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SOLUTIONS

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New Year's message from the President

Dear members, sponsors, friends, visitors and readers

Well, it's that time of the year again! Following on from an amazingly dry spring and hot summer (with relatively low levels of haze in Penang), the awesome Oktoberfest and the festive Christmas Bazaar concluded the year 2014. 2015 will soon arrive along with the Chinese New Year's celebrations to welcome the Year of the Wooden Sheep, as the 8th animal in the zodiac sign.



For the MGS and its team last year was hugely successful, but once again, only as a result of high levels of work and

commitment by the members, staff, teachers as well as strong support from our generous sponsors and contributors alike.

We saw a new director from Germany, Dr Doris Hafner, taking over the MGS office and together with Elena, running it most efficiently. After the resignation of our long-term president, Karl Ebinger, our Vice President, Petra Müller, temporarily took over the office of presidency and managed the job brilliantly, Our MaiBall was a smash hit, as were the German language courses, which remained fully booked throughout the year.

A new President and Board of Management were elected at the AGM in June, and will be in office for the next two years. They have been in full swing ever since.

Under the quidance of Dr Wolfgang Mark, the Oktoberfest 2014 was the greatest success in its 42nd year. Our bi-monthly social events (e.g. talks, movie nights, breakfasts) were continuously well organized.

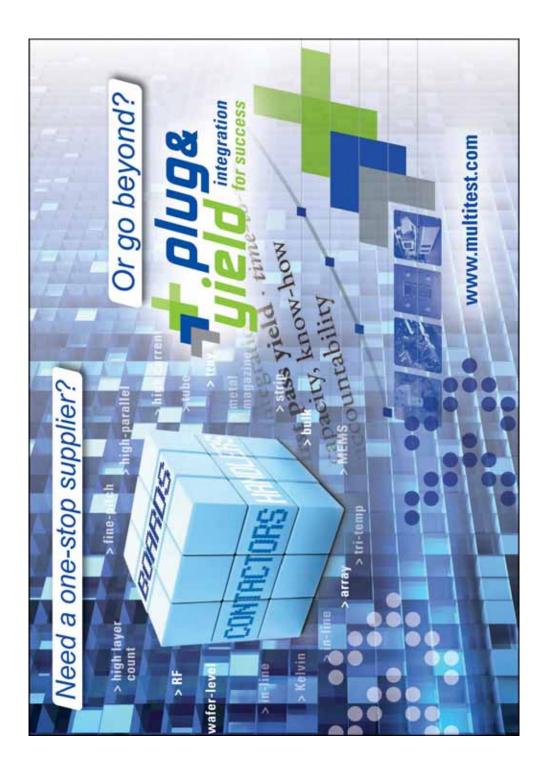
In addition to circulating our highly informative newsletter, we also regularly dispatched our e-newsletter. Don't worry - we will continue with these successful communications.

All of our activities are driven by us understanding our role of creating and developing this friendship society in Malaysia.

As we approach 2015, we anticipate, together with you (the MGS members, sponsors, staff and students) fulfilling our role to the best of our abilities once again. Let us thrive!

Sincerely yours, Achim Lauermann







51 *Karneval am Rhein* is one of the most famous German festivals with huge parades and thousands of participants



47 Penang from a different perspective: Read about the impression of 18-year-old German volunteer Daniel



69 Well known in Germany, constellation work is now introduced to Penang



63 Try out our delicious Italian recipe "Parmesan Aubergines"

Contents

EDITORIAL

7 Publisher's Information

COMING UP

9 - 25 Calendar & Events

OUR SOCIETY

3 Message of the President

26 - 29 Membership

30 - 31 Library

GERMAN CLASSES

23 New Intake

FLASHBACK

33 - 43 Talk, Oktoberfest, Martinszug, Young Musicians' Concert, Christmas Bazaar

GERMAN FESTIVALS

51 - 55 Carnival

BEYOND OUR SOCIETY

44 - 45 German School Association's potluck

47 - 49 Freiwilliges soziales Jahr in Penang
57 Information for Expatriates

CORPORATE CORNER

59 - 61 Richter Rubber Technology

FOOD

63 Recipe: Parmesan Aubergines from Italy

65 - 67 Awareness: Shark Fin

PSYCHOLOGY

69 - 71 Constellation Work

MALAY CLASS

73 Häuser / Rumah

TRAVEL

75 - 78 Eastern Europe Part 6

Keeping fit

to Work.Live. Innovate.



In their professional and private lives, Bosch associates benefit from the many sporting activities offered by the company to maintain and improve their physical fitness.

Keeping fit, Bosch associates enjoy work life balance, stay creative and innovative.

Since the founding years of Bosch, our success has been in innovating solutions for technological challenges. Today, we remain as a source of innovative strength with 5,000 patent applications last year -20 inventions on average each work day. This makes us one of the world's leading companies for patent applications. First place in Germany.

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Board of Management

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Vice-President Ms Petra Müller Newsletter & Publications

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Honorary Assistant Secretary Dr Wolfgang Mark Oktoberfest

Honorary Treasurer Ms Andrea Streller Library

Honorary Assistant Treasurer Mr Clement Liang Membership

Dr Ang Siang Fung Talks

Mr Lai Kong Loke Music Events

Mr Ino Quass Maintenance

Mr Teoh Seng Aun German Classes

Ms Yvonne Touby Social Events

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Teachers Ms Annika Bensch Ms Jurgita Lukiene Malaysian-German Society 250B. Jalan Air Itam 10460 Penang Malavsia

MALAYSIAN-GERMAN SOCIET

Tel/Fax: 04-229 68 53

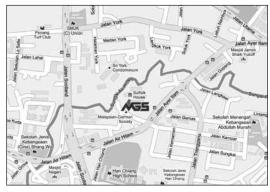
office@mgs.org.my www.mgs.org.mv

Office opening hours:

Monday - Friday: 2:30pm - 7:30pm

Members & Library:

Monday - Friday: 11am - 7pm





MGS Newsletter Issue January - March 2015

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With the support of Goethe-Institut Malaysia www.goethe.de/malaysia Mr Rolf Stehle, Director

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Our Singapore and Malaysia Operating Theatre team has all the knowhow and technical capabilities to design and build all kinds of cleanroom systems, HVAC, Process, Exhaust, Electrical, Control and Instrumentation systems and focus primarily in the electronic, solar renewable energy, hospital, pharmaceutical and other high tech industries. We also provide design consultation, construction management and EPCM services to assist our clients to control and manage construction projects on site. Caverion Asia Pte Ltd 20 Science Park Road #02-27, Teletech Park Singapore 117674 Tel: +65 6778 2093 Fax: +65 6778 2090

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Email: engineering@caverion-asia.com







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Fri	9	Movie Night	9			9		
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	12		12		Thu	12	Breakfast & Recycling	
	13		13		Fri	13	Movie Night	
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Thu	15	Let's get moving	15			15		
	16		16			16		
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	19	Th	ı 19	Chinese New Year		19		
Tue	20	Cooking Demo F	i 20	Chinese New Year		20		
	21		21		Sat	21	Dt. Gottesdienst	
Thu	22	Buchclub, Let's get moving	22		Sun	22	Open Day	
	23		23			23		
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	26		26		Thu	26	Cooking Demo	
	27		27			27		
Wed	28	Breakfast & Recycling	28			28		
Thu	29	Let's get moving	29			29		
	30		30			30		
	31					31		







Audio tour available in : 🚇 💮 🚳 🔘 🌘 🕡











Live guided tours are available at four scheduled times daily 9am - 11.30am - 1.30pm - 3.30pm Opening hours: 9am - 6pm (Last entry at 5.15pm)











Hands-on cooking classes • Gift Shop • Team Building • Meetings Café Restaurant • Nature Education • Venue for wedding & parties

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No. 16, Solok Tavoy, 10050 Georgetown, Penang







German Breakfast / Deutsches Frühstück

Five times a year our members and friends meet for German and international breakfasts held at our premises. There are always new people to meet and old friends to greet – not to forget the delicious food which is always prepared by a few of our ladies. Everybody is most welcome, especially those new to Penang.



