

Persatuan Warisan Pulau Pinang

Penang Heritage Trust

**Registered Address: Penang State Museum, Lebuh Farquhar, 11200
Penang, Malaysia**

Annual Report 2005



26A, Stewart Lane, 10200 Penang, Malaysia

Tel: 604-264 2631 Fax: 604-262 8421

E-mail: phtrust@streamyx.com

Website: <http://www.pht.org.my>

Annual General Meeting 2005

Sunday, 28th August 2005, 3.30 pm

Venue: ABN-AMRO USM Gallery, Beach Street
10200 Penang

Agenda

1. To consider and approve:
 - a) The Minutes of the PHT Annual General Meeting – 3rd October 2004
 - b) The Minutes of the PHT Extraordinary General Meeting - 7th May 2005
 - c) The PHT Annual Report 1st September 2004 – 31st July 2005
 - d) The PHT Financial Report ended 31 December 2004
2. Election of Office Bearers (2005-2007)
3. Other Matters

President's Message 2005

Another hectic year but some good news! Since the last AGM, I think we have made a 'break through' via a series of significant events, kicked off by the successful Gala Dinner at Homestead in March this year. The sum raised has allowed us to quickly identify and purchase a suitable heritage building in the inner city and to restore it for our own use.

Our thanks in particular to Dato' Stephen Yeap for offering the use of Homestead, Dato' Kee Phaik Cheen for heading the Organizing Committee and Datin Sri Endon Mahmood for gracing the event as the patron. I must confess that the generosity of both the State and Federal Govt and corporate sector donors took most of the Council members by surprise and credit must be given to the Dinner sales/marketing sub-committee for their powers of persuasion.

The success of the Gala dinner has, as it were, 'killed several birds with one stone'; the shophouse at 26 Church Street will eventually provide us with a permanent home, allowing us to finally utilise the World Monuments Fund grant committed to us since 2003 for a restoration project. And after all that, the amount raised by the Gala Dinner will still leave us sufficient funds to continue our activities in public education, research and involvement in public policy as Penang's leading heritage organisation without being over stretched for the next few years.

Another important PHT initiative has been the launch of the HSBC PHT Living Heritage Treasure Awards to recognise exceptional local talents and skills, a step taken by other countries that appreciate the importance of home grown contributions to their own cultural development. This annual award will hopefully generate more interest and appreciation of our local cultural 'heroes' or 'idols' as the youth say it. Our thanks go to Loh-Lim and Janet Pillai. The latter has also been the prime mover of the heritage component of Arts-Ed project for youth done in conjunction with the State Govt and USM.

Tourism of the 'right kind' has always been recognized as an essential component of economic growth for our heritage assets and so our own guided tours continue to attract the more discerning tourists and we continue to work closely with the Govt on these issues. We run State funded training courses for tour guides, and are invited regularly sit on committees and forums related to development policies in heritage areas.

We have been instrumental in turning the proposed 'repairs' to the historic Town Hall on the Esplanade into a full restoration project (now nearing completion), initiated remedial works to save Suffolk House before Federal funds and HSBC finally came in with a full financial plan in 2004 to complete the restoration (on which work has started).

We are heartened by the increasing recognition of PHT's role by ordinary people who turn to us for help in protecting their heritage; examples are our collaboration with the Catholic Eurasian community to save their historic cemetery in Penang Road and with the Muslim Chinese community living in Koay Jetty.

Finally, my thanks to my staff for their good work. My thanks also to my council members and many PHT members whose interest and active support has made it possible to bring our organization to its present prominence or, as some others might say, degree of notoriety - but all in a good cause!

Dr Choong Sim Poey

President, Penang Heritage Trust

Penang Heritage Trust
Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2004
Sunday, 3rd October 2004
at Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion

Members Present

Ahmad Chik
Khaw Yiat Lin
Brian Everett
Ch'ng Saw See
Choong Sim Poey
Chua Cheong Wee (Reporter)
Clement Liang
Richard Jones
Loh-Lim Lin Lee
Jill Hawkins
Rob Hawkins
Jack Ong
Joann Khaw
Susan Tan
Tan Chong Guan
Michael Cheah
Joan Shori
Yap Ching Chau
David Yeoh
Marie-Louise Oh
Teh Ewe Hoon
Kung Hock Soon
Eng Saw
Annelies Allain

Laurence Loh
Tunku Ismail Jewa
Oh Eng Sim
Pow Lin James
Leslie A.K. James
Derek Seagrove
Hilary Manecksha
Rosemary Lee
Kim Wong
P.A. Laine
Tan Bee Lan
Tan Hock Chye
Lim Siew Kang
Lim Siew Kok
Yoong Choy Seem
Grace Chuah
Tong C.K. Ho
Wong Kum Choon
Goh Mai Loon
Ann Cutter
J.C. Willot

Staff-in-attendance
Magdeline Ng

On behalf of the President, Vice-President Tunku Ismail Jewa welcomed all members present and called the meeting to order at 3.40 pm. He informed members that Dr Choong will be slightly late and proceeded to the confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM 2003.

1. **Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM 2003**

The Minutes of the meeting were approved proposed by Mr Laurence Loh (O-26057) and seconded by Mr Leslie James (O-26517).

2. **Chairman Welcoming Address**

Upon arrival, Dr Choong apologized for being late and continued on to highlight his President's Message.

PHT has been active throughout the year but our proposals, accepted in principle by the Government, to create a heritage and conservation friendly environment in the city through heritage legislation, guidelines, financial incentives etc, have not been achieved. The submission

of UNESCO heritage listing process was not satisfactory although a lot of work had been done. We continued at grassroots level working towards creating public awareness of the value of heritage. Much publicity has been achieved with the focus on Koay Jetty and the 200-year old Catholic Cemetery, although there are uncertainty whether these can be saved, this process continues to build up a kind of awareness at all level of society necessary for the future of heritage. Our efforts on heritage educational programmes, and the programme strengthening networking among women through CIDA fund have been successful. We continued to work with the state government and local government on heritage policy.

