

my Comrades

Consulate-General of Malaysia
Perth, Western Australia

2nd Edition | **2016**
e-NEWSLETTER



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myComrades

The phrase MY Comrades is coined from two words, namely, Malaysia (MY) and, of course, comrades. It symbolically depicts the comradeship of fellow Malaysians in Western Australia where we are bonded by the spirit of togetherness and setiakawan in organising activities of common interests and in pursuing common objectives with the Consulate-General of Malaysia in Perth playing the leading role in organising most of the activities. For non-Malaysian individuals or entities, they are viewed as our associates (an extension of the meaning of comrades) in ensuring the success of the activities or pursuits by the Consulate-General of Malaysia in Perth.

A theatre group from the School of Arts of Universiti Sains Malaysia performed at Murdoch University on 25 August 2016. Malaysian Consul-General was invited to launch the tour which event was also attended by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Murdoch University and few other senior lecturers from the university. The group led by Dr. D Murali, an alumnus of Murdoch University.



HAVE YOU REGISTERED WITH THE CONSULATE-GENERAL OF MALAYSIA?

REGISTER NOW

Malaysians residing in Western Australia either for the purpose of studying, seeking employment or permanent/temporary migration are highly encouraged to register with the Consulate-General of Malaysia in Perth. Your basic personal information including the contact details of your next-of-kin could be forwarded to mwperth@kln.gov.my or mwperth@cgmp Perth.net.

The information needed would include the following:

- details of the individual (full name, IC number, DOB, passport number)
- full name of the family members in Western Australia (if any)
- contact details (address in Western Australia, telephone number in Western Australia, email address)
- occupation/profession in Western Australia
- contact details of next-of-kin in Malaysia (name, address, telephone number)

All the above information will be treated with strict confidentiality by the Consulate-General and will not be released to any third party without prior consent from the person.

Registration with the Consulate-General would enable us to get in touch with fellow Malaysians and their next-of-kin speedily, particularly, during the time of emergency. Other benefit would include greater networking that could be established with other fellow Malaysians through various activities to be organised by the Consulate-General.

<https://cgmp Perth.wufoo.com/forms/registration-of-malaysia-citizens-abroad/>

Foreword from Editor-in-Chief

Proud to present the second edition of the Consulate's e-newsletter for 2016

2016 is a very hectic year for the Consulate with numerous activities organised individually by the Consulate or collectively with other partners

Looking forward to a more fruitful and productive year in 2017 with greater collaboration with our stakeholders and partners, more so, within the context of celebrating two big events, namely, 60th National Day and 50th ASEAN Anniversary

In giving a different touch to the current edition, I decided to pen down my thoughts on the experience gained from the monthly prison visit programme initiated by the Consulate which I hope the readers would be able to pick up one or two good lessons from the narration and possibly inspire them in their life

We were extremely lucky to have Chris Parry, a local journalist, who joined us in our last prison visit to share his thoughts on the engagement process. I sincerely hope you will enjoy reading his article

I also extended the opportunity to the first President of the Association of Malaysians in Western Australia (AMWA) to share his thoughts and experience since moving to Australia more than four decades ago. More opportunities will be given to others in the upcoming editions. As the saying goes, sharing is caring

Happy reading to all! 😊





A LIFETIME OF REMORSE

It is our fervent hope that such experience had somehow helped them to broaden their horizon and further helped them to understand the life of the prisoners which such opportunity would otherwise be limited to the Consulate's staff.

By Nazarudin Jaafar

0900 hours

It was 5 September 2016. The aroma of nasi lemak filled the air at the Consulate's pantry. The fluffy home-cooked pau ayam, the crispy kuih kaswi and the mouth-watering chicken curry puffs were nicely packed in plastic containers placed next to the insulated food carrier. It seemed that everything was ready for the officers at the Consulate led by the Consul-General to head to Hakea Prison to visit five Malaysian inmates who were serving their terms at the prison. A Malaysian student was supposed to be part of the delegation but the plan did not materialise due to unforeseen circumstances.

0945 hours

Upon arrival at the prison which somehow reminded the delegation of the famous TV series - Prison Break - we walked to the main reception area where we were greeted by the prison officers who had been informed of our arrival. The home-cooked food that we brought were not inspected in the manner we anticipated including the use of sniffing dogs! We reckoned the good rapport established with the Department of Corrective Services and its officers had somehow contributed to such a situation.

It was quite a long walk to a building called Assessment Centre. We had to walk past two gates with barbed wire. The sunny day and the surrounding area with its well-manicured garden had made the walk very pleasant, however.

Not to mention, the accompanying prison officer was very chatty where we exchanged views on general issues such as the facilities at the prison, total number of inmates and the like.

1015 hours

We were greeted by a lanky Assessment Manager who displayed a very warm personality towards us which made us very at ease with each other. After a brief exchange of greetings, he led us to a big meeting room which could accommodate 15 people - much to our surprise! We waited for about 10 minutes before we saw the glimpse of four inmates walking towards us.

Here come our stakeholders! As always, we started with a small talk by asking for their well-being and their general welfare. The inmates looked fairly healthy and there was no major complaint about their life at the prison. It was very encouraging to learn that all of them have been keeping themselves busy by assuming certain roles such as translator, cook etc. where they could earn some pocket money while serving their terms at the prison. It was indeed a productive way to kill their time which would otherwise have gone wasted.

It was kind of hilarious when we realised that one of the four inmates was actually not a Malaysian. Due to close resemblance of his name with another Malaysian inmate, the prison authority had mistakenly brought an inmate from Hong Kong to us.

We did not want to disappoint him so we allowed him to stay with us and showed Malaysian hospitality by offering the food that we brought. He was certainly delighted even though he looked bored at times particularly when we conversed in Bahasa Malaysia.