Members RM 25, non-members RM 30, starts at 9:30 am

Next dates are: Friday, 30 January Thursday, 12 March Wednesday, 17 June

Recycling



Did you know that you can bring used batteries and electronics to our society during office hours? You will find a container to collect these items just outside next to the door.

We also hold Recycling campaigns together with the German Breakfast from 9:30am to 1pm. On these days only we collect: mixed papers and cardboard, coloured and translucent plastic containers and aluminum and tin cans.

Our next campaign will be on 30 January and 12 March

Kinderfasching

Hallo Ihr Lieben,

wir haben uns gedacht, dass es sehr nett wäre einen Kinderfasching zusammen zu feiern. Hiermit seid Ihr alle recht herzlich dazu eingeladen.

Wann? WO?

Sonntag, den 08.02.2015 von 11-14 Uhr Im Garten der MGS

Da wir Wurst in der Semmel anzubieten wollen, bitten wir um Voranmeldung damit wir besser planen können.

Bitte meldet Euch an unter: bettinaamtage@web.de

Wir freuen uns auf einen schönen Kinderfasching mit Euch!

Liebe Grüße Bettina und Daniela





www.bmw.ppm.my



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 WEARNES AUTOHAUS Segambur, Tebrau WHEELCORP PREMIUM Seita Alam

Playgroup / Spielgruppe

Im November hat sich eine Gruppe aus jungen Eltern mit Kindern bis 4 Jahren zusammengefunden. Die Treffen finden vierzehntägig jeweils am Dienstag Nachmittag um 4 Uhr statt und bieten Gelegenheit um sich auszutauschen, zu singen, zu spielen und zu basteln.

Wer gerne mitmachen will, soll sich bitte im Büro anmelden.



Let's get moving / In Bewegung kommen

Come and join a healthy physical exercise journey from head to toe, with music, meant to improve your flexibility, balance, posture and fitness. Useful physio's tips for your everyday life will also be given.

Held by Julee Mathes, a qualified physiotherapist with many years of experience in group exercises and relaxation therapy who is working with modern back training techniques as well as elements of Yoga and Qi Gong.

A 3-times trial workout block / Schnupperkurs of 1 hour each is offered at MGS for RM 45 per person on:

Thursday, 15, 22 and 29 January 2015 2:00 pm

Buchclub



Kommt doch einfach ganz ungezwungen zu unserem alternativen Buchclub, hört euch die Tipps der anderen Leser an und vielleicht habt ihr auch den einen oder anderen weiterzugeben. Für das leibliche Wohl ist wie immer gesorgt.

Wir treffen und das nächste Mal am Donnerstag, 22.1.2015 um 10 Uhr

Idkitchen Kitchen Cabinets | Wardrobes



Penang Showroom

Tanjung Bungah 546-D, Jln Tanjung Bungah (Next to Flamingo Hotel) 04-899 1991

Malaysian Cooking Demo Let's cook with Inge and Sapur

Dear members and friends.

even though we demonstrated cooking at the Malaysian-German Society before, this will be the first time that we are doing it together. We will show you how to cook the traditional Malay breakfast / lunch menu

Nasi Lemak

Basmati rice cooked with coconut milk and turmeric

Ikan Bilis with Sambal, served with boiled egg, roasted peanuts and fresh local salad

Dry chicken curry Nutmeg juice Homemade mango ice cream Coffee and tea



Date: 20 January Time: 9am Price: RM 110

Venue: Malaysian-German Society

Please sign up with our office 04-2296853 until 14 January as only limited space is available.

Any cancellations with refund will be accepted until four days before the demo. Please replace last minute cancellations!

Inge Viermann & Sapur Jensen







AT HOME IN THE HEART OF KUALA LUMPUR

The E&O Residences is located in Kuala Lumpur's Central Business District, just minutes away from the commercial hub and key attractions.

The city's transportation network readily connects you to the rest of the capital.

Monorail and LRT services can be accessed at the Raja Chulan station nearby and Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) is just 45 minutes away.





Chinese Cooking Demo by Ling, Tongle Wei and Sita



Information:

Date: 26 March 2015

Price: RM 80

Time: 9:30am- 1:30pm

Max. 15 people

Please register at the MGS office

until 20 March



Menu:

Main course:

Dumplings with meat or

vegetable stuffing

Traditional Chinese Desert:

Pumpkin Pancake







www.deutsche-technoplast.com

Belgian artist Jean-Francois Debongnie offered to exhibit a few of his floral paintings on large canvasses in our society's building. There will be no formal opening, because the artist himself will unfortunately not be present the next time and thus will not be able to give finishing touches to his work by varnishing it.

Jean-Francois, age 45, is very familiar with the Asian cultural and aesthetic traditions, as he has lived in Singapore for over two decades and on and off in Penang. He is a selftaught artist who works exclusively with water-based acrylic and Chinese ink, which adds a dramatic fluidity to all his works.

His most remarkable pieces of art have been exhibited in galleries around the world, such as in Belgium, Germany, France, Singapore and Malaysia. They are also shown in public buildings including the Sotheby's Institute of Art, Singapore Airlines, the Changi Airport - and now even at the Malaysian German Society. In addition, his work has also been featured in Voque Living and Elle Décor magazines.



"Burnt Siena"

To find out more please visit his website under http://www.debongnie.com/debongnie/Home.html or contact us directly, as we have a catalogue on display.

We are very happy that we will be exhibiting some of his paintings in the first quarter of 2015 and may even find an interested buyer amongst our art-loving members. Come to our premises and have a look!



Pure Solutions





www.faethasia.com









Dear members and friends.

We will open our doors already at 8 pm to welcome you to our movie night. You will have time to chat and have some drinks and nibbles before the film starts. Soft drinks will be for free, but you can also buy a can of beer for RM 7.

At 8:30 pm we will start our movie as usual.

Poll (The Poll Diaries, drama, Germany 2010, 129 min, FSK 12)



Friday, 9 January 2015

mingle & chat 8:00 pm start movie 8:30 pm

language German with English subtitles

directors Chris Kraus

Paula Beer, Edgar Selge, Tambet Tuisk actors plot On the eve of World War I. 14-year-old Oda

von Siering returns to Poll, her family home on the Baltic coast, a region uneasily shared by Germans, Russians and Estonians. With her are the mortal remains of her mother, who

passed away in Berlin. Awaiting the bright and inquisitive girl are her father Ebbo, an eccentric scientist with a dubious

interest in racial breeding; her aunt Milla, who flees reality through music and affairs, and other members of her aristocratic German family, who are clinging to their privileges in a world on the brink of disaster.

The grand Budapest Hotel (comedy, Germany 2014, 99 min, FSK 12)



July

Friday, 13 March 2015

mingle & chat mq 00:8 start movie 8:30 pm

language German with English subtitles

director Wes Anderson

actors Ralph Fiennes, F. Murray Abraham, Edward

Norton

The world of The Grand Budapest Hotel is plot one of a by-gone era. Of ladies and gentlemen, of tuxedos and gowns, of class and class distinction and of people and their struggles. It recounts the adventures of Gustave H, the legendary concierge at this famous European hotel between the wars, and Zero Moustafa, the lobby boy who becomes his

most trusted friend. The story involves murder, intrique, a priceless painting, fortunes and the quest for discretion. Throw in a war and crazed, homicidal characters and we have The Grand Budapest Hotel.

Zwischenwelten

DUTLOC

COMING UP

Open Day

In March our Society opens its gates and doors again for an exiting Open Day 2015. Everyone is welcome to join us for an afternoon of fun and information. You may enjoy German cakes, grilled sausages and other German delicacies. Furthermore, we offer attractions for kids, information on our German Language Classes and there will be a talk by some Malaysian who have graduated at German Universities sharing their experience.



Come and find out what awaits you!

Sunday, 22 March from 3pm onwards

Dr Schnieders from DAAD will also be there and give you information about studying in Germany.

Deutschsprachiger Gottesdienst

Liebe Freunde des deutschsprachigen Gottesdienstes,

Pfarrerin Lidia Rabenstein aus Singapur wird wieder gemeinsam mit uns einen ökumenischen Gottesdienst feiern. Alle Interessenten in Penang sind herzlich dazu eingeladen, am Samstag, 21. März 2015 um 18 Uhr teilzunehmen.

