Showing love to senior citizens with charity walk

FOSTERING RESPECT: Students’ charity event a resounding success with the elderly

There was a definite sparkle in Mary Chee’s eyes. The 71-year-old was relishing her Saturday morning walk with a “stranger” three times younger than her.

“I never realised that there are still young people who care for the elderly.

“Showing love to senior citizens with charity walk.”

Participants with their walking pairs from Rumah Seri Kenangan old folk’s home in Kuching yesterday. Students were paired up with seniors to foster closer relationships. Pic by Zahrulhayat Mat Arif

“I feel so happy and it was a very healthy outing,” said Chee of the “Walk for Love”, a charity event held at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) here yesterday.

The event was part of the “Show Me Love” campaign, organised jointly by the university’s Communications Department and third year communication studies students.

Chee was among 12 residents of Rumah Seri Kenangan, an old folk’s home in Kuching-Serian Road.

For the students involved, the walk was not just for the sake of exercise, but was also intended to show their respect for the elderly.

“It’s a caring walk aimed at fostering a closer relationship between Unimas students and senior citizens,” said 24-year-old project leader Izamuddin Jusoh.

“We chose senior citizens because we care for the aged.”

Funds were raised from the sale of raffle tickets.

About 150 students took part in the walk that was flagged off by head of student services centre Zubaidah Abas.