

## 0004 Photos of the year (2023)

These photos show some of everyday scenes that I see regularly in Malaysia and Thailand, photographed by myself when I happened to see them. This listing was started in Dec 2022 and each section covers several months.

**BW**



Scroll down to see the photos, arranged in date order.

All images are © Brian Walling 2022-2024.

## Photos of the year 2023

### HIGH LEVEL VIEW

Looking northwards from one of the penthouse floors (23rd floor) at our apartment complex. The Gunung Jerai massif (known as Kedah Peak) lies in the centre, rising to 1217m (3933 ft), and is 40km (25 miles away).

2 Sep 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### OUR HOME SEEN FROM E&O

View from E&O Hotel car park across the bay to the towers (at far right) where our home is located..

5 Sep 2023, from E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### RED ROOFS

The red tiled roof of the old Mission Chapel (see note later on this 22 Sep), restored from near total dereliction around 2014, now out of use again and showing deterioration.

5 Sep 2023, E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### THE E&O'S PARASITIC NEEM TREE

The E&O's venerable so-called Java Tree (in background) has a Neem tree piggybacked on it. Neem (*Azadirachta Indica*) is native to India, member of the mahogany family, and source of a number of medicinal products. The Neem here, in turn, is host to a parasitic vine whose leaves almost cover it. The Neem's leaf crown is visible at top left.

The 'Java' tree here (*Sterculia Fetida*) is usually known as a Poon tree, whose name is probably derived from a corruption of 'pong' meaning bad smell. The Latin of the botanic name is indicative of bad smell; *Sterculus* was the Roman god of sewage; *fetida* is the Latin source word of fetid in English. The Poon tree's smell comes from its flowers when in blossom. The tree is found across a wide swathe of Asia from east Africa to Australasia. Other names for the tree include Skunk, Bastard Poon, Indian Almond, Java Olive. The usual name in German is amusing: *gewöhnlicher Stinkbaum* – or common stink tree. The E&O's name for the tree (Java Tree) is incorrect and is clearly a misplaced attempt to extract some regional heritage value from the 'Java Olive' name. The tree has nothing to do with the island of Java; 'Java Olive', like 'Indian Almond', is just another of the old traditional euphemisms for this stinky tree.

5 Sep 2023, E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### FALSE BIRD OF PARADISE FLOWERS

Some 'false' bird of paradise flowers in a display at the E&O Hotel. This is the *Heliconia Psittacorum* (false bird-of-paradise). See later on 3 Oct for the 'true' bird of paradise flower.

6 Sep 2023, E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### HARBOUR AT STRAITS QUAY, PENANG

View of the anchorage at Straits Quay, near where we live.

8 Sep 2023, Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia, by the harbour.





## Photos of the year 2023

### MONITOR LIZARD IN ARTISTIC POSE

**A monitor lizard among the rocks on the sea shore.**

10 Sep 2023, Promenade at Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### A CLASSICAL STATUE

An unusual (for Penang) classical statue and fountain in faux alabaster gracing the entrance of a restaurant at Straits Quay.

10 Sep 2023, Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia, by the harbour.





## Photos of the year 2023

### COMMON TREE SHREW (*Tupaia Glis*)

This small mammal, similar in size and shape to a squirrel, is native to Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia. They live in cavities on the ground or in tree trunks and are considered generally carnivorous (worms, insects, larvae etc), rather than vegetarian – while squirrels are considered generally omnivorous, eating both animal and vegetable matter. Tree shrews are often seen foraging for food on the ground. They are not in fact classified zoologically as rodents (which are a class of small mammals with sharp front teeth used for gnawing or nibbling their food). Visually, tree shrews differ from squirrels in having less bushy tails and small flat ears, rather than ears that stand up.

20 Sep 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



Additional images on next sheet





## Photos of the year 2023

### THE GARAGE, FARQUHAR STREET, PENANG

This complex was built around 1913 in the centre of Georgetown, Penang, to provide service and repair for several makes of European motor vehicles that had begun to be imported here. After the 2nd World War and the Japanese occupation and until recently, the complex went through a variety of roles, housing retail, entertainment and catering outlets. It is now being substantially redeveloped – while still retaining its original art deco facades – as a mixed residential and retail development.

22 Sep 2023, Farquhar Street, Penang, looking from E&O Hotel parking garage, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### MISSION HOUSE AND CHAPEL, FARQUHAR STREET, PENANG

A couple of the restored buildings on this site across the street from the E&O Hotel. The site was developed in the 1870s to house a non-conformist protestant chapel and various associated buildings. These remaining buildings were restored around 2014, after reaching a very advanced state of decay and repurposed as a restaurant and events business. This seems to have failed and there appears to be no new role secured for the buildings yet. The buildings to each side – the Lim Mansions and the old Garage – are now being redeveloped but the major problem in any new role for buildings in this location is the access from a busy one-way street with fast, near-impossible traffic.

