

**Persatuan Warisan Pulau Pinang
Penang Heritage Trust**

Registered Address:

Penang State Museum, Lebuh Farquhar, 11200 Penang, Malaysia

Annual Report 2008



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Annual General Meeting 2008

Sunday, 21st September 2008 at 10.00 am

Venue: 26, Church Street,
10200 Penang

Agenda

1. To consider and approve:
 - a) The Minutes of the PHT Annual General Meeting – 21st October 2007
 - b) The PHT Annual Report 1st September 2007 – 31st August 2008
 - c) The PHT Financial Report ending 31 December 2007

2. Other Matters

President's Message 2008

Another year has passed but this one has certainly been quite eventful!

UNESCO World Heritage Site

The good news; at long last George Town, jointly with Malacca, has been inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO at their meeting in Quebec in July 2008.

A fitting end to our efforts over 12 years by many council members of the PHT, both past and present with the help and encouragement of many key players like Khoo Salma, past secretary of PHT, Tun Ahmad Sarji and Laurence Loh of the Badan Warisan Malaysia as well as the previous state administration under Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon.

We must also not forget the roles of visiting experts and advocates from abroad like Alex Koenig, Malcolm Grant, Didier Repellin and Richard Engelhardt who gave us the technical support and status to give greater legitimacy to our submission.

Active Partner NGO Projects

The PHT over the last year has also been particularly active in other civic groups with similar objectives. Among them are the PGCC Campaign group, the Penang Peoples Forum, CEPAT transport alliance, Tanjung Bungah Residents Association and the Tanjung Tokong Village association. In all of them, there have been active protests over the lack of accountability over many decisions made by the state and local government on planning and development issues. The most successful has been the PGCC campaign which effectively stopped the development of a new 'mega city' on site of the Penang Turf Club.

The General Elections 2008

The unexpected change of the State Government in March General Elections has been received with mixed feelings; it might be said that towards the end of their administration, they were distinctly less sympathetic to the NGO views in preference to those of certain political and financial groups and that its complacency had made them rather resistant to the many NGO initiatives for more progressive and sustainable development policies.

Their responses to our proposals on improving the urban environment through local planning policies, on introducing incentives for heritage restoration and on addressing the deteriorating traffic situation unfortunately all fell far below our expectations, certainly more talk than action. It is possible that the high profile criticisms by the NGOs before the general election may have been a factor in BN's electoral loss of the Penang state govt.

Suffolk House and related issues

Sadly for Suffolk House (SH), whose restoration was celebrated last year as another crowning achievement for PHT's stubborn advocacy to save it, is still in limbo, its future management plan uncertain. The PHT's stand on this issue is based on our understanding with the previous state government. The restoration of SH was made possible via a tripartite agreement between HSBC Bank, PHT and the State. In the final analysis, although the building is owned by the State, the core donation from HSBC and public

donations solicited by HSBC and PHT made up nearly two thirds of the renovation costs. We feel the new state administration has a moral obligation to honour the intentions of this joint agreement so that it is properly managed and made accessible to the public as a historic icon and public space for all to enjoy as soon as possible. Presently, it is in danger of becoming yet another white elephant.

We should also mention here that the recently restored Town Hall remains largely under utilized when it should be promoted as another popular public space especially for the performing arts.

Working with Government Agencies

Our role has always been to work with whichever administration is in power to achieve our vision of vibrant, sustainable, heritage city. We have thus initiated dialogues with the new Pakatan Rakyat state government leaders discussing development issues but it will take some time before we can see if the new administration has greater commitment to help us and the people of Penang achieve this vision.

Meanwhile, we are also continuing our dialogues with the Federal Government through the Ministry of Heritage and Culture and Ministry of Tourism via the Penang Tourism Action Council for their support especially to take advantage of George Town's new status to upgrade the city's built heritage and living cultures and to plan for a sustainable tourism policy to ensure mass tourism does not have negative effects.

The Federal Government will need to increase significantly their financial commitment to ensure that the terms of the heritage management plan for George Town, as submitted by them and approved by UNESCO, is carried out effectively, at least to the satisfaction of UNESCO assessors when they do a review in 3 yrs time.

The PHT will obviously have to continue playing an important role in this new scenario in helping to set the directions to help sustain and enhance our beloved heritage city.

Finally, I am indeed grateful to all our council members and dedicated staff for coping with so many initiatives and projects over the last 12 months. On behalf of the council, I would also like to thank all our members, our NGO partners, the media and the Federal, State and Local Government and not least our corporate sponsors for their continuing faith in and support for the PHT.

Dr Choong Sim Poey
President, Penang Heritage Trust

Penang Heritage Trust
Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2007
Sunday, 21st October 2007 at 3.00 pm
Penang Heritage Trust, 26, Church Street, 10200 Penang

Members Present

Ahmad Chik

Alexis Kerr
Ann Cutter
Annelies Allain
Anwar Fazal
Brian Coomber
Brian Everett
Chia Yong Tai
Choong Sim Poey
Clement Liang
D.A. Marron
Delangle R.C.
Derek Seagrove
Gale Metcalf
Joanna Aeria
Joel Wallach
Julie Ng
Khoo Kay Hean
Kok Pow Lin

Observers

Ian Kerr
Marion E. Gray
May de Vries
Ng Lai Fun
Penny Ng

Lai Wei Siung
Lee Yong Seng
Leslie A.K. James
Lim Chin Chye
Ling Tan
Laurence Loh
Loh-Lim Lin Lee
Marie-Louise Oh
Malcolm A.R. Gray
Oh Eng Sim
P.A. Laine
Peter Foo
Richard Jones
Roy de Vries
Tan Chong Guan
Timothy Tye
Tong C.K. Ho
Yap Ching Chau
Yeoh Kok Meng
Yusoff Azmi Merican

Staff in Attendance

Magdeline Ng
Ho Sheau Fung

(Names of PHT Council members for term 2007-2009 are in bold)

Chairman's Welcome Address

The President, Dr Choong Sim Poey, welcomed all members present and called the meeting to order at 3.10 pm.

He referred members to the President's report and highlighted thereon. Restoration of Suffolk House was completed in June but we are still waiting for the Penang State Government to establish a management plan for Suffolk House. After more than 10 years of persistent effort from PHT, George Town was finally on the brink of UNESCO World Heritage Listing. Dr Choong expressed his disappointment, however, that despite the tireless efforts of PHT for listing, there is no acknowledgement of this in the dossier or in any of the booklets produced by the Ministry of Culture, Arts & Heritage. He also mentioned that as the heritage city requires a good public transport system, CEPAT is working closely with the government to upgrade the system and improve the urban environment. Dr. Choong said that although our relationship with Federal Ministries and

the State Government is good, we are constantly lobbying for better planning to ensure that every development project is an asset and not a liability for Penang.

