

# THE GRADUATE

The Magazine of The National University of Singapore Society

January - March 2014

## CITY GUILD HOUSE REOPENS!

NUSS returns to  
Suntec City in Style

Also in this issue

**Human Rights Aloud**

**Middle East  
Moving Ahead**

**At the Heart of  
Singapore's Identity**

**NUSS**  
The Graduate Club

# SMU Juris Doctor Programme

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### **INFORMATION SESSION:**

Date: 17 Jan & 5 Feb 2014

Time: 6.45pm (Registration starts at 6.30pm)

Venue: SMU Ngee Ann Kongsi Auditorium,  
Level 2, School of Accountancy/ School of Law  
(Next to the National Museum)



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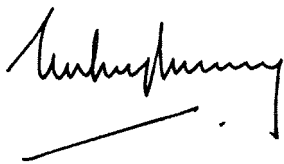
# President's Message

*Dear Fellow Members*

**2014** marks another significant milestone for the Society - We turn 60 this year. We will be organising a slew of activities throughout the year to commemorate this achievement. Currently in various stages of planning are four major events, the first of which will be the official opening of the new Suntec City Guild House (SCGH) on 7 March 2104. We will also be honouring our pledge of \$250,000 to the NUS Alumni Bursary Fund, followed by the Groceries - Love on Wheels, the NUSS' 60th Anniversary Lecture and a Gala Dinner cum Launch of the Anniversary Commemorative book to end the year-long celebrations. I urge members to join us in all our year-long events and celebration activities.

The new SCGH opened its doors to members on 7 December 2013 with a soft opening 'special weekend' buffet brunch, in appreciation of members' understanding and patience in the months following the closure of the former SCGH. The Project Team, which was assigned the task of overseeing the construction of the new city club, worked tirelessly for months, to achieve the best optimal ambience and functionality with the given space. The 'WOW' is surely the double-volume bar overlooking the Fountain of Wealth. This was indeed a project borne of love and passion. Come and check out the new clubhouse with your family and friends and make plans to celebrate and enjoy this festive season's many offerings at SCGH.

I wish all our members and family a very Happy New Year, good health, good fortune and happiness in the *Year of the Horse*.



David Ho C'72  
**President**



**The new SCGH (from top):  
The Karaoke Room;  
The Bar;  
and The Bistro.**

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**COVER PHOTO** By Santos Danny II Gatchalian

## Notice

### RECEIVE LINK TO DOWNLOAD ANNUAL REPORT IN LIEU OF CD

In 2009, NUSS took steps to reduce its carbon footprint by introducing the Annual Report in CD format.

We would like to thank members for their overwhelming support for this initiative. Based on feedback and with the increased use of electronic devices without a CD ROM however, we will be phasing out the dissemination of our Annual Report in CD format. If you have previously opted to receive the CD, please note that the upcoming Annual Report will be downloaded from a link which will be sent to you closer to the date of the Annual General Meeting.

However, should you prefer to receive a printed copy of the Annual Report instead, please let us know by emailing Fiona Chia, Corporate Communications Executive, at [fionachia@nuss.org.sg](mailto:fionachia@nuss.org.sg) by **31 January 2014**.

Besides the new initiative being a more environmentally-friendly approach, it also allows us to develop richer content in the future. We look forward to your support.

If you have previously opted to receive a printed copy and wish to receive a link instead, please email [fionachia@nuss.org.sg](mailto:fionachia@nuss.org.sg) by **31 January 2014**.



## Master of Gerontology

right here in Singapore !

The Master of Gerontology degree programme takes a multi-disciplinary and flexible approach that caters to adult learners who wish to upgrade themselves or switch careers.

Many attractive job prospects await the graduates as the government has made the development of the eldercare sector a high priority.

Short study trips and interaction with foreign experts will introduce students to policies and programmes of other countries.

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For more information, you may contact us on 6248 5783 / 5787 or email : [graddip&master@unisim.edu.sg](mailto:graddip&master@unisim.edu.sg).

Check out SIM University's graduate programmes!

