



# The British Malaysian Society

Newsletter – Summer 2015

## BMS AGM and President's Reception



President Sir Mark Moody-Stuart addressing the attendees at the BMS AGM.

The Chairman of the Society, Dato Anthony Cooper, made a powerful welcome speech, particularly to new and younger members and friends of the BMS at the Society's AGM held at The Travellers Club, London, on Tuesday 9 June 2015

He paid tribute to Zed Cama for his chairmanship during which he streamlined the Society. He said it was a successful 2014 for BMS, with five talks and five networking events held including one on palm oil and one on stateless children in Malaysia with a joint one at Imperial College attracting many students

He also thanked the three retiring Vice-Presidents, Sir Peter Cazalet, Sir Andrew Large and Dato' Sir Francis McWilliams and other members of Council. He welcomed two new Vice-Presidents, Lord Charles Powell and Sir David Greenaway.

He added that BMS had a vibrant membership with many new members in the past year, helped by the excellent Quarterly Newsletter produced by Revi Pillai.

In his speech he said March this year saw a well-attended students evening at the Malaysian High Commission organised by Haliza Hashim-Doyle.

There were three talks in the past three months on current Malaysian affairs by

Wan Saiful and Tunku Abidin from IDEAS and Ray Kyles former Acting High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur.

There will be a joint event with IOD City Branch at Standard Chartered Bank on 30 June with briefing by BMS member, Lord Mayor Alderman Alan Yarrow.

As in 2014 five social networking events are being held with more topical events planned for rest of 2015. He added that the Malaysian British Society is now active in Kuala Lumpur and if any members are visiting there will be a Charity dinner in aid of Hospis Malaysia on 19 November.

He said there was continuing good bilateral relationship with close ties to Dato' Ahmad Rasidi Hazizi, the Malaysian High Commissioner, whom he thanked for hosting BMS events, including the forthcoming talk by Sir David Greenaway on The Globalisation of Education.

He also thanked the Executive Committee for support, particularly Zehan, Albert and Peter. He thanked members for attending the AGM and invited non-members to join the BMS

The event ended with the President's Reception for the 70 attendees.

### FORTHCOMING BMS EVENTS

#### Tuesday 28 July

Eid Dinner

Satay House, Sale Place, London

#### Tuesday 15 September

Talk by Professor Sir David Greenaway, Vice-Chancellor of Nottingham University, "The Globalisation of Higher Education" at the Malaysian High Commission

#### Wednesday 14 October

The Society's Annual Dinner  
The Inner Temple, London

See our website for up-to-date details  
[www.thebritishmalaysiansociety.org](http://www.thebritishmalaysiansociety.org)

### OTHER MALAYSIAN EVENTS IN LONDON

#### Friday 25 September

Malaysia Night Trafalgar Square

Members will be advised of full details, and how to book/pay, by flyers sent out nearer the date.

OTHER EVENTS. Members will be notified of other events to which they will be invited, including those organised by our close associate, OMEC, and Malaysian government agencies, including MIDA and MATRADE.

### Changes to BMS subscriptions

As some members will have heard at the recent AGM the Executive Committee has been reviewing the Society's annual subscriptions. As a result we introduced two categories of corporate subscriptions with effect from 1 January 2015 and have now revised individual/joint subscriptions with effect from 1 July 2015. The annual subscription rates have not changed for many years and we have substantially expanded our events programme for most of which we do not charge for attendance. The Executive Committee believe that these new rates can be held for a considerable period while ensuring the financial position of the Society is maintained in good health.

#### The new subscription rates are:

Corporate membership: large £750, small £375

Individuals: single £50, joint £70

Students: a one-off payment of £10

Full details are on our website but if anyone would like more information please contact the Treasurer at: [membership@thebritishmalaysiansociety.org](mailto:membership@thebritishmalaysiansociety.org).

### Far East POWs Service at St Martin in the Fields, London

Members of The British Malaysian Society are invited to a Far East POWs service at St Martin in the Fields, London to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of VJ Day on 15 August, at 11am.

For tickets to the service, please contact:

Pauline Simpson at [pauline761@btinternet.com](mailto:pauline761@btinternet.com)

### Talk by Ray Kyles - "Malaysia over the past four years - a diplomatic perspective"

Ray Kyles, until recently Acting British High Commissioner to Malaysia, gave a talk "Malaysia over the past four years - a diplomatic perspective" at The Inner Temple on 23 April.

He gave an overall view of his posting in Kuala Lumpur and reflected on Malaysia's future.



Ray Kyles addressing attendees

### Books for Malaysia Collection 2015

Have you any old English reading books that need a new home?

Send them to the BMS where they will be given a new lease of life helping village school children in Malaysia discover the joys of reading.

If you are interested to help, please email [zehan@pawa-london.org](mailto:zehan@pawa-london.org). We will be collecting books (suitable for 5 to 18 years) from September to November 2015

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## “Healing the Malaysian nation” – A Talk by Tunku ‘Abidin Muhriz



Tunku ‘Abidin Muhriz (left) with Danny Quah

In this talk “Healing the Malaysian nation” Tunku ‘Abidin considered the competing versions of the Malaysian nation, and the resultant divergent prognoses and calls to action. Professor Danny Quah moderated the talk.

Over 80 people attended the event, held at The London School of Economics on 5 May.

Tunku ‘Abidin is founding President of the Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), and an alumnus of the LSE.

## Malaysia Kitchen Spring Market



The second annual Malaysia Kitchen Spring Market, on 2 and 3 May on London’s Southbank, displayed why Malaysian cuisine is the hot new trend for 2015.