Through our efforts, HSBC and the State government have committed RM5 million for the restoration of Suffolk house. With owners' consent, 2 & 4 Church Street will be the new home for PHT, thanks to Amex USD80,000 grant through the World Monuments Watch.

Lastly, the President expressed that conservation work is a long struggle, it cannot be achieved overnight, PHT is in need of younger members and new members to get actively involved in order to achieve our mission.

3. **Presentation of the Annual Report 2003**

Ahmad Chik invited comments from the floor and highlighted a few points.

There is a possible chance of getting 2 & 4 Church Street to be the new PHT premises. He thanked the WMF for their support. For new projects, Ahmad invited Loh-Lim to brief members on the 'Living Heritage Treasure' Award project. Loh-Lim explained that the acknowledgement and recognition of intangible cultural assets i.e. people, has been in practice in many countries, the person has to demonstrate the highest skill in a particular artisanship. UNESCO calls it intangible cultural heritage. HSBC has approved the award and will be funding it for two years, we are proposing a financial incentive of RM1000 per year for the rest of the award holder's life. Full documentation of their skills, techniques and teaching components will be arranged for others to learn. The public will be solicited and can nominate any person (in the highest degree,) the official press will be the Star. A selection panel will be formed and should be free from political pressure.

Ahmad further said that we have not been very active on urban blight matters this reporting period, but we have targeted Chulia Street as our next project. We have done a social survey on Chulia Street, there are plans to walk with city councilors and to see what needs to be improved.

Heritage trails and tours have generated a substantial income, credit goes to Khaw Yiat Lin for organizing the tours.

Exclusive site visits is acknowledged as the most important part of PHT members' activities, the monthly site visits have continued into their 5th year and still draws large crowds. Thanks to Loh-Lim, the co-ordinator of the site visits. Loh-Lim is also the editor of the PHT newsletters.

We have been very active networking with local groups over the issues of Koay Jetty and Catholic Cemetery. We have given up AWPNUC to Khoo Salma due to lack of resources.

Dr Choong explained to members that in order to save some costs, the annual report will be done as a hard-copy photostat and hoped that members approved.

There was an amendment made to the last Annual Report – The Council meetings attendance record for Jack Ong should read 6/7 instead of 5/7.

4. **Presentation of Honorary Treasurer's Report**

Dr Tan Chong Guan presented his report.

Major income arises from the heritage trails and sale of merchandise. Various projects have generated some administrative income. He also highlighted the expenditure. Dr Tan concluded by saying that the PHT fund is generally low as such there are plans to organize a fundraising dinner which will be held on 9th January 2005.

Ms Rosemary Lee (O-26526) suggested using telephone card to make overseas calls if high charges are incurred, Loh-Lim explained that the high cost was before the change of the system to broadband, internet expenses were relatively high, with a telephone line now being cut, the expense on telephone charges is anticipated to be lower. The suggestion is noted.

As there were no further questions, the treasurer's report was adopted after a proposal by Mr Wong Kum Choon (O-26084), seconded by Ms Annelies Allain (L-26001).

5. **Any Other Matters**

PHT Fund-Raiser.

Dr Choong announced the PHT Fundraising Dinner to be held on 9th January 2005. Dato' Kee has been kind enough to offer her help to organize this event. She has managed to get Datin Seri Endon Mahmood to patronize the event. The key person will be Joe Sidek who will choreograph a heritage fashion and jewellery show. PHT's work will be highlighted, apart from the show, there will be three installations. Loh-Lim added that the theme of the event is 'Arts in Heritage', dress attire is formal traditional early Penang and menu is western fusion dinner. 30 tables will be allocated for PHT members at a ticket rate of RM200 each (RM12,000 per table), the rest will be RM5,000, RM10,000 and RM20,000 per table. There are plans to invite Heritage Minister, Rais Yatim, Tourism Minister, Michael Toyad, Abdul Kadir, Ong Ka Ting, CM, YDP etc. The three installations will showcase early Penang paintings and Suffolk House restoration plans; shoe saga leading to Jimmy Choo's creations; Nyonya-Baba story exhibition. There will also be a Silent Auction. Loh-Lim appealed to members to give their full support to make this event a successful one. We are targeting to raise half a million. Mrs Pow Lin James (O-26516) suggested we extend the exhibition for the installations since much effort has to be put in, Loh-Lim replied that the installations are meant for that night only due to the hotel being fully booked and no extra time has been given.

PORR – Gurney Drive. Dr Choong reported that a letter had been sent to the Chief Minister regarding this and released to the press. So far, nothing much has been heard. PHT will pursue the matter when the issue arises. He assured that PHT's stand remains the same that Gurney Drive is an essential component of Penang's heritage.

As there were no other matters, the AGM adjourned at 4.30 pm with a vote of thanks to the Chair. Members were invited to tea before the presentation given by Loh-Lim on World Heritage Site - Galle, Sri Lanka.

Minutes of Extraordinary General Meeting
Saturday, 7th May 2005
Caring Society Complex, Penang

Members Present :

Renee Saw Leng Chor	Marcia Howard
Sunny Lim Jin Chun	Clement Liang
Choong Sim Poey	Ch'ng Saw See
Khoo Su Nin	Tunku Ismail Jewa
Loh-Lim Lin Lee	Anwar Fazal
Laurence Loh	Mahmuda Bibi
Jack Ong	Yap Ching Chau
Joan Shori	Alexis Kerr
Ahmad Chik	Gan Teik Chee
Syed Omar Idid	Annelies Allain
Yusoff Azmir Merican	
Mohamed bin Yahaya	<u>Staff-in-Attendance:</u>
Tan Chong Guan	Magdeline Ng
Lim Chin Chye	Ho Sheau Fung

The President, Dr Choong Sim Poey called the meeting to order at 3.15 pm. He explained that the purpose of this EGM is to seek consent from members to approve the purchase of property at No. 26, Church Street.