22 Sep 2023, Farquhar Street, Penang, looking from E&O Hotel parking garage, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### ASIAN SWALLOWTAIL BUTTERFLY (*Papilio Nephelus Sunato*)

Seen in the gardens at E&O Hotel, a Black-and-White Helen butterfly, one of the variants of the Asian Swallowtail. This variant, commonly found in Malaysia and Singapore, is often seen on Ixora flowers which always seem to attract it.

22 Sep 2023, in seafront garden of E&O Hotel, Panang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### BEEF WELLINGTON AT E&O HOTEL

A favourite dish from the menu of the hotel. This was a celebration dinner to commemorate the exact 70th anniversary of my going to secondary (boarding) school at Christ's Hospital on 25 Sep 1953.

27 Sep 2023, Palm Court restaurant at E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### MORE TREE SHREWS ( XXXXX)

More of these squirrel-like animals foraging for food just after dawn near our swimming pool.

29 Sep 2023, Quayside Condominium Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### UNUSUAL INSECT

An unusual insect, still to be identified, that was captured accidentally in this shot of a wild sweet pea flower on the beach at Straits Quay.

1 Oct 2023, beach at Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### VICTORIA STREET, PENANG

The view shows a number of the old building in this heritage area, some renovated (including two now serving as hotels) and others under or pending renovation. One of Penang's old trishaws can be seen in the middle of the street.

3 Oct 2023, seen from the Beach Street municipal car park, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### **PENANG TRISHAW IN VICTORIA STREET, PENANG**

**Close-up of the old Penang trishaw seen in the previous photo.**

3 Oct 2023, seen from the Beach Street municipal car park, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

**LIM LEAN TENG MANSIONS – RENOVATION UNDERWAY**

Renovation of this striking art deco commercial building across the street from the E&O Hotel seems now to be underway. The building dates from the early 1900s – the period just before the 1st World War. From the start it was a commercial building, in spite of the ‘mansions’ in its name. It was built by a the businessman who was prominent at that time in importing and servicing European motor cars and who also established the ‘The Garage’ premises directly in front of the E&O. The 4 storey Lim building (often wrongly described as 3 storeys, due to the 4th story being largely invisible from the street) was set up with car showrooms on the ground floor along the street and offices above. The office floors were subsequently in the 1930s converted into residential accommodation for Europeans. The name ‘Mansions’ may first have been applied to the building at that time. During the 2nd World War the upper floors were taken over by the occupying Japanese – and left derelict after the War. The ground floor at street level saw a revival of use as car showrooms for a period after the war but eventually also fell vacant as car distributors took advantage of bigger and better sites available elsewhere. It is not known precisely what the new role of the building will be once the current (seemingly slow and drawn out) renovations are completed.

3 Oct 2023, Farquhar Street, Penang, Malaysia. Views taken from parking garage of the E&O Hotel.



Some art deco features of the building’s exterior are shown on the next page.  
Some art deco features of the building’s exterior:







## Photos of the year 2023

### TRUE BIRD OF PARADISE FLOWER (STRELITZIA REGINAE)

Not to be confused with the false Bird of Paradise Flower (*Heliconia*) that is shown elsewhere in these pages and is found in many gardens in Penang. In the 'true' flower the flower petals are generally brilliant orange and there are some flashes of violet among them. They burst out of the side of the flower stem at a point just after the typical 30° bend in the stem and thus appear to be springing out of the top of the head of the 'bird'. These features – especially the curve in the stem – help to distinguish the true from the false flower.

3 Oct 2023, flower display inside the E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.





This is a tropical flower with a fascinating mix of English, German and South African connections. The flower's nickname, Bird of Paradise, is said to derive from its spectacular appearance, which can be likened to the showy plumage of the various tropical forest birds known as birds of paradise. It is also in South Africa known as Crane flower, because of a perceived similarity to a crane bird's head. Few people know the background to the flower's nomenclature, as described below.

The flower, of which there are numerous varieties and colours, is indigenous to South Africa – although it is now cultivated widely in tropical climates worldwide. It appears to have been “discovered” and first formally named in 1788 by Joseph Banks (1743-1820), the eminent English botanist and naturalist. Banks, educated in the natural sciences at Harrow, Eton and Christ Church Oxford, was independently very wealthy and this allowed him to travel widely around the world on his various missions of botanical discovery. He took part in the first epic voyage of Captain James Cook around the world in HMS Endeavour, 1768-1771.

The flower was first brought to England and cultivated in the botanic gardens at Kew, near London, in 1773. It was formally classified and named by Banks in 1788. Banks had a long association with these botanic gardens and was closely involved in securing continuing support for them from the King and Royal Family. The Kew site dates back at least to the mid 1750s and has its origins in the much older royal estates surrounding the nearby royal palaces of Kew and Richmond.

Joseph Banks, in formally classifying and naming the flower in 1788, took the politically wise step of naming it after the Queen of England at the time, thus ensuring continuing royal support for the Kew gardens' research and other botanic activities. Charlotte, a German princess of the Duchy of Mecklenburg-Strelitz<sup>1</sup>, had become Queen Charlotte after marrying England's King George III in 1761 when she was 17 and shortly after George had become King in 1760 at the age of 22. The flower's official name chosen by Banks was *Strelitzia Reginae*, commemorating both Strelitz, the place of the Queen's ancestry in Germany, and the Queen herself by the use of *Reginae* (=of the Queen).