More often than not we will always have negative perceptions towards the inmates. They might have miscalculated in their life but the Consulate always see them as part of our big Malaysian community in Perth. From the visit, we actually learned one invaluable lesson from one of the inmates - the spirit of togetherness and esprit de corp or in Bahasa Malaysia we call it setiakawan. While the other three of the inmates were enjoying the food, one of them was seen keeping some for "someone". Curious with his behaviour, we asked why didn't he finish the food. His response was priceless. He was keeping some for his cellmate, also a Malaysian. The Consulate officers looked at each other and we were obviously in awe with the strong camaraderie shown by the inmate concerned. We were lucky because we brought five packs of food and there were only four inmates before us including one from Hong Kong. Without any hesitation, we handed the last pack to him for it to be given to his cellmate.

While we were busy talking, we heard someone knocking the door. It was the lanky Assessment Manager who popped by and said "Gentlemen, you must be thirsty by now after talking for quite some time. Why don't you help yourselves at the pantry?" It was a situation which aptly fit a Malay proverb - *bagai orang mengantuk disorongkan bantal*. We were taken to the nearest staff's pantry where we were given two nice mugs by the Assessment Manager himself. We politely declined such offer and instead opted to use the styrofoam cup which the other inmates were using. While making our own coffee, we had a small chat with the said Manager where he thanked us for the three extra packs of food that we shared with the staff. He was very impressed with the rich flavour of the food and singled out *pau ayam* which he claimed was super delicious.

We were smiling at each other knowing well our ultimate objective to engage all stakeholders including the prison authority through food diplomacy worked well. After continuing with our chat with the inmates, it was time for us to excuse ourselves after we realised that we had spent close to an hour and a half at the prison. We shook hands and bade farewell to them. Prior to that, we left the inmates with one clear advice, namely, for them to look after themselves well and always keep up the good discipline which will go a long way especially in considering for their sentence remission. We brought with us a copy of a Mandarin translation of Quran following the request made by one of them who had actually converted to Islam few years ago. We were not aware of that fact when he was first referred to us until he made such request. It took us quite a while to secure a copy of the said Quran which had to be sourced from Malaysia.

1 140 hours

We left the compound of the prison with our minds full with questions that required further answers. Of course, prior to leaving the prison, we had personally thanked the prison officers for arranging the visit which enabled us to personally meet the prisoners without any barrier separating the two parties.

On the way back to the Consulate, our mind was so pre-occupied with the recently encountered experience which required us to do some soul-searching process on how best to maximise our services to Malaysian inmates in Western Australia. Their current status as prisoners is immaterial as we are duty-bound to serve them as they are fellow Malaysians too. Well, some say that it is humane to make mistakes and as far as the prisoners are concerned, they are paying heavy price for their own misdeed and mistakes. Their freedom is now confined within the four walls of the prison. Much more than that, their emotion and psychology are also adversely affected when they are separated from their loved ones.

From the look in their eyes, we could see remorse and love to think that they had repented but down deep inside their hearts, only the Almighty knows. We became humbled when we saw how appreciative they were to basic food that we brought. We wonder if they could really start on a clean slate once they are released from the prison. Will the society ever forgive them and will they be able to return to their respective families to start a new chapter in their life? On the conviction that some would achieve that, it kills us inside to learn that some return to their old habits. That notwithstanding, our duty to serve their interest and welfare in Western Australia will continue. In this regard, we welcome the support from other fellow Malaysians either residing, working or studying in Western Australia to contribute directly and indirectly to the success of this programme towards creating the much needed synergy in helping our unfortunate fellow Malaysians who obviously had miscalculated in their lives.

Our special thanks must go to Dr. Pushpa Pushpaligam who represented the Association of Malaysians in Western Australia (AMWA) and two Malaysian students, namely, Faizal Zainal and Faris Manap as well as Irwan Syah who had agreed to join us in our subsequent prison visits in October and November respectively. We have to do justice by acknowledging the contribution made by Chris Parry in not only agreeing to be part of our delegation but to contribute a beautifully written article on his experience which we find very inspiring. It is our fervent hope that such experience had somehow helped them to broaden their horizon and further helped them to understand the life of the prisoners which such opportunity would otherwise be limited to the Consulate's staff.



From the depth of our hearts...

*Among the letters that we received from our special stakeholders.
They are indeed our source of inspiration
in enhancing our delivery system.*

To: Mr Nazarudin Jaafar

Hello, Mr Nazarudin, my name is [REDACTED], i'm Malaysian.
I'm just got my sentenced, now I doing my time in [REDACTED]
Women Prison.

At 17/8/2016, i received a official visit from two
Malaysia Consulater, kak Jah and Mr Hishan. I'm really so
happy that they come to visit me, really made me feel home,
like Malaysia.

The reason I wrote this letter to you, is want to
say thank you to you. because I know that is Mr Jaafar arranged
about the food for me. Thank alot. really appreciate that. I'm so
happy that talk with kak Jah and Mr Hishan, they really nice
person.

Thank for the help and visit for me.

From:

[REDACTED]
22/8/2016

15TH OF JULY 2016

JAAFAR

HON EN NAZARUDIN JASFAR

CONSUL GENERAL

CONSULATE GENERAL OF MALAYSIA

252 ADELAIDE TERRACE

PERTH WA

6000

DEAR HON ENCIK NAZA,

RE : VISIT TO KARNET PRISON FARM WA ON THE 13TH OF JULY 2016

FIRSTLY, I AND [REDACTED] WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOUR GOOD SELF, EN AZMI, ENCIK HADI AND THE ENTIRE MALAYSIAN CONSULATE FOR ORGANISING TO VISIT ME [REDACTED] [REDACTED] AT KARNET PRISON FARM WA.