Apologies were read out: Tunku Dato' Dr Ismail Jewa (Vice-President), who is temporarily indisposed as is Mr Jack Ong (Hon. Secretary); and Miss Lim Gaik Siang (Hon. Treasurer) who is abroad. Tunku had expressed his wish to step down from election this year while Jack and Gaik Siang had submitted their consent letters confirming that they have no objections to be nominated for election to the Council of the PHT.

1. **a) Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM 2006**

The Minutes of the AGM held on 10th September 2006 were unanimously approved and adopted on the proposal of Mr Laurence Loh (L-26079) seconded by Miss Ann Cutter (O-26465).

b) Presentation of the Annual Report 2007

On behalf of the Honorary Secretary who was absent, Dr Chong went through the Annual Report.

i) Membership

Dr Choong requested help from members to appeal to their friends who have not renewed their membership. Mr Brian Coomber (O-26664) suggested looking into a system of reminder, such as to return membership cards if members are no longer interested retaining their membership. Mr Peter Foo (O-26095) informed that several members whose membership had lapsed have approached him for help. Miss Magdeline, the Manager, said that ex-members are quite reluctant to pay for their lapsed years especially if they are long-overdue. Although this was not publicly announced, we had always made attempts to encourage them back by re-joining as new members. This required only the RM50 registration fee and the usual subscription of RM36. She reminded members that there is a package deal of RM100 for a three-year subscription, applicable only for current subscription payment and the following two years. This is to encourage members to pay up promptly.

ii) PHT Premises – 26 Church Street

Miss Loh-Lim explained that, as an assessment rebate for heritage buildings such as 26 Church Street is a new category for MPPP, they are still looking into the issue. However, an application for a heritage grant from the Heritage Unit in MPPP has been submitted and is pending approval.

iii) UNESCO Cultural Heritage Specialist Guide Training Course

Dr Choong reported that this was a pioneer project organized in this region, approved by the UNESCO, IFT and the Ministry of Tourism. Subsequent courses are planned in several other countries. The Course is to upgrade guide capacity by providing in-depth knowledge and enhancing the preparedness and management of the nominated World Heritage Site.

iv) HSBC – PHT Living Heritage Treasure Award

The Living Heritage Treasures Awards funded by HSBC is an ongoing project. Dr Choong said that since we have reached a maximum of eight award winners, HSBC has agreed that one more award would be given out next year to maintain the momentum.

v) Visit by Professor David Lung, UNESCO Evaluator

Miss Loh-Lim reported that she has given a powerpoint presentation to David Lung during his visit to PHT. This had given him a clearer picture of George Town than MPPP's interpretation. Mr Leslie James (O-26517) added that David Lung has made several observations -- that Penang people are people with heart, that the people and NGOs had succeeded in influencing the government on conservation, but that there should still be a commitment from government to prevent further a repetition of negative developments, such as Hardwicke and the Metropole, which he referred to as compromises.

vi) Urban Blight

Mr Ahmad Chik reported that we have been pursuing with other NGOs the issue of barrier-free environment and pedestrian walkways for wheelchairs and the elderly. A submission has been sent to MPPP.

He also mentioned that we are still working with Mr Ric Francis on the proposal for re-introducing trams in Penang. The costing and specification have not been finalized yet and to save cost we could use the old tracks and recycled steel poles which are still usable.

Concerning the Hunza development at the former St Joseph's Novitiate site, Mr Ahmad reported that the Appeal Planning Board has scheduled a hearing on 30th October for the residents of Gurney Park. Mr Cecil Rajendra, a public interest lawyer, has agreed to represent the residents.

vii) Tours

One of the reasons for the drop in business from guided trails and tours is due to the success of the published self-guided PHT heritage trails and food maps, Miss Loh-Lim explained. Budget travellers prefer to use these DIY maps than engage our heritage tour guides.

viii) Site Visits

Mr Timothy Tye reported that this is the eighth year of our site visits; half a dozen were organized in the last reporting period. He hoped to get feedback from members and asked for suggestions for future site visits. Miss Loh-Lim mentioned that the idea of site visits originated during her visit to the National Trust in England where members joined the Trust in order to visit National Trust sites at discounted entrance fees. The appeal of such PHT visits remains the special access which is not available to the general public. She noted the higher site visit fee imposed on members' guests is to encourage them to join PHT as members.

iv) Publishing & Publicity

Timothy invited members to browse through PHT's homepage as a lot of information and news has been updated. The recent campaign against the PGCC (Penang Global City Centre) has been uploaded on to the web so that members can read the write-ups and viewpoints for better understanding of the issue.

Mr Leslie James asked whether there had been any follow-up from the ACA visit. Dr Choong replied that nothing had been received from the ACA, not even a letter. In addition, Magdeline said she had contacted the officer-in-charge recently to request the return of our original PHT Constitution which the ACA officers had taken. The officer-in-charge sounded apologetic and promised to return the document as soon as he got it back from the archives.

As there were no further remarks, the annual report was adopted on the proposal of Mr Pierre Laine (O-26046) seconded by Mr Leslie James.

c) Presentation of Honorary Treasurer's Report

Dr Choong asked if there was any question from the floor on the Treasurer's Report.

Miss Loh-Lim reiterated that for the running of PHT we are relying on project income, as approximately 20% of a project funds will be used as administrative cost. Hence we need to look for more projects in order to cover our basic expenses.

Mr D.A. Marron (O-26059) suggested increasing membership fee which was among the lowest for clubs and societies. Miss Loh-Lim felt that this would not work for Penang people. There was also a suggestion by Mrs Pow Lin James (O-26518) to organize interesting cultural trips to heritage sites outside Malaysia on a commercial basis to generate some income for PHT as an agent. Being a PHT Council member and the founder of AsiaExplorers, Mr Timothy will look into this.

Miss Loh-Lim clarified that the remaining funds for Suffolk House are to be used exclusively for the upkeep of Suffolk House. These funds are a totally separate account from PHT.

As there were no further questions, the treasurer's report was adopted after a proposal by Ho C.K. Tong (O-26029) seconded by Mr Eric Yeoh (C-26371).

2. **Election of Office Bearers (2007-2009)**

Dr Choong invited Mr Laurence Loh, to chair the proceedings. The election was for the whole Council and when the new Council had been elected, the new council members would then elect the office bearers among themselves. Out of 10 council members, 4 should be life/founder members. There was a question raised whether any expatriates under the Malaysia My Second Home programme could be elected as council members. Dr Choong replied that this was not possible for the time being as it is stated in PHT Constitution that 'non-

citizens shall not hold any position in the Society except with the prior approval of the Registrar of Societies'.