The *Strelitzia Reginae* flower grows from a clump root (a rhizome), like the ginger plant. It can be propagated from the root or from its seeds. In respect of its seeds, it is one of the very few flowers that requires pollination by birds, rather than insects. Technically, a pollinating bird sits on one of the petals as it feeds on nectar contained in part of the flower; the bird's weight then triggers a pollen sac to open and

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<sup>1</sup> This was a small Duchy in the north-east of today's Germany, some 50 miles north of Berlin and around half-way from Berlin to the Baltic coast of Germany

disperse the pollen, with the bird then unknowingly carrying the pollen to the pollen-receiving part of the flower.

Following her early marriage to England's King George III in 1761, Charlotte of Strelitz had 15 children. These and their descendants added generously to the pool of members of the intertwined German-Danish royal families who occupied most of the inherited "royal" positions across north Europe at that time. In 1883, some 120 years after Charlotte's own marriage, and many descendants further on, two of Charlotte's descendants married and subsequently became King George V and Queen Mary. George (son of Edward VII and grandson of Queen Victoria) was Charlotte's great-great grandson; his bride was the German Princess Mary of Teck, Charlotte's great-granddaughter. This is a good example of the intermarriage between cousins from this extended European royal family network that was prevalent at that time.

## Photos of the year 2023

### TROPICAL RAINFOREST VEGETATION

We live in a climate zone near the equator that's called 'tropical rain forest climate.

6 Oct 2023, early morning near our swimming pool, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.







## Photos of the year 2023

### WIND SURFER

Offshore from Tanjung Tokong, Penang.

7 Oct 2023, seen from our balcony, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### MALAYSIAN SEA OTTER (Smooth coated otter, *Lutrogale Merspicillata*)

Otters on the beach. A family of 6 comes out of the sea to roll around in the sand of a beach.(See also image of 26 Jan 2023.)

8 Oct 2023, from the Promenade, Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia..











## Photos of the year 2023

### E&O HOTEL

An after-lunch photo. Our home is in one of the totter bloacks seen across the water at right of image.

11 Oct 2023, E&O Hotel (new wing entrance), Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### THAT EARLY MORNING SWIM

0615 at the pool.

14 Oct 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### EMPTY COFFEE SHOP

It's 10.00 am and the coffee shop is almost empty due to heavy rain outside.

17 Oct 2023, The Coffee Bean Coffeer Shop, Gurney Plaza, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### TREE SHREWS AGAIN

Another sight of these squirrel-like animals foraging for food just after dawn near our swimming pool.

18 Oct 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.







## Photos of the year 2023

### TREE SHREWS AGAIN

A closer view.

18 Oct 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### DEEPAVALI (DEWALI) DECORATION

One of the traditional 'kolam' decorations made from coloured rice flour, this one being in the management office of our condominium. These designs, associated with a number of Indian festivals, originated in Tamil Nadu state and the word 'kolam' here means form, referring to the geometrical basis of the design.

20 Oct 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### CONTAINER SHIP

A small container ship, working on regional runs, seen from the window of the E&O Hotel as it leaves the Penang container port and moves up the North Channel to the open sea,

25 Oct 2023, Seen from E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### ANTIQUe LIFT

The E&O Hotel's antique gated lift – still in working order, but used only for special occasions. The lift is by Waygood Otis of UK, dates from the 1920s and is one of the earliest lifts in SE Asia.

25 Oct 2023, E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### DOUBLE PIGGYBACK

**A picture clearly showing the Indian Neem tree (*Azadirachta Indica*) piggybacked on the trunk of the venerable Poon tree (*Sterculia Fetida*) at the E&O Hotel – and a parasitic vine in turn piggybacked on the Neem tree. The Neem is a tree in the mahogany family and is also a source of neem oil, pressed from the seeds of the tree, which is used in a variety of medical and health remedies.**

25 Oct 2023, E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.







## Photos of the year 2023

### VIEW ACROSS THE BAY

From the sea-front gardens of the E&O Hotel.

25 Oct 2023, E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### BIRD OF PARADISE (*Strelitzia Reginae*) FLOWERS

New examples of the flower described on 3 Oct.

25 Oct 2023, E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### LEAVING THE HARBOUR

The container ship seen earlier heading out to sea.

25 Oct 2023, E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### RELIC OF A BYGONE AGE

The deserted central atrium of the defunct Midland Park One-stop Shopping Centre in Penang. Opened in the mid 1990s but soon bypassed by other better-located and more modern centres it is now shipwrecked.

26 Oct 2023, Midland Park One-Stop-Centre, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### DEEPAVALI DECORATIONS

The Indian-themed display in the shopping mall's central court, to mark the Deepavali (Diwali) holiday coming up in two weeks.

