



**From the Communications Team.....**

*Selamat Datang to all our new members who have joined after the Open house, Michelle Dye, Ursula Skomolo,, Geraldine Stals, Suzann Gilbert, Sarah Keggins, Adeline Khoo, Dorotyya Van Koesveld, Elina Tuhkanen, Melissa Loring, Ann Krabb, and Jeanne Greer. Welcome all, we hope you enjoy your time as members of the Malaysian Culture Group.*

**Michelle Pease**



**A SAD FAREWELL TO ELISE HILL**

*It is with great sadness that the Malaysian Culture Group must say farewell to our long time member and friend Elise Hill. Elise passed away suddenly on Sunday the 25th September, 2016 after a short illness. Elise joined the MCG shortly after she arrived in Kuala Lumpur from Vietnam with her husband Peter in early 2005. Elise was always very active within the MCG; she was President from November, 2008 until May, 2010; a Book Club Group leader and a member of the Events Planning team for many years. Peter has donated just under 100 books to the MCG library and we thank him for that. Many of the books were read as part of Elise's book club group, all are to do with Asia. She will be greatly missed by the Malaysian Culture Group, her family and friends.*

**Michelle Pease**

**Coming up...**

-  **Lecture: Mother Knows Best: The Fascinating World of the Minangkabau**  
Wednesday, 2nd November, 10.00 for a 10.30 start, to register please click [here](#)
-  **Lecture: Doris Van Der Stratten-the Australian Mistress to the Japanese Commander of Kuala Lumpur. Her Life and Death**  
Wednesday, 16th November, 10.00 for a 10.30 start, to register please click [here](#)
-  **Excursion: The Making of Tanjore Painting**  
Wednesday, 30th November, 10.00 for a 10.30 start to register please click [here](#)
-  **Excursion: Afternoon Tea and a Guided Tour of the Majestic Hotel, Kuala Lumpur**  
Wednesday, 7th December, 2.45 for a 3.00 pm start to register please click [here](#)

**President's Message**



As I write this I am on a countdown to go on my long leave to North America and the UK to meet some newly discovered relatives and old friends. Sadly, while I am away, we will be losing some fantastic Committee members as they move on to their next locations. Terry Piech, our Secretary, has decided to return to the United States. Suparna Kundu our trusty Enak Coordinator and Facebook poster supreme will be moving to Baltimore. Margo Rosenberg, Explorers Convenor, will be splitting her time between Malaysia, Capetown and her family in the UK. I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to these volunteers who have done such a fantastic job for MCG. Best of luck to you all and please keep in touch. You all will be fantastic ambassadors for MCG and Malaysia!

We welcome Vicki Fennessy as our new Facebook Coordinator and also Jeannie Kennedy and Julia Stanbrook as Explorers co-Coordinators. As well several people have expressed interest in assisting with the library - thank you Jane Duxbury, Oriana Verona, Gloria Chang, Martina Healy, Dorotyya Van Koesveld and Diana Cooper.

We will need a new Secretary as of January, a computer whizz, and also a Communications Coordinator. If you would like to work with a lovely group of people this may be the ticket for you. The Enak! co-ordinator position is also open, so if you are a foodie please step forward. I am happy to answer any questions you may have about the positions and what they require.

I would also like to announce that MCG now has 200+ members! Not bad for a volunteer organization that has been running for more than 32 years! We have had 50 new members join us since September. This is a 25% increase in our membership in the last two months.

Since many are new I would like to mention a couple of housekeeping guidelines. Several people have mentioned they have not received certain emails and evites. Please ensure that your computer will accept [events@mcgkl.org](mailto:events@mcgkl.org), [no\\_reply@mail.anyvite.com](mailto:no_reply@mail.anyvite.com) and [newsletter@mcgkl.org](mailto:newsletter@mcgkl.org). We would hate for any of our members to lose out on any of our events. As well, since MCG is "by members, for members" please RSVP to any events and lectures whether you are attending or not. Many events involve lots of planning and organizers need to know if you are going and if you have received our emails. As well, if you have committed to a special event that requires an extra charge and do not show up, please remember that you still have to pay if you do not cancel in time. Many events have a waiting list and we would like to be able to give everyone the opportunity to attend the popular events.

In closing, Selamat Jalan to those leaving us and Selamat Datang to our new members! See you in 2017!!!!

**Pam Currie**

**Reviews...**

 **Events: - Curator Guided tour of the exhibition, Dala'il al-Khayrat: Prayer Manuscripts From the 16th to 19th Centuries**

Gloria Chang



 **Events: - The Alluring Cheongsam**

Anjeeta Nayar



 **Events: - Sharia Law followed by a guided tour of the Federal Territories Mosque**

Alexius Collette

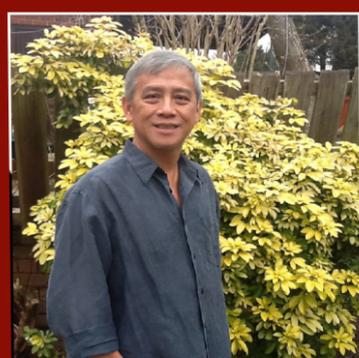


 **Book Group 1 - Man Tiger**

Rose Gan

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

**Meet your New MCG Committee.**



**Henry Gan**  
**Treasurer**

*I was born in KL, a second generation Malaysian of the pre-independence era, living in a traditional Chinese merchant house in the heart of the city on Ampang Road in the shadow of Bukit Nanas. My grandparents had migrated from China to Malaya in the late 1890s and set up a textile business in Medan Pasar. My primary education was in Chinese schools but I*

*completed my secondary education at St. John's, then a Jesuit Institution. Like most of my generation, I went off to the UK for my tertiary education at the end of the swinging sixties.*

*Despite having shoulder length hair and wearing an Afghan coat, I still managed to qualify as a Chartered Accountant in Birmingham, where I met my lovely wife Rose. Like most 'Mat Sallehs' she wanted to experience the exotic and mysterious East so she convinced me to come back to KL in 1980.*

*I spent the next 7 years back home working as an Investment Banker, during which time I met many colourful movers and shakers of KL. At the same time we started a family of 3 children- one daughter, herself now a member of MCG, and twin boys. We had some wonderful, if crazy, family times in Malaysia in the 1980s.*

*In 1987 we went back to UK when the children were at school age. Rose resumed her teaching career and I went back to my former Ac-*

*counting profession. However, after my exciting career in KL, the mundane job of a glorified bean counter in the UK did not suit me. The call of the wild world, my love of travelling and meeting new people and challenges soon led me to take up various assignments in different parts of the world. I subsequently spent 25 years working in finance in Ireland, the Middle East, Africa (from Madagascar in the East to the Congos, Nigeria and Guinea in the West), Thailand, China, and lastly to Jakarta, Indonesia.*

*The world has turned one circle for me to be finally retired in KL back where I began. We're blessed that our three children are also back here with us now after many years when we were all scattered across the globe. We also have two grandsons, adorable little rascals, to make retirement complete. Time now for me to do a little volunteerism with MCG and enjoy all it has to offer in return.*

**Henry Gan**

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!