The following were nominated:

	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
1.	Dr Choong Sim Poey (Life)	James Lee	Marie-Louise Oh
2.	Ahmad Chik (Life)	Dato' Anwar Fazal	Marie-Louise Oh
3.	Clement Liang	Ho C K Tong	Ahmad Chik
4.	Loh-Lim Lin Lee (Life)	Dr Choong Sim Poey	Clement Liang
5.	Dato' Dr Sharom Ahmat	Ahmad Chik	Timothy Tye
6.	Timothy Tye	Loh-Lim Lin Lee	Ho C K Tong
7.	Lim Gaik Siang	Pow Lin James	Dato' Anwar Fazal
8.	Jack Ong	Timothy Tye	Leslie James
9.	Dr Tan Chong Guan (Life)	Dato' Anwar Fazal	Clement Liang

Dato' Anwar Fazal (L-26034) proposed nominations be closed and Mr Leslie James seconded the proposal. As there was no objection from the floor, Mr. Laurence Loh called the nominations closed and Dr Choong said he would call the first council meeting soon to appoint the new office bearers and to co-opt a member as the 10th Council member.

As there were no other matters, the meeting adjourned at 4.30 pm with a vote of thanks to the Chair. A power point presentation on 'George Town on the brink of World Heritage Listing?' was given by Laurence Loh and Loh-Lim, followed by another power point by Loh-Lim on the implications of the PGCC (Penang Global City Centre) project for Penang.

Persatuan Warisan Pulau Pinang
LAPURAN TAHUNAN 2007/2008
September 2007 – Ogos 2008

Penang Heritage Trust
ANNUAL REPORT 2007/2008
September 2007 – August 2008

PHT Council Members (Term 2007/2009)

1. Dr Choong Sim Poey, President
Medical practitioner, ex State Assemblyman and ex-Municipal Councillor, Chairman of several local non-government organisations.
2. Dato' Dr Sharom Ahmat, Vice-President
Director SERI, Former Deputy Vice-Chancellor USM, Academic Advisor University Brunei, Former CEO Wawasan Education Foundation, Director St. Nicholas Home for the Blind.
3. Dato' Nazir Ariff, Immediate Past President
Managing Director, Chairman of numerous philanthropic and charitable organisations.
4. Mr Jack Ong, Honorary Secretary
6th generation Peranakan, proponent of local Penang cultures and practices, specifically its living heritage. Heads the Penang and Johor operations and communications of a global professional body.
5. Ms Lim Gaik Siang, Honorary Treasurer
Advisor to the Conservation Committee of Penang Teochew Association, Chairman of the North Malaya Teo-Aun Association. A technical consultant and Mandarin resource person for PHT.
6. En Ahmad Chik
Retired engineer, social activist in Malaysian Nature Society, Friends of Penang Hill and Friends of Botanic Gardens. Head of several PHT projects.
7. Ms Loh-Lim Lin Lee
Conservator, lecturer, social psychologist, restoration consultant, historic researcher, author of dilapidation studies of historic buildings, heads several PHT projects, speaker and guide on historic conservation areas.
8. Dr Tan Chong Guan
Medical Practitioner, collector and expert on local art and history of artists and their artworks.
10. 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.
11. Mr Timothy Tye
Founder of AsiaExplorers, an organisation for travel enthusiasts. A person with a particular penchant for heritage destinations, to visit, photograph and document them.

Advisors & Ex-Officio

1. Mr Laurence Loh, Heritage Technical Advisor to the Trust
2. Prof Wazir Jahan, Muslim Heritage Advisor to the Trust
3. Mr Woo Yee Saik, Public Relations, Human Resources, Development and Training
Ex-Officio of the Trust
4. Cikgu Bahroodin, Cultural Advisor to the Trust (*until 28 June 2008*)
5. Mr Gan Teik Chee, Legal Advisor to the Trust
6. Mr Tan Kuan Aw, Advisor to the Trust in the area of Access for Disabled People
7. Mr Leslie A.K. James, Guest Editor of the PHT Newsletter

PHT Annual Report

1 September 2007– 31 August 2008

World Heritage Site - Melaka & George Town, Historic Cities of the Straits of Melaka

The birth of a new UNESCO World Heritage Site, announced on 8th July 2008 – Melaka and George Town - a joint site, at last! It has taken 12 years of hard work, perseverance and great dedication from the efforts of heritage NGOs, the people and the government to achieve this honour! Aside from worldwide recognition of the conservation efforts of these two cities, the recognition should also result in a boost for the tourism industry. The authorities should now ensure that steps be taken to preserve the city's rich cultural heritage. It would be embarrassingly farcical for Malaysia to have Penang and Melaka de-listed in the future for failing to adhere to the requirements set by UNESCO. Federal support needed and strong political will is much needed to ensure the continued success of following through with George Town's and Melaka's inscription into the World Heritage Site list.

Dr Choong had repeatedly stressed in all his press statement that the State and Federal governments are obliged to carry out the terms and conditions of the management plan, which include overseeing the maintenance, conservation and restoration of the buildings, the cultural and religious activities, heritage education, publicity and conducting tourism in a sustainable way.

Celebrations

A three-day celebration (25th to 27th July) was held to celebrate George Town's listing. Starting with thanks-giving prayers at various places of worship, flower mural painting by students, tree planting, it was followed in the second day with cultural activities at various temples and associations, procession. The evening ended with a grand finale cultural show, complete with fireworks. The 3rd day ended at the Little Penang Street Market, which included a tribute to Cikgu Baharoodin, PHT's award winner of Living Heritage Treasures of Penang who recently passed away. PHT volunteered to organise the celebrations, working with the authorities and other NGO groups.

Tree Planting

Penaga Laut had a significant place in Penang history due to its large presence on the island in the past. A place called Tanjung Penaga was named after the tree, referring to the cape (tanjung) where the trees were found. This place was later named George Town. With the inscription of George Town as a UNESCO World Heritage site on 8th July, 2008, there is no other plant more befitting than Penaga Laut to symbolise this historic city, besides the Betelnut palm which has become the iconic symbol for the State of Penang. PHT was proud to take part in the Penaga Laut tree planting ceremony at the Esplanade on 25th July to commemorate one of the most meaningful events in the history of George Town.

1. Council Meetings

Besides informal meetings for projects, PHT held 5 Council meetings since the last AGM. Attendance was recorded as follows:

Dr Choong Sim Poey	5/5
Dato' Sharom Ahmat	4/5
Mr Jack Ong	2/5
Ms Lim Gaik Siang	5/5
En Ahmad Chik	5/5
Dr Tan Chong Guan	2/5
Ms Loh-Lim Lin Lee	3/5
Mr Clement Liang	5/5
Mr Timothy Tye	5/5

2. Strategy Meeting

PHT held a day-long Strategy Meeting on 16th March 2008.

The objective of the Strategic Plan is to set a framework against which Council members will make decisions on PHT's priorities for action and key activities for 2008-2009.

Apart from Council members, Stakeholders and Core partners in related areas were also invited to provide their input. Invited guests who provided their feedback included Janet Pillai, Laurence Loh, Leslie James, Teresa Capol, Goh Mai Loon, Prof Wazir Jahan, and Mr Lim Hooi Siang.

Council Members deliberated on the recent past activities of the PHT, and made decisions on their continuity for the coming year. Weightage was attributed in importance to specific areas to be focussed on. A framework has been set against which Council members will make decision on PHT's priorities for action and key activities for 2008-2009.

