



From the Communications Team.....

Dear Members,

Welcome to the last Newsletter before most of you head off to your home countries for your summer holidays. As you may know Iva Petkova, who has been volunteering as Webmaster and also set up the Newsletter software, will be leaving Kuala Lumpur and the MCG for pastures new in June. She and her skills will be sadly missed. I would like to introduce Alejandra Barbosa who will be taking on the job of Webmaster, and myself who will be taking on the job of Newsletter Editor.

Have a great holiday and we will see you in August/September.

Michelle Pease

Coming up...

Excursion: Visit & curator guided tour to the "Textile Tales of Pua Kumba" exhibition, University of Malaya.
Wednesday 8th June, 10.00 for a 10.30 start.

Unfortunately this event is now fully booked, if you wish to be put on the waiting list for this event please contact the Events Planning Team at events@mcg.org.

President's Message

Dear MCG Members,



June brings a change in activity for many of our members. Some will be going home on long leave, others taking annual holidays to travel and still others will be leaving Kuala Lumpur to repatriate or move on to new locations and new jobs. The Committee would like to wish everyone a great next few months ahead. If you are travelling, 'safe travels.' If you are leaving us permanently, we would like to say 'Selamat Jalan.'

Members can always keep up with MCG activities by checking out our website or liking our Facebook page. Suparna Kandu has kindly offered to update the page regularly, as well as keeping her other duties as Enak Convenor. Thank you for that!

Michelle Pease & Alejandra Barbosa have taken on the jobs of Newsletter Editor and Webmaster respectively. Thank you Michelle & Alejandra! The newsletter is only as good as the number of submissions received. If you would like to get involved but do not have time for a regular volunteer position, please think about volunteering to do a write up of one of our lectures or excursions.

Alison Harrison, our Librarian will be leaving shortly. Alison has been our stalwart Librarian for many years. MCG will need a person to replace Alison. Traditionally she has opened the library before and after our lectures at the Meritz and taken care of our lovely collection. If this interests you please get in touch and we can provide any training you may need.

The new Committee has had its first meeting. We have started to file our annual report with the Registrar of Societies. The group also discussed future plans and has started to plan the annual Open House on September 7th. Please pencil in the date. Tell your friends. We will be asking members to help us advertise as well. More about that in future newsletters.

So in closing, keep safe whatever your plans for the next few months. Please keep in touch

Pam Currie

Reviews...

Enak! - New Heong Kee Restaurant
Paulette Norman



Excursions - Japanese Tea Ceremony
Maryann Diakow



Excursions - Love me in my Batik exhibition at Ilham Gallery
Maryann Diakow



Explorers - Rimbun Dahan
Judyth Gregory-Smith



Book Group 2 - The Cooked Seed
Anchee Min

Did you know that the Malaysian Culture Group has a Facebook page? Click [here](#) to visit the MCG page.

A Blast from the Past.....

"A Pakistani Wedding", May, 2006



Meet your New MCG Committee.



Pam Currie
President

I have lived in Kuala Lumpur for the last ten years. Actually it is the longest period of time that I have ever lived in one place.

My first five years were spent in Baden Baden, Germany where my father was a pilot in the Canadian military and we were stationed at Four Wing during the Cold War and the blockade of Berlin.

My family returned to Canada where I was the typical "Air Force Brat," which usually involved a move every three years to a new posting. It was an interesting lifestyle.

I later studied Politics in an Ontario university then decided to get a teaching degree in Alberta, Canada. When I graduated there were few teaching jobs so I worked for the John Howard Society teaching volunteers how to tutor inmates in literacy skills. I then managed to find a job teaching across the curriculum at a school for kids with learning disabilities.

One day my husband came home and asked if I would be interested in his taking a job in London, England with his company. No need to think about that! We were gone in a shot and have never looked back. While there I returned to school and earned a Public Relations Diploma and I landed up working at a Scottish castle where I helped organise a 400th Anniversary programme for the local clan. Other postings with my husband's oil company have included Aberdeen, Scotland (twice!), Stavanger, Norway and Jakarta, Indonesia.

It was the in last place that I discovered

the Indonesian Heritage Society which is very similar to the MCG. I have always found the MCG to be a fantastic way to really get to know the place and its cultures.

My two children were born during a quick three year stay in Canada. They have lived in Canada during the summer but had never experienced a full Canadian winter until they decided to attend university there. I don't think either of them are impressed! Both kids seem to enjoy coming back to Malaysia and they threaten to come back and live here when they graduate!

Until or if they do, we enjoy being empty nesters and taking in everything that Malaysia has to offer. I enjoy being active whether it is walking my Labradoodle, swimming laps in the sunshine or working on my golf handicap. I also find that Malaysians are very warm and welcoming and I have been learning about Malaysian art over the last few years with my Art Appreciation Group. I try to dabble in painting but I find that there are so many great things to do here that I have not been very prolific!

The MCG Committee remains steadfastly committed to ensuring that the MCG meets the needs of our members. If you have any questions or feedback, please feel free to contact any of the Committee members by email. Yours in service of Malaysian culture!