

MCC The Malaysian Culture Group



From the communications team.....

Dear members,

Have you ever left an MCG event thinking, 'there seemed to be a lot of my sort of people there, I wonder who they are?'

Our members are diverse, coming from different cultures with a wealth of skills and life experience. Through this newsletter you will 'meet' some of these people which we hope will add to your participation in the MCG.



Gong Xi Fa Cai!

Reviews...

Lecture - Wild Things, Nick Fuller

Chrissie Kemp

Lecture - A call to travel: Muslim Odysseys, Rumaizah Dato' Abu Bakar

Judyth Gregory-Smith

Excursions - Afternoon tea and tour at the newly renovated Majestic hotel



ENAK - Restaurant Roshono Bilas

Suparna Kundu

ENAK - The Prem Ki Ganga Cafe

Judyth Gregory-Smith



Book - Flood of fire, Amitav Ghosh

Rose Gan

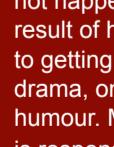
Book - Floating on a Malayan breeze: Travels in Malaysia and Singapore, Sudhir Thomas Vadaketh

Jean de Verteuil

[visit MCG website](#)

[visit MCG Facebook](#)

Meet a MCG member...



We hope you are using the website regularly to check what's coming up, to read the reviews and to enjoy the photography from all corners of KL.

Maintaining an entity like this does not happen 'by mistake'. It's the result of hard work and dedication to getting things done, without drama, only with charm and good humour. Meet Ivalina Petkova, who is responsible for the MCG website

Tell us a bit about your life before moving to KL.

I was born in Bulgaria and I enjoyed a happy childhood that was shaped by the fairy tales of Brothers Grimm, Hans Christian Andersen and One Thousand and One Nights.

At university I studied Computer Science and became familiar with publishing software.

I was 23 when the 'Iron Curtain' came down. It was like being reborn. I was eager to know more about the world abroad. I travelled a lot.

One day I met my class-mate from primary school – Prince Charming :). He took me to the UK and we got married. We lived there for three wonderful years where I worked as a volunteer for Barnardos – a charity organisation. The people I met are friends to this day. I was attracted to their attitude to life and their excellent sense of humour.

I have always been passionate about everything British, especially their history, movies and music.

What do you like most about living here?

I always dreamt about visiting this part of the world. When I was 13, I saw the adventure movie Sandokan. This made

a big impression on me, so much so that my father had to draw a Malaysian tiger's head on my jacket!

I never ever thought that one day I would live here and visit Borneo.

One of the most interesting things here is the variety of cultures existing together. I am very happy to observe and compare different cultures and religions and learn how these influence the lifestyle of people.

What draws you to the MCG?

From the first lecture I attended, I was excited to meet many interesting people who were willing to share their experiences with me. I also wanted to learn more about the history and traditions of Asia.

It is a pleasure too, to share my skills and so give back to the MCG group who has been so welcoming to me. My thanks go to Alexius and all the MCG members for their support and contagious enthusiasm.