



Ernest Balasingam is a lawyer from Ipoh and also a corporate Trainer in Human Resources & Leadership. From young he had always played a lot of sports but his passion was for football and rugby until an injury forced him to re-think what he wanted to do to maintain his active lifestyle. In 1985 he bought his first racing bike and from there he never looked back immersing himself in triathlon where he found the swim, bike, run lifestyle was the perfect panacea for all the injuries he was carrying.

In 2010 he was invited by Chuah Yew Lay “Uncle Chuah” to ride the Tour of Hope in Thailand. It was at this event he discovered the power of the bicycle and how it could transform lives and improve social conditions. Since then he went on to ride the said Tour annually and in 2016 with his son Nathanael and with fellow Malaysians, Singaporeans, Germans, Belgians & Brits he formed AWOL Riders which annually do a ride in Thailand where they do a ‘Random Act of Kindness’ which was building libraries, providing poor schools with computers and sports equipment. Over the years he has encourage people to take up multi day tours. Every tour is an opportunity and to the new and uninitiated that opportunity is something personal which you will only discover when you cross that finish line.

In 2022 when the inaugural Ride for Cancer was announced which was from Sandakan to Sibul, he immediately jumped at the opportunity as riding from Kota Kinabalu to Kuching was on his bucket list and deemed this ride as ‘warm up’ to future rides on the island of Borneo.

Having his own physical challenges, he understands that there are some things we cannot be changed but we can do what we can to keep that illness and disease at bay and hence doing this ride for the eradication of cervical cancer and also in support of the ROSE foundation will go a long way in helping women with early detection and providing the necessary support.