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# *The Sarawak Philatelist*

Journal of

## **Philatelic Society of Kuching, Sarawak**

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**Registered address:** 400, Pisang Road West, 93150 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

**Correspondence address:** P. O. Box 1177, 93724, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

**Editor:** Dr Ong L T, PhD (Swinburne) [long@swinburne.edu.my](mailto:long@swinburne.edu.my)

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**For members only**



## **Creative Innovations and Advanced Printing Technologies in Contemporary Postage Stamps from Malaysia Addenda to November 2021**

Genevieve V. A. Gee<sup>1</sup> and Indraneil Das<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>1E8 Village Grove Condominium, Lorong F, Jalan Stutong, BDC  
93350 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

<sup>2</sup>Institute of Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation  
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, 94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia

An earlier article in this journal covered innovative and advanced technologies employed to produce postage stamps issued from Malaysia, up to 24 April 2018 (Gee and Das, 2018). In this article, we list issues since that date, till close to the end of the year 2021. The cut-off date for entries was 1 December 2021.

Over the reporting period, Pos Malaysia continued to issue these 'unusuals', including stamps that are circular (one issue), hexagonal (five issues) or octagonal in shape (one issue), extra-long or tall stamps (two issues), or stamps belonging to the following categories: die-cut sheetlets or perforations (16 issues), printed with optically variable ink (28 issues), with microprinted text (five issues), photomosaic stamps (four issues), or printed using thermographic technique (one issue), embossed (four issues), varnished (two issues), with spot lamination (eight issues), sprayed with glitter dust (one issue), printed with silver ink (four issues), or gold ink (four issues) or with gold foil (two issues) or silver foil (two issues), gold hot-foiled, pre-printed stamp on cover (two issues), and finally, stamps with images visible under black (UV) light (four issues). Some items show more than a single special feature, for which we have listed them in chronological order, rather than by category. Since the standard flat-bed scans often fail to show some of these features, additional images, especially close-ups, are presented. Reproduced images are not to scale.

We thank our friends, K. Y. Shum and Sabyasachi Pramanik for additional information and comments, and Ong Liap Teck for encouraging us to prepare this article. Izneil Nashriq and Pang Sing Tyan helped with interpretations of cultural artifacts and of Mandarin text, respectively.

## Malaysia. Achievement in 18th Asian Games



Date of Issue: 19 December 2017

Face Value: RM 3

Catalogue No: N/A

Remarks: Gold hot foil stamping on preprinted stamp of cover

## Malaysia's Achievements at the 18<sup>th</sup> Asian Games Jakarta-Palembang 2018



Date of Issue: 15 November 2018

Face Value: RM 2

Catalogue No: N/A

Remarks: Gold hot foil stamping on preprinted stamp of cover

## Historical Museums in Malaysia



Date of Issue: 23 July 2018  
 Face Value: RM 6.50  
 Catalogue No: SG MS2327  
 Remarks: Thermographic printing gives a sandy-feel on Admiral Cheng Ho's statue



## Baliphex 2018 Four Nations Stamps Exhibition



Date of Issue: 3 August 2018  
 Face Value: RM 8  
 Catalogue No: SG MS2328  
 Remarks: Extra-long stamp (ca. 180 mm); die-cut in wavy shape, incorporating two hornbills and a proboscis monkey (overprint of 'Rivers in Malaysia')

## Malaysia Day Celebrations



Date of Issue: 31 August 2018

Face Value: RM 5

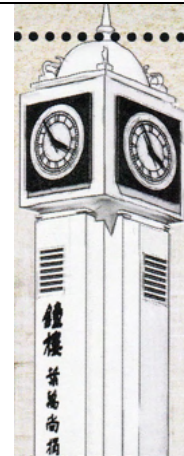
Catalogue No: SG MS2341

Remarks: Die-cut heart-shaped perforations; Malaysian flag; logo and words 'Sayangi Malaysiaku' with spot lamination