27 Oct 2023, Gurney Plaza Shopping Mall, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### CAFÉ ARTWORK

Interesting artwork based on the Burger King restaurant's products.

29 Oct 2023, Lotus's Supermarket Mall, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### OUR FRIENDLY FANTAIL (I)

The friendly Pied Fantail (*Rhipidura Javanica*) greets us with his tail as we pass by on the way to the local shops.

29 Oct 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### OUR FRIENDLY FANTAIL (II)

The fantail performs his dance in the air.

29 Oct 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### KEDAH PEAK AFTER DAWN

An unusually clear view of Kedah Peak (Gunung Jerai 1,217 m or 2,993 ft and 40 km away), seen as we return from swimming

3 Nov 2023, Seen from Quayside Condominium Gardens, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### AT ANCHOR

**A container ship anchored in the “parking area” a few miles offshore as it waits to enter port.**

3 Nov 2023, Seen from our balcony, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### INDIAN LABURNAM TREE

An unusual picture of both late flowers and well-formed seed pods on the same Indian Laburnum (*Cassia Fistula*) tree in our gardens.

6 Nov 2023, Quayside Condominium Gardens, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### SEED PODS

Some seed pods on the Indian Laburnum trees have ripened and are starting to change colour towards black, before they fall.

6 Nov 2023, Quayside Condominium Gardens, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### CONTEMPORARY ART?

Debris washed up on the stone breakwater 500m away from our balcony. It maybe has potential for some artist to transform it into a piece of contemporary art!

7 Nov 2023, Seen from our balcony, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### PENANG HILL, EARLY MORNING

An atmospheric early morning shot of Penang Hill, taken from down in Georgetown and showing the clouds that often hang around the top of the hill. The summit is 833 m (or 2,774 ft) and is accessible by funicular railway.

8 Nov 2023, seen from car park of Gleneagles Hospital, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### ARTENA SUBMIRA?

An unusual triangular shaped moth resting on the floor inside our building. Each side of its wing is about 3cm (1.2 inches) and it's facing down to the left. Believed to be the species *Artena Submira*, indigenous to India and rarely seen in Malaysia

11 Nov 2023, inside Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### INCOMING TRAFFIC

**A Chinese container ship inbound to Penang container terminal.**

12 Nov 2023, Seen from our balcony, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### INCOMING TRAFFIC

**MV Aegean Paradise returns in the evening from its daytime “cruise to nowhere”.**

12 Nov 2023, Seen from our balcony, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### TWILIGHT VIEW

Long shadows on the beach inside the breakwater that's seen from our balcony, 500 metres away..