Der Gottesdienst findet wie immer in der Wesley Methodist's Church, Jalan Clove Hall mit Zufahrt über die Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah statt.

Bei Fragen wendet Euch bitte an Monica Martini-Lehmann 017-5283267

German Language Courses - new intake 2015

The first semester of the German Language Courses (GLC) is starting on 12 January 2015 and we are happy to offer a wide range of classes according to the demand of our students. Please have a look on the opposite page to get an overview where to enroll.

Our new conversation class is ment to deepen your speaking and listening skills and will help you to better communicate in German.

Please ask our office staff if you have any queries and book your German Language Courses soon – as we find demand is constantly growing.

German Language Courses (GLC)

1st Semester: January - June 2015



A 1 Level for beginners (A 1 $a + A$	١ 1	b)
--------------------------------------	-----	----

A 1 a 1 semester Total RM 790

A 1 b 1 semester

 Total RM 790

RM 840

RM 840

Total

RM 750 Course Fee incl. Textbook + CD RM 40 Membership

A 2 Level (A 2 a + A 2 b)

A 2 a 1 semester Total RM 840

A 2 b 1 semester Total

Saturday, 13:00 - 16:00 17 Jan - 13 June RM 800 Course Fee incl. Textbook + CD RM 40 Membership

Full A Level A = A 1a + A 1b + A2a + A2b

Morning Class Total RM 3,340*

Monday-Friday, 9:00 -12:00 A1: 12 Jan - 6 March RM 3,300 Course Fee A2: 9 March - 30 Apr incl. Textbook + CD RM 40 Membership

Evening Class

1 semester

Monday-Friday, 19:00 - 22:00 A1 or A2: RM 1,690

* Discount for booking the full A level: Total RM3,140, no refund for cancellation after the course started!

D 1

B 1

incl. Textbook + CD RM 40 Membership

B1.2. 1 semester Total RM 840

Friday, 19:00 – 22:00 16 Jan – 26 June RM 800 Course Fee incl. Textbook + CD RM 40 Membership

B 2

B1.1.

B 2 Intensive Course Morning Class (260hrs) Total RM 3,340

Tuesday-Friday 13 Jan - 19 June RM 3,300 Course Fee 9:30 - 12:30 incl. Material

B 2 Examination Training Total RM 440

Saturday, 18:00 - 19:30 17 Jan - 27 June RM 400 Course Fee RM 40 Membership

Conversation Course Practice German conversation 90 minutes per week

Entry level: after completion of A2 Total RM 340

 Saturday 16:15 - 17:45
 17 Jan - 27 June
 RM 300 Course Fee

 RM 40 Membership
 RM 40 Membership

Please note: After the courses started, there is no refund for cancellation.

Min. number of students: Classes can be held with a minimum number of 6 students only. Age limit: 14 years.

RM 40 Membership

COMING UP | Ball

Mark your calendar!

Our annual ball is coming soon!

MaiBall 2015

Saturday, 16 May 2015, 6:30pm Eastern & Oriental Hotel, Grand Ballroom

In cooperation with the Alliance Française Penang

Let's have fun! Great Food! Party and dance the night away! This year we arranged the Life Band "High Society" from Penang to entertain you.



High Society have enjoyed performing vast styles of musical genres including Soul, Jazz, Pop, Gospel, Rock and Funk from the 60's to the present day. Their live set consist of songs from over fifty artists, spanning four decades of music, including James Brown, Bon Jovi, Ella Fitzgerald, Michael Buble, The Journey, Whitney Houston and many more.

Tickets will be available from the 1st March onwards at the Malaysian German Society (MGS) and the Alliance Française (AF) Fixed number per table will be 10 pax.

A BIG THANK YOU GOES TO

Christoph Volle

For donating a fridge to the society. He generously even paid for the delivery to the MGS.

Teoh Seng Aun

For the donation of a sturdy working table for heavy duty iobs



MAIBALL 15 16th May 2015 E&O Hotel

FUN! PARTY! GREAT FOOD!

Dance to "High Society" Live-Band & DJ

Arranged by:



250B, Jalan Air Itam, 10460 Penang Tel/Fax: 04-229 6853 E-mail: office@mgs.org.my Co-arranger:



OUR SOCIETY | Membership

Welcome to our new members

SINGLE MEMBERS

Ursula Bartholomy Daniel Grutzeck Lina Scherzer Naoko Ban Paul Overbeck Renata Sommer Jin Dong Mei Pam Müller Nur Hidavah Binti Hamzah

COUPLE MEMBERS

Sita von Dombois & Dr Markus Klein Stephanie & Dr Martin Griebel Merle & Dr Michael Fiebig Maja & Christian Kubin Melanie & Thorsten Neudeck Michaela & Matthias Schweiger Claudia & Sinan Eserman Yoshiko & Nobuhiro Harada Sangeet & Rainer Weissenberger

CORPORATE MEMBER

OSRAM Opto Semiconductors (M) Sdn. Bhd.

Benefits of your membership



- Free use of our extensive German library (not only books, but also audio books and DVDs)
- · Free internet access for our students and regular members at the MGS library
- Membership discount on tickets and fees for our events and activities

As a member, you may use the MGS premises for your own functions. Come here for your birthday parties and other celebrations. A small donation applies. Please contact the office for further information and booking.

The MGS expects a minimum donation for the usage of:

 Outside area and bar 	per day	RM	150
 Outside area and bar, ground floor hall and kitchen Hall 1st floor Classroom Classroom with use of SMART board 	per day per hour per hour per hour	RM RM RM RM	250 50 50 75
For private use at home:Festzeltgarnituren (tables and benches)Plates, bowls, cups, glasses, cutlery	per set per 20 pcs.	RM RM	20 5

The used facilities and items have to be returned in the same condition as before the usage. If cleaning is required, RM 20 per hour will be charged. Any loss or damage to premises or items will be charged according to the lost/broken items list or according to the actual cost for repair or replacement.

Special Promotion For Malaysian German Society's Members

Executive Screening Profile

A.Blood & Urine Tests (60 tests) Full Blood Picture

- Renal Function Test
- Hepatitis B Screening
- Liver Function Test

RM 300

Normal Price RM510

- Lipid Profile
- Others

B.Other Tests

- PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen) - Male only
- CA125 (Ovary Cancer Marker) - Female only
- Bone Mineral Density
- Ultrasound Upper Abdomen*
- Pap Smear/ Body Composition Analysis - Female only
- Hearing Test Male only
- Chest X-Ray
- Physical Examination by Doctor





Body Composition Analysis



Bone Mineral **Density Test**



Hearing Aids



X-ray Services



BP DIAGNOSTIC CENTRE PENANG Suite G1 & G2. Menara Penang Garden. 42A Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, 10050 Penang Tel: 04-2292677, 04-2263160 Fax: 04-2272886

BP DIAGNOSTIC CENTRE BAYAN LEPAS Ideal Avenue, 1-1-1, Medan Kampung Relau 1, Jalan Tun Dr. Awang,11900 Bayan Lepas, Penang. Tel: 04-6410382, 04-6410803 Fax: 04-6410801

















Discounts at Shops & Restaurants

I would like to remind you all of the kind support of some shops and restaurants, where you can get a discount by showing your membership card. Enjoy your shopping and food!

OE Fine Jewellerv

Straits Quay Showroom

10% discount

Tel: 04-890 1805

Chocolate Boutique

22. Lebuh Leith

10% discount

Tel:04-250 24 88

Gorgeous Beauty Slimming

& Wellness

Prima Tanjung Penang

10% discount

Tel: 04-898 2957

The Library@Straits Quay

Straits Quay, Quay South, Ground Floor

10% discount on total bill

Tel: 04-890 5073

Healy Mac's Irish Bar & Restaurant

Straits Quay, Ground Floor 10% discount on total bill

Tel: 04-890 3477

Ingolf's Kneipe

German Restaurant & Bar

Tanjung Bungah

10% discount

Tel: 04-899 5796

Kashmir Restaurant

105 Jalan Penang

20% discount for lunch

10% discount for dinner

Tel: 04-263 7411

Cyclon Cycle Ind.

