



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

Dear Members,

Our Membership Secretary Vivin Sjamsir has mentioned that there are still quite a few MCG members who have not renewed their Membership as yet. Please renew as soon as possible and at least by the 28th February, if you do not renew by that date unfortunately this will be the last Newsletter that you receive from the MCG. If you do not intend to renew your membership please let Vivin know so she will not continue to chase you.

Michelle Pease

**Coming up...**

-  **Lecture: Exploring Myanmar**  
Wednesday, 8th March, 10.00 for a 10.30 start to register please click [here](#)
-  **Excursion: "Gerak Geri" A special visit for MCG to the photography exhibit by Cheryl Hoffmann**  
Wednesday, 15th March 10.15 for a 10.30 start, to register please click [here](#)

**President's Message**



In Malaysia any Non-profit Society must register with the Registry of Societies. This ensures good governance and the MCG must file our audited accounts, listings of Committee members as well as minutes of an Annual General Meeting and any Constitutional changes.

The AGM will be our next major event. This year we have a real coup. Maryann Diakow and Marianne Khor have managed to engage Datin Padua Marina Mahathir to be our guest speaker! She is the daughter of former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir. She is a human rights activist for women, children and HIV/AIDS and a former newspaper columnist and writer. This is guaranteed to be an entertaining and thought provoking session.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday, April 12th. Please pencil it in your calendar. The MCG MUST have a quorum in order to finish our annual business so we need your attendance. Please ensure your membership is paid up so you can attend this event. As well as the meeting and guest speaker we will have lunch and a private tour of an art exhibition. Stay tuned for more details.

One of the things that happens at the AGM is that new Committee members are affirmed. As you all know KL is a very transient place and members come and go. We need a full slate of Committee members as per our Constitution. A great group of people have volunteered their time to make the MCG the special organization it is. I encourage you all to consider serving. Please contact any of us and we can fill you in on what the job entails.

Pam Currie

**Reviews...**

 **Lecture - The Bugis** Cheryl Hoffmann



 **Excursion - A Taste of Chinese New Year Traditions** Caroline Streif



 **Enak - Club Aman** Margo & Robert Rosenberg



 **Explorers Out and About - Visit to Manju Saigal's Home** Torild-Elin Dalland



 **Book Group 1 - Sophia: Princess, Suffragette, Revolutionary** Margo Rosenberg

 **Book Group 2 - How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia** Aseema Singhal

**A Message from your Librarian**



Book sale from our library will be continuing on the 8th of March at the Meritz Condominium. Over 60 books looking for a new owner, mostly new and some shabby, selling at only 5 RM per book. Have you got an unwanted low bookcase that you no longer need? Let us know on [librarian@mcgkl.org](mailto:librarian@mcgkl.org).

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

**Meet your MCG Committee.**



**Bryan Morytko**  
**Secretary**

Hello Everyone, I am brand new to the Committee and still consider myself new to KL having arrived last August. This first overseas assignment has already been filled with wonderful experiences and travels. I feel very fortunate to be able to experience a bit of life on the other side of the world.

My family has spent much of the last six years living in Houston, Texas but home is a small suburban town in Connecticut. In fact, we moved back to Connecticut and bought a house just three months before learning we'd be moving here to KL. The only constant in life is change as they say.

We are enjoying the diversity of KL as well as its wonderful location as a jumping off spot for traveling elsewhere in the area. The accessibility to restaurants, events and good cappuccino that life in our Mont Kiara neighborhood brings are also appreciated when compared to our small town back home. I'll admit, however, I do miss the crisp New England air, having a backyard, and sometimes I even miss the snow.

I'm here with my wife, Tammi, as well as my youngest son, Blake, who is an eighth grader at ISKL. We also have two older sons (19 and 21) at Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio who come to visit us as often as possible.

I was a journalist and public relations

director before embracing the role of stay at home dad when my boys were young. Since that time, I have gone on to earn my master's in nonprofit management and kept busy as a volunteer for many organizations.

Fun in our house revolves around sports (especially baseball) as well as travel and we are looking forward to adding scuba diving to our list of hobbies here in Malaysia. I'm also quite interested in honing my photography skills to capture this beautiful part of the world.

My wife's employer, Baker Hughes, brought us here rather suddenly and I'm sure will take us out rather suddenly someday but we are trying to soak up as much as possible in our time here. I love the events, lectures, and more that the MCG offers its members as well as meeting so many wonderful people from across the world.

Please say hello at future events, I look forward to meeting all of you!

Bryan Morytko

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!