12 Nov 2023, Seen from our balcony, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.

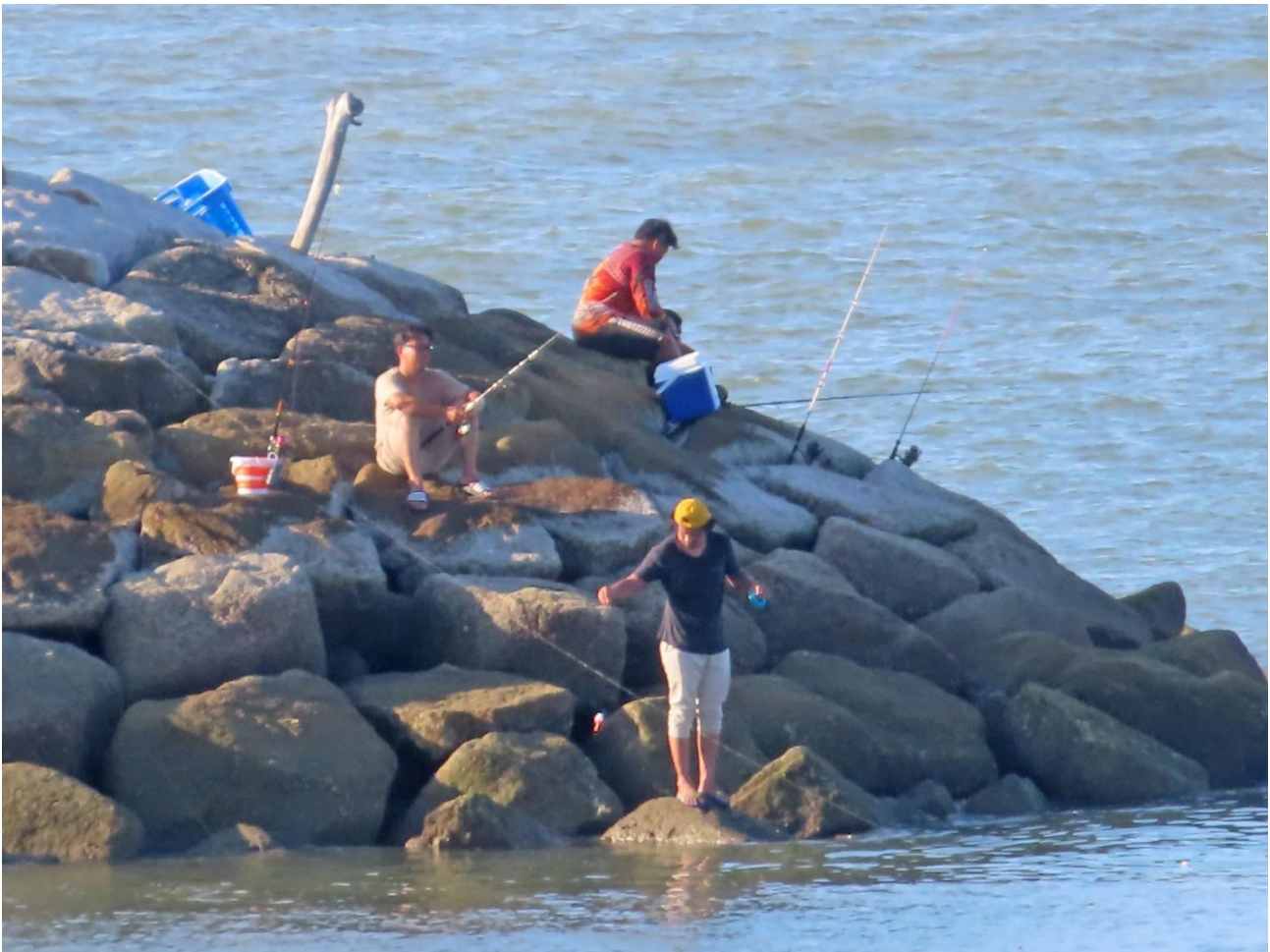


## Photos of the year 2023

### ANGLERS AT TWILIGHT

Weekend anglers enjoying the last of the sunlight on the breakwater 500 metres away from our balcony.

12 Nov 2023, Seen from our balcony, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### PALM TREES AT SUNRISE

The sun's early rays catch the tops of the palm trees by our swimming pool.

13 Nov 2023, Quayside Condominium gardens, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2023

### CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS 2023

Starting to go up today in the plaza of Straits Quay, near where we live.

13 Nov 2023, at Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### SPECTRUM OF THE SEAS

**Spectrum of the Seas, a Royal Caribbean Lines (part of Carnival Cruises Group) cruise ship looms on the horizon in this long-distance shot as it turns towards Penang for a few hours stopover on a regional cruise from Singapore. The vessel is three years old, one of a new class of ultra large cruise vessels. It carries up to 4,900 passengers.**

14 Nov 2023, from our balcony, Quayside Condominium , Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### SPECTRUM OF THE SEAS (2)

**Another view. The vessel, although several miles away, dwarfs the local in-shore fishing boat in the foreground.**

14 Nov 2023, from our balcony, Quayside Condominium , Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### SPECTRUM OF THE SEAS (3)

A final image of this grotesque-looking ship with its stack of decks looking like the floors of a mass apartment building.

14 Nov 2023, from our balcony, Quayside Condominium , Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS 2023

3 days on and starting to take shape.

15 Nov 2023, at Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2023

### FIRE STATION TOWER

The tower of Penang's Indian Mughal style earliest fire station, opened in 1908 and still serving as Georgetown's main fire station. .

16 Nov 2023, seen from the Beach Street car park , Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### BEACH STREET'S GRANDEST BUILDINGS

An impressive line -up of old buildings in Beach Street, looking north, one of the views as we walk from the car park to the Post Office. These are old banking and commercial buildings from the early 1900s. The Georgetown clocktower is just visible at extreme right in the photo.

16 Nov 2023, in Beach Street, Georgetown, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### THE FMS RAILWAYS BUILDING CLOCKTOWER.

A close-up shot of the clock at the top of the 150 foot tower of the old Federated Malay States Railway headquarters building in the angle of Gat Lebu China and Weld Quay. The building, in Edwardian baroque style, was completed in 1907. The clock is no longer in service, but the 2-ton bell that used to sound the hours is visible, with its striker, through the window. Railway passengers could buy tickets here but had to take a steamer from the adjacent pier across to the mainland to actually join a train. This was the tallest building in Penang until the second half of the 1900s and was a prominent feature of Penang's waterfront for all visitor arriving by ferry from thr mainland.

16 Nov 2023, In Georgetown, Penang, Malaysia



My photo from August 1978, taken from the ferry approaching Georgetown, shows the Railway building with its prominent tower at far right. Just to the left of it is the Bayview Hotel with its rooftop revolving restaurant, still there today and opened in 1977, the year before my photo.





## Photos of the year 2023

### AN ART DECO SURVIVOR

**A nicely restored Art deco old commercial building in downtown Georgetown**

16 Nov 2023, in Gat Lebu China, Georgetown , Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### THE MOUNTAINS AT DAWN

Another clear view, just after sunrise, of the Kedah Peak massif, 40 km away across the water. Seen from our swimming pool.

19 Nov 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### FATHER CHRISTMAS EMERGES (1)

It's time again for our traditional Christmas decorations to come out and decorate our home.

20 Nov 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### FATHER CHRISTMAS EMERGES (2)

The Father Christmas in close-up.

