

**From the communications team.....**

Dear members,

Welcome to our first MCG Newsletter since April, 2020. Unfortunately the Pandemic caused most of the MCG activities to be put on hold from April, 2020 until the first in-person event, Enak! Majapahit Restaurant lunch, in November, 2020.

That being said a few Enak lunches, an Explorers event and Book Groups did take place so some of these are included in this Newsletter as well as more recent events

Michelle Pease

**Reviews...**

**Enak!: Events in 2020 since the last Newsletter, click the link to read the review.**

March, Siti Li Dining

August, A Walking Tour: Saloma Bridge/ Taste of Kampong Baru

September, Walking Tour of the Early Colonial Heritage Centre of KL

**Explorers' Out & About** :  
March 2020 - Behind the Scenes at the EQ Hotel Kitchen and Buffet Lunch



**Members' Appreciation Morning Tea**



**Enak!: Majapahit Mont Kiara Restaurant**



**Book Groups:** There have been many Book Group meetings since the last Newsletter. For a list of all the Book Group reviews please click [HERE](#)

**Did you know that the Malaysian Culture Group has a Facebook Page? Click the Facebook icon to visit the MCG page.**



**Coming up...**

Please find below details of upcoming MCG events, please register via your PaperLess Post invitations which will be sent in due course.

**Lecture: ORANG ASLI - First on the Land, Last in the Plan,** Wednesday 12th January.

**Excursion: China Town during Chinese New Year, a Walking Tour,** Wednesday 19th January.

**Enak: Hakka Food Lunch at the Hakka Restaurant,** Thursday 20th January.

**Lecture: A Taste of Malaysian Chinese New Year Traditions,** Wednesday 9th February

**Excursion: Walking Tour of Kampung Bharu,** Wednesday 16th February.

**President's Message**



Dear valued MCG members and friends,

First of all, I wish to express my deepest appreciation to our members who have continued to support the MCG throughout the various COVID 19 MCOs. I am glad we could continue to connect through various virtual and in-person activities such as our Member Appreciation Morning Tea, various talks, Heritage walks, KL bus tour, cooking lessons, book reading, lunch at the Majapahit and the cultural links.

This Newsletter heralds a new beginning since our last issue was in April 2020. It serves to highlight the many exciting activities that have taken place recently and upcoming activities planned for 2022. Since early 2020, the MCG has implemented Paperless Post (PP) invitations to all our activities for members. It is important that members open their email messages with the PP invitations and RSVP, whether they are attending or not attending. Otherwise, members will be sent automatic reminders forever!

As the year ends, I wish to give a gentle reminder to renew your membership. This can be done either using google forms in the following [link](#) or in-person during one of our get-togethers. Please do remember to put your name in the on-line banking slip so that we can match payment to your name. Any membership queries may be referred to Vivin Sjamsir, our Membership Secretary at [membership@mcgkl.org](mailto:membership@mcgkl.org) The deadline for renewal is 28 February 2022.

I certainly look forward to meeting you at our upcoming Enak lunch on 20 January 2022, Thursday, when we will be tasting Hakka food at the Hakka restaurant. In the meanwhile, continue zooming our various talks, exploring with our Explorer Extraordinaire, Tajuddin, tickling our minds through our Book groups and bonding through food! Members are advised to be fully vaccinated to participate in our in-person activities.

Lastly, as the holiday season draws near, it is a time for gifts. This year you may wish to consider gifting MCG membership to family and friends as it will be a gift that keeps on giving throughout the year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Dato' Patricia Chia Yoon Moi  
[presidentmcg@gmail.com](mailto:presidentmcg@gmail.com)

**Meet your MCG Committee**



**Tajuddin Idrus**  
*Explorers Out and About Convenor*

Hi,  
I am Tajuddin Idrus the Convenor for Explorers Out and About, one of the Special Interest Groups within MCG.

Talking about my name. I do have many nicknames. The common ones are Dean (like James Dean), Taj (like the Taj Mahal) and TJ (like the TV series TJ Hooker), in Malaysia)

Worst case, you can call me Boss (The Malaysian way of addressing someone you don't really know) Everyone is a Boss in Malaysia.

I have been a Licensed Tourist Guide since 2014. My focus is mainly walking tours in the old part of Kuala Lumpur.

Prior to this I was in the Telecommunication/IT sector for close to 21 years. I decided to quit in 2012 to embark on a profession which is flexible.

I chose to become a tourist guide because I have a very strong interest in history and I am very familiar with Kuala Lumpur.

Besides reading, my other hobbies are travelling and stamp collecting of Malaya stamps and First Day Covers.

**My journey in MCG**

I have known about MCG for quite a while. Initially, I thought it was a women's association for expatriates.

I visited the MCG website from time to time to read the information shared and managed to acquire MCG's publication 'Kuala Lumpur Through The Looking Glass' from a second-hand bookshop.

I decided to join the MCG in 2019 because I got to know that the library's Malaysia collection could be borrowed by members (which you are not allowed to do from the National Library).

I got to know Dori Van Koesveld Levai, the former Librarian. As Covid-19 started to loom, Dori decided to leave Malaysia and suggested I take over the librarian role since I was most active borrower. Dori also told me "you can borrow as many books as you like"

Unfortunately, the library had to be closed down in October 2020 since we had to vacate the room in Meritz Condominium and we could not find an affordable place for our library. Most of the valuable collections have been donated to the National Library.

The Committee then proposed I head the Explorers Out and About during the AGM which was held over Zoom in May

With the trust given to me, I will try to crack my head to introduce more activities which are in line with MCG's Vision and Mission for the members.

Tajuddin Idrus