



From the Communications Team.....

Dear Members,

This is the last Newsletter before a large percentage of our membership leave Kuala Lumpur for their long summer break and as you can see it is a joint June/July edition.

If you are leaving Kuala Lumpur permanently at this time could you please let Membership (membership@mcgkl.org) or the Events Planning team (events@mcgkl.org) know so that your name can be taken off our contact lists.

Michelle Pease

Coming up...



Holy Men, Holy Women: A Journey into the Faiths of Malaysians and Other Essays
Wednesday, 6th June, 10.00 for a 10.30 start to register please click [here](#)

President's Message



Happy Ramadan! The new moon of the ninth month (Islamic calendar) has arrived which initiates the beginning of a special time of year for our Muslim community. Wishing you all the best during the fasting month. The Malaysian people are also celebrating a new beginning with the election of a new government! The biggest change since Malaysian independence. It all happened quite peacefully. It will be interesting to see the changes that take place in the short and long term.

In the meantime, the many activities of MCG continue to keep us busy. Whether it's joining a book club, attending a lecture, going on an outing or eating at an ENAK! lunch, there's always something to do. Just a note about book club, there are currently two active groups and a waitlist of 6 people. If someone would be interested in leading a third group, please contact Leslie Muri. Keep an eye on your emails, events are frequently being announced and some are on a "first come, first serve" basis. I know I've missed a few myself!

Jeanne

Reviews...



Excursion - Asian Arts Museum Textile Collection

Meredith Tomkovitch



Enak - Nepalese Surprise Restaurant

Bindhya Priestner



Enak - Nam Heong Chicken Rice

Rosemary Chin



Explorers Out and About - Visit to Patisatu

Nisha Dobberstein



Explorers Out and About - Vist to Earth Heir

Pamela de Lange-Stork



Book Group 2 - Ghost Month by Ed Lin

Barbara Angell



Book Group 1 - Garlic Ballads. by Mo Yan

Nazie Morad

A Message from Dawn Babcock, former MCG President and Enak! initiator.



After an absence of nearly 3 years, I recently returned to KL for a visit. Of course, MCG was part of my stroll down memory lane. I attended a talk, joined along in an Explorers excursion and last but not least, I enjoyed some tasty food courtesy of Enak!

Enak is special to me because I am the one who started it in 2010. Malaysia has so many types of foods and flavors to savor, but I suspected not enough MCG members were fully taking advantage of all the gustatory options. I made the assumption that within the comfort of a group, members would really get out there and get local!

I gladly accepted Rosemary's invite to be her guest at the April Enak, hosted by Bindhya Priesner and Priti Parikh. We went to Mandala, a Nepalese restaurant. A first response might be to think Nepalese food is not Malaysian...but given the many Nepalese migrant workers in KL, it's no surprise there are a number restaurants preparing Nepalese food. I really enjoyed the momos with tomato achaar, and the vegetarian potato dish served before the traditional dal bhat. The cardamon flavored milk tea was wonderful—I could have sipped it all day!

Dawn Babcock

From your MCG Librarian, Dori Van Koesveld



In the library registration continued, please find above some of our recently registered books for lending.

Special thanks go to Terry Piech, Leslie Muri and Margo Rosenberg for all their donations last month. There will be many books for sale at the upcoming events, so come along and have a browse.

The Library is free to use for all members, with over 1000 books to borrow, and is open during each event at the Meritz Condominium. Location is one floor down from the events room, next to the washrooms. The Booklist can be found on the MCG's website http://www.mcgkl.org/file/files/MCG%20library%20booklist%202019_04_18.pdf

If you have any enquiries please contact the librarian at mcgkllibrarian@gmail.com.

Happy reading!
Dori Van Koesveld

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

Meet your MCG Committee.



Isabel de Laiglesia
Special Committee Member

Hola everyone!

I am a Spaniard discovering and enjoying Malaysia and everything it has to offer, including this amazing group of people that is MCG.

Like many Westerners here, I find myself in Malaysia thanks to my husband's work. We have been here for a little less than one year and we are delighted to be

here. This is our second overseas experience: before coming to KL; we spent four years in Singapore, so our adaptation and acclimation to the culture and weather were very smooth. I even think that KL's weather is cooler than Singapore's!

Before coming to SEA, this region was almost unknown to us, but we love to travel and discover new countries and cultures, and so we are really making the most of our time here. I love that my kids enjoy trying new foods anywhere we go, and have learned so much about the different religions, beliefs, cultures, languages, etc.

I have three kids that go to an international school and are involved in many different activities in and out of school, so our afternoons and weekends are quite busy. But that leaves me the mornings during the week free to learn new things, meet new people, and give back to the community.

Our time in SEA has given me the amazing opportunity to start learning Mandarin and Bahasa Melayu, and volunteering with different international and local NGOs. This experience is most fulfilling since it gives me a sense of usefulness but also a new perspective about the reality of the countries and the people of the region.

When doing the "pre-move" research before coming to KL, I found the MCG website and loved the idea of the group. Now, being part of it, I love the reality of it. I am part of the Events planning team, and have enjoyed the lectures and excursions, as well as the experience of the people that have been living here for much longer. I have learned so much in this short time, and I've met such amazing people here, that I feel honoured to be part of it. I am very grateful to all the volunteers that make MCG happen, because this is a really unique group, that couldn't exist without you. Thank you all!

Jumpa lagi! Isa

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!