At the end of the Strategy Meeting, it was decided for PHT to focus in 2008-2009 on the issues relating to :

1. PGCC
2. UNESCO World Heritage Listing

To support these two objectives for 2008/2009, the strategy meeting also outlined projects and areas of responsibilities for Council members. Grateful thanks to Mr Woo Yee Saik for facilitating the Strategy Meeting.

3. Membership

Founder Members	17
Life Members	72
Ordinary Members	263
Junior Members	0
Total	352

Note :

Members whose subscriptions have lapsed – 465

17 new members joined the Trust after the World Heritage Site announcement. PHT Council members have been working hard on the membership drive and appeal to members to support our objectives to get more members and to renew their subscriptions on time.

4. Donations and PHT Funds

We would like to acknowledge the following funders during this reporting period:

- Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Corporation (RM52,360)
- Penang Tourism Action Council (RM56,000)
- Ministry of Tourism (RM37,000)
- BACSA (British Association for Cemeteries of South Asia) (RM10,365)
- Gerard Newcombe (RM2,000)

5. PHT Projects & programmes

Feasibility Study of Electric Tram for George Town

With the inscription as the new World Heritage Site by UNESCO, PHT strongly urges the government to look at the possibility of revitalizing the electric tram service in George Town. A study had been conducted by the tram expert from Perth, Mr Ric Francis in August 2007, supported by the Penang Tourism Action Council, to establish the economic and technical feasibility of a tram service in the City of George Town as an alternative means of public transport and as a tourist attraction. A year has passed since. PHT believes that it is a suitable time for the government to re-examine Penang's public transport policy, and that the proposed system is designed to serve the core inner city with its old heritage buildings and narrow streets.

Transport Master Plan for Penang

PHT together with the PGCC Campaign group urged the Chief Minister of Penang to look into a Transport Master Plan. A press statement was made, as below:

*"Much as we are in favour of further expanding public transportation we urge a deferment on engaging in these agreements **UNTIL A TRANSPORT MASTER-PLAN IS PREPARED.**"*

This is because of the following reasons:

- 1. Many Penangites believe that the Monorail and 2nd Link as currently designed, were proposed with a view to achieving large profits for politically connected K.L. companies*
- 2. Thus, we believe that the above projects particularly the Monorail, are neither the most suitable nor the most sustainable for Penang*

3. *We believe that NO massive transportation mode requiring massive permanent infrastructure should be implemented without proper study and a Transport Master Plan prepared*
4. *We believe that the 2nd bridge link should be a rail link or at least should incorporate a rail link*
5. *We believe that RapidPenang bus services as well as the Ferry Services can be further expanded so as to reduce dependency on private vehicles*
6. *We urge strict enforcement on illegal obstructions and parking so as to ease Public Transportation movement*

There are many other alternatives besides the large, ugly, intrusive overhead Monorail system. Many of these are cheaper, more sustainable and more suitable for Penang with our heritage city and our tree lined roads, of which we are so rightfully proud. There are modern trams, as used in Hong Kong, San Francisco, and recently introduced in Paris, Nottingham, Manchester and 5 other British cities. Trams were used by cities throughout the world including Penang until phased out by the increase of motorcars. Now cars are proving to be a problem, trams are again being viewed as the answer. There is the O-Bahn bus & rail link of Adelaide and many German cities, hailed as among the best of sustainable public transportation for cities of our moderate size. These are but 2 of many other alternatives to the Monorail and should be fully investigated.

The earlier proposal by the last government for PORR, the Penang Outer Ring Road, should also be re-assessed, in the Transport Master Plan. Delays have made the PORR completely out-of-date and totally limited in its future usefulness. As many other cities have discovered, the creation of new roads only postpones traffic problems very temporarily, and often merely encourages more private car usage.

The State Government should appoint a professional group as quickly as possible to prepare this Transport Master Plan for Penang. Consultants involved should not have vested interests in private development projects. A State Transport Authority under your chairmanship should also be set up to decide on broad policy directions. With a clear brief on what is best for Penang, the chosen transportation mode can then be offered for open tender, as you have advocated. This is surely preferable to vendors coming to 'offer' their particular system to Penang.

WE carefully study what's BEST FOR US. WE decide on what's BEST FOR US. WE then tender and implement what's BEST FOR US. This is surely the only logical and rational way to go about solving our traffic woes. We should not let vendors determine what transport mode we adopt.

We cannot be too strong in our appeal for a well-balanced, well-considered and well-advised approach to this very crucial issue for Penang."

Protestant/Francis Light Cemetery & Old Roman Catholic Cemetery

Part of the southern wall of the Protestant Cemetery which collapsed some time ago has been restored by MPPP. The site is also maintained by MPPP. In March 2008 with a small fund from HSBC, PHT restored parts of the front and side walls of the cemetery, cleaned the tombs yet one more time, laid a broken-brick walkway between the frangipanni trees to help with muddy paths, repaired both gates and installed a carved granite entrance plaque. PHT also worked with MPPP to install flood lights at the central section of the cemetery and will soon install a directional signpost for significant tombs.

The adjoining Roman Catholic Cemetery has been partly restored with kind sponsorship from BACSA. Tree trunks and branches on all tombstones have been removed and algae cleaned, and the largest and most dilapidated grave has been re-constructed. We will continue to see to the restoration of the Roman Catholic Cemetery if funding can be secured.

Historic Street Name Plaques

Although we have been working on this project since the middle of 2007, PHT was officially appointed as consultant for this project by the Penang Tourism Action Council on 27 May 2008. The installation of these interpretation plaques documenting the historic and local names for our inner city streets, was presented to the UNESCO evaluator as pro-active documentation of our past. The process has been a tedious one that involved oral history documentation, interviews with long-time inner city residents, street surveys, research, write up, translations into 3 other languages besides English, proof reading, street by street photography and scouting of locations for suitable site installation, research for material and design for manufacture of plaques and in addition, numerous meetings/briefings with PTAC, MPPP officers and contractors. The plaques should be ready and in place by end of 2008. PHT is appreciative of the effort by some Council members, in particular, Ms Loh-Lim who initiated this project and turned it as the only fundraiser project for PHT in 2008.