*Quotes from our students :*

### ■ Yeo Joo Hock

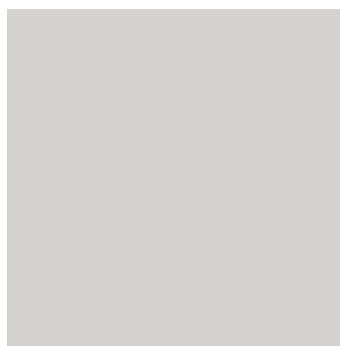
General Manager (Private Sector)  
(Student, Gerontology Programme, 2012)

*"As a person who is totally not from any social work or health-care sectors, this Master of Gerontology is a total eye opener for me. I am even more determined to partake in this social process to improve the conditions of the elderly in society."*

### ■ Eunice Tan

Manager, Special Projects for Alzheimer's Disease  
Association (Student, Gerontology Programme, 2012)

*"The whole learning journey in the Gerontology Programme has been very enriching and fulfilling for me. I have enjoyed every bit of it. I would highly recommend all my colleagues from the eldercare sector to take this programme!"*



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# Middle East Moving Forward

In the final Meet-the-Ambassador Series event of 2013, NUSS had the privilege of welcoming outgoing Israeli Ambassador to Singapore, **Her Excellency (H.E.) Amira Arnon**, as she shared her experiences and explored how developments in the Middle East would impact Southeast Asia.

## MEET-THE-AMBASSADOR SERIES

Date: 13 August 2013

Venue: Kent Ridge Guild House

According to H.E. Arnon, developments in Egypt and Syria had been the most important events in the past years to affect the Middle East. These developments will have long-reaching and lasting effect in many areas.

She also shared that Israel experienced similar challenges as with other countries facing the same issues especially those concerning the youths and the economy in her country.

Following on about the economy, she said, "The middle-class is very hard-squeezed and have a lot of chal-

lenges." Giving insights into the root of risk-taking for Israeli inventors and businessmen, H.E. Arnon added, "If you live under the stress of the risk of life and death, it is no big deal to take risks in business."

After giving her keynote, H.E. Arnon took time to receive questions from the floor. Questions ranged from the nature of business and politics in Israel, moving ahead on the Israeli-Palestinian issue, the social-economic situation in the Middle East and the role of the traditional Jewish parties in Israel today.

H.E. Arnon was very candid in her replies and fielded the questions like the seasoned diplomat she was. She won over the audience with her wit and charm as well as bringing laughter to the serious issues discussed with her sense of humour.

H.E. Arnon was previously

awarded the Medal of Gratitude by the President of the Republic of Albania in recognition of the excellent service to bilateral relations between Israel and Albania. In August 2012, H.E. Arnon received the of Merit from Dr. José Ramos-Horta, former President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, for her noble mission in overseas Timor-Leste and Israel relations.

When asked about her experiences in Singapore, H.E. Arnon said that she would miss the country and would look back fondly on her time here. "I am still in denial that I will be leaving Singapore," she remarked.

In August 2009, H.E. Arnon became the Ambassador of Israel to Singapore and to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. H.E. Arnon concluded her term of service with Singapore in August 2013 and was succeeded by H.E. Ms Yael Rubinstein. ■

**"If you live under the stress of the risk of life and death, it is no big deal to take risks in business."**

**Her Excellency  
Amira Arnon**  
Outgoing Israeli  
Ambassador  
to Singapore



# Suntec City Guild House Returns

NUSS delivers on the promise of great food and entertainment in the city with the much-awaited opening of the Suntec City Guild House (SCGH).

## RE-OPENING RECEPTION AND SOFT OPENING OF SCGH

Date: 5-7 December 2013

Venue: Suntec City Guild House

When NUSS was asked to vacate Suntec City in 2012 due to major renovation works at the Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre, the daunting task of finding another city Guild House for its members ensued. Nonetheless, after a year of ‘home

hunting’ and renovations, the new SCGH in Tower 5 is ready to welcome everyone back with pizzazz.

At a Pre-Opening Reception on 5 December, members of the Management Committee (MC) and Sub-Committees, Past Presidents, former MC members and corporate partners were invited to a preview of the new city Guild House. Mr Bernard Toh, Director for Projects & Communications and Professor Victor Savage, Director, Office of Alumni Relations, both from the National University of Singapore (NUS) were also amongst the invited guests.

Mr David Ho, NUSS President, made a heartfelt “thank you” to the Task Force and SCGH Opening Organising Committee for getting the new Guild House ready in such a quick time. Toasting to the team, he emphasised that without their dedication, the opening of SCGH would not have been possible.

