



MALAYSIA

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Newsletter of the High Commission of Malaysia in London

The Taste and Rhythm of Malaysia

Over one hundred and fifty guests were entertained to a gamelan concert by Kayu Gangsa, held in tandem with *Malaysia Kitchen* programme to showcase the wide variety of Malaysian cuisine in London, November 25.

Among the guests were The Lord Mayor Locum Tenens Councillor Cyril Nemeth, Deputy Lord Mayor of Westminster, The Hon Mr Bill Cash MP, Chairman of Malaysia All Party Parliamentary Group, Lord Sheikh and senior officials from Foreign and Commonwealth Office and United Kingdom Trade and Investment.

The guests were served a variety of Malaysian food - nasi minyak, ayam masak merah, rendang daging and acar jelatah.



The gamelan group Kayu Gangsa entertaining the guests

Tourism Malaysia at World Travel Market



Tourism Minister Azalina chatting with HE Datuk Abd Aziz Mohammed at the Malaysian Pavilion at the World Travel Market at Excel London.

LONDON, Nov 11: "Name your price" tours may soon catch on in Malaysia as one of the innovative measures to boost the tourism industry, said Tourism Minister Datuk Seri Azalina Othman Said to Malaysian journalists after opening the Malaysia Pavilion at the World Travel Market at Excel London.

A total of 113 participants including Langkawi Geopark, Selangor, Terengganu, Tourism Perak, Penang Tourism and Sabah took part in the exhibition – the main pavilion featuring an eco-tourism village longhouse.

Azalina said the ministry would focus on budget travellers and that it was untrue people would not travel during trying times.

She said the number of British tourists to Malaysia rose by 36.1% to 303,569 during the first 10 months of this year.

Web: www.tourism.gov.my

AirAsia X launches low fare London-to-KL flight



Air Asia Group CEO Tony Fernandes (left/ in red t-shirt) and AirAsiaX CEO Azran Osman-Rani during the launch of London-KL flight.

AIRASIA X, the low-cost, long-haul affiliate of AirAsia launched its £99 flight from London to Kuala Lumpur, at London's County Hall, November 25. The five times weekly direct flights, using the Airbus A340, will begin in March next year, and will be from London Stansted Airport to Kuala Lumpur International Airport low cost carrier terminal.

The £99 fare is for one way inclusive of tax. The usual travel fare from London to Malaysia is between £500 and £600.

AirAsia group chief executive officer Datuk Seri Tony Fernandes said the London-Kuala Lumpur route was the realisation of a long held ambition to open up affordable access between Malaysia and Europe for both Asian and European communities.

London is AirAsia X's fifth destination after Gold Coast, Perth and Melbourne in Australia and Hangzhou in China.

Booking for travel period from 11 March 2009 to 24 October 2009 on www.airasia.com

Malaysian arts and craft for Harrods

LONDON: Malaysian products have made it to the world renowned departmental store Harrods.

Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin is scheduled to launch Malaysian arts and craft in Harrods in March, marking the country's campaign to penetrate the European market.

Unity, Culture, Arts and Heritage Minister Datuk Shafie Apdal said Malaysia must not only produce high quality products but also ensure their sustainable supply to penetrate the global market.

He said the failure to ensure an uninterrupted supply of the products had been identified as one of the problems in marketing the Malaysian brand abroad, after holding final discussions with the Harrods management to promote Malaysian handicrafts.

Several Malaysian companies have been selected to supply high quality craft products such as wood carvings, bronze, silver and pewter wares, ceramic items as well as batik and songket to Harrods.

Harrods is among the first departmental stores being selected to market Malaysian handicrafts internationally.

Malaysia was also looking at well-known stores in Paris and other European countries.

Nottingham Malaysian Games 2008



Photo left: Malaysian Students Department Director Mr Ahmad Nazri Sulaiman (left) with Minister of Higher Education Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin (right). Photo right: Deputy High Commissioner Dato' Rustam Yahya giving away the prizes.

The annual Nottingham Malaysian Games (Notts Games), the 23rd in the series, was held on 8 November 2008. Hosted by Nottingham Society (NMS), Notts Games 2008 brought together 57 contingents, 5000 players and supporters from all over the United Kingdom and Ireland. The Notts Games was officiated by Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin, Higher Education Minister of Malaysia, in the attendance of Pro-Vice Chancellor of

University of Nottingham, Professor David Riley and Professor Karen Cox

The 23rd Nottingham Malaysian games ended in the true Malaysian spirit of unity and integrity. The closing ceremony was attended by Dato' Rustam Yahya, Deputy High Commissioner of Malaysia.

Newcastle University opening new campus in Malaysia

Newcastle University is to establish a new medical and biotechnology faculty in Johor state.

From next year the satellite version of Newcastle University will offer Malaysians, Singaporeans and students from elsewhere in Asia a full British tertiary educational experience and an undergraduate degree.

Newcastle University's gambit is expected to be followed next year by a slew of similar expansions in Malaysia by Hull University and others.

The Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia campus would be located in EduCity at the Iskandar Malaysia.