216, Lebuh Carnavon, Penang

10% discount on bicycles

15% discount on accessories

Tel: 04-263 1688

mvTESOL

Prima Tanjung Business Centre

free conversational English class

for you and a friend

Mo-Fr 9am-10.45am

Tel: 017 426 1408

LIBRARY | News

Liebe Freunde der deutschen Bücherei.

mit Freude könne wir euch mitteilen, dass die neuen Bücher und DVDs (Spiegelbestseller und natürlich eure Wünsche) angekommen sind und in der Bücherei bereit liegen.

Unter anderem:



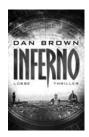
Wir sind doch Schwestern von Anne Gesthuysen

Drei Schwestern, drei Lebensgeschichten und das Porträt eines ganzen Jahrhunderts

Der Sommer der Blaubeeren von Mary Simes







Inferno von Dan Brown

Robert Langdon ist zurück ... und hat sein wohl größtes Abenteuer zu bestehen. Dante Alighieris Inferno, Teil seiner Göttlichen Komödie, gehört zu den geheimnisvollsten Schriften der Weltliteratur.

Silber - Das erste Buch der Träume von Kerstin Gier

Liv Silber ist 16 und zum wiederholten Mal gezwungen, gemeinsam mit ihrer Schwester und ihrer Mutter, die als Literaturprofessorin arbeitet, in ein neues Land und eine neue Stadt zu ziehen. Diesmal geht es nach London...



Unsere Kinder können sich auf verschiedene Geschichten nur für Jungs und nur für Mädchen freuen. Es gibt auch tolle lustige DVDs zum Ausleihen.

Die neuen Bücher und DVDs findet Ihr zurzeit im Ausstellungsregal vor der Bücherei.

Viel Spaß beim Entdecken, Lesen und Schauen.

Unser dritter Buchclub fand bereits Anfang November statt. Er war wieder sehr unterhaltsam und voller Ideen und Tipps wie zum Beispiel:



Tod einer roten Heldin von Qiu Xiaolong

Shanghai 1990: es wird die Leiche einer jungen Frau aus dem Kanal gefischt und die Spur führt in die Politik

Codex von Douglas Preston

Drei Brüder, Tausend Gefahren, Ein Wettlauf mit der Zeit.





Erzähl mir von den weißen Blüten (Asiensaga) von Jan Winter,

dem Schriftsteller des bekannten Buches "Der Duft des Mangobaums" - ein herrlicher Liebesroman, welcher auch in Penang spielt

Das waren nur einige Beispiele, kommt doch einfach das nächste Mal dazu, ganz ungezwungen, hört euch die Tipps der anderen Leser an und vielleicht habt ihr auch einen. Für das leibliche Wohl ist jedes Mal gesorgt. Der nächste Termin steht auch schon fest, wir treffen uns am

Donnerstag, 22. Januar.

Wir wünschen euch alles Gute für das neue Jahr 2015

Claudia, Andrea und Doreen





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Activities

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Background

in the 2013 facal year (ending September 30), the company reported sales of EUR 3.8 billion with about 27,600 employees worldwide. Infineon is listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange infineon Technologies AG, Neubiberg, Germany, offers semiconductor and system solutions addressing three central challenges to modern society; energy efficiency, mobility, and security. ticker symbol: IFX) and in the USA on the over-the-counter market OTCOX international Premier (ticker symbol: IFNNY) Inflinears's wafer fabrication facility in Kulim High Tech Park, Kedah, is its first wafer fab in Asia and presently employs 1700 staff. The Kulim plant has added a building-shell which can include a new 12,000 square meter fab facility with the potential to double production capacity. With Fab 2, infineon Kulim is positioned as the manufacturing competence centre of semiconductors focusing on the efficient use of electric energy and the electrification of automobile for improved performance and safety as well reduced carbon emission

Infined Technologies Kulim Sdn Bhd (679693-W) Implemented advanced manufacturing concepts such as radio frequency lot tracking system – a total paperless concept, Zero Defect Culture which strongly focus on "do it right the first time" with no rework; and a Green Concept fulfilling environmental requirements on its products and the industries of its customers. Other accolades include ISO 14001:2004 and OSHAS 18001:2007 certifications

With the Wafer fabrication in Kulim and the Assembly and Testing in Malacca, infineon Technologies has the full value-added chain in Malaysia and fosters close cooperation between the sites. Multimedia Super Corridor status was achieved in August 2007

"Implication of Planning Law" on 9th October 2014

Immediately after the press conference of German beer festival Oktoberfest, a few honorable quests were invited to share their enlightening views on above topic at MGS premise, Penang. Many who visited Germany before are impressed by German's city planning. How about the situation in Malaysia especially in Penang?

In this regard, Penang still has a relatively rudimentary local planning. There are limited local plans being published to-date. The moderator, Dato Seri Lim, has called for detailed study of cases, for instance hoping someone would do a PhD thesis on PORR (Penang Outer Ring Road). At the beginning of the talk, Dato Seri Lim has humbly humored himself not being suitable to be a moderator as he is immoderate.

MPPP's OSC (One Stop Center) has the obligation to approve local planning, such as construction application of housing projects. Dr. Goh emphasized their position is very powerful because if they do not approve a certain plan, a construction delay is costly for each single day. It is important the personnel to uphold their high- and right-minded evaluation based on the planning laws. Also, it is desirable that local government to control local council to uphold law implementation.

Mr. Chan applaud this point by highlighting the planning laws are mature laws clearly written and are in place to be fulfilled. The interest of all communities should be cared of equally. Even a squatter community is a community and has their right to be taken care of and protected by law too.

On the various communities, Dr. Lim has continued by calling for statistics of numbers of housings currently build in Penang for different classes from luxury, middle-cost to low cost, whether they are occupied and how much more are actually needed. The chance is low- to middle-cost housings is under-capacity and local council shall exercise their power to better control to achieve fair distribution



Left to right: Dr Lim Mah Hui, Mr. Chan Kok Keong, Dato Seri Lim Chong Keat, Dr. Goh Ban Lee

At the end of the talk. audience of about 40 people have actively posted questions and participated in discussions. The sharing has been inspiring and hopefully the sparked awareness would be widened as criticality of the community on wanting things done right in planning law in Penang.



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Lufthansa

Oktoberfest 2014

by Wolfgang Mark

The good news was announced on Oct 17th, 2014 at 7 pm: After nearly 360 days of waiting, the famous MGS Oktoberfest was once again open to the public!

A tradition since 1973, the MGS Oktoberfest is a well-known event in Penang and throughout Malaysia. Since the beginning (42 years ago now), we at MGS provide the same hallmark ingredients as the original, world-famous Munich Oktoberfest in Bavaria/Germany: a festive opening in an uniquely decorated tent, Bavarian brass music, a wide portfolio of very drinkable beer

brands, a variety of tasty food, fun games and entertainment, and most of all the intoxicating atmosphere of the singing and dancing crowd.









For more than four decades, this wonderful festival has become a cultural highlight and contributes to the thriving Malaysian-German relations and continuing friendship. It is a great opportunity to meet local and international friends and to have fun together with many other beer enthusiasts throughout the country. Many of our guests enter the spirit of dressing up in lederhosen for men or the charming dirndl for ladies.

FLASHBACK | Oktoberfest

The festive opening of the Oktoberfest was conducted by our most faithful VIP guest, YAB Tuan Lim Guan Eng, the Chief Minister of Penang who tapped the first barrel of beer. The six piece Reissner Band, including lady singer Anita, delivered this year's original oompah music in a highly professional manner. They had all flown in from Bavaria especially for the occasion.



In addition to the extensive portfolio of beer brands, the highlight of a successful Oktoberfest is without any question a wide variety of delicious food. As well as traditional German Food like grilled sausages, pretzels, schnitzel and sauerkraut there were also several local dishes and colourful sweets offered by friendly vendors.







As the evening progressed, more exciting activities were initiated: Group dancing, polonaise dance, traditional adult contests for beer drinking, arm wrestling and mug lifting with a special designed 3 litre wheat beer glass. There were also fun game stalls for the children that were provided by our long standing supporters B. Braun and Bosch.