At The Bar, the full window view overlooking the Fountain of Wealth enticed guests to relax and chill out while enjoying great drinks. Mr Archie Ong, NUSS Vice-President said, “When we first came to view the unit, what struck us was this





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## THE BUZZ

**“It is a convenient place for lunch since I work within Suntec. I enjoy the ambience now that The Bistro has windows with a view.”**

**Mr Lim Yee Ming**

Partner

Kelvin Chia Partnership

**“What matters to me is really the location and accessibility. The decor is obviously more open and modern now.”**

**Ms Felicia Tan**

Assistant Vice President

Credit Suisse AG

**“We can bring friends here and have a glass of beer and that is good enough for me.”**

**Dr Koh Yang Fatt**

President

JC Senators Club of Singapore



**“When we first came to view the unit, what struck us was this entire window view. If you look at The Bistro, it is the same [view]. In the evenings, the façade of SCGH is very attractive.”**

**Mr Archie Ong**

NUSS Vice-President

entire window view. If you look at The Bistro, it is the same [view]. In the evenings, the façade of SCGH is very attractive.” Pointing to the lights above The Bar, he elaborated, “We placed a lot of emphasis on the lightings. Hence, from the road below the clubhouse, the view is beautiful as you would be essentially viewing upwards at the ceiling lights.”

The Bistro offers a sumptuous repertoire of Western, local and Oriental favourites created by award-winning chef Alan Koh, who also helmed the kitchen at Bukit Timah Guild House. Across The Bistro, three function rooms which retained the names of The Campus, The College and The Guild from the previous SCGH are available for corporate bookings.

The K Room will delight crooners with its superior sound and computerised song selection systems. For members who prefer a more exciting form of entertainment, the 19 TITO (ticket-in, ticket-out) machines in the Jackpot Room will not disappoint. ■

*At the Soft Opening...*

At the Soft Opening on 7 December, a lion dance performance heralded good luck and prosperity for the years ahead at SCGH. Over the same weekend, members enjoyed a fully-booked Soft Opening Special Weekend Brunch Buffet which included sumptuous international and local food spread. Many strong supporters also turned up in force to take in the clubhouse as they wined, dined and took a tour of the Guild House.



*The new Suntec City Guild House (SCGH) is now open and located at 3 Temasek Boulevard, #02- 401/402, Suntec City Mall, Singapore 038983. Operating Hours are Sundays to Thursdays and Public Holidays, 8am to 12am; and Fridays, Saturdays and eves of Public Holidays, 8am to 2am. More information: <http://nuss.org.sg/clubhouse.aspx?cid=3&aid=13>*



# Human Rights – The Big Game in Town

**Professor Mathias Risse**, whose work is mostly in social and political philosophy and ethics, was invited to speak to members on his lecture, entitled “From Third World To First – What’s Next: Singapore’s Obligations to the Rest of the World from a Human Rights Perspective.”

## ■ NUSS PROFESSORSHIP LECTURE

Date: 7 October 2013

Venue: Kent Ridge Guild House

Members were offered a chance to find out more about human rights when Professor Mathias Risse, Professor of Philosophy and Public Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and currently Visiting Professor and NUSS Professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at NUS, spoke at the Professorship Lecture in October last year.

Commented Professor Risse, “The unique mix of economic freedom and social control that brought about these stunning results make Singapore a fascinating object of study for social scientists and political philosophers.”

He added that Singapore has come a long way since independence and has seen its per capita income grow from US\$400 to US\$61,000 today. Thus, according to Professor Risse, the Singapore government’s previously often-used argument of “We are not far along enough in our development” when discussing human rights issues no longer applies today.

Professor Risse also noted that the talk of human rights have more “reality” today than it did a few decades ago. The advent of social media has also affected the way human rights are discussed in Singapore. As such, more people are talking about civil, economic, social and political rights today.



**“The unique mix of economic freedom and social control that brought about these stunning results make Singapore a fascinating object of study for social scientists and political philosophers.”**

“Even though there are those that pay lip service (about human rights), once in a while we might find that if many people talk the talk, they eventually do walk the walk,” commented Professor Risse. “Human rights is the only big game in town as far as protection (from abuse of power) is concerned.”

Thus, Professor Risse argued that is why Singapore should ratify the main human rights treaties. He added that Singapore’s pragmatism and long-term thinking should also “sit uneasily with being an outlier” among first-world countries.

However, Professor Risse also cited a United Nations Human Rights Council report that noted Singapore’s high compliance to human rights without ratification which contrasts greatly with the much more common ratification without compliance.

