



WELCOME TO OUR

Monthly Newsletter

Happy Wesak Day!

In this newsletter you will find:

Upcoming events, latest reviews, a culture quiz and more! Keep Reading!



Incoming President's Message

Salam Sejahtera,

It is with great humility and deep gratitude that I accept the role of President of the Malaysian Culture Group (MCG). I am truly honoured by your trust and confidence.

When I joined MCG in 2019, it was with the simple hope of building new friendships. Little did I know how deeply this organization would shape my life. Encouraged by my dear friend Ay Ling, I began my journey on the Committee as a Member-at-Large, also serving as Co-Convenor of Enak!, and then as Vice President under Ay Ling's inspiring leadership.

Through these years, I've come to appreciate not only the richness of Malaysian culture, but also the diverse cultures of our members, also the warmth, creativity and generosity that define the MCG community. Our shared passion for cultural exploration and connection continues to make MCG a truly unique and meaningful space.

This year, as we continue to offer enriching activities, we also look ahead to an important milestone: MCG's 45th anniversary in 2028. While it's still a few years away, this gives us an exciting opportunity — starting now — to build toward that celebration by strengthening our community, welcoming new voices, and deepening our impact.



Incoming President's Message

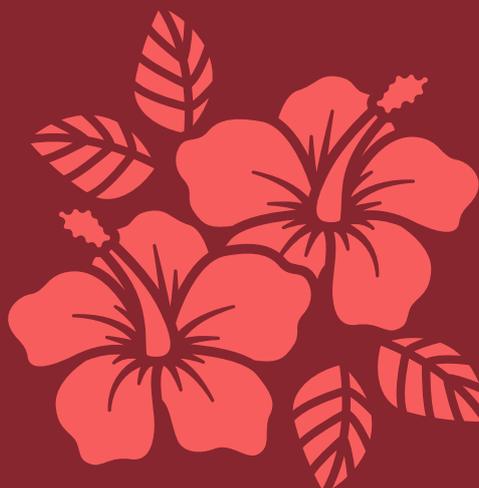
I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all who made our recent EGM and AGM a success. Your efforts, from registration to decorations, photography to ushering, and managing communications, created a memorable event. To the Committee and many volunteers, thank you for your dedication and enthusiasm. As I take on this role, I invite each of you to join me in carrying forward our shared vision and mission: To enrich our members' knowledge and appreciation of Malaysian and Southeast Asian cultures, and To be an outstanding organization for those interested in these cultures.

There are many ways to get involved — participation is the lifeblood of our community, spread the word, invite friends and family, celebrate our activities, serve on the Committee. Together, we can continue to create meaningful experiences and lasting friendships. I warmly welcome Nabila Ahmad and Dana Newberry to the Committee, and I look forward to working closely with them, our existing team, and all of you.

I would also like to extend special thanks to Ay Ling Liem, for being a steadfast mentor and friend, and to Angela Wijaya, for her unwavering support. To the many members who support MCG in ongoing ways — through communications, Events, Enak!, the Book Groups, Explorers and our internal auditors — thank you. Your work behind the scenes sustains the heartbeat of this organization. Let's continue working together, not only to honour MCG's legacy, but to shape an even brighter future — one that will culminate in a truly memorable 45th anniversary just a few years from now.

With gratitude and best wishes,

Corinne Sibert
President, Malaysian Culture Group (MCG)



Meet your new Vice President

Nabila

I've been a proud member of the Malaysian Culture Group since 2010 and over the years, it has become a meaningful part of my life in Malaysia. As a newcomer to the country back then, I found not only information and support, but also a truly warm and inclusive community that helped me settle in.



From the beginning, I've been an active participant in the book group, where we explore a thoughtfully curated selection of literature. These books have opened up windows into the diverse cultures, histories, and voices that shape this part of the world. More recently, I've joined the Enak! group, where we celebrate Malaysia's rich culinary heritage through shared meals and experiences that reflect the unique flavours of the country. It's been an enriching (and delicious!) way to deepen my understanding of Malaysian identity.