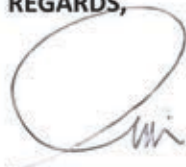
I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK YOUR GOOD SELF, EN AZMI AND EN HADI FOR THE 'HARI RAYA AIDIL FITRI' GOODIES WHICH INCLUDED SWEETS AND THE NASI IMPIT WITH THE PEANUT SAUCE AND NOT FORGETTING THE LOCAL MALAYSIAN NEWSPAPERS WHICH KEEPS ME UPDATED WITH THE MALAYSIAN NEWS. ALL OF THIS MEANT A LOT FOR ME [REDACTED] [REDACTED] AND WE SINCERELY APPRECIATE IT. WE DID FEEL MORE LIKE AT HOME IN MALAYSIA EVEN THOUGH IT WAS JUST A SHORT VISIT. THIS IS WHAT WE CALL MALAYSIA TRULY ASIA.

EN AZMI, KUIH PUN SEDAP JUGA. DALAM SEKELIP MATA SEMUA HABIS. NEWSPAPERS PUN SUDAH HABIS DI BACA. ONCE AGAIN TERIMA KASIH.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK IN ADVANCE THE MALAYSIAN CONSULATE, HON EN NAZA, EN AZMI AND EN HADI FOR EVERYTHING AND ALL THE ASSISTANCE .

GOD BLESS

REGARDS,



[REDACTED]
KARNET PRISON FARM.



AIDIL FITRI OPEN HOUSE 9 JULY 2016

The Consulate-General of Malaysia hosted Aidil Fitri Open House at the residence of the Consul-General on 9 July 2016. It was well attended by approximately 200 guests including representatives from the host Government. A generous spread of Malaysian cuisines was served for the guests where they left the event with their cravings for Raya food satisfied. The event was also to serve as a showcase of the spirit of muhibbah among the Malaysian community which earned the praise from non-Malaysian guests.



**MEDIA NETWORKING DINNER BY TOURISM MALAYSIA
19 JULY 2016**



Tourism Malaysia (TM) in Perth organised a networking dinner with key media players based in Perth at Zafferano Restaurant on 19 July 2016. It was attended by 12 journalists who write extensively in local media on tourism industry. The networking dinner was organised as part of the outreach programme undertaken by TM in promoting Malaysia as one of the preferred tourism destinations among local population, particularly, in Western Australia.

**2016 SPRING INTO ARMADALE FASHION SHOW | ARALUEN GOLF RESORT
29 OCTOBER 2016**



The Consul-General of Malaysia attended 2016 Spring Into Armadale Fashion Show on 29 October 2016 at the scenic Araluen Golf Resort, which event was organised by Catherine Birch, a Malaysian who was active in assisting Aboriginals in Australia in nurturing and developing their skills in their own arts which resembles Malaysia's batik. As a follow-up to the event, a delegation from Western Australia undertook a study visit to Malaysia from 8 - 18 November 2016 which brought the delegates to Karyaneka, Central Market, National Art Gallery and a special trip to batik production outlets in and around Kuala Terengganu.



ASEAN WORKING GROUP MEETING 26 JULY 2016



On 26 July 2016, the Consulate-General of Malaysia hosted ASEAN Working Group Meeting which forum was used to discuss various activities that were in the pipeline. Of most immediate, ASEAN will be hosting the celebration of 49th ASEAN Day which will be held at the Multipurpose Hall of the Consulate-General of Indonesia on 8 August 2016.

49TH ASEAN DAY CELEBRATION 8 AUGUST 2016



The ASEAN Consulate Corps in Perth celebrated the 49th ASEAN Day by hosting a small reception at the Multipurpose Hall of the Consulate-General of the Republic of Indonesia. The event was graced by the presence of local Members of Parliament representing the State Government and the Opposition along with officials from the Government side. The Malaysian delegation was comprised of Consulate staff, Malaysian businessmen and professionals as well as students.

In line with the tradition, the celebration kicked-off with flag hoisting ceremony followed by some remarks from the VIPs. The invitees were then entertained by cultural performances by four ASEAN countries including Malaysia before being served with sumptuous ASEAN delicacies.



SEPETANG BERSAMA DATO' USTAZ KAZIM ELIAS
30 JULAI 2016



Bersempena lawatan YBhg Dato' Ustaz Kazim Elias ke Perth, Konsulat Jeneral telah mengambil kesempatan untuk mengadakan satu sesi tazkirah ringkas di kediaman Konsul Jeneral untuk dimanfaatkan oleh 60 orang jemputan di kalangan anggota Konsulat dan ahli keluarga mereka, pelajar Malaysia serta rakyat Malaysia di Perth. Program ringkas serampang dua mata tersebut diadakan bagi menyantuni tetamu yang bertandang ke Perth serta rakyat Malaysia yang berada di sini.

2016 MERDEKA COMMEMORATION SERVICE 27 AUGUST 2016



In conjunction with the Merdeka Day celebration, the Malaya-Borneo Veterans Association (MBVA), Malayan Volunteers Group (MVG) and Association of Malaysians in Western Australia (AMWA) with the full support from the Consulate-General had organised a small event to honour the fallen heroes who had fought for then Malaya and Malaysia from the World War II era, Emergency period and Confrontation years. The event was attended by approximately 120 attendees representing various groups that come under the umbrella of Malaysian community in Perth. In his short remarks, the Consul-General other than acknowledging and recognising the courage and dedication by the fallen heroes, underscored the importance of Malaysians abroad to embrace the spirit of *Sehati Sejiwa* and continue to promote the good name of Malaysia as well as to remain united notwithstanding of their whereabouts.



TALK ON CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY IN PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM IN MALAYSIA

2 NOVEMBER 2016

The Consul-General of Malaysia was invited by the Australian Islamic College to speak on Constitutional Monarchy in Parliamentary Democratic System in Malaysia to a group of students at its Dianella Campus. Other than highlighting the uniqueness of the system which only exists in Malaysia, the students were also enlightened with the election process, roles and functions, limitations and some of the issues arising from the system. A total of eight questions were posed ranging from the difference between the system in Malaysia and elsewhere, appreciation by the peoples, possible conflicts in its implementation etc.





