country.”

Those interested in buying Toh’s books can email him at [astoh@nakedeyeview.com.my](mailto:astoh@nakedeyeview.com.my)