PHT-HSBC Living Heritage Treasures of Penang Awards 2008

The judging for the Awards took place on Wednesday 28th May 2008 at the Penang Heritage Trust office, 26 Church Street, City of George Town, Penang,

Panel of Judges

Dato Sharom Ahmat (Chairman /Educationalist)
 Encik Rosli Rahmat (HSBC Area Manager)
 Encik Hasnul Saidon (USM Museum/Gallery Director)
 Prof Tan Sooi Beng (USM Musicologist)
 Encik Ahmad Chik (PHT Council)
 Mr Laurence Loh (Badan Warisan Malaysia Vice-President)
 Mr Jack Ong (PHT Hon. Secretary)
 Loh-Lim Lin Lee (Convenor – PHT)

In attendance

Ho Sheau Fung (PHT Project Researcher)
 Magdalene Ng (PHT Manager)

Nominees for 2008

NAME	CULTURAL HERITAGE
Soo Hoo Lai Chee, Rose (54)	Maker of Traditional Hock Chew Ang Chow Paste
Leong Fook Hong (50)	Carver of Wooden Sedan Chair for Street Procession (re-submission)

Tay Cheng Huat (46)	Chinese Knot Art (Tying of threads into traditional Chinese motifs)
Tan Kow Kiah (64)	Plasterer/Restoration craftman (re-submission)
Toh Ai Hwa (57)	Performing Arts -Teochew Puppet Opera (3 rd submission)

As one of the awardees of 2006, Mr Yeap Seong Kee, the Kebaya Designer passed away in December 2007, 1 (one) award was available to be given out for 2008 to fill the vacant position.

After much consideration, Mdm Toh Ai Hwa of the Teochew Puppet Opera was named the Awardee for 2008.

The award presentation was arranged to coincide with the Little Penang Street Market on Sunday 29th June 2008. This is a community event in Upper Penang Road aimed at revitalising traditional trades and ethnic crafts and to provide a regular market place and platform for Penang-based talents in arts, crafts, design and music. The winner did a performance for the VIPs and the community. Presentation of the LHTAwards 2008 and presentation of the annual cheques was done by the Penang Chief Minister, YAB Lim Guan Eng. There was a small exhibition area set up to showcase the skills of our previous awardees. Our previous years' winners and their representatives – Dato' Liam Bian Yam, Dato' Chuah Thean Teng's son, Mr Kok Ah Wah, Mdm Ooi Ah Kan, Mr Lee Ah Hock and Mr Wan Dee Aroonratna – were all present.

Sadly, on 28 June, a day prior to the award presentation, Cikgu Mohd Bahroodin, 2006 Awardee for performing arts/educator and cultural expert, passed away due to multiple organ failure. All present joined the Chief Minister for a 1-minute silence to express our respect and condolences.

Suffolk House

The PHT regrets to report that, as of the time of writing, the State Government of Penang, have yet to decide on how it wishes Suffolk House to be managed. Having 'inherited' SH after the March 8th 2008 Elections, the new Government is attempting to understand all the intricacies of the Suffolk House situation.

To re-cap, PHT has been involved in the campaign to save SH since 1986, with initial awareness raising. In 1993, PHT raised RM80,000 to survey and stabilise SH. We have been in the State SH Committee since the late 1990's and in 2006, we worked with HSBC to raised RM2.7 million to be able to finish the restoration for Phase 3, and to fit out the house. The State Government has been responsible for one-third of the total cost of restoration and the rest has been due to the generosity of HSBC and the efforts of both HSBC and PHT to fund-raise from the very generous private and corporate sectors from throughout the country.

At the time of writing it should also be stated that the public donations are still being used for the monthly maintenance of SH. Both HSBC and PHT have identified and recommended Badan Warisan Malaysia as capable heritage site managers for the proper running of SH as an exhibition, educational and cultural learning centre on

best practice standards. We strongly urge the government to come to a firm commitment and decision about the future of SH as quickly as possible.

PHT/USM Research Project to Upgrade Trade Inventories in the Inner City of George Town

A first report was researched by Loh-Lim in 2000. Based on the findings, Arts Ed together with PHT have been working with schoolchildren to introduce them to inner city artisans and traders and the wonders of their skills. Various innovative programmes and products have emerged from this project and it continues to be one of the most important and fruitful outcomes of our work in the city. The partnership with Arts-Ed has been highly successful and the input of Amazing Malaysian 2006 Janet Pillai together with PHT's own Ho Sheau Fung, has brought nothing but kudoes and praise from all. Anak2 Kota is truly an amazing project and we are very proud to be associated with it.

Heritage Education Program (Sept 2007- Aug 2008)

'Rakan Warisan' Training Workshop

This workshop was designed to train facilitators for ARTS-ED and PHT Heritage Education Program. The first training was carried out in December 2006. The 2007 training took place from 15 Dec- 22 Dec 2007. It was followed by a second session in March 2008. 4 secondary school students, 2 freelance guides, 4 college students and 4 local university students participated in the workshop. The training sessions were facilitated by Janet Pillai, Yoke Pin, and Sheau Fung. They explored the historical sites, researched the early settlements and migrant history of the inner city of George Town. The trained young facilitators will be conducting heritage discovery walks for primary, secondary and college students.

'The Arts In The City'- School Holiday Program May/June 2008

The 'Arts in the City' school holiday program offered 2 creative arts workshops for school students and children living in the inner city of Georgetown, Penang. School students worked with professional artists on heritage sites in the Inner City George Town. Through their creativity and appreciation of heritage values, they produced creative arts products for the local community.

Workshop 1 Heritage Furniture Restoration and Repair

The heritage furniture restoration and repair workshop introduced the social, cultural and functional features of a shophouse to students and children who live in a shophouse. It is aimed to stimulate the appreciation of the craftsmanship and the aesthetic values embedded in the motifs and carvings amongst these young people. Participants were taught to restore heritage furniture using traditional tools and techniques. The workshop was facilitated by Janet Pillai (ARTS-ED) and David Yeoh.

Workshop2 Signboard and Mural Design, and Painting

The signboard and mural design workshop is aimed to raise heritage awareness by researching and designing a signboard and mural for one of the endangered trade traders, *nyonya* beaded shoe maker Mr. Tan, in the inner city of George Town. The research was done in May 2006 by a group of students from University Science Malaysia. Participants aged between 12-20 years old researched the *baba noynya* culture and the concept of signboard design from 26 May- 1 June 2007. This was followed by 5-days of producing the production of the mural, which was done to within the cultural

context of the trade and its clients. The workshop was facilitated by Goh Hun Meng (graphic designer), Lim Siew Bee (visual artist) and assisted by Pn. Yap Jin Ling (Phor Tay High School Teacher) and Queen Lee (visual artist).

Publication of Penang Story International Conference Proceeding

The first volume of Penang Story proceedings was published by Singapore University Press. PHT has agreed to the book proposal by Areca Books to publish the second volume with the subsidy from Penang Story fund. The date of publication is expected to be completed by end of 2009.

Traditional Performing Arts Festival (TPA)

Spearheaded by PHT, with the support of the Penang Arts Alliance, we are promoting a Traditional Arts Festival to be held to show-case the traditional performing arts of our local and regional indigenous communities. Many of these performances are either dying or inaccessible. As far as we know such a festival will be unique and original which no other city in the region is doing.