The Malaysian Students' Council of Australia (MASCA) of Western Australia Chapter organised a 2-day event known as WALympic (Western Australia Olympic) for Malaysian students who are studying in Perth. Various games such as futsal, netball, table tennis etc. were organised with the aim to promoting solidarity among the students.

MASCA AWARDS NIGHT 2016 23 OCTOBER 2016



The Malaysian Students Council in Australia (Western Australia Chapter) had organised the annual MASCA Awards Night 2016 on 23 October 2016 at East Fremantle Yacht Club which event was attended by approximately 80 students and other invited guests. It was an event to recognise the talents and achievements made by the students throughout 2016 academic year. A number of students representing different disciplines were chosen by the Select Committee as the most outstanding students and were given certificates of appreciation. The event was presided over by the Consul-General of Malaysia, Education Consul and a representative from Malindo Air who sat in the Select Committee.



Not forgiving but not forgetting

*"... a visit such as this
makes me grateful for
the life I lead."*

By Chris Parry



With Christmas upon us, it is often a difficult time for diplomatic staff around the world. Their loved ones may still be living in their home country of origin and missing the customs and traditions of home, sometimes the weather and most certainly the food.

Whether Christmas is celebrated or not, it is a time of the year when we feel very strongly about our connection to our family, our country and our community.

Just before Christmas, I was given an opportunity to attend a very special visit to Casuarina Prison by the Consul-General for the Consulate-General of Malaysia in Perth. Throughout the year, Nazarudin Jaafar encourages his staff to visit Malaysian nationals who have unfortunately been sentenced to prison for crimes under Australian law.

Mr Jaafar has worked with the Western Australian Commissioner for Corrective Services, Mr James McMahan, to build a trusting relationship that allows Malaysian Consulate-General staff to sit unguarded with prisoners, often in the privileged comfort of a staff room rather than a prison interview room, and to also bring in traditional Malaysian food and converse in Malay.

For this visit, Mr Jaafar has also made sure there is enough food for some of the prison staff, one of whom is very quick to say, 'Terima Kasih!'

Casuarina Prison is the main maximum security prison for male prisoners in Western Australia. It is a large, spacious complex of nearly three square kilometres with vast areas of well-maintained lawn and gardens and currently has over 900 prisoners.

It's just one prisoner that we're visiting today. A young man still in his 20's who has a wife and young baby in Malaysia. He used to run his own food stall in a street market but unfortunately his circumstances now see him imprisoned in Western Australia.

While we wait for him to arrive I think of a famous Australian song by popular artist Paul Kelly. The song is called, 'How to make gravy' and it's about a young man who is in prison and he is writing a letter to his brother a few days before Christmas. He describes in his letter the Christmas he knows he will miss out on. He won't get to laugh with friends and family, he won't get to hold his children and he won't get to make the gravy for Christmas lunch.

To be in prison on Christmas Day must be a very distressing time for prisoners, no matter what crime they have committed. To be in another country must be particularly difficult.

When he arrives it is obvious he is pleased to receive this visit. To speak in Malay, to smell traditional food, to sit with countrymen and share his story is a welcome respite from an environment none of us would choose to be in.



This visit wasn't about forgiving a man for his crimes, it was about letting him know that he is not forgotten.

I don't speak Malay and at times Mr Jaafar stops the conversation between his staff member, Mr Hisham Ahmad, and the prisoner to let me know what is being discussed. There is conversation about the conditions in the prison, the opportunities to work and learn in prison, his life back in Malaysia and of course, prison food.

For me, I'm fairly happy with cornflakes for breakfast but for the Malaysian palette this is far too plain and boring. Most mornings, he can't bring himself to eat the breakfast because it is not interesting and even upsets his stomach.

It's at this time that the Consul-General presents him with some cooking that they have had prepared especially for him and the prison staff have approved.

There is a homestyle chicken curry that has delicate pieces of chicken on the bone and has a beautiful, fragrant sauce made of coconut milk, chicken stock, curry leaves and spices. To soak up the sauce there are roti jala, the famous net crepes of Malaysia.

Also for his enjoyment are crunchy vade with just enough chilli to make you need a glass of water and accompanying the vade's are some karpap sardin, bursting with fishy flavor and just the right amount of coriander, cumin and garam masala.

To complete this mini-buffet of delights are some beautifully wrapped banana leaf pulut inti, a heavenly combination of sweet, grated coconut, pandan leaf and palm sugar.

At the end of our one hour visit, the prisoner requests a book on how to pray. His spiritual requirements are being met in Casuarina but he needs guidance with his prayers. This is something Mr Jaafar and Mr Ahmad assure him they will seek to provide.

I have found this visit profoundly inspiring. As part of my research for the story, I called Consulate-Generals from other countries and couldn't find one that made such a commitment to imprisoned nationals and certainly not one where the Consul-General made visits.

For comparison, I spoke to the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and found out that last year 1551 Australians were arrested in foreign countries and 391 Australians received consular support while in overseas jails.

While much of this assistance was related to legal and family liaison issues I'm not sure much Australian consular assistance included the provision of traditional Aussie food and just making the time to talk and to listen.

Casuarina Prison is a maximum security prison and looks like it. Despite the spacious, well maintained gardens and outdoor sporting facilities we walked past, there is no hiding the razor wire fence that surrounds the complex. It's a reminder that for Mr Jaafar, Mr Ahmad and I, we can walk out, get back on the freeway and be in the city in just a few minutes, free to get back to work, go for a walk and maybe just take a minute to think about how lucky we are to have our freedom. This visit wasn't about forgiving a man for his crimes, it was about letting him know that he is not forgotten.