A picture slide show of the property was shown. Loh-Lim assured members that it is a good purchase as the market value in the Valuation Report is much higher than the price agreed and confirmed. A proposal to World Monument Funds (WMF) to obtain their consent to funding the restoration of this property has been submitted.

1. Confirmation and Approval of the Resolutions

The following resolutions were tabled and approved unanimously by members of the Trust.

- (1) that Penang Heritage Trust (PHT) be authorized to purchase the property known as 26, Church Street, 10200 Penang at the price of Ringgit Malaysia Two Hundred and Eighty Thousand (RM280,000) only. **Proposed** by the Council of PHT, **Seconded** by Alexis Kerr (O-26304).
- (2) that the Council office-bearers namely, Dr Choong Sim Poey President, En Ahmad bin Chik Hon. Secretary and Dr Tan Chong Guan Hon. Treasurer be authorized to sign the Sale and Purchase Agreement on behalf of the Trust. **Proposed** by the Council of PHT, **Seconded** by Annelies Allain (L-26001).
- (3) that Dato' Anwar Fazal, Miss Khoo Su Nin and Mr Loh Kwong Yu Laurence be appointed as the Trustees of the PHT in accordance with Clause 28(a) of its Constitution. **Proposed** by the Council of PHT, **Seconded** by Sunny Lim Jin Chua (O-26395).
- (4) that the three Trustees be authorized to execute the transfer and all relevant documents pertaining to the said property on behalf of the PHT.

Mr Gan Teik Chee, PHT legal adviser explained that it is a legal formality for a society to appoint trustees to hold properties on its behalf, as Council members have no permanent standing in the Society. Mr Gan

said that trustees' decision has to be unanimous, in any case if one of the trustees is unsound, he/she may be replaced by a new trustee. It was also explained that Consent has been obtained from the trustees and they were present at the meeting.

To a question by Sunny Lim Jin Chua on how much cost the restoration would be, Ahmad Chik replied that the total budget for the whole project should be in the range of RM400,000, excluding air conditioning, fixtures and fittings. Dr Tan Chong Guan informed members that PHT is financially sound after the fundraised from the PHT gala dinner. Together with the WMF funding, PHT should be able to purchase and restore the said property without any financial hindrance.

As there were no other matters to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 4.00 pm.

Persatuan Warisan Pulau Pinang

LAPURAN TAHUNAN 2005

September 2004 – Julai 2005

Penang Heritage Trust

ANNUAL REPORT 2005

September 2004 – July 2005

Council Members and their Profiles

PHT Council Members (Term 2003 –2005)

1. Dr Choong Sim Poey, President
Medical practitioner, ex State Assemblyman and ex-Municipal Councillor, Chairman of several local non-government organisations
2. Dato' Nazir Ariff, Immediate Past President:
Managing Director, Chairman of numerous philanthropic and charitable organisations.
3. Tunku Dato' Dr Ismail bin Tunku Mohammad Jawa, Vice President
Retired Dean and Professor of Educational Administration, USM.
Chairman, P.I.E. Industrial Bhd, President, State of Penang Family Planning Association
4. En Ahmad Chik, Honorary Secretary
Retired engineer, social activist in Malaysian Nature Society, Friends of Penang Hill and Friends of Botanic Gardens, head of several PHT projects.
5. Dr Tan Chong Guan, Honorary Treasurer
Medical Practitioner, collector and expert on local art and history of artists and their artworks
6. Ms Loh-Lim Lin Lee
Conservator, lecturer, social psychologist, restoration consultant, historic researcher, author of dilapidation studies of historic buildings, head of several PHT projects such as Heritage Education Programme & Site Visits Co-ordinator, speaker and guide on historic conservation areas
7. Mr Yap Ching Chau
Consultant Engineer involving in some heritage projects notably Khoo Kongsi, CFTze. Chairman of Lam Yeong Tong Yap Temple, committee member of Chinese Clans Council
8. Mr Khaw Yiat Lin
Retired from Citibank. Vice-President of Penang Tourist Guide Association, avid collector on arts, head of heritage trails
9. Mr Clement Liang
Quality Program Senior Manager of an MNC. Presented the paper on pre-war Japanese community in Penang, Penang Story colloquium speaker and fluent in several foreign languages, active conservationist
10. Mr Jack Ong
Facinated by local Penang cultures and practices, specifically peranakan heritage. Professional in electronic banking, currently handling corporate communications for Uplands School

(Note: En Zakaria Basheer has resigned as a Council Member effective August 2004)

Advisors & Ex-Officio

Mr Laurence Loh, Deputy Chairman, Badan Warisan Malaysia – Architect, Heritage Consultant & Advisor
Prof Wazir Jahan, Advisor on Muslim Heritage
Mr Woo Yee Saik, Public Relations, Human Resources, Development & Training.
Cikgu Bahroodin, Cultural Advisor
Cikgu Yusoff Azmi Merican, Advisor on Islamic matter
Mr Gan Teik Chee, Legal Advisor & Chairman of Elections

PHT Annual Report

September 2004 -- July 2005

1. Council Meetings

Besides informal meetings for strategy and projects, PHT has held 6 Council meetings and 1 Extraordinary General Meeting since the last AGM. Attendance was recorded as follows:

Dr Choong Sim Poey	7/7
Tunku Dato' Ismail	5/7
En Ahmad Chik	7/7
Dr Tan Chong Guan	5/7
Ms Loh-Lim Lin Lee	7/7
Dato' Yap Ching Chau	7/7
Mr Khaw Yiat Lin	4/7
Mr Clement Liang	5/7
Mr Jack Ong	7/7

2. Membership

Founder/Life Members	74
Ordinary Members	577
Junior Members	3
Total	654

Despite our reminders, half of the 577 ordinary members have not renewed their membership since 2001. The PHT Council appeals to members who support our objectives to keep their subscriptions up to date.

