

OFA COFFEE TABLE BOOK



fidelis

The Old Frees Association of Penang will publish its first OFA Coffee Table Book (OFA-CTB) called 'FIDELIS' in the first quarter of 2012. This project was first mooted by Mr M.S. Rajendren after he was elected the President of OFA this year. He then spent a lot of time researching the history of OFA Penang, KL and Singapore over the Internet and in the bookshops but found barely any adequate information about the history of our Association. There were a few websites on the history of Penang Free School and other coffee table books on various aspects of Penang Heritage, but sadly none on our Alma Mater, the oldest school in South-East Asia. As PFS will be celebrating its Bicentennial Anniversary in 2016, he proposed this most timely project at the MC's first committee meeting. His proposal was unanimously accepted. A sub-committee was subsequently formed and an Editorial Consultant appointed on 24 June 2011. However, on 8 October 2011, he emailed the OFA to say that he was unable to complete the CTB due to personal reasons. Accordingly, on 28 October 2011, two new co-editors were then appointed by the OFA to take over this project, namely Ms Molly S.C. Ooi and Mr Quah Seng Sun.

Both co-editors are bloggers who are serving in the CTB project voluntarily. Ms Molly Ooi is actively involved in community work and is blogger for Taman Sri Nibong Residents' Association. She has produced many Annual Bulletins and Newsletters for TSNRA and her profile can be viewed at <http://tsnra.wordpress.com/taman-sri-nibong-ra/profiles/blog-editor/>. Mr Quah Seng Sun is a freelance writer for The Star and the former content specialist at JobStreet.com. He is a prolific blogger who has posted some articles on PFS and OFA in his blog 'Anything Goes' at <http://ssquah.blogspot.com/>

The OFA-CTB Editorial Board welcomes contributors for this great pioneer project. What exactly is a Coffee Table Book? According to the Wikipedia,

"A coffee table book is a hardcover book that is intended to sit on a coffee table or similar surface in an area where guests sit and are entertained, thus inspiring conversation or alleviating boredom. They tend to be oversized and of heavy construction, since there is no pressing need for portability. Subject matter is generally confined to non-fiction, and is usually visually oriented. Pages consist mainly of photographs and illustrations, accompanied by captions and small blocks of text, as opposed to long prose. Since they are aimed at anyone who might pick the book up for a light read, the analysis inside is often more basic and with less jargon than other books on the subject."

We need **inspirational Photo Essays** from Old Frees based on the **theme of 'FIDELIS'**. You can write about your school days in PFS and what you have learned to help you to be who you are today or the PFS Spirit reflected in the School Anthem or articles on past great Alumni who had served faithfully in their calling to make their part of the world a better place (they need not be elitists) or articles on Old Frees activities and events, etc. This CTB will be focused more on OFA than PFS. A token of appreciation will be given to Old Frees whose contributions have been accepted for publication.

Please email your photos and articles to Ms Winnie Kung (Winnie Kung winnieofa@gmail.com) by 15 December 2011. Thank you. – OFA-CTB Editorial Board