There is no doubting that a visit such as this makes me grateful for the life I lead. It also makes me grateful to have met a Consul-General who is defining a new brand of diplomacy whereby engagement is so important. Malaysian Consulate-General's ability to engage at all levels is truly inspiring and should encourage us all to seek a new understanding of all the people in our life.

Chris Parry
Chris Parry Writes For Us
(m) 0437 311 451

22 December 2016



The ASEAN Consular Corps in Western Australia had organised a special programme called ASEAN Seminar 2016 on 2 October 2016 whereby 60 students from nine ASEAN Member States participated in it. Malaysia played host to the Seminar where the event was graced by the presence of the Consuls-General of Indonesia, Malaysia and Viet Nam.

Seven ASEAN students chose to deliberate on the topic of AICHR : Prospects and Challenges. The Seminar was particularly special owing to the fact that the students were given the space to lead the process with very minimal intervention from the bureaucrats in line with the spirit of "People-Oriented, People-Centred" ASEAN. The discussions were centred around the questions of AICHR's effectiveness, promotion and protection role of the regional body as well as challenges that AICHR has to face in discharging its roles.

HARI SUKAN NEGARA 8 OKTOBER 2016

Sempena sambutan Hari Sukan Negara 2016, Konsulat Jeneral Malaysia di Perth telah berjaya menghimpunkan 80 warga Malaysia yang terdiri daripada kalangan pegawai Konsulat, rakyat Malaysia yang bermastautin di Perth serta pelajar Malaysia untuk sama-sama memeriahkan sambutan hari tersebut. Cuaca yang tidak menentu pada pagi tersebut sedikit pun tidak menjejaskan perjalanan program di mana pelbagai acara seperti senamrobik, poco-poco, tarik tali serta permainan untuk kanak-kanak telah dijalankan dengan jayanya.



SPORTS & WELFARE CLUB ANNUAL DINNER 29 NOVEMBER 2016



The Consulate's Sports & Welfare Club hosted its Annual Dinner at the Pan Pacific Hotel on 29 November 2016 to honour its members especially in recognising and acknowledging the contributions made by its members throughout 2016. The same event was also used to bid farewell to the outgoing Asst. Director of Tourism Malaysia who ended her tour of duty in early December. A simple birthday bash was also incorporated as part of the programme which turned the gathering to a 3-in-1 event. Essentially it was a fun-filled evening where most of the HBS and LRS were accompanied by their family members and some of them took home fabulous prizes.



COLOURS OF MALAYSIA

The Consulate-General of Malaysia hosted a social event themed as Colours of Malaysia which event was attended by approximately 150 guests representing various groups such as Malaysian students, Malaysian professionals and businessmen as well as Malaysians who are permanent residents in Perth. The event was held at Malaysia Hall Perth from 11am - 1pm.

The social gathering accorded the guests with the opportunities to meet new and old acquaintances, strengthen networking and at the same time bring them closer to understanding the work undertaken by the Consulate. A special new voters registration counter was also opened to allow first time voters to register themselves. A special video montage was created for the event which can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i61fh7rDDJw>

DEEPAVALI CELEBRATION BY AMWA 12 NOVEMBER 2016



The Consul-General of Malaysia and a number of Consulate's staff attended Deepavali celebration organised by the Association of Malaysians in Western Australia (AMWA) which event was themed as Bollywood Night. It was a fun-filled evening with lots of dancing and continuous chatting among the 120 guests including representatives from Liberal and Labor Parties.



PERWAKILAN GET-TOGETHER WITH FORMER CONSUL-GENERAL 16 NOVEMBER 2016



PERWAKILAN Perth had organised a special get-together session with Pn Hamidah Ashari, former Consul-General of Malaysia to Perth when the latter was in town for holiday. The get-together session was held at the residence of the Consul-General. Other than enjoying the dinner, members of PERWAKILAN exchanged views with its former President on how to effectively carry out PERWAKILAN activities in Perth.

BUAL BICARA KHAS : ISU KUTIP BUAH DI AUSTRALIA 26 NOVEMBER 2016



Radio Melayu Perth
95.3FM

TAWARAN KERJA KOSONG -Australia

Cara dengar: Frekuensi 95.3FM (di Perth) atau www.6eba.com.au (Interstate/Antarabangsa)

Impian atau Realiti?

Nantikan diskusi terperinci isu sensasi ini di Radio Melayu Perth

Tarikh : 26 November 2016
Masa : 9.00 malam - 10.30 malam
Tetamu Jemputan : Konsul Jeneral Malaysia & Hadi Migration
Juga temubual khas bersama Saiful Haizan, wartawan Utusan Malaysia berkongsi pengalaman penyamaran beliau

Konsul Jeneral Malaysia di Perth telah diundang sekali lagi untuk satu sesi bual bicara khas oleh Radio Melayu Perth yang berkumandang melalui gelombang 95.3FM pada 26 November 2016 bagi mengupas isu petik buah yang semakin mendapat perhatian masyarakat di Australia dan Malaysia. Turut diundang adalah Sdr. Hadi Assanteh, seorang agen migrasi di Perth. Pelbagai perkara menyentuh permasalahan tersebut seperti faktor pendorong, statistik, usaha pencegahan dan sebagainya telah dikupas sepanjang bual bicara tersebut berlangsung selama sejam setengah.



Malaysia once again participated in this year's World of Food Festival which event was organised by the Consular Corps in Western Australia in collaboration with the Governor's Office. The event was held at the beautiful Government House's garden on 13 November 2016 from 11am to 3pm. It was officiated by Her Excellency Kerry Sanderson AO, Governor of Western Australia.

A total of 26 countries participated in the festival offering various foods from all corners of the globe. Malaysia's stall was operated by D'Nyonya Restaurant which offered Malaysia's all-time favourites such as char kue teow, apam balik, satay and coconut shake. Malaysia, through a local dance troupe - Cempakasari - put up an entertaining 7-minute dance performance showcasing zapin, inang and dikir barat much to the amusement of the audience.