We are proposing that Penang makes this a flag-ship tourism and cultural event with these objectives:

- Becoming the regional centre and depository of heritage culture and traditions, and a major destination of cultural tourism
- Enhancing the role as the regional economic and education centre
- Celebrating its status as a World Heritage Site
- Complementing Tourism Malaysia's tagline ' Malaysia Truly Asia'

The proposal is to stage an annual TPA Festival drawn from the ASEAN region and concurrently holds workshops, seminars and conference to promote traditional foods, clothes, trades and crafts.

The Proposal paper has been finalised and PHT is hoping to acquire sponsorship/ grant from funders.

Cultural Heritage Trails

Subsequent to the evaluation by Badan Warisan Malaysia, PHT was instructed by Penang Tourism Action Council to organize a brainstorming session to look into creating new cultural heritage trails for George Town and to evaluate and review the existing trails. PHT will help the key players to coordinate, facilitate, collate and consolidate the proposals to be given to PTAC for the implementation.

6. Urban Blight & Heritage Issues

Penang Global City Centre

PHT and the PGCC Campaign Group, are in the midst of preparing a proposal: "**A PEOPLE'S PARK AT THE TURF CLUB**" to be presented at the people's forum for discussion and to lobby the State government to adopt it. The proposal is to attain a fair and win-win situation for the government and the Club to build a new turf club

elsewhere. The rationale is to add a green space for public enjoyment and can be done cost-effectively. A natural organic park, to include walking trails and jogging & bicycling tracks, will combine with high-end and social housing, to provide an environment that is sensitive both to Penang people and the site.

Inner City Swiftlet Breeding Operation Study

Under the USM/PHT Cultural Mapping for Sustainable Cultural Tourism project, a research had been done on swiftlet farming. The statistics has found out that the situation in Penang is reaching an alarming stage with more than 200 shophouses in the heritage core zone of George Town used for breeding operation. Subsequent to the recent announcement on the listing of George Town as World Heritage Site, the Local Government has announced that all swiftlet breeders in the inner city have to cease operation by December 2008.

Spruce Up George Town

As the key heritage NGO for the new World Heritage Site, PHT has written to the State Government to take immediate steps to reinvigorate George Town. Small measures include:

1. Clean up illegal (Ah Long and other) stickers and signs which give the City a very tatty and neglected look. All that is required is a team of 6 daily-rated workers armed with scrapers, stiff brushes, soap and water that will cost less than RM 400 per day. It will be better if a high-pressure water pump is available. In the longer term consider prosecuting the Ah Longs (their phone numbers are displayed.) Get a court order to force the telephone companies to cancel their numbers.
2. Rationalise the road and traffic signs to tidy up the appearance of the streetscape and reduce hazards. Coordinate and reduce the number of poles used for road names and other signs.
3. Make the City safe and comfortable for walking again. Make them disabled friendly. Reclaim the 5-foot walkways. Clear and improve the pavements. Have more controlled pedestrian crossings. Bring back the joy of walking in the city.
4. Clean up the litter, especially in back-lanes and in areas not well frequented. Form an inspectorate system for litter. Form an immediate response squad to attend to public complaints. Prosecute litter bugs.
5. The City has some little known walks and short-cuts along small waterways. Reclaim, install lights, clean up and popularize them.
6. Stop illegal extensions and alterations of buildings. Set up a heritage advisory unit for property owners. Speed up approval for building extensions.
7. Get rid of all illegal swiftlet breeding houses.
8. Put more greenery in the inner city.
9. De-clog the streets. Crack down on illegal parking. Introduce traffic calming measures. Regulate on-street hawking.

10. Standardize street furniture. (The City is a small place and these should be uniform). Material for all pavements which should be simple and replaceable. Street lights, simple and appropriate (no fancy DNA lights please). Traffic bollards. Telephone booths - Penang Road is a good example.

Traditional Malay Village at Tanjong Tokong

Prof Dato' Dr Wazir Jahan, from the research institute - Academy of Socio-Economic Research and Analysis (ASERA), and our PHT Muslim Advisor, began to seriously look into the issue when the residents who wanted their enclave saved. UDA is given the mandate to develop Tanjong Tokong, and has submitted their planned proposal to build 5-storey low and medium cost flats for the area.

Several meetings have been held to introduce this, and to discuss the future development of Tanjong Tokong Village. The residents' association chairman, Cikgu Salleh and their members have expressed their concerns to the State officials, who in turn, have responded positively by noting that they will forward the issue to the Chief Minister and relevant State bodies. PHT acted as arbitrator to reconcile different viewpoints in an effort to obtain a consensus.

7. Diary of Events

Continuing from the previous year's Annual Report, this is a chronological list of event highlights which the PHT and its Council Members organised, co-organised, supported or promoted in one way or another.

15 Sep 2007

Joint Press Conference by PGCC Campaign Group to oppose the development of Penang Global City Centre (PGCC), PHT is one of the 6 leading NGOs (CAP, MNS, ALIRAN, SUARAM and CEPAT)

27 Sep 2007

A protest was held outside the MPPP City Hall by the PGCC Campaign Group at a public hearing.

07 Oct 2007

First Public Forum on PGCC sponsored by PHT and PGCC Campaign Group at Dewan Sri Pinang. Speakers: Consumer affairs lawyer Meenakshi Raman and columnist and former municipal councilor Dr. Goh Ban Lee

19 Oct 2007

Meeting on PGCC at CAP attended by Dr Choong, Loh-Lim, Ahmad and Laurence from PHT.

21 Oct 2007

PHT AGM

30 Oct 2007

State Planning Appeal Board called for a hearing for residents of Gurney Park for Hunza development on former Uplands School site. PHT supported the residents.

31 Oct 2007

Briefing by PGCC Campaign Group for condominium residents of 71 Scotland Park

03 Nov 2007

PGCC group campaigned at Queensbay Mall where the Developer's exhibition took place.

13 Nov 2007

Briefing by PGCC Campaign Group for residents of Sri York

16 Nov 2007

PHT 1st Council Meeting

23 Nov 2007

Open dialogue session between Abad Naluri/Equine Capital, the developer and PGCC Campaign group on PGCC issues at the Local Local Government Consultative Forum held at Paradise Sandy Bay.

2nd Pubic Forum on PGCC sponsored by PHT and coalition of NGOs at Dewan Sri Pinang. Speakers: Loh-Lim, Urban Planner Chau Loon Wai and Environmentalist Gurmit Singh.

24 Nov 2007

35 PHT members and members of Penang Eurasian Society attended a public talk by Drs Pim ten Hoorn entitled 'An Egg for the Prime Minister - Dynamics and Strategies in Indo-Dutch Eurasian Ethnicity'.

29 Nov 2007

Meeting with Gurney Park residents on Gurney Paragon public hearing

01 Dec 2007

Penang Food Hunt 2007 with 98 teams and nearly 400 participants participated, aimed at promoting Penang's gastronomic delights and heritage sites. PHT acted as the resource partner of the organizing committee. Council members Jack Ong and Timothy Tye emerged as 3rd runner-up for the event.