Overall MGS Oktoberfest 2014 was a highly successful event and we welcomed more than 2600 happy guests. Those who missed out this year should diarise Friday, Oct 23rd and Saturday, Oct 24th for the 2015 event!



Many thanks go to our main sponsors Carlsberg, E&O Hotel and Lufthansa as well to all advertisers, volunteers, suppliers, caterers and the MGS organizing committee. It was only their dedicated support that made the 2014 Oktoberfest such an outstanding highlight once again. We hope to see you for MGS Oktoberfest 2015!











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Young Musician's Concert on 9th November 2014



The MGS Penang was entertained by heart warming music in the afternoon of November 9th 2014. The young talents from as young as 6 years performed on various instruments such as the





violin, cello, piano and harp. They are students of Lee Chye Guan (violin), Lai Kong Loke (cello), Dr Yumi (piano), Dr Jason Tye (piano) and Katryna Tan (harp). The audience that filled the MGS hall upstairs were charmed with the pieces recited by the students and gave them great appreciation. We want to thank Mr. Friele as well as parents and participants for making the concert so successful.







Martinszug | FLASHBACK





Für Eure zahlreiche Teilnahme an unserem Sankt-Martins-Umzug möchten wir uns recht herzlich bei Euch bedanken.

Auf dem mit bunten Laternen geschmückten MGS-Gelände haben die Kinder die Martinsgeschichte gehört. Danach sind wir alle mit unseren Laternen losgezogen und haben die traditionellen Lieder zum Laternenlauf miteinander gesungen. Zum Abschluss gab es reichlich selbstgebackene Martinsgänse.





Daniela und Bettina



MGS - Christmas Celebration & Bazaar 2014







Around 200 - 250 people were celebrating the beginning of the Christmas season at our Society on Saturday, 29 November. The atmosphere was relaxed, people were mingling and chatting, children were playing football, running around or were creative at the crafts table.

As in previous years, the buffet of delicious homemade cakes was the first spot to start with for many of our visitors after walking in through our gates. It offered a sweet smelling and tasty looking variety of German bakery.

Some vendors offered jewellery, delicious Christmas goodies, such as Stollen, cookies and jams, recycled Indian saris, batik items, dresses and Christmas decoration

The choir of IWA was singing Christmas songs, some even in German, which was well acknowledged by our visitors. At 5 pm the children's program started in the hall upstairs



with a Christmas tale, a children's choir and music performances. It was so crowded that there was little space left and some quests even had to stand on the stairs.



All of a sudden you could hear the ringing of Santa Claus's bell, who finally found his way through the crowd. He brought goodies for all the kids, never before has he handed out so many!



Meanwhile the people had switched from cakes to grilled sausages with sauerkraut, meat loaf with potato salad, not to forget



the traditional "Glühwein". They enjoyed the gathering so much, that many tables were occupied till late.

A big thank you goes to Inge Viermann and Yvonne Touby who organised this event and to all of our volunteers of any kind. Without you the celebration would not have been such a great success!



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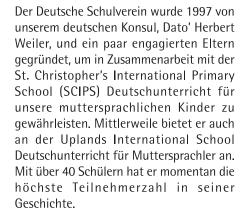
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Fest des Deutschen Schulvereins

Nachdem der deutsche Schulverein zum dritten Mal in Folge zu einem zwanglosem Fest geladen hat, kann man das schon fast als Tradition bezeichnen: Jede Familie trug etwas zum reichhaltigen Buffet bei und es waren auch fast alle gekommen. Es wurde ein lustiger Nachmittag der bis in den Abend hinein reichte, mit Vorführungen der Kinder, gutem Essen und ungezwungenem Kennenlernen der Neuankömmlinge.













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Erste Eindrücke aus Penang

Von Daniel Grutzeck

Seit Anfang August bin ich nun schon in Malaysia und ich muss sagen: Es gefällt mir echt gut. Ich konnte bereits einige Erfahrungen sammeln und Neues dazulernen. Ich wohne hier zusammen mit Paul Overbeck, den ich schon auf den Vorbereitungsseminaren für unser Jahr mit dem internationalen Jugendfreiwilligendienst IJFD kennengelernt habe. Die meiste Arbeit hier werde ich mit ihm zusammen tun. Wir sind in einer Baptistengemeinde beschäftigt und helfen bei zahlreichen sozialen Projekten und der alltäglichen Gemeindearbeit mit.

Nach fast 30 stündiger Reisezeit (inklusive Zeitverschiebung) sind wir in Penang am Flughafen angekommen. Die Flüge verliefen zwar ohne Probleme, waren aber sehr anstrengend, weil die Sitze nicht auf große Leute angelegt sind.

In der ersten Woche waren wir viel mit dem Jugendpastor unterwegs, der uns in der Gegend

rumfuhr und uns den Weg zu den Einsatzstellen zeigte. Zu Anfang hatten wir nur sehr wenig zu tun, da uns die Pastoren nicht gleich überfordern wollten. Dadurch konnten wir aber schon die Stadt erkunden





und finden uns mittlerweile gut zurecht. Nach und nach haben wir auch mehr Aufgaben bekommen.

Unsere Aufgaben sind sehr abwechslungsreich und vielfältig: Mittwochs arbeiten Obdachlosenzentrum Kawan mit. Obdachlose bekommen dort eine warme Mahlzeit und haben die Möglichkeit zu schlafen und sich zu duschen. Ich kenn mich in der Küche immer besser aus und versteh mich super mit den Leuten, nachts habe ich auch schon ein paar gute Gespräche gehabt. Es ist nicht einfach, sich wieder und wieder zu überwinden einfach fremde Obdachlose oder Prostituierte

BEYOND OUR SOCIETY | Freiwilliges soziales Jahr in Penang

anzusprechen, mit ihnen zu reden und zu versuchen, ihnen etwas von meinem Glauben mitzugeben. Eine tolle Motivation ist es aber, dass man nach einem Gespräch mit den Leuten sehr oft auch für sie beten darf und sie das dankbar annehmen.

Donnerstags unterrichten wir auf dem Festland Flüchtlingskinder aus Myanmar in "Science". Ich bin mit beiden Klassen mit dem ersten Thema durch und habe Tests geschrieben. Bei der Korrektur habe ich dann gemerkt, dass sie leider doch nicht so viel aus meinem Unterricht mitnehmen, obwohl sie gut mitmachen. Da muss ich mir noch was überlegen, damit sie das Gelernte auch im Kopf behalten.

Samstags helfen wir beim Seniorenfrühstück. Letztes Mal bestand unsere Mithilfe zum Beispiel darin, mit ihnen "lime dance" zu tanzen ⊙...

Am Sonntag bin ich in folgende Veranstaltungen eingebunden: Gebet mit den Jugendlichen, Gottesdienst, Nachhilfeunterricht in Mathe und Sport am Abend. Endlich sind wir auch offiziell ins Mediateam eingestiegen. Dort helfen wir entweder am Computer mit oder als Runner. Das ist derjenige, der alles organisieren muss, gucken muss, dass alle da sind, die den Gottesdienst mitgestalten, ihnen nochmal sagen was sie tun sollen, Wasser für die Redner holen und so weiter. Leider heißt das, dass wir sonntags dann um 6 Uhr aufstehen dürfen... Eine echte Herausforderung ist es daher, bei der Wiederholung der Predigt im zweiten Gottesdienst nicht einzuschlafen.



Freiwilliges soziales Jahr in Penang | BEYOND OUR SOCIETY



Montag ist unser freier Tag.

Die Menschen, mit denen wir zu tun haben, sind sehr nett, offen und freundlich. Sie kommen auf uns zu und wollen mehr von uns erfahren, was die Kontaktaufnahme mit ihnen erleichtert.

Unsere Wohnsituation sieht wie folgt aus: Wir teilen uns ein Zimmer in einem Gebäude, das ansonsten für Gemeindetreffen verwendet wird und in dem auch Büros für die Pastoren sind. Es ist nicht das luxuriöseste, aber wir haben alles, was wir brauchen (Klimaanlage, Waschmaschine, Kühlschrank). Wenn es regnet, regnet es auch in unsere Wohnung. Wir haben uns aber schon daran gewöhnt, dass unser Durchgangsraum dann nass ist... Ratten und andere freilaufende Tiere gibt es hier auch mehr als in Deutschland. Es gibt viele streunende Hunde und Katzen und an manchen Stellen sogar Affen oder große Echsen.