3. PHT Premises

PHT New Office – 26, Church Street

It was reported at the last AGM that we planned to restore Nos 2 & 4, Church Street in exchange of usage of the front portion, the plan fell through. After a lengthy search, PHT managed to get a deal for a new premises at No. 26, Church Street.

An EGM was held on 7th May 2005 seeking approval from members to purchase 26, Church Street at a price of RM280,000. Consent was given at the EGM. It was unanimously agreed that Dato' Anwar Fazal, Khoo Su Nin (Khoo Salma) and Laurence Loh be appointed as the 3 Trustees of the PHT and Dr Choong Sim Poey, Ahmad Chik and Dr Tan Chong Guan were nominated to sign S&P on behalf of the Trust. Subsequently, a restoration committee has been formed with Ahmad Chik, Yap Ching Chau and Jack Ong as the committee. Letters of invitation to bid for design and project management consultant and prequalification of contractors were sent out. Laurence Loh was chosen as the design and project management consultant.

WMF World Monuments Fund have indicated that they were willing to support the restoration efforts for No 26 Church Street, once they have received documentation on the Sale & Purchase Agreement, the Title deeds, the C.V. of the restoration consultants, the appointed contractors and the proposed Schedule of Works.

PHT Museum Shop

The PHT Museum Shop is run by Mr Peter Foo. The shop promotes PHT heritage tours, sells souvenirs, T-shirts, cards, books, maps, antiques and collectibles, soft drinks etc. The shop provides PHT with higher visibility and quite a few members have been recruited through the PHT shop.

4. Donations and PHT Funds

We would like to acknowledge the following funders for their generosity during this reporting period and during the PHT Fundraising Dinner:

Penang State Government
Ministry of Tourism
Ministry of Arts, Culture and Heritage
Penang State Tourism Action Council
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Corporation
Southern Bank Berhad
Multi-Purpose Holdings Berhad
YTL Corporation Berhad
Heng Lee Group
E & O Property (Penang) Sdn Bhd
Hoo Kim Holdings Sdn Bhd
Bukit Jambul Hotel Development Sdn Bhd
Klinik Rakyat Family Planning Service Sdn Bhd
IOI Oleochemical Industries Berhad

5. PHT Projects & Programmes

“Arts in Heritage” Charity Evening

The “Arts in Heritage” Charity Evening was successfully held on 26 March 2005. Under the distinguished patronage of YABhg Datin Seri Paduka Endon Mahmud, the event also had the support of a glittering assemblage composed of captains of industry, luminaries of society, and leaders of politics. With a fusion muhibbah menu showcasing the best of Penang cuisine, the fine-dining experience was enhanced by the magnificent interior of Homestead, undoubtedly the finest private heritage residence in Penang. With all the guests decked out in the finest attire of early Penang society, the evening harkens back to the dazzling parties held by social leaders at the turn of the century, whose revelry were legendary in their opulence.

Housed within different areas of Homestead were installations and exhibitions illustrating the richness of the arts of Penang heritage, including :

- * The original paintings from the Hunter Collection. These paintings are a unique part of Penang’s botanical and artistic heritage. They are the earliest known documented drawings of Malayan botanical species, and form a series of watercolours depicting plant specimens collected by Dr William Hunter who visited Penang in 1802.
- * The History of Penang Shoes traced the beauty of shoes associated with Penang – from the early beaded ones worn by dainty nyonyas, to the couture creations of Penang’s celebrated shoemaker to the stars, Dato’ Jimmy Choo.
- * The Nyonya Paraphernalia installation exhibited items not typically associated with the Straits Chinese community, like the ubiquitous porcelain and embroidery. Instead, things like unusual kitchen utensils, camisoles, and many other objects that were necessary for daily use were brought to the forefront in this installation.
- * The restoration project of Suffolk House was also on display, with information on the progress of restoring this landmark architectural heritage of Penang.

For entertainment, traditional *Ronggeng* under the stewardship of renowned Malay music maestro, Cikgu Baharoodin, enthralled guests with its dance and tune. Many guests also took the opportunity to hit the dance floor with the dancers.

For dinner music, the PESSOC Chamber Choir sang *a capella* popular and folk music from room to room. Celebrated Penang designers – Tim & Jane Yee and Amandaling who have found fame and fortune beyond the shores of the island – also showcased their creations during the evening. Previously privy only to “those in the know”, guests were thrilled to share in the stunning theatre of clothes.

The Silent Auction, whilst intended as a platform for guests to bid for a variety of fabulous antiques and collectibles, also provided great fun for those who maintained “vigils” near their bidding sheets to ensure that they are not outbid.

Presentation to the winners of the Living Heritage Treasures of Penang Awards 2005 were made by YABhg Datin Seri Paduka Endon Mahmud. Major donors to the evening were also given the opportunity to present their sponsorship cheques to Datin Seri Endon.

Through this fundraising event, the Penang Heritage Trust managed to raise a total net of RM448,006. The success of the evening would not have been possible without the support of our PHT members, volunteers, donors and supporters. Many worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth implementation of the programme, whilst many others sought out the donors, or donated generously themselves. Of special mention would be the Organising Chairperson, Dato’ Kee Phaik Cheen, whose contacts and leadership guaranteed that the event was as successful as it was. Our heartfelt thanks go to her ... *Syabas Dato’ Kee!*

Women’s Participation in Urban Governance & Urban Revitalization

The main sustainable strategy to reverse the decline of George Town is through urban revitalization. This project has created greater awareness to the inner city dwellers and women group to see themselves as the custodians of their historic city and urban environment. The project has also created opportunities for women communities from different cultural backgrounds, neighbourhoods, income levels to collaborate and network with each other.

The project was carried out from March 2003 until December 2004, and was finally completed in January 2005 with the publication of a Community Directory. The project was funded by the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI) and administered by the Canadian High Commission.

Heritage Education programme

School Based Talk

The education programme has continued with school based talks which were presented with a slide show and short video, defining heritage and its significance with illustrations from Penang.