02 Dec 2007

Public Forum on Transparency in Local Government. Sponsored by Tanjung Bungah Residents Association in cooperation with PHT and Coalition of NGOs at Dewan Sri Pinang. Keynote Speaker: Derek Fernandez, legal adviser for residents associations in Klang Valley

08 Jan 2008

'PGCC' New Year Dinner at Temple of Fine Arts for the PGCC Campaign group, hosted by Dr Choong Sim Poey and Ahmad Chik of PHT.

15 Jan 2008

2nd Hearing for Hunza Paragon project.

25 Jan 2008

PHT 2nd Council Meeting

29 Jan 2008

3rd Hearing at City Hall on Gurney Paragon project.

14 Mar 2008

Forum on 'Dynamics of Inner City Development (George Town)' organized in conjunction with the Penang International Property Expo 2008. Dr Choong Sim Poey was invited as one of the panellist for the Forum.

16 Mar 2008

PHT Strategy Day

21 Mar 2008

MPPP called for a meeting to discuss the visit by UNESCO members to George Town and Malacca - nominated world heritage sites. The meeting was attended by Dr Choong, Gaik Siang, Loh-Lim and Laurence.

22 Mar 2008

Talk on 'Spotlight on Heritage' by Timothy Tye, a sharing session for all travel and heritage enthusiasts.

Courtesy Call on the new Chief Minister of Penang by PGCC Campaign group.

24 Mar 2008

Press Conference organized by Bar Council Legal Aid Centre and PHT on Hunza development on former Uplands School on issue about withdrawal of appeal by appellant.

26 Mar 2008

PGCC Campaign core group meeting to discuss 'People's Park'.

15 Apr 2008

Open dialogue with ADUN of Tanjung Tokong/Tanjung Bungah, YB Teh Yee Cheu together with the Resident Association representatives of Kampung Tanjung Tokong on the issue of reconstruction of Kampung Tanjung Tokong.

25 Apr 2008

Tourism Minister, Dato Azalina invited all tourism industries partners for a meeting at E&O Hotel. Loh-Lim, Ahmad and Mag attended.

27 Apr 2008

2nd Meeting with the residents of Tanjung Tokong at Astaka MPPP Tanjung Tokong. Residents appealed to the State Government to look into the issue of development.

03 May 2008

PHT 3rd Council Meeting

06 May 2008

Open dialogue with MPPP, UDA, Residents of Tanjung Tokong and PHT at the MPPP YDP's office on Tanjung Tokong issue.

12 May 2008

Another meeting was held on Tanjung Tokong Malay Village

15 May 2008

Press Conference on Hunza Planning Approval held at PHT chaired by Dr Choong.

17 May 2008

A site visit to Kampung Tanjung Tokong to determine plots of land and houses based on heritage values by Bok Kim, Magdeline and Damina

28 May 2008

The judging for LHTA Awards took place with Judges: Laurence Loh, Tan Sooi Beng, Rosli Rahmat, Ahmad Chik, Hasnul Jamal Saidon and Dato Dr Sharom Ahmat. Loh-Lim as the convenor for LHTA.

13 Jun 2008

PHT 4th Council Meeting

14 June 2008

Meeting with Chief Minister's political secretary and ADUNs to introduce the background of Tanjung Tokong and to discuss the future development of Tanjung Tokong Village

16 Jun 2008

Meeting with Dato' Kee of Penang Tourism Action Council on Historical Street Names of George Town.

28 Jun 2008

LHTA Awardee for 2005, Cikgu Bahroodin Mohd, passed away

29 Jun 2008

LHTA award presentation at the Upper Penang Street Market

08 July 2008

Inscription of Melaka and George Town as a joint-UNESCO World Heritage site.

25, 26 & 27 July 2008

Celebration for George Town's inscription as a world heritage site

02 August 2008

PHT 5th Council Meeting

15 August 2008

Meeting with Warisan Negara Kuala Lumpur, attended by Dr Choong Sim Poey

16 August 2008

Meeting of the Penang Heritage Advisory Board attended by Ahmad Chik and Lim Gaik Siang

A talk given by Lim Gaik Siang to the Chinese community on George Town, the world heritage site

20 August 2008

A talk given by Laurence Loh to Liga Muslim Pulau Pinang and the Malay Traders on George Town on the economic impact on world heritage sites

8. Heritage Trails & Tours

Besides our normal heritage walking trails, PHT has entered into a partnership project with AsiaExplorers to create a new line of specialty tours to local and international

heritage destinations. So far, we have conducted a local tour to Taiping and international tours to Angkor Wat and Japan. A session 'Spotlight on Heritage' was held to generate greater awareness and to showcase the heritage sites we have visited. In future, heritage societies in destinations will also be contacted in order to provide an extra facet to our heritage tours.

9. PHT Site Visits

The site visits continue to receive excellent response from members. The site visits have been rescheduled from the last Sunday to the first Sunday of the month.

30 Sep 2007

Kee Estate (re-visit), Sungai Bakap

Kee Estate comprises a historic complex of 6 residential homes and an ancestral hall built by the founder of Sungai Bakap, Kee Lai Huat. Dato' Kee Phaik Cheen, one of the many descendents of Kee Lai Huat, gave an interesting talk with slides on her family history and a tour of the premises. Tea came with local delicacies prepared by the family.

25 Nov 2007

St Anne's Church & Cherok Tokun Relics

The first Church was built on top of the hill, between 1840 and 1860. St Anne is regarded as the mother of Mary, the virgin who gave birth to Jesus Christ. Catholics observe her feast day on 26 July every year. The new building sees the latest and biggest addition to the sanctuary and the new church was dedicated on the St Anne Feast Day and the old church became the Shrine.

27 Jan 2008

Penang Botanical Gardens and the Waterfall

One of the most unique natural heritage sites of Malaysia, the Penang Botanic Gardens – "Waterfall Gardens" is closely linked to the economic activities of the early European Colonialists where fruits and spices became important commodities to the European powers. The Waterfall reservoir, built in 1804, is one of the historical sources of water supply for George Town, but is now only sufficient to reach homes in Jesselton Gardens and Brown Road, the General Hospital and the Governor's Residence.

24 Feb 2008

Kew Leong Tong Lim Kongsu & Eng Chuan Tong Tan Kongsu

Lim Kongsu was first established in 1863, whereas Tan Kongsu began operation in 1837 at 13 Chulia Street before moving to its premises at the Seh Tan Court. Both Lim and Tan Kongsus are amongst the five great clans in Penang.

30th Mar 2008

Penang High Court & Logan Memorial

The high court buildings were constructed in 1905 as the Supreme Court on the site of the original courthouse buildings of 1809. PHT opposed to the construction of the new building when the Justice Department proposed a seven-storey structure in the forecourt. The battle resulted in the present compromise. The Logan Memorial dedicated to James Richardson Logan, formerly stood at the western end of the courthouse grounds, was restored and relocated across the road from the High Court.