Eine große Umgewöhnung ist der Verkehr hier, der das Fahrradfahren zum Abenteuer macht. Neben dem Linksverkehr gilt es auch noch auf die vielen Mopeds aufzupassen, die sich durch jede Lücke quetschen. Asiatischer Großstadtverkehr ist eben nicht auf Fahrräder ausgelegt.

Diese sind aber unser Hauptverkehrsmittel. Bisher ist uns aber noch nichts passiert.

Vielen Dank für eure Unterstützung, ob mit Gebet, lieben Worten und Ermutigungen oder Spenden! Es tut gut zu wissen, dass ihr Interesse daran habt, was ich hier tue und erlebe. Ich freue mich über jede Unterstützung!

Auf meinem Blog (www.danielinmalaysia.wordpress.com) könnt ihr noch mehr über meine Erfahrungen in Penang nachlesen.

Danke für...

- Die freundliche Art der Menschen hier
- Abwechslungsreiche Arbeit
- Unterstützung von Zuhause

Bitte um...

- Gutes Verhältnis zu meinem Mitbewohner Paul
- Gesundheit
- Gute Ideen, viel Motivation und Kraft bei der Arbeit



Christliche Impulse für Gemeinden. Weltweit.

Hallo, ich bin Daniel, 18 Jahre alt, komme aus der Nähe von Frankfurt/Main und mache grade in Penang ein 1-jähriges IJFD (Internationaler Jugend Freiwilligen Dienst), organisiert durch das



Forum Wiedenest, Dabei helfe ich vor allem in den sozialen Projekten der Reservoir Garden Baptist Church mit, dem Obdachlosenzentrum Kawan, in einer Flüchtlingsschule für Rohingya-Kinder, gebe Nachhilfe für Waisenkinder ...





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Karneval am Rhein

By Achim Lauermann

Traditionally, the "fifth season" (carnival season) in Germany begins exactly at 11 minutes past 11 o'clock in the morning of the 11th day of the 11th month of the year (in German "am 11.11. um 11 Uhr 11"), and finishes the following year on Ash Wednesday, in German "Aschermittwoch", the first day of lent in western Christianity, which always occurs 46 days before Easter.

It is fair to say that carnival is mainly celebrated by western Christian denominations, comprising of Roman Catholics, Protestants and Methodists. But its origin cannot be traced in the bible. Modern carnival began only 200 years ago and was a way for Christians to bid farewell to meat before lent and for anybody to poke fun at the public big-wigs and to express the disliking of oppressive Prussian and French thoughts through parody of military marches, mockery and disquise.

A variety of customs and rites are associated with the carnival celebrations. which vary a lot from one smaller region to another in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. This is already reflected in the



number of names given to the respective carnival festivities, such as "Fasching", "Fastnacht", "Fasnet" or "Fastelabend".

But although the carnival season starts all over in November already, the carnival spirit is always temporarily suspended during the Advent and Christmas period, and picks up again only after Epiphany, also known as the Day of the Three Kings, which is on the 6th of January in the new vear.

Then carnival festivities and parties develop strongly, even though the actual carnival week kicks off only with the women's carnival on the Thursday "Weiberfastnacht" or "Fetter Donnerstag" before Ash Wednesday. The carnival festivities climax the following Monday, "Rosenmontag", or the next day "Karnevals-" or "Faschings-Dienstag" and end - as already said - the very next day, on Ash Wednesday.



Well, all this is public knowledge, easily to be googled, but to give you a better understanding of what is really happening, how much emotions and preparations the revellers "Jecke" go through as they are about to get into the carnival hotspots I shall focus in line with the topic chosen on the carnival traditions of the region along the river Rhine, especially centred in the cities of Düsseldorf.



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Köln and Mainz and there welcomed with the typical greeting of "Helau" or "Alaaf"!

Long before the carnival kick starts on November 11, and the crowds in costumes and disguises go with the flow on the streets, the Prince and Princess of carnival. or in Köln the "Dreigestirn", comprising of the Prince, the Peasant (representing the wealth of the city) and the Virgin (who is a male symbolizing the virtue and beauty of the people) have been elected by some 105 historic carnival societies and nominated by the council of eleven "Elferrat" to spearhead the festivities. This is a rather costly exercise for each Prince or member of the Dreigestirn and tops nowadays easily Euro 250,000 per season as they have to shoulder all their expenses (incl. the costume, the transportation for months, and rounds and rounds of beer for their hundreds of peers, day and evening, in and out). Nonetheless the queue of wanting to be a prince is rather long as each nomination goes along with honour, power, privilege and prestige.

Preparations and hard work for the colourful highlights, ceremonial sessions, music parades, parties and costumes go also on for months before the countdown on November 11, as the various groups, schools, clubs and societies compete annually.

When, finally and with much ado, the clocks strike "11 Uhr 11" the carnival mad crowd starts singing, swinging, partying and drinking on the streets, the nearby bars and restaurants and party halls. Normally the population of each carnival hotspot easily doubles on a day like that, even taking into consideration that a number of people do not fancy the carnival spirit and may have fled the scene

Again at "11 Uhr 11" on "Weiberfastnacht" the actual crazy days "Tolle Tage" of the Karneval am Rhein start. Well before that time the streets have filled with ladies of any age, masqueraded. Parades on the streets are held, tongue-in-cheek military band music is played and officially the

CARNIVAL | German Festivals



big cities' mayor is forced to hand over the reins of power to the prince's quard. No man's tie is safe, nowhere - not even in the offices - as the wild women are allowed to cut off the tie of any man within reach and without prior warning to assert their inborn superiority. No money is paid for incurred losses of expensive ties, but a festival kiss is offered. And for the sake of a sweet kiss from a beautiful. though still unknown lady, the experienced male Jecke has spare ties in his pockets! Sometimes this is already the start of a wonderful relationship for the next couple of days and parties, or the beginning of the end of an existing one. Time will tell. Helau! Alaaf!

Latest "Rosenmontag" or "Karnevalsdienstag" the carnival hotspots are filled with millions of Jecke, dressed in costumes to cheer their friends on floats or marching in the parades. Those not dressed up will definitely be quickly recognized as party poopers. The floats are not only expensively made and try to be beautiful, but they also represent political, satirical and local topics. Jecke on board the floats throw sweets, flowers and goodies. And seats on the floats are also offered to third parties for a decent Euro 3,000 - 5,000 per parade, and they sell thrilling when the crowd cheers! Of course, special carnival songs are sung to entertain crowds on the streets.

But the "Tollen Tage" do not only take place on the streets. Many special fund raising events are held in large halls full of Jecke, and there are special sessions "Karnevalssitzungen" everywhere in the hotels, city and town halls, which are highly frequented and sometimes even aired nationwide on TV. And those indoor activities are also necessary to warm up: keep in mind that the "Tollen Tage" take place in the month of February, which is normally a very cold time far away from Penang, with lots of rain and snow at times.

And the winter at the Karneval am Rhein takes its toll, especially on the Jecke revelling on the street.

Finally, on Ash Wednesday the carnival is over; it breaks so many hearts to leave, but





then the internal countdown already starts again, not in seconds but in weeks and days, as most certainly the next Karneval am Rhein will need to be prepared. Helau, Alaaf! I pronounce it my way: I – love – it!

Achim is "ne rheinische Jong", and has Karneval's pride in his blood. Having been raised in Düsseldorf and later on having studied and worked in Köln for more than 12 years, where his social calendar



was always fully booked during the fifth season, the Karneval am Rhein is the one thing only he, as the true rheinische Jecke, can relate to.

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DB Schenker new logistics facility at Nusajaya SILC, represents its strategy of expanding warehousing foot print in Southern Malaysia serving consumable, furniture, food industries, heavy industries, solar and semi-con market.

Driving license for expatriates in Malaysia

by Julia Hess, legal trainee of MGCC

Driving in Malaysia? Is it crazy just because of the traffic, or because you feel you're driving on the "wrong" side of the road - for Germans, at least?