Jit Sin School



Silver ink



Embossed



Gradient printing on silver foil



Gold ink printing

Date of Issue: 9 October 2018

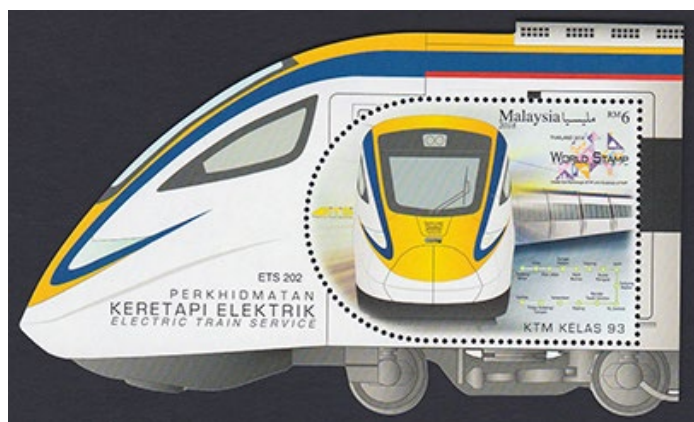
Face Value: RM 8

Catalogue No: SG MS2352

Remarks: Silver ink school logo / Embossed clock tower / Gradient printing on silver foil of vertical Chinese characters "Jing Ai Qun Pu" (= Respect Love Diligence Moderation) / Gold ink printing of horizontal Chinese characters "Bukit Mertajam Hall"



## Thailand 2018 World Stamp Exhibition



Date of issue: 28 November 2018

Face Value: RM 6

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of front of train; stamp shaped like a flat-bottomed cylinder; spot lamination on front of train, the FIAP World Stamp Exhibition, Bangkok, Thailand 2018 logo and the top coloured lining of train (overprint of Electric Train Service; SG MS2299)

## State Definitive Series. Wild Orchids (14 States)



Date of Issue: 4 December 2018

Face Value: RM 1.55 (perforate); RM 5.00 (imperforate)

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: OVI (optically variable ink) lettering: wavy "POS MALAYSIA" across individual stamps visible when sheetlets are tilted to one side (as shown in top figure). Images of perforate (left) and imperforate (right) versions, alphabetically by state, follow.

## Federal Territories (Wilayah Persekutuan)



## Johor



## Kedah



## Kelantan



## Melaka



## Negeri Sembilan



## Pahang



## Penang



## Perak



Perlis



Sabah



Sarawak



## Selangor



## Terengganu



### Malaysian Festivals (Series 3)



Date of Issue: 15 January 2019

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG MS2364

Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of a longhouse; glitter dust on costumes of people

### Exotic Foods



Date of Issue: 19 February 2019

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG MS2368

Remarks: Die-cut at bottom, outlining the horseshoe crabs

## Centenary of Sekolah Chong Hwa



Date of Issue: 21 March 2019

Face Value: Undenominated cinderella sheetlet

Catalogue No: SG uncatalogued

Remarks: UV spot lamination with prismatic effect to simulate torch flame. The 100 dots represent the school's centenary



## Honey Bees in Malaysia



Date of Issue: 9 April 2019

Face Value: 60 sen (x 3), RM 4

Catalogue No: SG MS2377

Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of a honey bee; miniature sheet with two hexagonal stamps; stamps also hexagonal, a reflection of the shape of the honeycomb cells

## Places of Worship (Series 2)



**ULANG TAHUN KE-200  
GEREJA ST. GEORGE, PULAU PINANG**

Date of Issue: 11 May 2019

Face Value: Undenominated cinderella sheetlet

Catalogue No: SG uncatalogued (regular set SG 2378–2382)

Remarks: Silver ink letterings “Ulang Tahun ke-20 Gereja St. George, Pulau Pinang”

## Sour Fruits



Date of Issue: 19 June 2019

Face value: RM 3

Catalogue No: SG MS2386

Remarks: Octagonal stamp

## 150th Anniversary of Sarawak's First Stamp



Date of Issue: 18 July 2019

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG MS 2387

Remarks: Gold ink on Sarawak SG1 stamp

## Wildlife Conservation



Date of Issue: 28 July 2019

Face Value: RM 5 (x 2)

Catalogue No: SG MS2391 (tiger); SG MS2392 (rhino)

Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of the head and forebody of a tiger and a rhino, respectively, as well as gold and silver ink, respectively, applied on the miniature sheets

## Installation of KDYMM Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Di-Pertuan Agong XVI Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta'in Billah



Date of Issue: 30 July 2019

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG MS2396

Remarks: With a narrow gold ink line at bottom of stamp

## National Costumes



Date of Issue: 8 August 2019

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG MS2398

Remarks: With spot UV lamination

## Caves of Malaysia



Date of Issue: 22 August 2019

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG MS 2402

Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of cave mouth, with stalactites