MY JOURNEY, MY STORY

MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE
MUST AIM TO FLY THE JALUR
GEMILANG HIGH ABOVE THE
SKY, EVEN WHEN THE
ROADS AHEAD SEEM
BLURRY AND UNCERTAIN

TERRY LEE

CFP, SSA-SMSF

Inaugural President of AMWA

I recalled the moment when I met up with the then Consul-General Ahmad Jazri, who now serves as the Malaysian Ambassador to Qatar, at Matsuri's year-end party back in 2005. I vividly recalled how he stood up to speak to the audience about his vision in setting up a Malaysian Association in Western Australia. Upon hearing it, I thought it was another empty promise.

I waited until the end of the dinner to enquire further if he was serious in floating the idea as his predecessor, Consul-General Ho May Yong (later became Malaysian Ambassador to Switzerland) had also floated the same idea. As the first Malaysian Consul-General to Perth, it was only natural for her time to be occupied with the getting up work to get the Consulate-General running. Her stint was short-lived as she was needed to serve as the Advisor to Tun Abdullah Badawi on foreign affairs when the latter became the Prime Minister in October 2003. I reasoned out that could possibly be the reason why the discussion on the establishment of a Malaysian Association did not materialise much earlier.

CG Jazri persisted by calling for a meeting to nominate a pro-tem committee to get the constitution written up. I was asked to lead the pro-tem committee. It all happened at the meeting room of the Consulate-General at 252 Adelaide Terrace. Luck was on my side as a dear colleague of mine, Roslan Abas, was available to assist me and played the role as the first Secretary. To cut the story short, I became the inaugural President of the association which was named Association of Malaysians in Western Australia or better known as AMWA from 2005 until 2008 before Roslan was elected to succeed me.

The initial stage was deemed as very challenging as AMWA had only a dozen or so members which made up the whole AMWA committee. Back then, there were approximately 19,000 Malaysians who lived and worked in Western Australia. We were aiming to attract at least 1000 Malaysians to be the members of AMWA. It was not as easy as we initially thought. Reasons were aplenty but few that I could think off of the cuff would be the fact that many Malaysians were reluctant to join as they did not know who we were. Secondly, why bother to have another association when there were in existence other Malaysian/Asian clubs?

I refuse to give up the idea of gathering the Malaysians under AMWA banner so I thought why not use the easiest way to lure the Malaysians out in drove, if not through food diplomacy! We Malaysians are known for our penchant for amazing and sumptuous food, ranging from nasi ayam, satay, rendang, roti canai and teh tarik! To say that food "glued" us together is an understatement. Food defines Malaysians! So, from a humble gathering to celebrate Malaysia's food fairs with fellow Malaysians, AMWA grew to a point where we were able to donate a van bearing AMWA's logo to an old folks home in Penang valued at RM70,000. BHP was generous enough to donate half of the amount. Arguably, our biggest feat was, of course, the 50th Merdeka Black Tie formal dinner which attracted 1000 attendees. We gave everything we had to ensure its success, but more importantly we fostered an extremely close yet incredibly effective collaboration with the Consulate-General that remains strong till today as I write this piece while recalling the office bearers who have come and go to occupy and lead the prestigious office at 252 Adelaide Terrace. AMWA was also the Host nation for the Perth Royal Show in 2007, Perth's largest community event which demanded the same level of commitment in organising the 50th Merdeka celebration just weeks earlier.

It may sound cliché but the strength of AMWA is built largely on the need to bridge friendship amongst the Malaysians and local Aussies. AMWA's constitution is reflective of the qualities, values and ideals that have grown to be our identity as Malaysians. We value cooperation, tolerance, respect and above all, unity despite our differences. This is the spirit that sets AMWA apart as we have never considered ourselves as a political entity. Ask any sons and daughters of Malaysia residing abroad, nothing beats the warmth of home and the company of fellow Malaysians who bonded over our love for food, in addition to the mundane and formal talks for AMWA to serve the economic, social, cultural and educational interests of its members.

Since leaving Ipoh more than four decades ago (1975 to be exact) as a student, I observed the increasing number of Malaysians who have chosen Perth as home. I am certain that it was not easy for them to make such a decision.



However, it saddened me to see that upon arrival here, some have fallen trap to the complacent idiosyncrasy. I wish they would sustain the same level of energy and enthusiasm when they decided to emigrate to thrive better in establishing themselves here in Perth. We must not tolerate settling for many "menial" and low skill tasks. That notwithstanding, I take my hats off to a few top surgeons, professionals and businessmen who have made us proud. I hope I will not offend anyone if I were to single out two Malaysians with towering personalities, namely, David Teoh (Founder of TPG Telecom) and Maha Sinnathamby (Chairman of Springfield Land Project outside Brisbane) for flying our flag high with their success in their respective field. Maha, for instance, was the first recipient of AMWA's Entrepreneur Award back in 2006.

In my humble opinion, we Malaysians could leave a very profound legacy or footprint in WA by trying a bit harder more boldly. If we can aspire to have better self-esteem, higher self-belief in ourselves in this new land which we call home now and rise above all hardships we can easily achieve unimaginable success in unexpected time. More importantly, we must aim to fly the Jalur Gemilang high above the sky, even when the roads ahead seem blurry and uncertain. We must not lose our resolve and determination to be the very best that we can in any field we devote our energy to.

"Malaysia Boleh!"

Thanks for taking time to read!

ASEAN & AMWA FAMILY DAY 3 DECEMBER 2016



ASEAN Consular Corps in Perth had organised a fun-filled Saturday morning Family Day on 3 December 2016 at Kings Park which event was participated by approximately 80 people from Malaysia, Indonesia and Viet Nam. It was the first Family Day organised by ASEAN Consular Corps in Perth. A number of activities were organised which include senamrobik, poco-poco and various games for kids and adults.