That said, Professor Risse also argued that it would be better to accept and ratify human rights treaties with reservations than not ratifying at all. He said that the human rights regime of today is the “biggest game in town” for the creation of a unified framework of co-operation internationally. He cited global warming as an example whereby such a unified framework is needed.

During the questions and answers section, Professor Risse was asked a whole range of questions that covered topics including his own opinion on where Singapore currently stands on the human rights front, realism in a country’s foreign policy affecting its human rights stance and his views on a unified human rights regime globally.

In conclusion, Professor Risse remarked that human rights is no longer just window dressing, citing the International Criminal Court as an example. He also stated that it is important to notice the progress that Singapore has made on the human rights front as compared to its arguments against wholesale adoption in the 1990s. ■

## MEET-THE-CEO SERIES

Date: 13 November 2013

Venue: Kent Ridge Guild House

**A**t the onset, Mr Kuek was candid in relating his experiences after one year on the job as the head of Singapore's primary rail operator. Peppered with anecdotes, his keynote address aptly titled *Getting Us On Board and On Track* gave the audience an insight into the myriad of challenges faced by SMRT.

"You cannot please everyone," noted Mr Kuek on the conflicting interests of the various stakeholders within the rail system in Singapore. "In SMRT, we just try and figure the path forward that focuses on doing the right thing."

Mr Kuek broke down the stakeholders into four groups: commuters, shareholders, regulators and SMRT and its staff. He particularly saluted the tenacity of the latter, some of whom stood by the company when things became very challenging during the major breakdowns in recent years.

"I take my hat off to all the people who have stayed on in SMRT and stuck it out through thick and thin," he said. "They deserve more in appreciation and acknowledgement because they have worked hard to provide an essential service."

"All stakeholder groups have a point," Mr Kuek added. "The real challenge is how to set a framework that allows everybody to get on board."

Addressing the general feeling of unhappiness by the public, Mr Kuek commented that they were usually unhappy about three things: affordability, service standards, and delivery and profitability. Each of these factors af-

**"You cannot please everyone. In SMRT, we just try and figure the path forward that focuses on doing the right thing."**

fects each other and not all are within the control of SMRT, which makes his job even more challenging with finding a balance.

"SMRT is not the only player in this area," he remarked. "We are looking to create a public transport eco-system where the answers lie with multiple parties."

On its part, Mr Kuek shared that the SMRT is also starting from within, with the shaping of the agenda for the conversation about the public transport system that needs to take place. Besides recently 'refreshing'

its vision, mission and core values, SMRT is also working on five key thrusts: operational performance, customer experience (both internal and external), workforce health, organisational excellence and sustainable growth.

"It is important for a company like ours to hang on to some inspiration, something that lifts us higher than ourselves," Mr Kuek concluded.

"Otherwise, it is very easy to lose our way and become demoralised."

"We are working on a multitude of programmes to try and bring about a higher order of excellence," he said. "The larger challenge is not getting us (SMRT) on track but getting all of us (the stakeholders) on board." ■



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# On Board and On Track

Singapore Mass Rapid Transit (SMRT) Corporation's President and Chief Executive Officer, **Mr Desmond Kuek**, graced the latest session of the Meet-the-CEO Series. His witty and candid discussion of the challenges facing SMRT brought about laughter and appreciation from all in the house.



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# A Celebration Brimming with Achievements

## CELEBRATORY DINNER 2013

Date: 21 November 2013

Venue: Kent Ridge Guild House

A celebratory dinner was held in honour of Mr Nathan's conferment of The Order of Temasek (First Class) and members' achievements of the National Day Awards. NUSS Past Presidents were also appreciated for their contributions to the Society. Mr Nathan, now 89, is only the seventh person in Singapore's history to be conferred The Order of Temasek (First Class), which is primarily awarded in recognition of his service to the nation since independence. Receiving applause for his contributions, Mr Nathan gave an impromptu speech on the important role that NUSS members play in nation-building and encouraged everyone to stay together and be resilient in times of adversity. ■

NUSS recognised the achievements of **Mr S R Nathan**, Singapore's Former President, and members who were National Day Award recipients at an elegant affair.



NEW MEMBERS' NIGHT | 1 August 2013 | Kent Ridge Guild House



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ONCE UPON A

# CHILLING OUT NIGHT...

NUSS welcomed new members at The Chill - Lab in a "Made-in-NUSS" evening. The event saw performances by various Sub-Committees and Interest Groups.