## Malaysia Day. Our Food



Date of Issue: 16 September 2019

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG MS 2406

Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of ice-shaving machine, used in making 'Air Batu Campur'; with spot lamination on the dessert

## Carvings and Crafts of Malaysia



Date of Issue: 4 December 2019

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Embossed metal necklace ("Kalung")

## National Definitive Series. Iconic Marine Life



Date of Issue: 18 June 2020 (sheetlet and miniature sheet) / 23 June 2020 (first recorded release of counter sheets: see the following blog for further details: <https://myfdc.me/definitive-reprints-and-estimated-release-dates/national-iconic-marine-life-reprints>)

Face Value: RM 1.30, RM 1.40, RM 1.50, RM 1.70, RM 1.90, RM 5

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Miniature sheet die-cut in the shape of sea turtle hatching from egg; stamp in miniature sheet circular shaped; hatchling and adult sea turtle varnished. Microtext 'Pos Malaysia' and name of animal depicted, in Bahasa Malaysia, at bottom of each stamp of counter sheet (missing in original issue, in sheetlet format; other differences between the two releases listed in Das et al., 2020).

Enlarged images showing microtext on each of the stamps are illustrated in the following page.



“POSMALAYSIAPENYUKARAH” on turtle’s plastron (RM 1.30)



“POSMALAYSIALUMBALUMBAPUTIH” on edge of left flipper of dolphin (RM 1.40)



“POSMALAYSIAUPALIS” on trailing edge of left flipper of whale shark (RM 1.50)



“POSMALAYSIKIMABESAR” on left side of inner mantle of giant clam (RM1.70)



“POSMALAYSIADUGONG” on edge of right flipper of dugong (RM 1.90)

### Wild Flowers (Series 3)



Date of Issue: 9 July 2020

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of flowers, buds and leaves; varnish on flower in stamp

### Rukun Negara 50 Years



Date of Issue: 18 August 2020

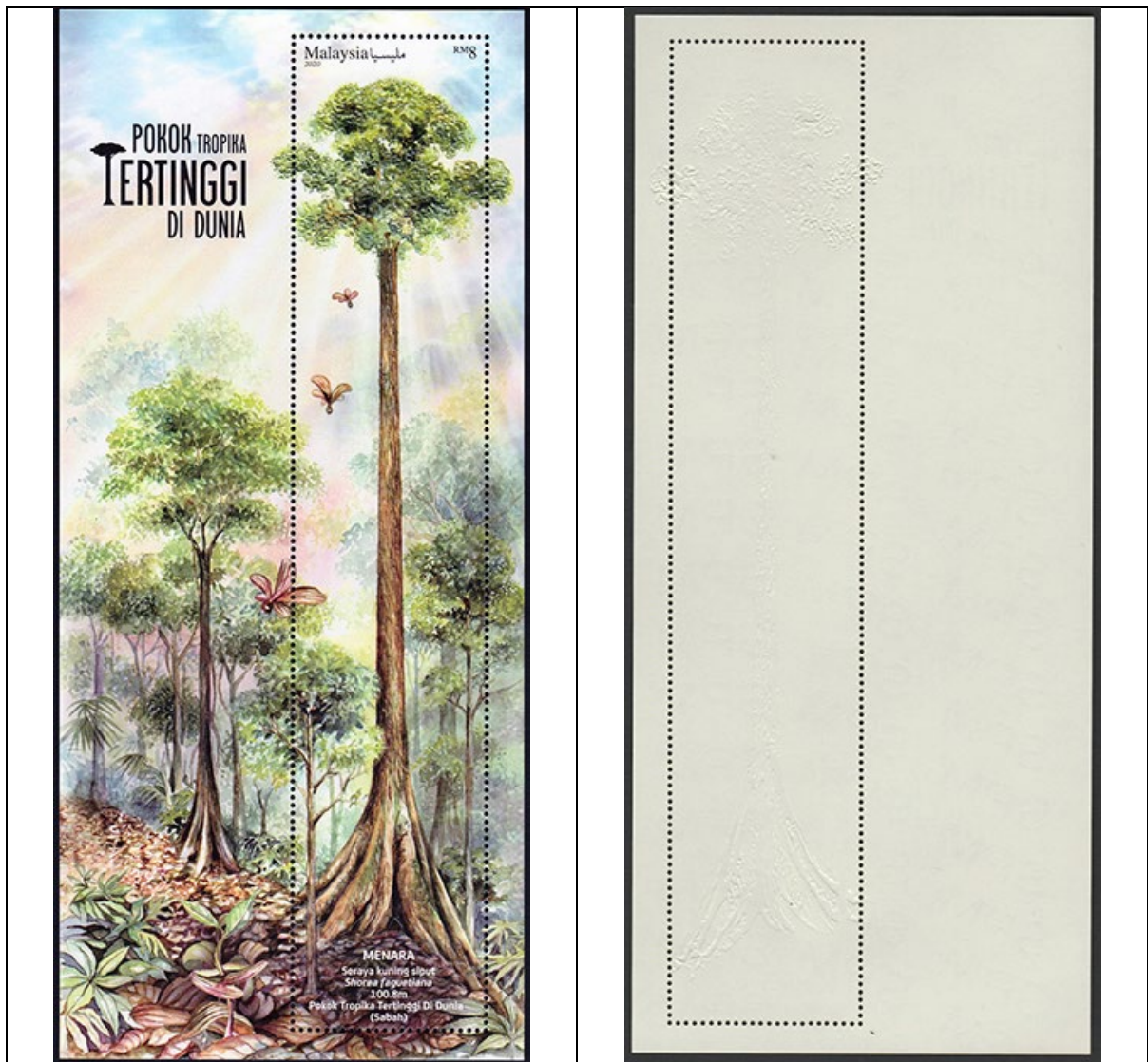
Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Gold foil maps of Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak, including letterings;  
Die-cut perforations