Students who complete the course at the Johor campus will graduate with a full degree from Newcastle's widely respected medical department.

Nottingham University was the first to experiment with the satellite campus in Malaysia in 2005, offering identical courses to ones taught in Britain

-From The Times 17 11.2008

St Andrews wing named after late B.C. Sekhar

The new School of Medicine at the University of St Andrews in Scotland has been named the B.C. Sekhar School of Medicine.

The new £40 million state-of-the-art school bears the name of Tan Sri Dr B.C. Sekhar, a former chairman of the Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia.

The school, to open in 2010, will be home to the university's medicine and science departments.

Datuk Vinod Sekhar, the founder and chairman of the Sekhar Foundation and the Petra Group, unveiled a plaque at the school during a ceremony, 17 October.

The Sekhar Foundation has also financed a £8 million scholarship fund for Southeast Asian students who wish to study at the school.

The Petra Group and St Andrews also have a joint venture in the area of biophotonics.

Visit **Malaysia**
Celebrating 50 Years of
Nationhood

Events

Malaysian Food Promotion

Wing Yip, Cricklewood
395 Edgware Road
London NW2 6LN
Sat 29 – Sun 30, Nov 2008
Organised by MATRADE

Art Exhibition, Liverpool

Novas Arts presents an exhibition of contemporary paintings from Malaysia, Indonesia and Philippines showcasing a collection of high quality fine arts.

The Malaysian artists are:
Jalaini Abu Hassan, Ahmad Fuad Osman, Ahmad Shukri Mohamed, Bayu Utomoadikin, Hamir Soib @ Mohamed, Masnoor Ramli Mahmud, Kow Leong Kiang, Phuan Thai Meng, Yau Bee Leng, Hamidi Hadi and Fauzul Yusri.

Date: 21/11/08 – 13.01.09

Venue: Novas Gallery
Contemporary Urban Centre
41 – 51 Greenland Street
Baltic Triangle
Liverpool L1 OBS
Tel: 0151 708 3510

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Return to Malaysia



Alexander Parr (sitting third from left) and his wife Caroline with members of the Simpang Bekoh local council and with students from the village



Alexander Parr made a nostalgic visit to the little village of Simpang Bekoh in Melaka state with his wife Caroline, recently.

Alex, who first visited the village as a National Serviceman Corporal in 1953 with the 1st Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders and Caroline planned the visit for two years. Alex was anxious to see the village and friends he had made there during his brief stay of 14 days.

Alex and Caroline were well received at Simpang Bekoh, where a welcoming reception was held in honour of Alex.

The Immigration Department & Consular Office is open Monday to Friday between 0900am and 1200pm.

Immigration Tel: 020 79190262/0263 / Consular Tel: 020 7919 0251

Should you need more information on Immigration and Consular matters, please visit the website at: www.jimlondon.net / E-mail: jimlondon@btconnect.com

Oil palm to spur biotech growth

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 6: Malaysia's biotech industry, which is valued at RM1.3 billion, is expected to grow by 22 per cent annually, driven largely by the development of oil palm, said Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi at the third meeting of the Biotechnology International Advisory Panel.

The prime minister said Malaysia should exploit its strength in the palm oil industry by focusing on new and economically viable biotech methods to produce renewable fuel.

In the area of agriculture biotechnology, the government would continue to encourage the applications of biotechnology, including genomic sequencing, to improve crop yields, he said.

He said one area to consider branching into would be genetic profiling of the population to increase the focus on preventive rather than therapeutic medicine.

He said Malaysia had made very good early progress and the country should build on this momentum to chart a stronger future direction.



Abdullah Ahmad Badawi at the Biotechnology International Advisory Panel meeting.



Designing ecocities

Dato Dr Keng Yeang, eco-designer and green skyscraper architect gave a talk on 'Designing Ecocities' at the Commonwealth Club, 29 October 2008. Recently listed by The Guardian as one of the "Fifty People Who Can Save the Planet", Keng Yeang of Malaysia is the world's leading green skyscraper architect and one of the foremost eco-designers.

Dr Ken Yeang (third from left) with Malaysians at the Commonwealth Club, London

Lower Kinabatangan-Segama Wetlands declared Ramsar site

By Jaswinder Kaur, New Straits Times

Home to the endangered Sumatran rhinoceros, Borneo pygmy elephants and a range of other wildlife, the Lower Kinabatangan-Segama Wetlands on Sabah's east coast was designated as a Ramsar site at an international conference held in Changwon, South Korea, 28 October. The state's first Ramsar site extends over 78,803 hectares of mangrove forests and peat swamps.

Comprising the Trusan Kinabatangan, Kuala Maruap, Kuala Segama forest reserves and the Kulamba Wildlife Reserve, the country's sixth Ramsar site is larger than the five other designated sites put together (55,355ha).

The other five Ramsar sites in Malaysia are the Kuching Wetlands National Park in Sarawak, Pulau Kukup, Sungai Pulai and Tanjung Piai in Johor and Tasek Bera in Pahang.

The Lower Kinabatangan-Segama Wetlands has been declared Ramsar site



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