Date	Schools
17 th October 04	Phor Tay Girls’ Secondary School
17 August 04	Sek. Men. Air Itam
17 June 05	Sek. Men. Sri Mutiara

Save the Koay Jetty & Heritage Discovery Walkabout

The walk aimed at raising heritage awareness, had been promoted to schools and colleges. The walks were guided by Joann Khaw, an active member of PHT as well as a freelance heritage tour guide and well trained facilitator from ARTS-ED.

Date	Schools
18 th October 04	Phor Tay Girls’ Secondary School
25 th October 04	Phor Tay Girls’ Secondary School
Nov 2004	Equator Arts Academic
Jan 2005	Equator Arts Academic

KOTA KITA Newsletter

2 issues of Kota Kita have been produced in 4 languages (Chinese, English, Bahasa Melayu and Tamil) and distributed to residents in the inner city of George Town, Heritage Organisations, traditional trades' traders, schools and education institution. It highlights a few examples of well restored shophouses, symbolic motifs on shop-house frontages and restoration and repair of shop-house facades - 'good and no good' for house owners and tenants.

E-Culture- X-Change Research Project

A creative research project which involved young people in a digital video production. The project is aimed at raising awareness of the meaning and significance of intangible cultural assets or 'living heritage' of Georgetown among 40 students from different ethnic groups. The students explored, documented and promoted 3 living craftsmen/ artists with their inherited trades/craftsmanship on how their creative products have contributed to the aesthetic or functional lifestyle of their cultures.

4 well designed websites and a documentary video for each living treasures of Penang in VCD format will be promoted in an exhibition which will be held in USM to Penang schools and colleges.

Facilitators Training Workshop

The 4-day workshop conducted by Janet Pillai, chairperson of the Arts Education Program and assisted by Sheau Fung of PHT, was offered to young people who are looking forward to initiating projects for local communities. A total of 13 young people were trained on building skills necessary for facilitating a community project, sourcing and identifying issues from community, reflecting, learning and developing ideas around the central themes of culture and identity, leadership and networking and to have a hands-on introduction to practical skills and techniques necessary for project planning and execution.

Living Heritage Treasures Award of Penang

The Penang Heritage Trust with the financial assistance of the HSBC, has instituted a programme in 2004 entitled, LIVING HERITAGE TREASURES OF PENANG AWARDS. These awards are granted to persons who are considered to embody or who have, in the highest degree, the skills and techniques necessary for the production of certain aspects of Penang culture, the life of our people & the continued existence of our cultural heritage.

Nominations were invited from the public in November 2004, the judges met in January 2005. Awardees are limited to a maximum of 3 per year and 8 in total at any one time.

YAB Datin Paduka Seri Endon presented the first 2005 awards to:

Dato Chua Thean Teng - Master of Batik Art /Innovator

Lim Bian Yam - Chef extraordinaire / Designer & instructor

Mohd Bahroodin Ahmad - Performing arts /Cultural Expert & Educator.

Awardees received a Certificate and Plaque and RM2, 000 per year for their life.

Full Documentation of skills, techniques & processes has been conducted.

Judges: Tan Sri Justice Chang Min Tat, Hari Das Nair, Dr Tan Sooi Beng, Tang Hon Yin, Dato Ismail Adam, Tengku Dato Ismail Jewa, Dr Choong Sim Poey.

Advisors: Laurence Loh, Lim Huck Chin, Janet Pillai, Elizabeth Cardosa

Convenor of Awards: Loh-Lim Lin Lee

Suffolk House Restoration

In effect, PHT can no longer take any credit for any works currently proceeding in the Suffolk House restoration. Our role ended at the advocacy, stabilization and awareness raising stage years ago. For the interest of members we can report that works are proceeding smoothly and that PHT can once again play a role later in the year when HSBC, the main sponsors, will look to us to help them raise public awareness again when fund raising is required for the last section of the restoration.

Urban Blight & Heritage Alert

Urban Blight and Heritage Watch.

These programmes have been running for several years. On review it was concluded that in spite of some satisfactory results (Beach Street most notably) they require much more effort and time than volunteers from the Trust can conveniently put in.

As a result it was decided to adopt a different and, hopefully, more effective approach. Working with several other groups, most notably Malaysiakini, we are developing a web-site, which tentatively has been called PenangWatch. Basically the site will display a large-scale map of Penang and members of the public will be able to post their complaints (with photographs) on it on the exact location on the map. Given the ready accessibility of the site to all, including senior members of the establishment at the state and federal level, we are hoping that by naming and shaming them the departments responsible for attending to the complaints will respond speedily.

We think that displaying complaints on the web will be more effective than letters (which often get 'lost') or telephone calls (which never seem to find the right officer at his extension). Given time and support from the print media we hope that this will become the main complaints channel for the public. Work is in progress, and we hope that a soft launch will be possible in September. PHT members will be kept informed of the progress.

Koay Jetty

The Koay Jetty in Penang is a living heritage of a unique settlement of Hui descendents from China and it is currently threaten by an imminent land-reclamation to turn it into another high density urban development. The adjacent mangrove and its thriving bird sanctuary were once the only nature precinct left intact in George Town but it had been wiped out entirely by the authorities amidst protests from the NGOs including PHT in end of 2004. weblink: <http://koayjetty.tripod.com>

Catholic Cemetery

Saving the 200 year-old Catholic cemetery is another tussle to preserve and restore one of the earliest historical landmark in the island. Among those buried here were the Catholic nuns and clergies who pioneered the modern education systems in Penang by setting up the first missionary schools in this country. Together with the neighbouring Protestant cemetery, they represent an important chapter in Penang's history whereby the Christian community had left an indelible mark on the social and economic development of the early Penang. While the exhumation of the cemetery has been temporarily suspended after strong protest from PHT and the Catholic descendants, the future of this Catholic cemetery remains uncertain. weblink: <http://penangcatholictombs.tripod.com>

Kwong Hock Keong Temple

As the founding Chinese temple (1866) in Nibong Tebal, Kwong Hock Keong Temple was for a long time a gathering place for worshipping and settling disputes among the predominantly Teochew-Chinese town folks. Though small in size, the temple with its Teochew architecture makes it one of the few remaining similar structures in Malaysia. The temple suffers from years of neglect after a new temple was erected in a separate location in year 2000. The worst damage came when the temple trustees forcefully removed all the artefacts from the old temple including supporting pillars, commemorative stone tablets, granite stone slabs and used them to construct a small pavilion in the new temple compound. Together with the local residents, PHT is trying to stress the historical and architectural significance of the temple to the trustees to preserve and restore the old temple.