No, to be honest it is not crazy to take up this challenge - in contrast, it will give you a fair amount of freedom: no dependency on the public transport system; no taxi driver with whom you need to argue about the price; and especially the freedom and ability to travel around easily and discover Malaysia's beautiful sites, maybe even some hidden treasures.

Malaysia is said to have some of the best roads in Southeast Asia - some say it's because of Malaysia having once been a British colony. The Malaysian roads are well developed, spread over the whole peninsula and especially well-linked with Singapore in the south and Thailand in the north of Malaysia. It is important to know, however, that driving in Malaysia is not always 'free of charge' - there are certain toll fees on some roads, but paying is very easy using a "touch-n-go" card that can be purchased at almost every kiosk or petrol station along the route.

When one first moves to Malaysia it is possible to use an international driver's license for the first 90 days. After that period of time, the foreign driving license must be transferred to a Malaysian driving license - a process that we as the Malaysian German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MGCC) can gladly take over from you, should you not have the time to do it vourself.

For Germans having a German driving license converted into a Malaysian one, the application must be submitted to the nearest Road Transport Department (RTD) office, whereby it has to be noted that approval for conversion is only for class D (car driving license) and class B2/B (motorcycle driving license).

So which documents are required to convert a German license into a Malaysian driving license?

To be able to apply for a Malaysian driver's license, one has to submit the following documents:

- 1. A Passport that is valid for more than six (6) months,
- 2. Visa that is valid for no less than three (3) months (attention: a Temporary visa, such as a Professional Visit Pass, is often not enough),
- 3. Valid foreign driving license,
- 4. An official translation letter for the foreign driving license,
- 5. Endorsement from the embassy of country of origin (located in Malaysia) or endorsement from the licensing authority,
- 6. A recent colour photograph (25mm×35mm),
- 7. Completed Form JPJL1 (which can be downloaded from the official portal of RTD Malaysia - Jabatan Pengangkutan Jalan Malaysia (JPJ) - under http://www.jpj.gov.my/ c/document_library/get_file?uuid=235 8d6e1-2dae-46a9-8ce4-2b62 f72 4d1adEtgroupId = 10157).

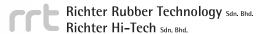
Please note that all original documents and copies (one each) must be submitted together with the application.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Department at corporateservices@malaysia.ahk.de



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- 1928 Forming of Gummiwerk Erfurt, production condoms
- 50's First Hi-voltage dry Electronic Testing machine in the world operating in Sarstedt/Hannover.
- 1960 First automatic dipping line
- 1979 Company sold to London Rubber (Durex)
- 1993 Forming of Richter Rubber Technology Sdn. Bhd. in Malaysia, operation in Sungai Petani
- 1995 Opening of production facilities in Kuala Ketil industrial estate
- 2014 New factory building, combining 3 buildings in 1, potential for double capacity compared to the old premises





Tracing our pioneering roots in the condom industry back to the 1920's we keep working to further our reputation as a world leader in condom production, condom machinery production and condom testing equipment.

Mission statement

rrt is committed to deliver highest quality products while achieving excellent performance through experience, continuous improvement and innovation for the betterment of life.

Richter Rubber Technology Capacity

State of the art new premises has been finalized in April 2014 with an annual capacity of 1.1 billion condoms focusing in the green manufacturing using led lights, maximizing electricity and water savings.

Our factory sizes 10,000 m² production area and 3,000 m² warehouses. It is important to mention that rrt has no foreign workers in the production area.



The Malaysian-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry's marketing arm, DEInternational enables its clients to successfully be part of the dynamic market while maximizing their business potential in accordance with the advantages offered by the Malaysian market.



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The rrt business expectations are high, their strengths are:

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The newly developed integrated rrt laboratory facility combines data of all physical tests on condoms via computer and provides an effective labour-savings data management system.

the organization kept the innovation as demanded by the market likewise after 6 months of development process and construction work Richter group had successfully installed a double track Female/Male condom dipping machine in Trivandrum, India and now is producing another one to send to its sister company in Acapulco, Mexico.

Certifications

The company has a host of certifications such as ISO 9002, ISO 9001:2000, ISO 13485:2003, ISO 9001:2008 besides CE certification, Afnor (French certification), SABS certification and USFDA 510(k) Clearance.



Heritage

Richter's rich heritage and experience in the condoms industry positions it as a leader in its field. As a pioneer in the condom industry it has been manufacturing own-brand and third party products.

Innovations

Since the first automatic dipping machine had been invented by Hermann Richter,



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Melanzane alla parmigiana Parmesan Aubergines / Italy



This recipe is famous in all parts of Italy, it is eaten as a starter or a main course and goes well with couscous. If there is any leftover, you can cut the egg plant into small pieces an use it as a pasta sauce.

Method

Cut the aubergines into 1 cm slices, place on a plate and sprinkle some salt on top, leave there for 20 minutes to lose the water.

Meanwhile prepare the tomato sauce with the 2 cans of tomato, the onion and garlic:

Slice the onion very thin, mince the garlic, put in a pan with a pinch of salt, simmer until the onion and garlic get soft (without burning), if you need, add some water. When the onion and garlic are soft add the tomatoes, the olive oil and the black pepper and let cook for 20 minutes, a bit longer if you use fresh tomatoes. When is ready, puree with a blender.

After 20 minutes grill the aubergine slices on a grill. You can also fry it in a non-stick pan or bake it for 10 minutes in the oven.

Pour a layer of aubergines in a baking dish and cover with the tomato sauce, some mozzarella and some parmesan cheese.

Repeat the process until all the ingredients are finished, the top layer should be mozzarella with parmesan.

Bake in the oven at 180 degrees C for 25 - 30 minutes.

For the best result, cook the aubergines a day before and warm it up before serving.



Ingredients

Serves 4

3 aubergines / egg plants (long shape) 300 g mozzarella

100 g grated parmesan

2 cans of peeled tomatoes or 1 kg of fresh tomatoes

1 big onion

1 garlic clove

3 table spoons of extra virgin olive oil salt and black pepper

Lorenza Mazzucco has left Italy 13 years ago and still loves to cook Italian food, even if she sometimes struggles to get the right ingredients here in Penang.







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Sharks Win - Swimming away from Sharks Fin By Junie Ong

There are some dishes that are simply an acquired taste, if one feels challenged by having to describe the predilection of the palate towards them from a taste point of view. Shark fin has to be one of these; as much as snails are to the French, puffer fish (fugu) to the Japanese and of course, durian to Malaysians.



Mv conversation with Mr Lai of the Sea Queen Restaurant in Straits Quay revealed some interesting information. Apparently shark fin as a delicacy emerged during the Ming Dynasty as a favourite of emperors. Its popularity coincided with the rise of standards of living and accelerated with the growth of the middle class in China. It is also a symbolic dish - expensive, though there are different grades of quality, and not easy to prepare. Power, prestige and wealth are associated with the consumption of shark fin. Many surveyed say it is a banquet dish eaten on celebratory occasions and to impress during business meetings.

Mr Lai himself found it difficult to describe the actual taste. Many describe it as tasteless though Mr Lai said there is a clear "fishy" taste that when cooked in the right way in a soup, infuses it with a slightly sweet delicate flavour. The texture is more obvious, being gelatinous and somewhat crunchy at the same time.

Unfortunately for the sharks, their fins have also been touted as a "health" food. purportedly imbuing one with healthier kidneys, bones, lungs and even sexual potency in its long list of credits. There is,



however, no scientific evidence of the efficacy of this so far. What is known is that large fish – tuna, swordfish and shark have high levels of methyl mercury. Doctors have long advised pregnant women, nursing mothers and young children to avoid consuming large fish because of this. One wild-life NGO even warns that if consumed regularly, it can cause sterility in men.

The cruel practice of shark "finning" has also been exposed, and the move against





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this practice has increasingly attracted the public support of high profile people and celebrities, helping spread the word. Recently, sales of shark fin in China have reportedly dropped by 50-70 %, and consumption plummeted by 70 % in the 2014 Spring Festival (Chinese New Year).



