

# SARAWAK BIRD RACE 2011

~BECAUSE BIRDS ARE IMPORTANT~

29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2011

Jointly Organised by:

Sarawak  
Bird Race  
2011  
BORNEO HIGHLANDS  
RESORT



**Event Website**

[www.birdrace2011.borneohighlands.com.my](http://www.birdrace2011.borneohighlands.com.my)

**Facebook Page**

[www.facebook.com/sarawakbirdrace](http://www.facebook.com/sarawakbirdrace)

## Introduction

The Bird Race returns for the 4th time with more activities and plenty of fun. This year Bird Race is jointly organised by **Malaysian Nature Society (MNS)** together with **Borneo Highlands Resort (BHR)** and **Permai Rainforest Resort (PRR)** aiming to involve the surrounding communities, promote bird watching, and educate the communities on the importance of birds' preservation to the environment. This year's tagline is "Because Birds are Important".

## The Race & Participation Fees

Category	Site	Registration fee
Bird Race	• Borneo Highlands Resort (Gunung Penrissen-MY40)	RM 100 per team of two

### Side Events

1. Nature Talks
2. Nature / Night Walks
3. Junior Nature Activities
4. Bird Photography Exhibition
5. Nature Workshops

### Prizes

- 1st Prize – RM1000 plus 1 year MNS Membership
- 2nd Prize – RM500 plus 1 year MNS Membership
- 3rd Prize – RM250 plus 1 year MNS Membership
- 4th & 5th – Congratulatory Prizes

**\*\* All participants will be given a Certificate of Participation | \*\* Closing date for participation is on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

### Contacts:-

#### MNS Kuching Branch:

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#### Borneo Highlands Resort:

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#### Permai Rainforest Resort:

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### ***Malaysian Nature Society***

The Malaysian Nature Society (MNS) is Malaysia's largest and oldest non-government environmental organisation. The genesis of our society predates our country's independence- a group of British expatriates deeply interested in our country's lush natural heritage decided that the abundant collection of field notes and natural history records which they had accumulated was vital to the country's heritage and should be published. In 1940, with the publication of the Malayan Nature Journal Volume 1, the Malaysian Nature Society was born.

Today, MNS is the largest membership-based organisation in Malaysia with over 4000 members and 13 branches spread across the country. Evolving from a core group of society volunteers, MNS' Kuala Lumpur-based headquarters has now a team of 30 dedicated full time staff who see to the day-to-day running of the society's administration and activities.

### **Permai Rainforest Resort**

Permai Rainforest Resort is an eco-resort set in pristine Borneo rainforest located on the shores of the South China Sea, and at the foot of mystical Mount Santubong. Carefully designed to minimise impact on the natural environment, it offers a unique rainforest experience. The resort is only 25 km or 30 minutes drive north of Kuching, the capital of Sarawak.

Operating since 1990, Permai Rainforest Resort is a unique place with its own rugged identity, undisturbed natural beauty and wonderfully rich biodiversity. These are a host of recreational activities at the resort and in the surrounding area, ranging from jungle trekking and overnight trips into the forest to high ropes courses, sea kayaking, evening mangrove cruises and dolphin watching.

### **Borneo Highlands Resort**

Borneo Highlands Resort is one of the most exciting and unique environmentally friendly resort developments in the region. Cocooned in a lush jungle and snuggled within the hills, it is a retreat one of its kind, offering an exclusive membership club and a truly unique residential development by creating a sanctuary for you to retreat to in this region.

Located just an hour's drive (60KM) southwest of Kuching city, the capital of Sarawak, the resort stands at the height of 1,000 meters above sea level on the Sarawak-Kalimantan border and is nestled amongst the oldest and second largest tropical rainforest in the world.

A resort created with emphasis on nature and healthy lifestyle, the resort offers boundless opportunities to experience the nature and numerous healthy activities all year round in stylish comfort. Take pleasure in the finest natural wonders and find luxury in the bare basics. At Borneo Highlands Resort, it is all about getting "*Back to Nature, Back to Basics*".