Immediately after the event, the Consulate staff proceeded to Burswood Park to participate in the Association of Malaysians in Western Australia (AMWA) Family Day which brought Malaysians from all walks of life together.

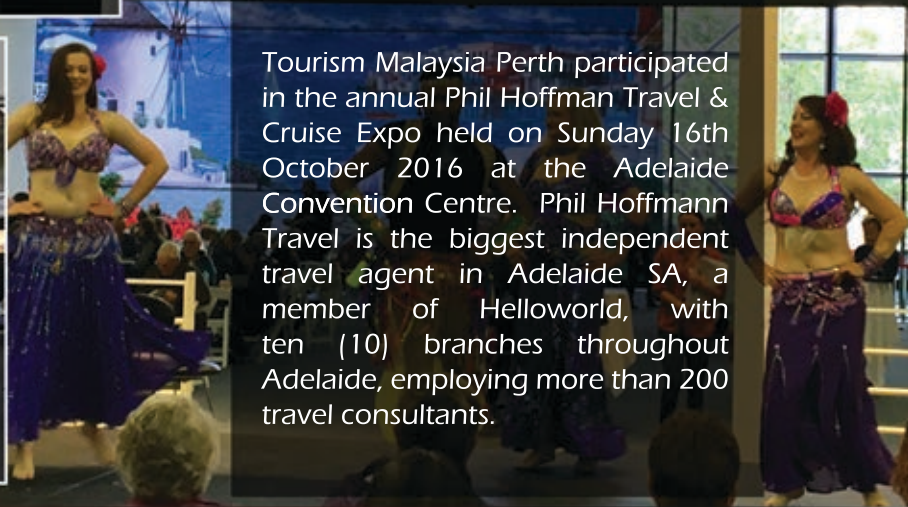


PERWAKILAN COOKING DEMONSTRATION 10 DECEMBER 2016



The Ladies' Circle at the Consulate or better known as PERWAKILAN had organised a cooking demonstration on 10 December 2016 for the benefits of its members. The cooking demo was led by Chef Michael who is famous for his mouth-watering curry puffs. The pastry and the fillings were simply pleasing to the tastebuds of those who had tasted it.

In addition, members of PERWAKILAN were also shown the way to prepare fruits tart. Special thanks must be extended to Kak Zakiah for her generosity in hosting the event at her residence.



Tourism Malaysia Perth participated in the annual Phil Hoffman Travel & Cruise Expo held on Sunday 16th October 2016 at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Phil Hoffmann Travel is the biggest independent travel agent in Adelaide SA, a member of Helloworld, with ten (10) branches throughout Adelaide, employing more than 200 travel consultants.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

17 August

Networking Cocktail by MINDA

30 August

-Field Trip For Consular Corps Organised by The Department of State Development of Western Australia

-Morning Tea Session by Western Australia Police

3 & 4 September

Malaysian Young Scholars Universal Leadership Programme

15 September

Academic Paper Presentation by UiTM at Edith Cowan University

30 September

Visit by Persatuan Bekas Pesilat Negara

29 September - 9 October

Australian Hockey League 2016
Perth Hockey Stadium

7 October

-Breakfast Talk by Mark McGowan
Leader of the Opposition
-Explore Malaysia

18 October

Visit to Centre for Entrepreneurial Research and Innovation (CERI)

16 October

Phil Hoffman Travel Expo, Adelaide

27 October

Kunjungan Mesra YAB Ketua Menteri Sarawak ke Konsulat Jeneral Malaysia, Perth

2 November

Talk on Constitutional Monarchy in Parliamentary Democratic System in Malaysia by Consul-General

9 October - 6 November

Perth Asian Cup 2016

19 November

Tazkirah Bersama Imam Shakeeb

21 November

WA Golf Foundation Malaysia Truly Asia Golf Day



About eVISA Programme

eVISA is an online facility to apply visa to Malaysia.

Who can apply?

eVISA is eligible to the following:

PRC nationals in China Mainland (does not include Macau), Hong Kong, Taiwan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Myanmar and Australia. Indian nationals in India, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar and Australia. Bangladeshi nationals in Bangladesh. Nepalese nationals in Nepal. Myanmar nationals in Myanmar.

Period of stay.

An eVISA holder is entitled to stay for a maximum of 30 days each visit.
Each application can only be used once. No extension is allowed.

<https://www.windowmalaysia.my/evisa/evisa.jsp>



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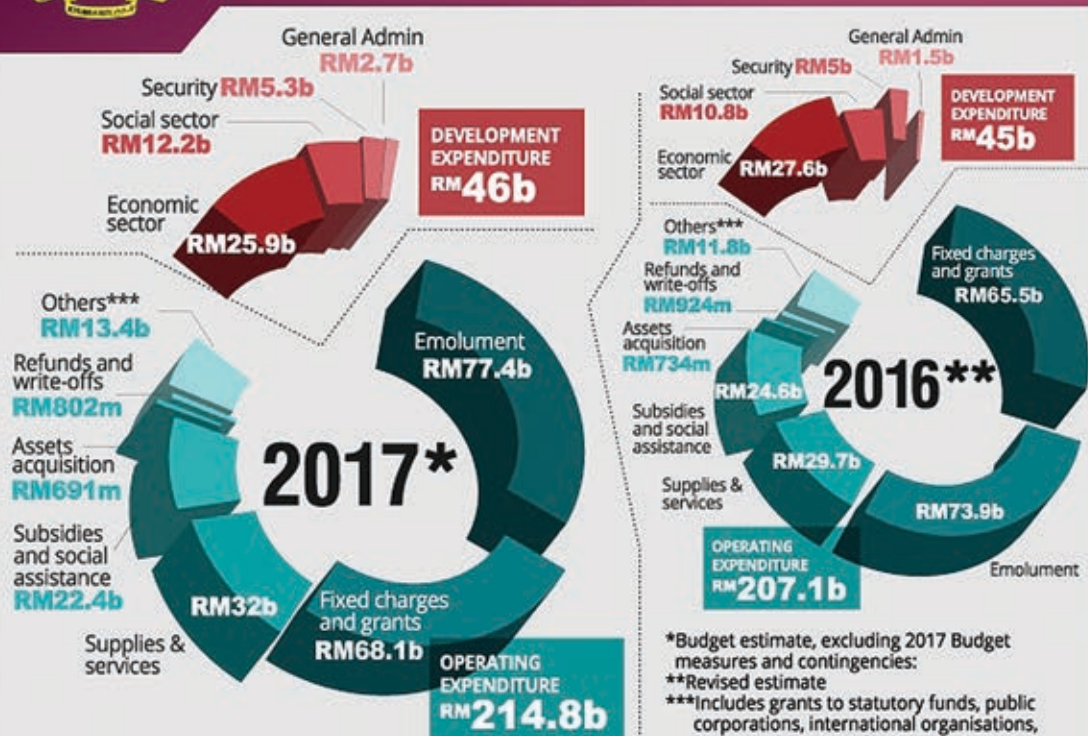
Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8.30 a.m - 4.30 p.m