The Malaysia Kitchen Spring Market saw around 15 different Malaysian restaurants and vendors, from across the UK, gather to showcase the very best in Malaysian cuisine. The vendors sold everything from Beef Rendang and Chicken Satay, through to delicious Laksa.

Visitors to the market watched Malaysian cookery demonstrations, met top Malaysian and British chefs, and enjoyed musical performances. Visitors also took the opportunity to purchase Malaysian ingredients to recreate authentic tasting dishes at home.

[www.malaysiakitchen.co.uk](http://www.malaysiakitchen.co.uk)

### Join BMS

With a new and improved benefit structure for British Malaysian Society members it has never been such a great time to join! Whatever your connection to Malaysia there is likely to be something for you within the society.

Members who have worked and lived in Malaysia and have an interesting anecdote to tell, please send a short write-up to: [newsletter@thebritishmalaysiansociety.org](mailto:newsletter@thebritishmalaysiansociety.org)

## Malaysia and ASEAN - opportunities and challenges



(Left to right) Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Alan Yarrow, Vasuki Shastry, Ms Nur Herzazzila Ghazali and Dr Mohamed Razeen Sally

The Committee of IoD City of London in partnership with The British Malaysian Society and Standard Chartered Bank held a discussion on ‘Malaysia and ASEAN – Opportunities and Challenges’, at Standard Chartered Bank, London EC2, on Tuesday 30 June 2015.

The Lord Mayor, Alderman Alan Yarrow, briefed attendees on his May visit to Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore. He was joined by a panel of eminent speakers who discussed Malaysia’s chairmanship of ASEAN and what the ASEAN integration meant for business and the financial sector, together with the roadmap, progress made and what lies ahead. After a lively question and answer session the evening concluded with a reception hosted by Standard Chartered Bank.

### The Speakers:

The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Alan Yarrow – Keynote Speaker

Vasuki Shastry, Global Head of Public Affairs, Standard Chartered Bank

Ms Nur Herzazzila Ghazali, from the Malaysian High Commission

Dr Mohamed Razeen Sally, Associate Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, Singapore

The Association of South East Nations (ASEAN) community is a political, socio-cultural and economic organisation of 10 South East Asian countries. With a combined population of approximately 617 million people and a GDP of USD 2.3trn, if the Association were a single entity it would rank as the seventh largest economy in the world.

## Malaysia’s Incentives for Commodities Trading



(From left to right) Norazlin Hj Abd Jalil, Director, Business Development, LIBFC, Zakaria Nasir Deputy, Saiful Bahari Baharom, CEO LIBFC Inc, Mohammad Fadhli Jamaluddin, Vice President, Special Projects & Investor Relations, Malaysia Petroleum Resources Corp

Labuan International Business and Finance Centre (Labuan IBFC) presented a briefing ‘An Introduction to Malaysia’s Global Incentives for Commodities Trading (GIFT) Programme’ at the Malaysian High Commission, London, on 17 April.

GIFT is a programme to attract international commodities traders to use Malaysia as their operational and trading base.

Link: [www.libfc.com](http://www.libfc.com)

## Books for Malaysia Collection 2015

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Malaysian writers, Tash Aw and Yang May Ooi support "BMS Books for Malaysia" project

"As a child in Malaysia, I travelled back in time, visited different countries and even went to outer space - all through the magic of the written word. Reading opens our hearts to the whole world and beyond. Books teach us empathy for others and invigorates our minds with the joy of diverse ideas. Simple words build into complex language and communication skills. Please share your books with the children of Malaysia so they can also discover the magic of the written word." ~ Yang-May Ooi, bestselling author of The Flame Tree

“Reading in English has always been an important part of the educational system and of cultural life in Malaysia -- it broadens horizons and provides young readers with a link to the outside world. Having free access to English-language books as a child was crucial to my development as a writer, and I’m thrilled that BMS is continuing to support the promotion of accessible literature in the face of dwindling resources for libraries.” - Tash Aw, author of The Harmony Silk Factory

## Briefing on Sarawak Environment Policy by the Chief Minister of Sarawak



Chief Minister of Sarawak, Tan Sri Datuk Patinggi Haji Adenan Satem

The Chief Minister held a briefing on Sarawak Environment Policy at Malaysian High Commission, London on 5 May

The Chief Minister explained how the state was dealing with environmental degradation, and stopping illegal logging

A large number of NGOs as well as BMS members attended the briefing.

## Lord Mayor of London: “I’m a Malaysian”

The Star Monday May 25, 2015



Alderman Alan Yarrow trying his hand at weaving a basket with the help of Hairul Haris, 37, during his visit to Jaro as his wife Gilly, Pulau MP Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed, Jaro chairman Datuk Jimmy Low Boon Hong (right) and Jaro honorary secretary Sumedha Sehgal (left) look on. – Bernama JOHOR BARU: “Saya adalah orang Malaysia (I’m a Malaysian)” were the first few words uttered by the Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Alan Yarrow as he addressed a crowd here.

He visited the Johor Area Rehabilitation Organisation (Jaro) here yesterday with his wife Gilly, during a two-day working visit to Malaysia, with a special tour to this city.

This is because he was born here in 1951, and it was here that he spent his first six years, staying in a colonial bungalow near Bukit Serene with his family.

As for Jaro, Alderman Alan Yarrow said the organisation held fond memories for him as his mother Paula Yarrow was one of the volunteers at the centre.

Extracted from The Star, Malaysia