## **The Sarawak Bird Race 2011**

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In October 2008, the Malaysian Nature Society and Borneo Highlands Resort jointly held the first ever bird race on the island of Borneo. That inaugural bird race has paved the way for an annual event that is fast becoming a potentially exciting product in the state tourism industry.

A bird race is a “fun race” where teams of two people compete against each other in searching, identifying and recording as many species of birds within a stipulated time. There is, however, more than just fun to a bird race. It provides the right environment and opportunities to develop the bird list in an area. Members of the Malaysian Nature Society have been going up to the Borneo Highlands to conduct bird surveys since the late 1990’s and there existed a bird list consisting of about 120 species. The bird race has since added new species to that list and last year the bird list at the highland resort hit 200 species.

Come 29th – 30th October 2011, the bird race will return for the 4th year running with the tagline “Because Birds are Important”. This year the Permai Rainforest Resort is also a co-organizer. The activities held over the two days will take place at both Permai Rainforest Resort and Borneo Highlands Resort. On the first day, there will be talks and workshops on various topics pertaining to birds, including a nature night walk at Permai Rainforest Resort. The actual bird race will be held at Borneo Highlands Resort on the second day. Besides the bird race, there will be many interesting side events at the highland resort that cater to every member of the family.

The public is invited to attend all the talks, workshops and themed nature walks at Permai Rainforest Resort which are offered free of charge. Registration to participate in the bird race at Borneo Highlands Resort is now open at RM100 per team of two. For more information and updates, do check out the event website at <http://birdrace2011.borneohighlands.com.my> and the event facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/sarawakbirdrace>.

## **Contacts**

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### **Permai Rainforest Resort:**

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## Tentative Program Schedule

<b>29<sup>th</sup> October 2011, Saturday @ Permai Rainforest Resort</b>	
8:00 AM	Arrival of participants & registration
8:30 AM	Arrival of VIPs & Guest of Honour
8:45 AM	Welcome by MNS Branch Chair, Ms Kwan Cheong
9:00 AM	Speech by the Patron of Sarawak Bird Race 2011
9:15 AM	Officiating Keynote Speech by Guest of Honour – Minister of Tourism Sarawak
9:45 AM to 12:30 PM	Bird talks and photography / bird watching workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talks               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hornbills &amp; their significance – Dr Pilai Poonswad</li> <li>○ Swiflets – Dr Charles Leh</li> <li>○ Migratory Birds – Nils Mueller</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Workshops               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wildlife &amp; Bird Photography – John Arrifin</li> <li>○ Beginners Bird Watching – MNS Kuching Branch Bird Group</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
12:30 PM	Lunch Break
2:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Themed nature walks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeking Suitable Nesting Trees for Hornbills – Dr Pilai Poonswad</li> <li>• Bird Watching – Yeo &amp; Anthony</li> </ul>
8:00 PM to 10:00 PM	Night walk by Hans Breur

<b>30<sup>th</sup> October 2011, Sunday @ Borneo Highlands Resort</b>	
7:00 AM	Registration begins
8:00 AM	Bird Race Begins! Flag Off
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photography Exhibition on Bird with Mr Ting</li> <li>• Bird watching basic &amp; equipments : MNS Members</li> <li>• Children activities with Jannie &amp; Sian</li> <li>• Long Walks &amp; Short Walks</li> <li>• Snacks &amp; drinks sales</li> </ul>
12:00 PM To 2:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bird Race Submission &amp; Judging</li> <li>• Sustainable Edible Swiflets Nest Trading by Dr Lim Chan Koon</li> <li>• MNS: Role in Malaysia and Sarawak with Rebecca D’Cruz and Kwan Cheong</li> </ul>
2:00 PM	Prize Presentation & Closing Ceremony
4:00 PM	End of Sarawak Bird Race 2011