To embrace new members into the NUSS family, the Society hosted an evening of connection with the Management Committee and Sub-Committee members. The evening also allowed new members to familiarise themselves with NUSS, its Interest Groups and various activities.

One of the highlights was a performance by the NUSS Choir which impressed with their rendition of "Bridge Over Troubled Waters". Continuing in the vein of music for the evening, the newly-minted champion

of the NUSS Karaoke Challenge Nite, Mr Davis Soh, crooned a Mandarin version of the popular hit "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow".

In his address, Dr Paul Wang, Chairperson of the Membership Sub-Committee and Honorary Assistant Secretary, welcomed and extended his appreciation to the new members for taking time out to attend the event. He commented, "Joining NUSS is not just coming to a club but to a Society where members can nurture their bodies, souls and spirit [of giving]." ■





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# Art for the Moment

NUSS turned the spotlight on **Ms Susie Wong** during an introduction session on her as an artist and her art works. This was followed by the showing of a full-scale art exhibition 'Of The Moment', Ms Wong's collection of oil paintings produced over the past 20 years.

**A**rt-loving members got cosy and up-close with Ms Susie Wong during a talk, "Introduction to Artist: Susie Wong", conducted by Mr Seng Yu Jin, Senior Curator of the Southeast Asia Gallery, The National Art Gallery, Singapore. This session illuminated Ms Wong's art practice in relation to the broader context of female artists in the art history of Singapore. Susie's iconography and art projects were used as entry points to engage with issues that concern female artists in Singapore.

The informative session lasted for an hour and a half, with the first part being a lecture by Mr Seng. Ms Wong was then put in the hot seat and questioned by Mr Seng and the audience on various art aspects during the question and answer segment.

The talk was followed by a viewing of Ms Wong's exhibition "Of the Moment", which ran from September to November 2013. Values, colours, highlights, texture and voice – all of these were displayed in the thought-provoking pieces which lined the corridor near Members' Lounge on the second level.



Ranging from portraits to still-life and embodying a way of seeing the everyday in flecks of colour and texture, Ms Wong interpreted ordinary people whom she had met in her life, as well as mundane objects, through her eyes in her art pieces. ■



## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Ms Susie Wong is an art writer, curator and artist. She paints in the oil medium and works mainly in the figurative in her body of works. She has also developed installation works of applied drawings, photographs, video media. Ms Wong has been a practicing artist since late 1980s with several solo and group exhibitions in Singapore (The Substation, Art-2, Utterly Art, Singapore Management University, National Institute of Education, LASALLE College of the Arts and Singapore Art Museum) and in Malaysia (Valentine Willie Fine Art Gallery). Her works have since been acquired by the Singapore Art Museum and by several private collectors. In 2007, she was included in South East Asian Contemporary, Borobudur Auction.

# Meeting of the Inspiring and Inspired

Fellow mentors and mentees from the NUSS-UTown Mentorship Programme gathered for an evening of inspiration and fellowship.

**N**USS and the NUS Office of Provost held an appreciation dinner to thank past and present mentors. It was also an occasion to welcome the second batch of mentors and mentees for the academic year of 2013/2014. The evening proved to be fruitful as the new mentees and mentors got acquainted with one another whilst sharing common interests and further learning from one another.

Professor Tan Tai Yong, Vice-Provost (Student Life) for the National University of Singapore (NUS) cordially welcomed guests and noted, "Through this programme, our students learn beyond books and engage with people in the real world by interacting with entrepreneurs and politicians who have been invited to share their advice. Both mentors and mentees learn through sharing. It has been a productive year and the numbers have grown."

Established in 2012, the NUSS-UTown Mentorship Programme was created to pair NUS undergraduates who are residing in NUS University Town's residential colleges with selected NUSS member to equip them with the relevant experience and guidance in their respective fields of study.

## Making a difference

NUSS' Alumni Development and University Relations Sub-Committee member, Mr Joseph Kwok, joined as a mentor and the experience he gained left such a positive impression on him that he would continue his mentor-



**"I did not have the privilege of having a mentor when I started work. If you know what to do, and you have someone to guide you along the way, you will be a more effective person."**

### Mr Mark Lam

Mentor for 2014,  
Staff engineer at IBM and part-time guest lecturer at Singapore Quality Institute

ship contribution for 2014.

