

Chew Tze Yu's Portfolio



Writing — Editing & Proofreading — Interview & Research

2023

Penang City Eye Magazine

Penang City Eye is a quarterly published complementary magazine, which features different aspects and layers of Penang. From 2020 to 2023, I worked as a writer and proofreader for the magazine.

- Issue 40: Write-up on the local tour trend; Interview with street artist Trina Teoh; Write-up on Penang's first Silent Book Club
- Issue 39: Write-up on Book Island Bookshop's evolution; Write-up on Harmonico, a government-run space and organization to promote religious harmony
- Issue 38: Cover Story on the second hand industry of Penang

Learning Material for “Garden of the Gods (众神的花园)”

“Garden of Gods” is a comprehensive program that combines classroom learning with guided tour to introduce Hindu culture and Indian Temples. As the editor of the learning material, I developed content from the class speaker's outline and the articles he published on different platforms.

- Learning material Part One & Part Two

2022

Penang City Eye Magazine

- Issue 37: Cover story on festivals in Penang
- Issue 36: Write-up on Majolica Tiles
- Issue 35: Interview with watercolour artist Choo Beng Teong; Book recommendation for “Mother from Pulau Jerejak”
- Issue 34: Write-up on four documentaries post-screening sharing sessions; Write-up on a pop-up bookstore we curated during George Town Festival

2021

Penang City Eye Magazine

- Issue 33: Write-up on the acclaimers of George Town World Heritage Incorporated Heritage Recognition and Awards
- Issue 32: Cover story on Sia Boey, the once-largest wholesale market in North Malaysia
- Issue 31: Write-up on “Home at Noordin Street Ghaut Flat” Exhibition; Interview with architect Tan Bee Eu on her “back to the basic” design philosophy

“In a New Light: Memories and Aspirations for Sia Boey (社尾万山万象)” Community Documentation Project

Sia Boey was more than just a wholesale market, it encapsulated a community and served as a collective memory of George Town. It was demolished in 2004 and the initial location was turned into an archaeological park in 2019. As one of two writers of this project, I conducted interviews and also pieced up the historical records from George Town World Heritage Incorporate and photos generously shared by the public. The outcome of our work is published in a bilingual book.

Documentary “Journey to Homeland (新村之后)”

New villages are a unique product of the Cold War era and remain significant for the Malaysian Chinese community, despite no longer fulfilling their original purpose of isolation for over 60 years. While researching for one of the episodes of "Journey to Homeland", I

focused more on the ongoing community essence of this village.

- Ep 8: Berapit and Bukit Mertajam [Trailer](#) & [Full Episode](#)

2020

Penang City Eye Magazine

- [Issue 29](#): Interview with history author and publisher [Marcus Langdon](#)
- [Issue 28](#): Interview with [Jade Beh](#), the owner of a batik cheongsam shop; Interview with [Trestan Tan](#), the founder of bonsai studio M'atural
- [Issue 27](#): In the cover story, I featured [hawkers in George Town](#) and how they set up their stalls with very limited space

“Home at Noordin Street Ghaut (家在十七层)” Exhibition

Before Komtar was built, Noordin Street Ghaut Flat was the tallest building in George Town since 1970, also one of the earliest public housing in the old town. Along the 50th Anniversary of Noordin Street Ghaut Flat, a colleague from Penang City Eye and I interviewed the residents, collected old photos and documents, and put them together into an exhibition in the flat's community hall. I was a writer and curator for this project.

- [Exhibition booklet](#)

Documentary “Taste of Memory (回味大马)”

"Taste of Memory" is a Malaysian documentary that highlights a local food ingredient in every episode. My role as a researcher for the documentary involves identifying interviewees and crafting the episode's narrative. Tracing the ingredient's journey from source to consumption, I've been conducting interviews with fishermen, farmers, chefs, and street vendors.

- Ep 1: Nutmeg [Trailer](#) & [Full Episode](#)
- Ep 3: Salted Fish [Trailer](#)
- Ep 5: Belacan [Trailer](#)
- Ep 13: Santan (Coconut Milk) [Trailer](#)

2019

Special report on Undi 18

When I was an intern Journalist at Malaysiakini, an online news portal in Malaysia, the Malaysian parliament just passed a law to lower the voting age from 21 to 18. I interviewed 29 teenagers and published a special report on this law amendment. The article was written in [Chinese](#), and was translated into [English](#) and [Malay](#).

Personal Project

makanberapa

An [Instagram account](#) created in 2022, initially a personal archive for food prices, which later expanded to review as well.