# Geylang East Public Library

## Fast Facts
- Opening Date: 26 July 1988
- Floor Area: 3,817 square meters
- Collection Size: 243,438
- Target Community: Residents in Aljunied, Balam, Geylang East, Geylang West, Geylang Serai, Jalan Besar, Kampong Ubi, Kallang, MacPherson and Kallang

## Key Highlights

### The Golden Circle

The Golden Circle is an English book club for seniors. Discussions are centred around fiction books. The club meets up bi-monthly: every second Tuesday of the month in January, March, May, July, September and November.

### Malay in Minutes!

Malay in Minutes! is a book club for adults where simple Malay books are used as learning tools to improve participants’ ability to converse in Malay. The sessions take place on every 3rd Thursday of the month with a break in December.

### e-Reader workshops

Launched in Geylang East Public Library on 12 July 2013, the eReaders’ loan service allows library-users to borrow eReaders and download their favourite ebooks from the popular database OverDrive. The eReaders’ workshop takes place every 2nd Friday of the month from 7 – 8 pm. This workshop is conducted in English.

### Nature-Themed Look

The library features a nature-themed look, with green reading areas at Levels 1 and 2. Live plants also grace areas near the main staircase.

![Newly-painted exterior](image1)

Green landscape near the newly renovated staircase

![Green reading area, Level 1](image2)
**Collection Highlights**

- **Collection Size:** As of December 2013, the library’s collection size is 243,438. The largest collection is the English books for children (both fiction and non-fiction), followed by English books for adults.

- **Cookery Collection:** Geylang East Public Library is the first public library in Singapore to have a Special Thematic Collection on cookery and food-related literature. Conveniently located beside the readers’ lounge on Level 2, this mouth-watering collection consists of cookbooks that run the gamut of Asian and Western foods, exotic Mediterranean cuisine and even Vegan recipes.

  Readers can also look forward to the cookery tips display that is updated on a quarterly basis.

**Services and Facilities**

- **a) Facilities**
  - Seating capacity: 198
  - Multimedia stations
  - Newspaper Reading Area
  - 24-hour Bookdrop
  - Activity Room
  - Multi-Purpose Hall
  - 2 Meeting Rooms
  - Quiet Reading Room
  - Water Cooler

- **b) Services**
  - Regular storytelling and school holiday programmes
  - User education and Information literacy programmes
  - Library outreaches
  - Performances and activities
  - Talks and workshops
  - Exhibitions and displays

**Library History**

Geylang East Public Library was officially opened on 26 July 1988 by Mr Wong Kang Seng, then Minister for Community Development and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs. The seventh branch to be launched in the network of public libraries, the 4.5 million-dollar library opened fully computerised, with a collection of 100,000 publications. It served about 200,000 residents in the vicinity at the time.

The library was closed from 18 March till 28 April 2002 for the installation of the new Electronic Library Management System (ELIMS). This system features radio-frequency identification technology which allows books to be returned the moment they enter the automated book-drop system and the loan records of the patrons immediately updated.

The library also underwent a renovation and refurbishment exercise in 2012. In addition to its new nature-themed look, a lounge area at the Adult’s Section was added, as well as new angled tables which were placed at the newspaper reading area.
The library has three storeys, the first level being designated for children and parents while the second floor is for adults and youths. The third floor houses the staff office, hall and meeting rooms.

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<tr>
<th>Interesting Facts</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Geylang East Public Library works together with the Geylang East Grove Residents’ Committee and is the venue for their annual garage sale.</td>
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<td>• In July 2011, the library hosted two free content development workshops in support of N.E.mation!, a nation-wide digital animation competition for youths to express their thoughts on Total Defence.</td>
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<td>• The library’s 21st anniversary celebrations were featured in The New Paper in 2009. In conjunction with the library’s 25th birthday in 2013, two celebrity chefs, Chef Devagi Sanmugam and Chef Siti Masturah, were invited to conduct cookery and baking demonstrations at the library.</td>
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_Last updated on 1 September 2014_