Mr Kwok related, "One of my mentees is from China and is a soft-spoken girl. I shared with her that one of the important skills is to be able to communicate in English if she is to work in Singapore. She took my advice and has since been actively trying out opportunities and roles that enhance her communication."

Despite Mr Kwok's hectic work schedule, he saw this as a way for him to contribute back to society. He shared, "By being a mentor, I have a chance to share my experience and knowledge learnt through life and work. Through my interaction with my mentees, I am kept up-to-date with changing times."

Mr Mark Lam, another mentor for 2014 aimed to inspire his two mentees and would love nothing more than to see them succeed in



life. As a staff engineer at IBM and a part-time guest lecturer at Singapore Quality Institute, Mr Lam is able to guide his mentees in the area of innovation and quality manufacturing and help them explore their interests and pursue their future ambitions.

Mr Lam remarked, "I did not have the privilege of having a mentor when I started work. If you know what to do, and you have someone to guide you along the way, you will be a more effective person."

## Inspired to greater heights

A mentee, Ms Emily Chong from the Science faculty, was keen to know her options before choosing her career path. Her mentor, Mr Johnny Tan, gave her invaluable advice with regard to doing an undergraduate degree with honours or without, as well as an MBA after graduating.

She said, "I always believe that you can reach greater heights if you step on the shoulders of giants. Listening to more experienced people can show us more paths towards achieving our goals. If a student is interested in the same area which the mentor specialises in, it will definitely be useful to join this programme." ■



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## Voices Soared for Dementia Research Cause

NUSS Choir presented *Musique Sans Frontières* (Music without Borders), a fundraising concert showcasing songs from many lands and in many languages to once again raise awareness and funds for research on dementia.

In the afternoon of 20 October 2013, voices were raised in unison and echoed through the hall at School of The Arts Singapore (SOTA). Dropping their music scores for the concert, the choristers sang from memory, a display of their dedication towards the cause and fundraising efforts.

Guest of Honour and Patron of the NUSS Choir, Mrs Goh Chok Tong said, "Learning, memorising, singing and performing all these varied songs are a sure way to prevent the onset of the dreaded condition – dementia." And to put real action to her words, Mrs Goh joined the singers onstage to sing a song, also from memory, with them.

The Choir sang a range of familiar melodies from *Prince of Egypt* by Stephen Schwartz to *Carmen* by Georges Bizet. With the Choir led by the newly-appointed Acting Music Director, Adyll Hardy, and accompanied by Freda Lim, the pianist for the afternoon, the group's performance certainly gave weight to the cause. Compositions written



by Darius Lim, the Choir's ex-Music Director, who bade farewell some months ago for a one-year sabbatical study leave, were also honoured. The Choir also combined their vocal prowess with "The Graduate Singers", the alumni group of the NUS Choir, giving enjoyable listening moments for the audience.

All proceeds raised from the concert went towards the NUSS Choir

Research Fund for Dementia which supports research on Alzheimer's Disease and the prevention of dementia at the National University of Singapore. Since 2011, the NUSS Choir has raised a total of \$250,000 and it hopes to boost the fund further with their fundraising concerts and other efforts. ■



Scan your QR code reader to see more pictures



It was a proud moment at the NTUC Auditorium for 15 NUS staff members who received the 2013 Excellent Service Award (EXSA) for their high-level of service delivery in their jobs at the Society.

It was a day to be remembered with 13 NUS staff members receiving the Silver Award, one who received the Gold Award and one who received the coveted Star Award. Nominees were judged based on customer compliments, recognition by their organisations and their contribution to service improvement.

Each award winner was presented with a certificate and an Excellent Service Award pin, which they can wear daily to distinguish themselves. The awards were presented by Guest-of-Honour, Mr Lee Yi Shyan, Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry and National Development.

To qualify for nomination, all nominees must have had at least one year of service with the nominating organisation and attended at least one

Service Skill Upgrading programme in the previous year.

NUSS nominees who were shortlisted for the awards also attended a four-hour development workshop conducted by the industry lead bodies to reinforce and sustain a consistent level of service after receiving the awards. A hundred per cent attendance was required by the nominees to qualify for the awards.

Launched in 1994, EXSA is a national award that recognises individuals who have delivered quality service. It seeks to develop service

models for staff to emulate, and to create service champions. According to SPRING Singapore, organisations with EXSA staff are committed to achieving service excellence.