27 Apr 2008

Nattukkottai Chettiar Temple (Re-visit)

The Temple, dedicated to Lord Murugan, was built by the early Indian settlers of the

Chetty community. Today they are the well known moneylenders of Penang. It was constructed in 1850 and completed 4 years later.

1 Jun 2008

Fort Cornwallis Lighthouse

Fort Cornwallis Lighthouse, the oldest of the three in Penang State, is under federal jurisdiction, with the rest of the complex under state control. The three Penang lighthouses in order of construction are: Fort Cornwallis, Muka Head, and Pulau Rimau, all built from 1882 – 1884.

5 Jul 2008

Ghee Hiang Biscuits Factory

The famous *Tau Sar Pneah* (green bean paste pastry) and sesame seed oil are still very popular despite being around for the past 150 years using recipes that originated from the Fujian Province, China. As part of Ghee Hiang's efforts to enhance and educate its patrons on its products, there are plans to convert part of the sales office into a visitors centre.

3 Aug 2008

The King Edward Memorial Maternity Hospital

Established in 1912, the idea for the hospital was initiated by two gentlemen, William Evans and William Peel, that a maternity hospital be set up in memory to King Edward VII. The complex was used from 1915 to 1955 until the maternity hospital moved to its present premises along Jalan Residensi.

10. Publishing & Publicity

PHT Newsletter

Since the last AGM, 3 newsletters and 12 PHT Circulars have been produced.

- PHT newsletter issue No. 91, September 2007 (20 pages)
- PHT newsletter issue No. 92, January 2008 (12 pages)
- PHT newsletter issue No. 93, April 2008 (24 pages)

Circulars :

- Site visit - Kee Estate (re-visit), Sungai Bakap
- Site visit & Public Talk – St Anne's Church & Dr Pim ten Hoorn "An egg for the Prime Minister"
- Site visit - Penang Botanical Gardens and the Waterfall
- Heritage Tours – Angkor Wat
- Site visit - Kew Leong Tong Lim Kongsu & Eng Chuan Tong Tan Kongsu
- Site visit - Penang High Court & Logan Memorial
- Heritage International Tours - Japan
- Heritage Tours - Taiping
- Site visit – Nattukkottai Chettiar Temple (Re-visit)
- Site visit – Fort Cornwallis Lighthouse
- Site visit – Ghee Hiang Biscuits Factory
- Site visit – The King Edward Memorial Maternity Hospital
- Public Lecture – Stephen Shaw "Capturing the Social Benefits of Heritage"

Press Statements & Newspaper Write-ups

Press statements made were on a variety of areas, and were featured in English, Chinese and Malay newspapers. These include Issues brought to the attention of the new State government on the development of mega projects, issues that were threatening to Penang's environment and heritage, illegal birds nest farming, demolition of shophouses, hill development, and Gurney Drive. Appreciation goes to the Chinese press which has been very supportive of our work and have provided extensive coverage on issues brought up by PHT Council and members.

PHT President, Council members and staff gave regular press statements, interviews and telephone interviews to reporters and journalists, more recently in particular, on the inscription of George Town as a World Heritage Site on 7th July 2008.

Website (www.pht.org.my)

The PHT website is undergoing a major revamp. The goal is to turn it from the static website that it presently is, to a dynamic site that allows better management of the data. The new look website will have more interactive features such as forum, commentary and perhaps a blog. Quotations have been sought and we are presently in the process of selecting a vendor.

11. Human Resources

Staff

The office is managed by Magdeline Ng and Ho Sheau Fung.

Intern

An intern from International Islamic University Malaysia, Norhidayah binti Abdul Razak started her internship with PHT in July, and will be here until November 2008. Student researchers - Ch'ng Yu Jean, Faiza, Oh Chin Eng, Pei Ling and Kelvin conducted a Cultural Mapping Survey of the streets under PHT/USM 'Sustainable Cultural Tourism' project.

Volunteers

PHT would like to record its thanks to all members and friends who have volunteered throughout the reporting period:

Historic Street Name Plaques - Intel volunteers, Tengku Idaura, Dato' Anwar Fazal, Prof Karthigesu, Mr P. Murugiah from Malaysia Hindu Sangam, Miss Kaliammal, Muna, Joann Khaw, Ooi Bok Kim, Kelvin Chua, Ismail Hashim, Dewan Pustaka dan Bahasa, and Penang Museum

PHT Newsletter - Leslie James, and Tan Yeow Wooi for his 'Disappearing George Town' photo contribution

Tanjung Tokong Malay Heritage Village - Prof Dato' Dr Wazir Jahan and Ms Damina Khaira, a chamber lawyer, who were roped in to assist the people of Tanjung Tokong.

Suffolk House - Laurence Loh, in communicating with the Local authorities and State government on the MoU and Management Plan.

Traditional Performing Arts Festival - James Lochhead, for editing the write-up.

Last but not least, Woo Yee Saik for facilitating the Strategy Meeting for PHT, and the Cultural Heritage Trails meeting with the key people.

12. Networking & Collaboration

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

- Arts-Ed
- Academy of Socio-Economic Research and Analysis (ASERA)
- AsiaExplorers
- Badan Warisan Malaysia (BWM)
- Consumer Association of Penang (CAP)
- Lestari Heritage Network
- Malaysian Nature Society (MNS)
- Penang Teochew Association
- Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM)
- Socio Economic Research Institute (SERI)
- Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)

13. Acknowledgements

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

Penang Heritage Trust Treasurer's Report for the Year 2008

As you can predict, there will be more pain to come from imminent Malaysia's inflation hike, slowing economy. PHT felt the global effect as well but despite all these, we have managed our fund quite well. Perhaps in the not so long future, PHT should hold a major fundraising event.

For financial year ended 31 December 2007, total income has decreased by RM101,313 to RM177,032 (RM278,345 in 2006), total expenses has also decreased by RM93,400 to RM169,552 (RM262,952 in 2006). There is a small surplus of RM7,480.

The closure of project income has generated RM73,829, which indicated our revenue mainly came from projects. The income derived mainly from the following:

- Project Income – WMF, LHTA, UNESCO Specialist Tour Guide Course, Trams study etc (RM73,829)
- Merchandize & Heritage Trail (RM41,747),
- Other Income - Trails brochure, Talk/Forum, School walk etc (RM34,065)

There are no anomalies in our expenditure. Our major expenses are:

1.	Salaries/EPF	RM 80,236
2.	Project Expenditure	RM 28,485
3.	Heritage Trail/Tour	RM 14,788

As of to date (July 2008), the Suffolk House account held in trust by HSBC and PHT has a balance of RM749,310, after a final claims for works due to LLA Arkitek for the restoration. The remainder, unfortunately, are being slowly used for the monthly maintenance of Suffolk House until the Government has decided how it should be managed.

Our principal Fixed Deposits as at 31st December 2007 stayed at a healthy level of RM205,948, a slight increment as compared to 2006 (RM201,300) due to the interest accumulated.

Lim Gaik Siang
Hon. Treasurer PHT