I truly admire the Malaysian Culture Group's dedication to raising awareness of the country's diverse cultural heritage through its engaging talks, tours, workshops, books, and food events. Their commitment to fostering cross-cultural appreciation and connection is something I've benefited from—I feel fortunate to be a long time member and part of such a passionate and purposeful community .

Nabila Ahmad
Vice President

AGM 2025

A huge thank you to all of our members who came to the AGM. We hope you enjoyed finding out more and being involved in decision-making for the group. We had lots of chance to chat and meet other members, and of course enjoy a delicious lunch. Thank you again.

We'd like to welcome Dana Newberry as a Member-at-Large and Lorna Haizelden as Communications Convenor – you'll get to know more about them in the coming months.

Check out more photos from the day on our socials.



Get involved!

- Volunteer on the day to help set up events. Anything from arranging chairs to flowers.
- Contribute your photography or writing skills for events and reviews.
- Host one event a year for Enak! or Explorers.
- Contribute a recipe to the Newsletter.
- Suggest ideas and contributions for Cultural Q&A.

Whether you can spare an hour or a regular spot, we'd love you to be involved.

Upcoming Events

HAPPENING IN MAY

Wednesday 6th

Explorers – Chocolate Masterclass
Chocolate Concierge

Wednesday 7th

Author talk

Leslie Lopez, renowned award-winning journalist and author will talk about his work 'The Siege Within'. In response to the many unanswered questions surrounding the 1MDB scandal, he will take us deeper into the background and main characters of a shocking part of recent local history which has international and ongoing ramifications.

Thursday 8th

Enak! – Lado

Malaysian cuisine at Pavilion Damansara

Wednesday 21st

Guided tour

The Pioneers Museum at Sin Sze Ya temple is a fascinating look into the origins of Kuala Lumpur.



Culture Quiz – How to order kopi in Malaysia?

So you know the best place in town for nasi lemak and you can order your roti canai like a pro. But how about the coffee? In a kopitiam, how would you order the following?

1. black coffee, no sugar
2. black coffee, with sugar
3. coffee with condensed milk and sugar
4. coffee with evaporated milk and sugar
5. coffee and tea mix
6. extra strong coffee
7. any of the above...but with ice

For a bonus point, which of the above pictures doesn't belong...and why?

Many thanks to our outgoing president, Ay Ling, for the idea for this fun truly Malaysian challenge!



Latest Reviews

ON THE [WEBSITE](#)

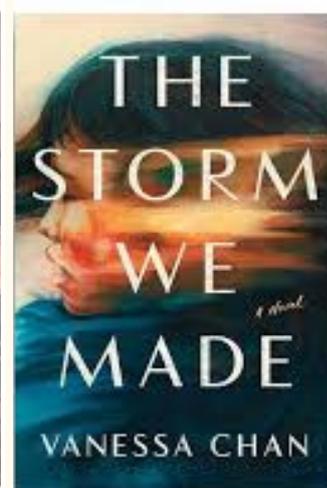
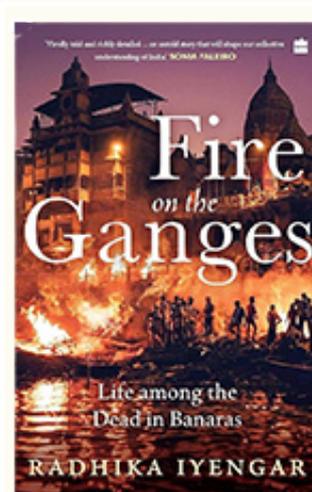
Events - [The Malay Sultanates](#), [Oceans that Speak](#), [IAMM](#)

Enak! - [Miss Ellie](#)

Book Groups - [Before the coffee gets cold](#),
[An Unnecessary Woman](#)

Book Groups May

READING NOW



Flavour *of the month*

Thanks to our member Elena Shim for this idea from the Pot Luck lunch.

This month we have a delicious-sounding [French Onion Loaf](#) recipe submitted with many thanks to our member **Vicki Fennessey**. It's an Australian recipe – nice to try something different.

Do let us know if you make it – post your photos to MCG Facebook or Instagram and tag us, or email them to Communications and we'll post. We've seen all your Enak! photos so we know there are some fabulous food photographers out there!

Send YOUR favourite recipe to [Communications](#) to be featured.