EXSA is managed by seven industry lead bodies (the Association of Singapore Attractions, the Land Transport Authority, the Public Service Division, the Restaurant Association of Singapore, the Singapore Hotel Association, the Singapore Retailers Association, the Association of Banks in Singapore) and supported by SPRING Singapore. ■

### NUSS Recipients for EXSA 2013

Award	Name of Staff	Designation	Department
Star	Kuttan Nair A/L Mohan	Café Supervisor	KRGH - Café on the Ridge
Gold	Candy Hong Lai Chien	Outlet Team Leader	KRGH - Scholar Restaurant
Silver	Jeffrey Ng Kok Fong	Asst F&B Manager	BTGH - Dunearn
	Pauline Teng Poh Lan	Restaurant Manager	BTGH - Dunearn
	Agnes Phua Lian Eng	Banquet Sales Manager	KRGH - Banquet
	Mohammad Azli Bin Asmawi	Asst Banquet Manager	KRGH - Banquet
	Paul Lim Wee Liam	Banquet Supervisor	KRGH - Banquet
	Jacqueline Goh Mui Peng	Café Supervisor	KRGH - Café on the Ridge
	Roslee Bin Mahon	Asst Restaurant Manager	KRGH - Café on the Ridge
	Shanmuganathan A/L P S	Café Manager	KRGH - Café on the Ridge
	Indhiran A/L Rengasamy	Senior Outlet Team Leader	KRGH - Ridge Bar
	Thean Zi Ying	Captain	KRGH - Scholar Restaurant
	Mao Xiao Xiao	Captain	KRGH - Scholar Restaurant
	Hew Siew Ling	Waitress	KRGH - Scholar Restaurant
	Chris Chong Chee Hon	Senior Banquet Captain	SCGH - Banquet

BTGH = Bukit Timah Guild House KRGH = Kent Ridge Guild House SCGH = Suntec City Guild House

# I&E AWARD WINNERS REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

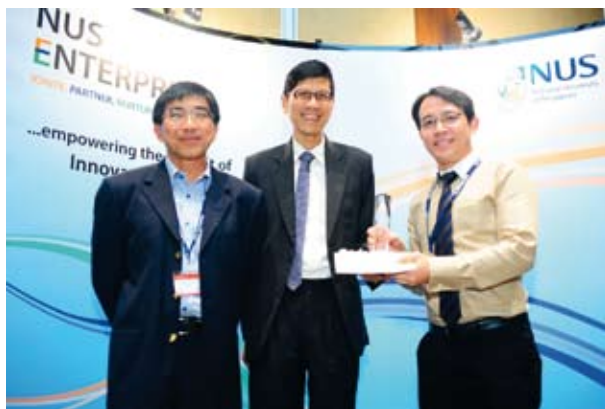
## 2014 I&E AWARD CALL NOW OPEN!

**S**tart-up companies and innovators within the NUS community are reaching new heights, with support from the Innovation & Enterprise (I&E) Awards. Organised by NUS Enterprise and NUSS, with support from the National Research Foundation, the I&E Awards recognise individuals and companies who have significantly contributed towards entrepreneurship and innovation. There are two categories. The first is the Promising NUS Start-up Award for innovation-based ventures in Singapore. Start-ups receiving this prestigious award take home a trophy and \$100,000 prize money. The second is the Outstanding NUS Innovator Award, for individuals or teams with accomplishments in entrepreneurship and innovation. Winners receive a trophy and \$10,000 prize money.

However, more than just prizes, the I&E Award provides winners with recognition of their hard work, viable business plans and cutting-edge R&D. This encourages them to make further achievements, including

winning international awards, launching products in global markets and advancing their research. Here are three examples:

.....



**Clockwise from top left:** Mr Stephen Zhou (Winner of 2011 Outstanding NUS Innovator Award), Dr Peter Kellock (Winner of 2013 Outstanding NUS Innovator Award), AWAK Technologies (Winner of 2013 Promising NUS Start-Up Award)



Mr Johnson Chen (left) with Prof. Lim Chwee Teck (right) at the Asian Innovation Awards 2012

## 1. TRANSFORMING CANCER DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT

One of the Promising NUS Start-up Award winners is Clearbridge BioMedics, which has developed the ClearCell™ system for detecting and retrieving circulating tumour cells from a blood sample. Clearbridge Biomedics launched this device for research markets and is now developing a further version for clinical use. This will allow cancer researchers and oncologists to manage cancer more effectively. Since winning the award, they have achieved other successes – they triumphed the Asian Entrepreneurship Award 2012 and the Wall Street Journal Asian Innovation Awards 2012, raised \$9 million for its Series B and revealed their latest generation ClearCell™ FX system at a global oncology conference.

