Getting a taste of kampung life

UNIVERSITI Tun Abdul Razak (UniRazak), one of Malaysia’s leading private universities in innovation, leadership and entrepreneurship, recently organised a homestay programme for its international students at Kampung Mukut, Tioman Island, Johor.

Held from March 25 to 27, the programme was part of UniRazak’s Corporate Social Responsibility programme and involved 50 members of its International Students Society.

The programme was organised with the aim of providing exposure and experience to UniRazak’s international students on the lifestyle and traditions of the villagers and fishermen in the Kampung Mukut area. The students obtained hands-on experience of the villagers’ daily activities and learned about their culture and traditions.

After a slightly choppy journey on a ferry, the students arrived at Kampung Mukut at 11.30am. The villagers held a welcoming ceremony for them, which was a camaraderie-filled affair that allowed the students to get to know their foster families.

After a short rest, they had lunch. The rest of the afternoon was spent exploring the island. Later, the students and villagers gathered in the townhall for some games and outdoor activities before having dinner.

The next day, the participants had a briefing on the day’s events and went out to sea for ocean-fishing, an enjoyable if somewhat queasy experience.

The participants played Boling Kelapa (coconut bowling), Jelok Sarang Tebuwan and Larri Dalam Guni (sack race) before dinner.

Village head Aris Hj Ali Bakri thanked the university for choosing Kampung Mukut for their homestay programme. He said that although the stay was brief, the villagers were delighted to host the students.

Student representative Oyediji Abdulatiffe Shola expressed gratitude to their foster parents for the special treatment provided.

He said the programme was interesting for the international students.