5. Diary of Events

This is a chronological list of events which the PHT and its council members organised, co-organised, supported or promoted in one way or another, continuing from the previous year's Annual Report.

Wed, 1st September 2004
4th Meeting of the Catholic Cemetery hosted by Dr Choong Sim Poey.

Tue, 7th September 2004
Koay Jetty meeting attended by Clement Liang and Joann Khaw.

Sunday, 19th September 2004
* Koay Jetty “Royong-royong” Clean Up Day attended by Ahmad Chik, Clement Liang, Joann Khaw and Ho Sheau Fung
* Heritage Walk for Disabled Group organised by Magdeline under the CIDA project. Ms Tan Leong Seng and Ms Shelagh McCusker from Spiral Injuries Association in UK joined us for the tour.

Tue, 21st September 2004
5th Meeting of the Catholic Cemetery

Thu, 23rd September 2004
3rd PHT Fundraising meeting

Sat, 25th September 2004
Press Conference Catholic Cemetery at Cemetery Ground organized by PHT, attended by Dr Choong, Magdeline and Sheau Fung.

Sun, 3rd October 2004
PHT AGM

Wed, 6th October 2004
Penang State Government’s dinner with the National Heritage Board Singapore, attended by Dr Choong Sim Poey.

Sun, 10th October 2004
Cemetery Clean Up day at Roman Catholic Cemetery attended by Dr Choong, Loh-Lim, Ahmad Chik, Joan Shori, Clement Liang, Magdeline, Leslie James, Pow Lin James, descendants and Catholic concerned group.

Wed, 13th October 2004
4th PHT Fundraising meeting

Wed, 20th October 2004
1st Living Heritage Award meeting organized by Loh-Lim, attended by Janet Pillai, Ahmad Chik, Dr Choong, Clement Liang, Jack Ong, Ho Sheau Fung and HSBC representative.

Wed, 27th October 2004
* Heritage Talk at Phor Thay Secondary School given by Ho Sheau Fung
* 5th PHT Fundraising meeting

Tue, 2nd November 2004
Press Conference for the launching of the ‘Living Heritage Treasure of Penang’ Award.

Wed, 17th November 2004
PHT Fundraising Dinner Emergency Meeting

Tue, 23rd November 2004
* Suffolk House Meeting attended by Dr Choong
* Catholic Cemetery Meeting attended by Dr Choong, Clement Liang and Magdeline

Sat, 27th November 2004

Rattan basket weaving workshop for women's group, 12 attended. The instructor, En Norul Azam taught two modules: egg basket and pen holder.

Fri, 3rd December 2004

8th PHT Council meeting

Sat, 4th December 2004

2nd lesson of the rattan basket weaving workshop.

Fri, 10th December 2004

* Viewing of 19, Armeninan Street by Tunku, Loh-Lim and Magdeline.

* Courtesy call by Ms Jamari Salleh, Cultural Attache, Mr Chew Wing Foong, Senior Cultural Affairs Specialist and Mr Riaz Sadayan of US Embassy.

Sat, 11th December 2004

3rd lesson of the rattan basketry training.

Sat, 18th December 2004

4th and final lesson of the rattan basketry training.

Wed, 22nd December 2004

PHT Fundraising Dinner Main and Marketing Committee Meeting

Tue, 11th January 2005

PHT Fundraising Meeting at Homestead

Tue & Wed, 11th & 12th January 2005

PHT Tour Guide Course organized by PHT and sponsored by Penang Tourism Action Council. 23 tour guides attended.

Wed, 19th January 2005

* PHT Fundraising Meeting

* MPPP Gold Bazaar Meeting (Kapitan Keling Mosque area) attended by Dr Choong.

Wed, 26th January 2005

Five-Foot Way and Pedestrian Walkway Dialogue with MPPP, attended by Dr Choong and Ahmad Chik.

Sat, 29th January 2005

Public Talk 'Battle War in Penang Harbour' by Dr John Robertson organized by PHT and the Star. The talk was at Caring Society Complex.

Sat, 31st January 2005

Press Conference for the PHT Fundraising Dinner held at Peranakan Museum.

Tue, 3rd February 2005

Dialogue session with MPPP Councils on 'Kaki Lima' (Five-foot way), attended by Dr Choong, Ahmad Chik & Loh-Lim.

Fri, 4th February 2005

Living Heritage Awardees were selected by panel judges. The judges are: Tan Sri Chang Min Tat, Dato Ahmad Adam (Badan Warisan), Prof Tan Sooi Beng (USM), Tang Hin Yin (artist & educationalist), Dato Ahmad Jawa (PHT), Ahmad Chik (PHT), Hari Das Nair (HSBC) and Dr Choong. Loh-Lim (Convenor & Secretariat).

Wed, 16th February 2005
PHT Fundraising Meeting

Wed, 23rd February 2005
PHT Fundraising Meeting

Mon, 28th February 2005
PHT 9th Council Meeting and Fundraising Meeting

Fri, 4th March 2005
Suffolk House Site Visit and Meeting attended by Dr Choong and Loh-Lim.