20 Nov 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia

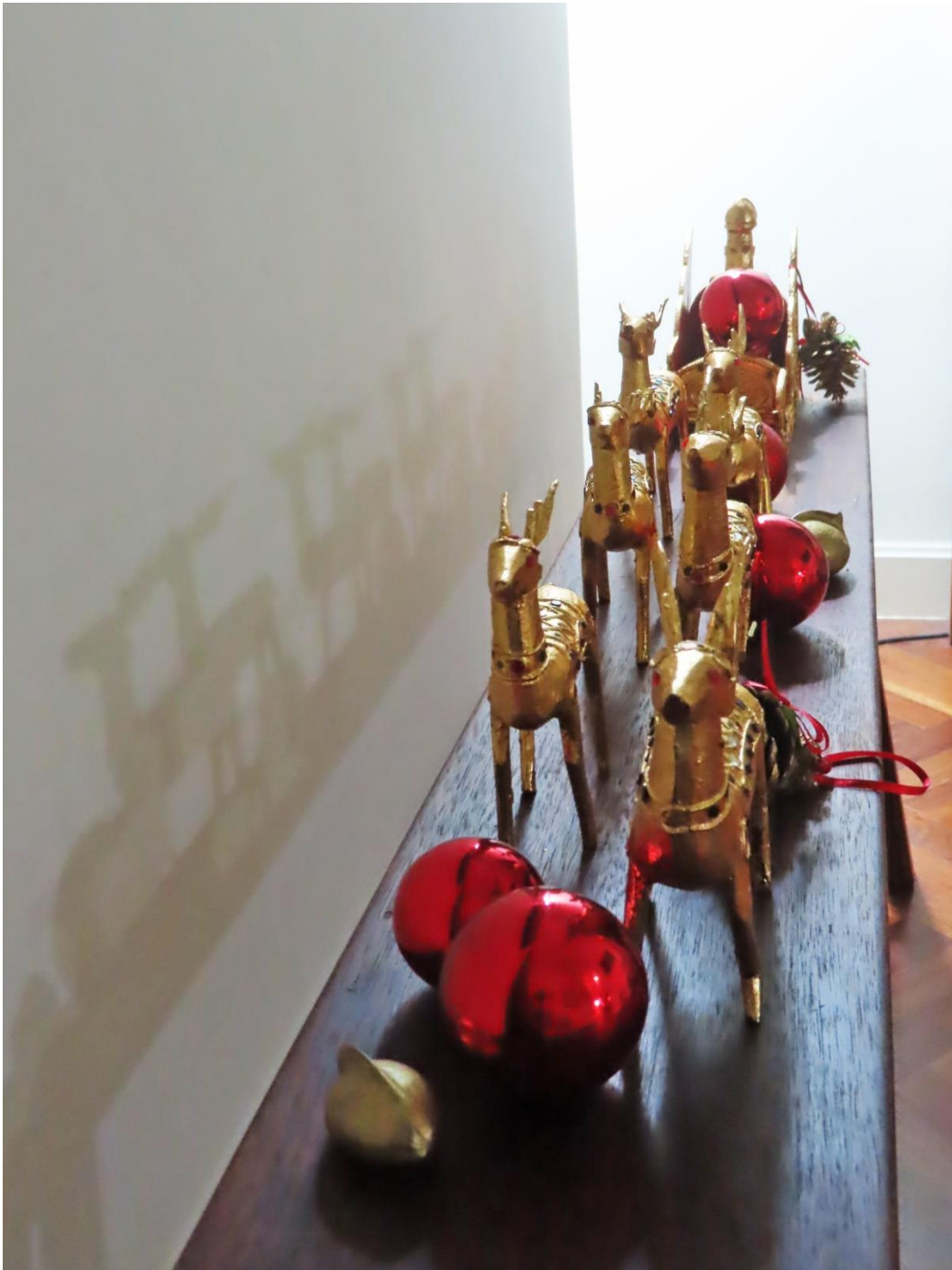


## Photos of the year 2023

### FATHER CHRISTMAS (3)

This set of figures comes from Thailand. We've had them for 41 years and used them every one of those years

20 Nov 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### FATHER CHRISTMAS (4)

This group has moved home with us many times. They've been through the Suez Canal twice in this process.

20 Nov 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### HEAVY LIFTING

Some heavy lifting in progress at the construction site in the old “the Garage” site opposite the E&O Hotel

20 Nov 2023, from the car park at E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS

Activity at roof-top level on “The Garage” site. Part of the old art deco façade, which is being preserved, can be seen in the background.

20 Nov 2023, at E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### MV AEGEAN PARADISE

**This 33 year old vessel has a comfortable retirement job, operating the twice-a-day cruises-to-nowhere (in fact to just outside Malaysia's territorial waters) leaves port just before lunch-time.**

20 Nov 2023, at E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### MV QINGDAO

**A Chinese container ship anchors just off the E&O Hotel, waiting to berth at Penang's container terminal. The smaller container ships like this work principally on regional routes within south-east and east Asia and between secondary ports.**

20 Nov 2023, at E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### COLONIAL SPLENDOUR

**A hotel chef adds character to the lobby of the hotel as he passes through.**

20 Nov 2023, at E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### LOCAL FISHERMAN

A local fisherman passes by the E&O hotel after emptying or inspecting his nets or traps in the inshore waters.