A group of concerned community members in Penang campaigned the Sea Queen and Straits Quay Management to join responsible businesses like Peninsula Hotels, the Shangri La group, and Singapore's Marina Bay Sands, amongst others, and drop shark fin from its menu. To their credit, when presented with the vast information now available to the public on this issue, they responded quickly and affirmatively. Once the Sea Queen's current stock of shark fin is depleted, it will be taken off the menu completely, to be replaced with mock shark fin, usually made from gelatine, soy or vermicelli. The Sea Queen uses protein based mock shark fin, likely made from soy.

We have also suggested that Mr Lai communicates the reasons why he took this stand, should any patrons request shark fin, and in so doing, become an advocate himself, making a positive difference on this issue. Many of us who campaigned on this have since happily patronised the Sea Queen.

Petra Mueller and I recently dined there and it is definitely a "thumbs up" for the Sea Queen on both counts - for it's delicious food and for doing it's bit in support of an endangered species.

Junie Ong is a Penang-born Australian currently residing here. She works as an Organizational Development consultant and Executive Coach and has been very involved as an activist on a range of social justice issues.





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Power of the group! Soft technology to change lives

by Pamela Nowicka

Imagine a new way to solve problems.... It's simple. Effective. And it produces real results...

Too good to be true?

It's a process called constellation work, a 'soft technology' of problem solving which can help everyone improve their life... personally, professionally and in many other ways.

Soft technology to change lives

Many people assume that technology transfer is all about metal, steel and factory production lines. But constellation work. a facilitated combination of group dynamics, system analysis and experiential process, is a form of soft technology. It can help individuals, groups and even businesses discover new solutions to problems and issues.

Developed by German psychologist Bert Hellinger, constellation work was derived from the systemic family therapy work of psychotherapist Virginia Satir in the sixties. and is used all over the world. Well-known in Germany, constellation work has now been introduced to Penang.

All in a group

The process uses group dynamics and guided facilitation to reveal and clarify hidden aspects of a problem or situation... and achieves resolution through cathartic realisation, practical insight and emotional support.

Relationships

Dora was unsure whether her relationship with a new partner was the right one. Full



of doubts, she was unable to enjoy the new relationship. After the constellation process she understood that her doubts were rooted in old beliefs from her mother. She was then able to fully commit to and enjoy the new relationship, and is now happily married.

Business

Mr H was a businessman in Germany. When he changed the location of his business everything seemed to go wrong. Although he was dedicated to making a success of his business, everything was failing.

Through the constellation process he realised that he had become too focused on the financial side of the business at the expense of his core values and customer satisfaction. Once he understood this, and was more in touch with his own needs and values he became more energised and attracted more customers.

Life issues

Frederick was suffering from cancer. During his constellation process he found that he could not let go of the cancer - he literally hugged the surrogate who was playing the role of the cancer.

He came to understand that the disease (which had also killed his own father) and the divorce of his parents (which

had separated him from his father) were intimately connected.





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How does it work?

The constellation process is based on the concept that although we cannot change our past and past traumas, which may be impacting on our present, we can change how we feel about them.

The facilitator uses surrogates (other people, or objects, like sheets of paper, stones, dolls or cushions) to stand in for all the involved parties. The person who wants to solve an issue chooses surrogates to stand for themselves and aspects of the issue.

The facilitator, through observation, questions and gentle interaction, encourages hidden truths to emerge.

Power of the group

Observation is key. The group dynamic quided by intuition leads to a transformative realisation or breakthrough. A reconciliation of intellectual insights and emotions occurs which is very powerful.

Practitioners say that the process "takes place outside linear space and time, in a place where the lines of past, present and future are dissolved."

Immediate insights are gained, providing enormous relief from old burdens, while inner shifts lead to long-lasting changes.

Pamela Nowicka is a British author. blogger (LivingtheDreamona Budget wordpress.com) and journalist. She recently attended a constellation workshop in Penang facilitated by Sabine Wezel.



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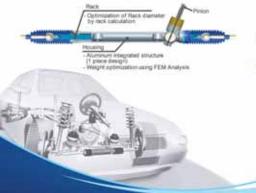
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By Bus Through Eastern Europe

visiting Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Russia and Belarus

By J. H. Friele, BVK, PJK



Red Square with St. Basil's Cathedral

Part 6

(continued from the previous Issue)

Our sightseeing in Moscow included: Red Square, the Kremlin Fortress, the Kremlin Museum (an excellent treasure chamber of the Tsars, previously called the Kremlin Armory), St. Basil's Cathedral and Gum Department Store (which was a drab place during the Soviet era but now a shining example of capitalist opulence).

For a start we walked around Red Square and admired St. Basil's Cathedral. unfortunately closed for renovations.

Sadly, Lenin's Tomb was also closed. Where Guards of Honour used to march at the tomb, there was now one solitary old man sitting at the side of the entrance smoking cigarettes. I guess that is as much honour as Lenin gets in the new capitalist system. Our quide then took us inside the walls of the Kremlin Fortress to visit one of the cathedrals and to admire the huge metal bell, which

never chimed and a very large old cannon. This was



The Kremlin Fortress

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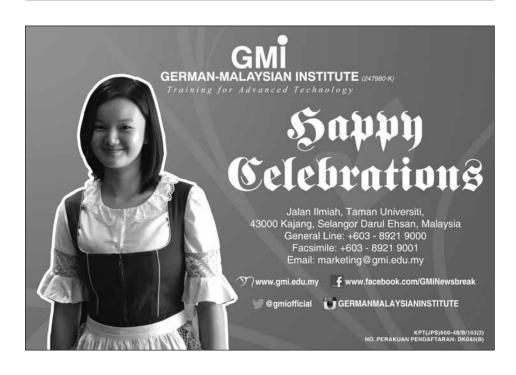
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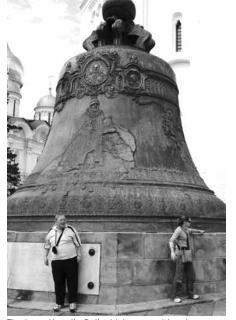
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The huge Kremlin Bell which never chimed

followed by a ride on the Metro, visiting a number of popular underground stations. I had done this several times during previous visits of Moscow. Nothing has changed except that fares have increased substantially.



Large old Cannon in the Kremlin



The "Metro" of Moscow



One of the Cathedrals in the Kremlin

We took an optional tour of The Armoury of the Moscow Kremlin. It is one of Russia's oldest museums containing a magnificent collection of decorative and applied art from the past. First established in 1485, it was named Treasure Court to keep the family relics of the Moscow Grand Dukes. The royal treasury grew at a particularly rapid pace in the 16th century during the reign of Czar Ivan the Terrible. I had already visited this museum during the communist era in the early 1970s. Even at that time I was impressed by the quantity and quality of antique art stored there. See the works of Faberge, the crown jewels, the diamonds of Catherine the Great and her golden gowns. Marvel at the Imperial carriages studded with precious stones and gold, jeweled thrones and hundreds of spectacular priceless items from the Romanov's personal collection. During my first visit the display of all these treasures was acceptable but not well

TRAVEL | Eastern Europe

protected against the environment. This time I was surprised that everything was arranged perfectly well. I was told that the West German Government had given a grant and helped to modernize this museum with a view to protecting these priceless exhibits. The museum has now published pictured catalogues in various languages. A visit to the Kremlin Armoury is a must.



The modernized Gum Department Store, built between 1890 and 1893

Another place I revisited was the Gum Department store near Red Square. When my wife and I visited it during the communist time in



The famous Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow

1979, the Moscovites were very proud of it and thought is was wonderful.

We thought it was a dump. Now I could hardly recognize the super modern store it has become, with boutiques and escalators where there were only counters and staircases before. It is another visible miracle of conversion from Communism to Capitalism.



Our Group's Moscow farewell Dinner with wonderful Russian Music

However, for me the highlight of our visit to Moscow was an excursion to the country side. Our tour took us away from the cities of the 21st century, back in time to the Russian countryside. We had the opportunity to view first hand a Russian village and village life, unchanged for centuries.

To be continued in the next issue. All rights reserved. Copyright © Juergen H. Friele 2012



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