Wed, 9th March 2005
PHT Fundraising Meeting

Wed, 16th March 2005
* 2nd Press Conference of the PHT Fundraising Dinner held at PHT.
* PHT Fundraising Meeting

Wed, 23rd March 2005
PHT Fundraising Meeting

Sat, 26th March 2005
PHT Fundraising Dinner held at Homestead at Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah. YAB Datin Paduka Seri Endon was the Patron of the fundraising event.

Fri, 1st April 2005
Visit by 23 Filipino mayors from the Philippines. A briefing was given by Dr Choong Sim Poey at Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion followed by a trishaw ride conducted by Teresa Capol.

Sun, 3rd April 2005
PHT 10th Council Meeting

Tue & Wed, 5th & 6th April 2005
Consultants from City of Honolulu USA – Mr Jeremy Harris, ex-mayor and Mr Manuel Menendez, executive director held a workshop on successful Island Management. This was organised by Penang Tourism Action Council at the E & O Hotel, attended by Dr Choong.

Sun, 10th April 2005
Ceremony on successful restoration of the Penang Teochew Association's historic Han Jiang Ancestral Temple and Teochew Taoist consecration rites attended by Clement Liang and Khaw Yiat Lin.

Mon, 11th April 2005
Book launching 'Southeast Asia – A Historical Encyclopedia, from Angkor Wat to East Timur' attended by Tunku Dr Ismail.

Wed, 13th April 2005
PHT 11th Council Meeting

Sat, 23rd April 2005
PHT took part in the school exhibition at SMK Batu Maung.

Sat, 7th May 2005
PHT Extraordinary General Meeting held at Caring Society Complex

Thurs. 12th May 2005

State Heritage Steering Committee Meeting chaired by the Chief Minister, attended by Dr Choong.

Sat. 14th May 2005

The Forum on "George Town's Pre-War Buildings: Time for rebirth" at E & O Hotel attended by Dr Choong and a few council members.

Wed. 27th May 2005

PHT 12th Council Meeting

Sat. 28th May 2005

State Government Structural Planning Briefing attended by Dr Choong, Ahmad Chik & Loh-Lim

Mon. 30th May 2005

Penang Local Government Consultative Forum attended by Dr Choong.

Fri. 10th June 2005

Visit by the Directors of Pembangunan Pelancongan Nasional (PEMPENA). The group was here to study the potential heritage developments in George Town. Dr Choong Sim Poey and Laurence Loh gave briefings to the group.

Sat & Sun. 11th & 12th June 2005

Visit by a group of 21 members from the Singapore Heritage Society. Familiarization tours for this group were given by Khaw Yiat Lin, Loh-Lim, Teresa Capol and Joann Khaw. Discussions/exchanges with Laurence Loh, Lim Gaik Siang and Tan Yeow Wooi were held.

Mon & Tue, 13th & 14th June 2005

Loh-Lim was invited by the National Trust of Scotland to be a speaker and workshop leader at a conference in Aberdeen entitled 'Restoration, Celebrating Traditional Craft Skills'.

Thu-Sun. 23rd – 26th June 2005

Facilitators Training Workshop was held at PHT. It was conducted by Janet Pillay and assisted by Ho Sheau Fung. This project was funded by the KL British Council, 13 youths attended.

Fri & Sat. 24th & 25th June 2005

PHT Tour Guide Course sponsored by Penang Tourism Action Council. 25 participants took part. YB Teng Chang Yeow gave a closing speech and presented the certificates to the participants.

Thurs. 14th July 2005

A discussion with the Cultural Heritage Expert Professor from China, Professor Luo Zhe Wen and Professor Ma Rui Tian at the Chinese Town Hall. Chinese heritage NGOs, PHT Council member Khaw Yiat Lin and staff, Magdeline and Sheau Fung attended.

Wed. 20th July 2005

Experts from PUKAR in Mumbai, India gave talk on 'Mapping Culture' based on their experiences working with the communities in Mumbai on a project, entitled 'The Neighbourhood Project'. Some council members and staff attended.

Fri. 22nd July 2005

PHT 13th Council Meeting

Sat. 23rd July 2005

PHT coordinated a Public Talk given by Dr Geoff Wade about the voyages of the Ming Admiral - Zheng He. The talk was held at the Caring Society Complex.

Fri, 29th July 2005

35 Urban & Regional Planning students from International Islamic University Malaysia led by lecturer, En Mohd Faris and Chartered Town Planner, En Ishak Bin Ariffin visited PHT.

7. Heritage Trails & Tours

Heritage trails and tours formed the main source of income for PHT, besides tours given to local and foreign tourists, these tours were also conducted for government officials, VIPs, as well as editors, professors, students and tourists. Among them were:

- Embassadors from various Embassies
- Japanese Architects, Architectural Study Tour
- Wives of RAAF Air Vice-Marshal and Vice-Admiral
- Mayors of Local Governance from Philippines
- Professors, Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Virginia, USA
- Members from Singapore Heritage Society
- PEMPENA KL (Ministry of Tourism), Heritage Development Study Tour
- Tour agents, feature writers from local and foreign agencies and magazines

Heritage Tour Guide Course

PHT has conducted two Heritage Tour Guide Courses sponsored by the Penang State Tourism Action Council this reporting period. The first course was held on 11th & 12th Jan 2005 with 23 tourist guides attended. The second course was held on 24th & 25th June 2005 with 25 participants. The aim is to help the government to sharpen its focus on "heritage" tourism marketing and to promote heritage and culture of George Town. Comments and feedback from participants were noted. PHT hopes the Heritage Tour Guide course will eventually form part of an official Ministry programme to train specialist guides for the historic city.

8. PHT Exclusive Guided Heritage Site Visits

The site visits on the last Sunday of each month continues to receive excellent response from members. There were fewer sites visited this reporting period due to the highly sought-after PHT Fundraising Event which was finally held on 26th March 2005 after several changes to the dates and venues.

28th November 2004 – Loke Mansion

One of the most fascinating and beautiful Arts & Crafts buildings in Penang. The Loke House or 'Chatsworth' 1924 was designed by David McLeod. The Wilkinsons, residents of Loke Manien, very kindly consented to have 125 PHT members and friends visit this very admired building.