Public Holidays:
Saturday - Sunday & Public Holiday

BUDGET 2017



BREAKDOWN OF BUDGET 2016 AND 2017



| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Revenue: | Expenditure: |
| RM219.7b (+RM7.1b/+3.4%) | RM260.8b (+RM8.7b/+3.4%) |
| Deficit: RM40.3b (3.2% of GDP) | |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Revenue: | Expenditure: |
| RM212.6b (-RM6.5b/-3%) | RM252.1b (-RM5.7b / -2.2%) |
| Deficit: RM38.7b (3.1% of GDP) | |

Note:
 - Total may not add up due to rounding.
 - Figures in parentheses are annual changes in both amount and per centage.

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance's Malaysia Economic Report



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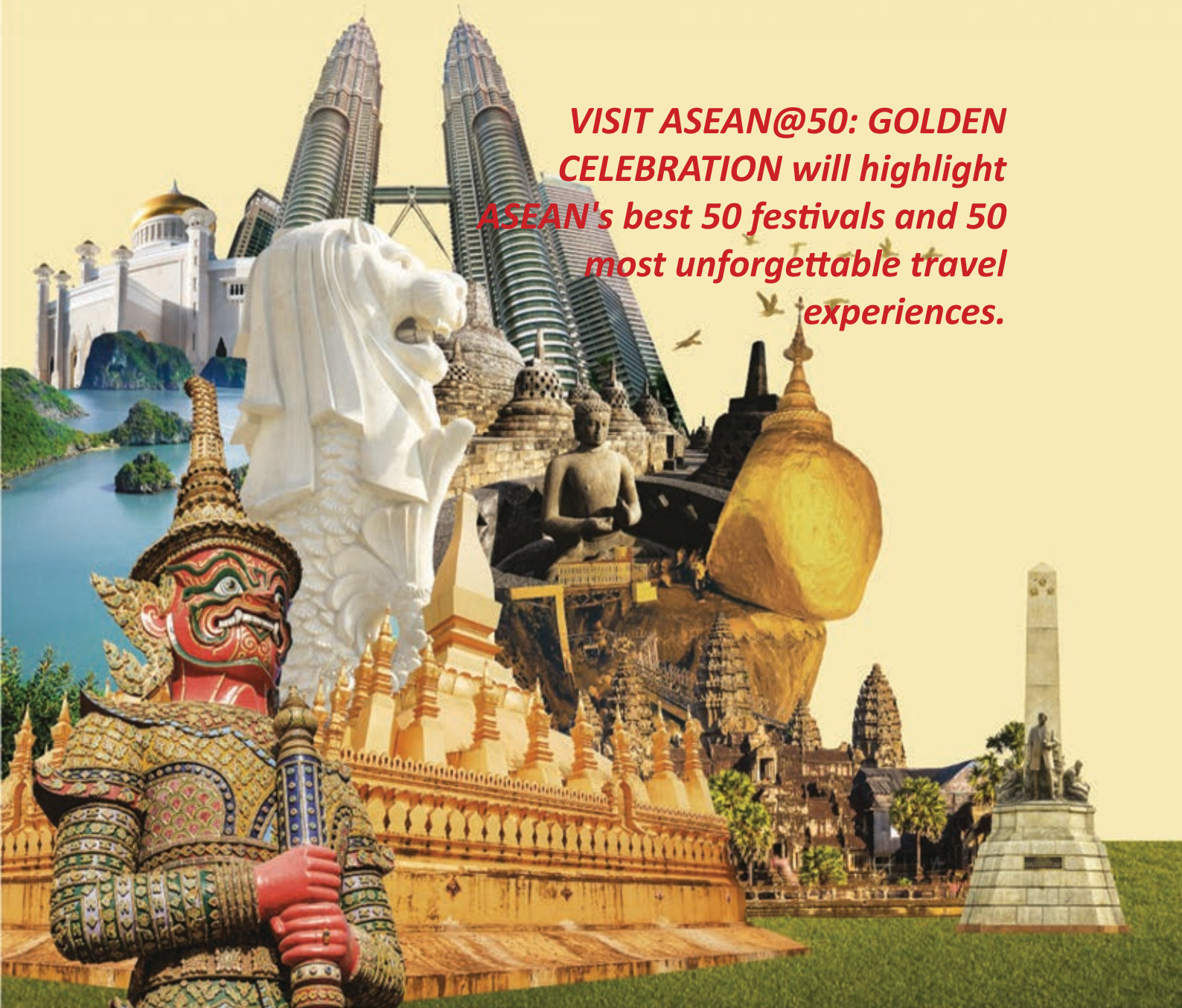
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