20 Nov 2023, at E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### CHRISTMAS TREE AGAIN

The swimming pool at 06.20, reflecting one of the Christmas trees that are traditionally set up in key parts of our residential complex .

22 Nov 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### HAPPY SNOWMAN

A very happy snowman appears in the Christmas decorations around the tree in our nearby commercial centre, Straits Quay.

22 Nov 2023, at Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia





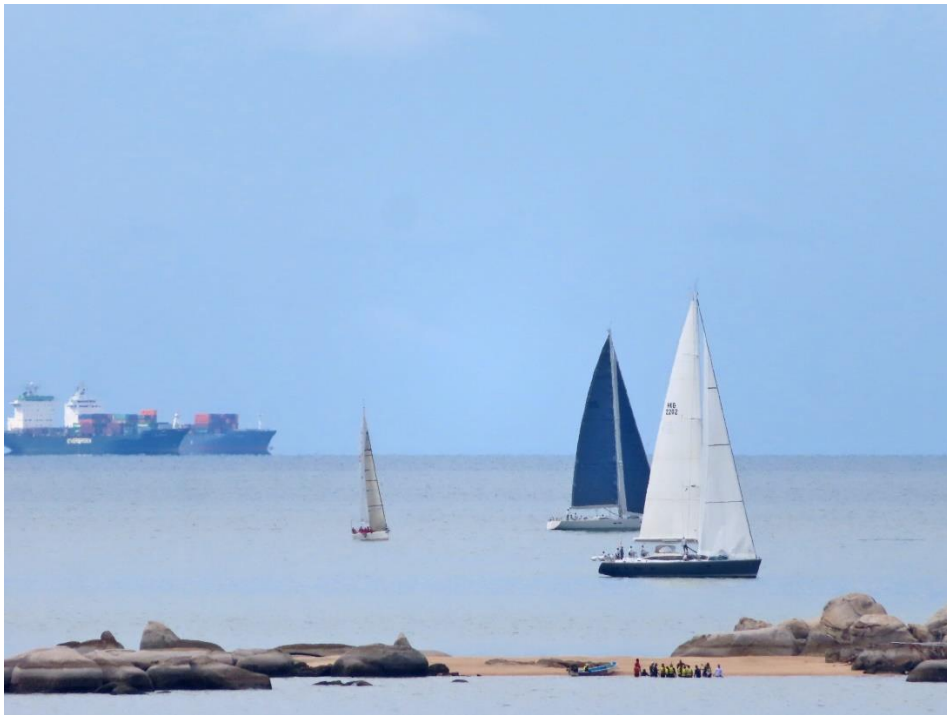


## Photos of the year 2023

### LOCAL YACHT RACES

Typical shots of some of the local yacht racing that takes place within sight of our balcony.

22 Nov 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### SPIDER LILY FLOWER (HYMENOCALLIS LITTORALIS)

A picture of the flower buds of this exotic flower, previously pictured in its full-blossom mode on 12 July.

27 Nov 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### FIRE STATION TOWER

Another view of the tower previously photographed on 16 Nov.

28 Nov 2023, from Council carpark, Georgetown, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

A striking Christmas promotional display by one of the shopping mall's "luxury" retailers..

29 Nov 2023, at Gurney Plaza, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

A more classic Christmas display by one of the Swiss watch retailers.

29 Nov 2023, at Gurney Plaza, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### OUTSIDE GURNEY PLAZA

**View from the windows of Gurney Plaza Mall, showing its location among some of the old trees and adjacent high-rise condominiums.**

29 Nov 2023, at Gurney Plaza, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### PRE-BIRTHDAY PHOTO 2023

Brian enjoying the run-up to his birthday, 5 days ahead.

1 Dec 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### NUTCRACKER SOLDIER

A large, German-style nutcracker soldier, a new addition to our Christmas decorations this year. In the background: Carolyn working at the oven.

1 Dec 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### EARLY MORNING BOAT (II)

The MV Aegean Paradise, returning at 07.30 from its nightly cruise-to-nowhere, passes our apartment complex.