## Tallest Tropical Tree in the World



Date of Issue: 29 December 2020

Face Value: RM 8

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Embossed tree; reportedly one of the 'tallest' stamps in the world, measuring 190 x 80 mm

## 125th Anniversary of Johor Constitution



Date of Issue: 31 December 2020

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Silver ink frame and spot lamination on stamp

## Cattle Breeds in Malaysia



Date of Issue: 18 March 2021

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of cow's head and neck; cow image on stamp with gold foil

## Hidden Treasures of Malaysia – Islands



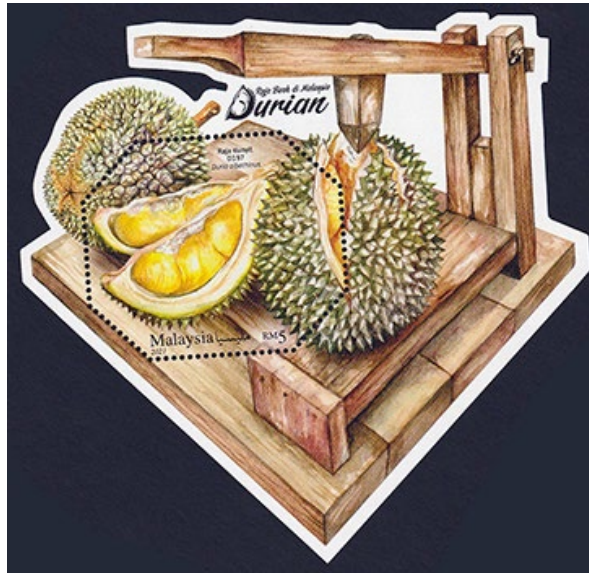
Date of Issue: 5 August 2021

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Spot lamination and embossing over images of islands on stamp and selvage of MS, creating a relief-like effect

## King of Fruits in Malaysia – Durian



Date of Issue: 19 August 2021

Face Value: RM 5

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of durian and wooden stand; spot lamination on the opened durian