30th January 2005 – The Penang Turf Club

65 eager PHT members turned up dressed in their Sunday-best visited this first private club founded in the country. Lessons on betting were given. Only a handful of the PHT members were given the opportunity to be taken for a tour and briefing by the general manager.

15th May 2005 – Teochew Association and Temple

Teochew Association & Temple was founded in the very early 19th century with the current building erected in 1870. The Teochews are noted for their marvelous skills with 'Chien Nien'. A very interesting power-point presentation on the background of Teochew clans and the restoration project was given by Lim Gaik Siang.

26th June 2005 – Town Hall

This oldest municipal building on the island was officially declared open by the Governor, Sir Frederick Weld in 1880 and had been gazetted as a monument in 1982. Part of the scenes of 'Anna and the King' was done in this historic building. With the restoration and upgrading work, this building will remind us of the impressive legacy of the grand colonial era.

31st July 2005 – Hong Seng Estate

This urban village lies between Waterfall Road and Mount Erskine Road with a community of more than a thousand souls living in harmony between the vast cemetery and the hills. The inhabitants are mainly of Chinese or Indian descent, as evidenced by the many Buddhist and Hindu shrines embedded in the village.

4. Publishing & Publicity

PHT newsletter

Since the last AGM, 2 newsletters, 7 PHT Circulars and 2 'Kota Kita' newsletters have been produced.

- PHT newsletter issue No. 83, July – October 2004 (28 pages)

- PHT newsletter issue No. 84, November – April 2005 (28 pages)

Circulars :

- AGM announcement

- Site visit - Loke Mansion

- Site visit – The Penang Turf Club

- Letter of Apology

- Site visit - Town Hall/City Hall (programme changed to Teochew Association)

- Site visit – Town Hall

- Site visit – Hong Seng Estate

- Kota Kita newsletter 1st issue, Look and Learn about Shophouse, June 2004

- Kota Kita newsletter 2nd issue, Living in George Town, Jan 2005

Press Statements & Newspaper Write-ups

Issues on the Penang Road Catholic Cemetery, Re-naming of Roads, PORR, Uplands, Chowrasta Market, the graph, Kwong Hock Keong Temple etc were raised and featured in English, Chinese and Malay newspapers. Recent issues on the Town Hall, aluminium sculpture at Weld Quay roundabout and Moon Gate at Waterfall were appealed to YDP MPPP.

Website (www.pht.org.my)

The PHT website was put up in 1999, changes and latest news have been re-published recently. As it is a popular website especially among students, fans of Penang and Malaysians living abroad who are keen on heritage information on Penang, selected issues/items will be updated on the web.

5. Human Resources

Staff

The office was run by both Magdeline Ng and Ho Sheau Fung.

Volunteers

We owe our success to greatly many people involved in our Fundraising Dinner. First and foremost, our organising Chairperson, Dato' Kee Phaik Cheen, for her selfless effort, Dato' Stephen Yeap and Datin Irene for the use of Homestead, Rebecca Wilkinson as the event coordinator, the main organising committee, the installation committee, marketing & sales committee, publicity & press, silent auction and sponsors. Without them, we may not have raised a net amount of RM RM448,000. Many thanks!

6. Networking & Collaboration

The PHT is working closely with other organisations to further broaden the heritage movement. Among the local groups we have been working with this year are:

Arts-Ed
AsiaExplorers
Badan Warisan Malaysia
Catholic Cemetery Concerned group
Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion
Khoo Kongsi
Koay Jetty Concerned group
Pen-Heritage Consultancy Sdn. Bhd.
Penang State Museum
Penang Tourist Guides Association
Perak Heritage Society
Pinang Peranakan Museum
Malaysian German Society
Malaysian Nature Society (MNS)
Socio Economic Research Institute (SERI)
Tan Yeow Wooi Culture & Heritage Research Studio

12. Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge all our funders, members, volunteers and supporters. We ask your forgiveness if anyone or anything has been left out or inaccurately stated.

Penang Heritage Trust

Treasurer's Report for the Year 2004

I would like to highlight the financial statements of the Penang Heritage Trust for the financial year ended 31 December 2004.

Our major income are –

- Heritage Trails and Sale of Merchandise netted approx RM30,000, Site Visits RM2,325.
- Membership subs totalled RM5,173. New members RM3,955, and Life members RM4,000.
- Administration Income from projects (BACSA grant, Asian Coalition for Housing, Tanjung PLC, Heritage Education Program & UNESCO workshop) totalled RM27,302. Balance of CIDA fund will be transferred as administration income once it is officially closed in year 2005.
- Interest on Public Bank fixed deposits RM4,511 (Southern Bank fixed deposits accrual interests added to the principal).

During the year of 2004, we received the 1st payment of RM150,000 being part of a grant of USD80,000 from World Monuments Fund for PHT restoration project.

Total income has increased by RM35,938 to RM123,909 (RM87,971 in 2003), total expenses has also increased by RM47,159 to RM148,994 (RM101,835 in 2003). There is a deficit of RM25,085.

Our major expenses are:

1.	Salaries/EPF	RM 62,575
2.	Newsletter & Printing	RM 11,626
3.	Rental of Premises	RM 5,800

The Accountancy charges of RM3,200 include part payment for year 2003 and full payment for year 2004.

The telephone and fax charges had been reduced from RM5,976 in year 2003 to RM3,995 in year 2004 due to upgrading of telephone service to broadband system and the cutting down of one telephone line.

Our principal Fixed Deposits as at 31st December 2004 was RM230,000; WMF grants formed the main part of FDs' amount. The 'Arts in Heritage' Fundraising Dinner held in March 2005 has raised a substantial amount for PHT to continue and expand our educational and research programme as well as our promotional activities on preserving Penang heritage. The account for the Fundraising Dinner will be reflected in year 2005 Financial Statements.

Dr Tan Chong Guan
Hon. Treasurer