2 Dec 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia

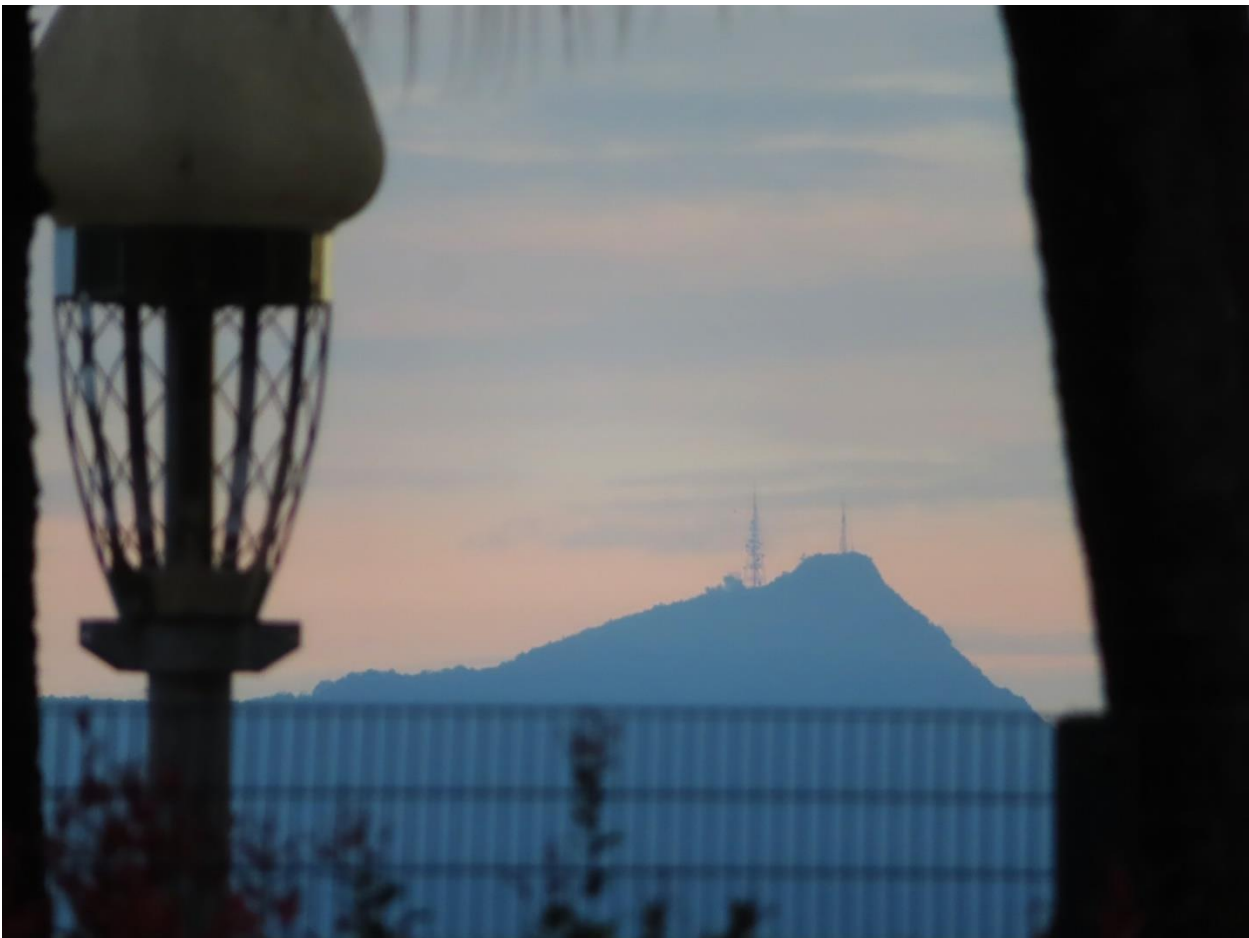


## Photos of the year 2023

### KEDAH PEAK

Gunung Jerai (Kedah Peak) in an exceptionally clear view this morning, just after dawn, as we pass through the gardens on returning from our morning swim. The 1,217 m peak, 40 km away, is captured here in a zoom shot that clearly shows the radio masts on top on the mountain.

4 Dec 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### EARLY MORNING VIEW

The view eastwards from our floor across our apartment complex with the early morning sun, as we return from the morning swim..

4 Dec 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### VIEW ACROSS THE CHANNEL

The classic view from the E&O Hotel – across the North Channel to the mainland and the massif of Kedah Peak, 1,217 m or 3,993 ft high. The mountain lies 40 km away and the shore of the mainland in front of it is 12 km away at this point.

4 Dec 2023, from E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### CHRISTMAS TREE

The E&O Hotel's traditional Christmas tree, seen here occupying prime position under the dome of the hotel lobby.

4 Dec 2023, at E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia







## Photos of the year 2023

### HELICONIA BIHAI FLOWERS

A subvariety of the Heliconia flower, this one being popular for interior decoration at Christmas time, due to its red colour, as in the hotel set-piece seen here. The Heliconia is also known as the red water heliconia, probably due to the way that the boat-shaped flower sheaths or flower bracts often hold water. The actual flowers in fact are quite insignificant, concealed inside the flower bracts.

4 Dec 2023, at E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2023

### CLASSIC VIEW

Another classic view from the E&O Hotel, with a small local bulk carrier ship waiting to enter the Penang port to pick up its load.

4 Dec 2023, from E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2023

### CLASSIC VIEW

The same view as earlier, but this time with the mid-morning clouds settling on the distant mountain.

*This is the last of the 2022-23 photos. From 6 December (my birthday) the photos continue in the folder for 2023-24.*

4 Dec 2023, from E&O Hotel, Penang, Malaysia