## Covid-19 Frontliners

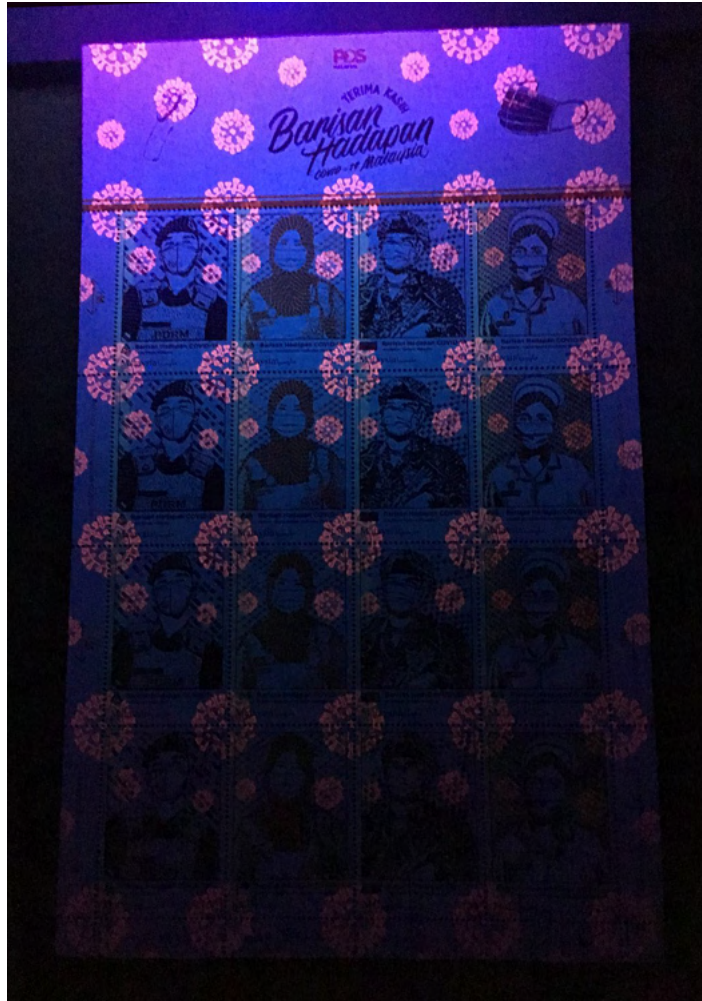


Date of Issue: 9 September 2021

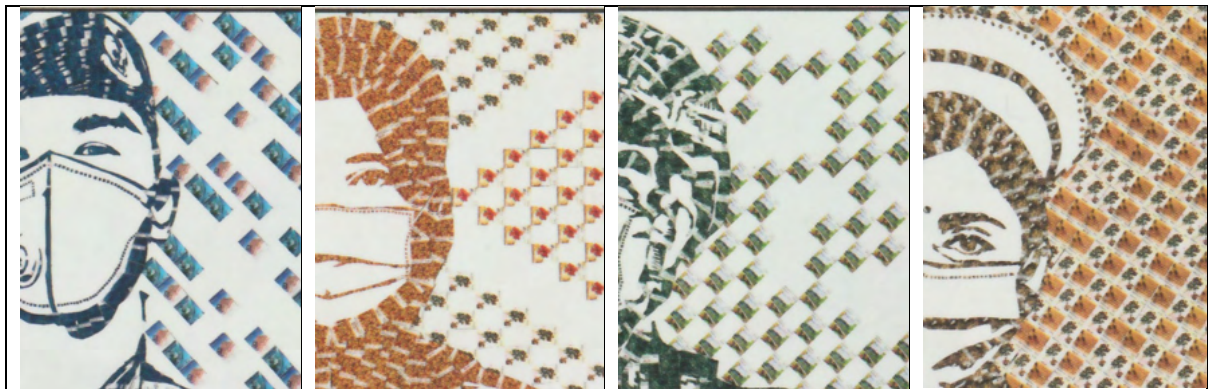
Face Value: RM 1.70 (x 4)

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Covid-19 virus visible under UV light; photomosaic stamps: each portrait composed of about 1,000 personalised (SetemKu) stamps



Glow-in-the dark features under UV light



Close-ups of the north-east corners of the four stamps from the 'Frontliners' issue, showing elements of photomosaic, created with SetemKu (personalised) stamps.

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary PERKESO / SOCSO Golden Jubilee



Date of Issue: 1 October 2021

Face Value: 60 sen

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Die-cut miniature sheet; silver foiled lettering “50 PERKESO” and building on stamp

### References

Das, I., G.V.A. Gee & K.Y. Shum. 2020. Variations in Malaysia’s ‘Iconic Marine Life’ national definitive. *The Malaysian Philatelist, Journal of the Philatelic Society of Malaysia* 2020(1):17–18.

Gee, G.V.A. & I. Das. 2018. Creative innovations and advanced printing technologies in contemporary postage stamps from Malaysia. *Journal of the Philatelic Society of Kuching, Sarawak* 9(1):35–76.