“Having licensed Clearbridge BioMedics’ underlying technology from NUS, we were delighted to win the Promising NUS Start-up Award in 2012. The S\$100,000 prize money makes this one of the most generous awards in the region. We used this money to accelerate the development of our microfluidic biochips and prepare for our regulatory

certifications, which will allow us to make a positive impact on the battle against cancer,” said Mr Johnson Chen, Managing Director Clearbridge BioMedics, who co-founded the company with Prof Lim Chwee Teck, an NUS alumni and faculty member from NUS Faculty of Engineering.

## 2. APPLYING AUGMENTED REALITY TECHNOLOGY

One reason why Dr Steven Zhou won the inaugural Outstanding NUS Innovator Award was because his augmented reality research gained international recognition - identified as the top 10 Emerging Technologies by MIT Technology Review in 2009 and 2010. Since winning the award, Dr Zhou has furthered his ground-breaking R&D, as well as provided direction to MXR Corporation, a spin-off company he founded in 2004, to commercialise augmented reality technologies. MXR Corporation is developing applications in various areas, including advertising, education and military, and recently set up operations in China. Dr Zhou used the prize money for team building activities - a good decision, as MXR Corporation won the top prize for Demo China 2012 and top prize for the Audi Innovation Competition 2013.

## 3. BRINGING BETTER SMILES TO EUROPE

BioMers won the Promising NUS Start-up Award in 2012 for its innovative flagship product, SimpliClear®. SimpliClear® is the world’s first completely clear orthodontic braces system, and is capable of correcting

even the most difficult patient cases. SimpliClear® arose from a successful collaboration between the NUS Department of Mechanical Engineering and Faculty of Dentistry. BioMers invested the award’s prize money into digitising the ordering process, thus improving the customer experience. In 2013, BioMers sealed a partnership with Europe’s largest dental chain – Vitaldent. This has allowed the company to establish a leading presence in the European market. With its “invisible” appearance, SimpliClear® has been helping patients around the world improve their smiles since 2011.



The “invisible” SimpliClear braces

**Nominations / Applications are due 28 February 2014.**

**For further enquiries, please contact Teo Shen Wei at [ieaward@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ieaward@nus.edu.sg).**

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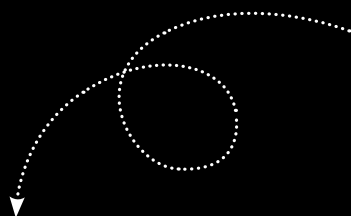


# NUSS Members Can Enjoy These Special Privileges!

<b>BYCH Hot Yoga</b>	Drop-in BYCH Classic 90 minutes Hot Yoga class at \$40 Drop-in BYCH Cardio 55 minutes Hot Yoga class at \$30 50 Yoga class card for \$1,000
<b>GNC</b>	15% discount on regular-priced items
<b>T32 Dental Centre</b>	NUSS members enjoy dental packages for adults, teenagers and children
<b>NFU.OH Boutique Nail Creation</b>	\$48 for classic manicure and pedicure \$99 for classic gel manicure and pedicure \$48 for a foot spa session
<b>Renopapa</b>	10% discount on all Renopapa products
<b>QCD Group</b>	Purchase the QCD Lifestyle Premier Membership and enjoy a wide range of privileges offered by the QCD Lifestyle Group of Companies
<b>Pan-West</b>	10% off final bill with every \$100 spent in a single receipt
<b>Gloria Photography</b>	20% discount on retail prices
<b>Vitamin.sg</b>	Up to 50% discount on vitamin purchases
<b>Xpressflower.com</b>	10% discount with minimum order of \$50 via internet and phone 10% discount with minimum order of \$30 at any Xpressflower.com outlets
<b>Dayspring Health Screeners</b>	Premium health screening package at \$269 Nett
<b>Globeautyasia</b>	15% discount on Organic Skincare and Hyaluronic products

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More...  
**Special Privileges!**



<b>Greenbox</b>	Up to 10% discount on all products Free Greenbox membership
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<b>About Music</b>	10% discount on all regular music courses
<b>Pet Lovers Centre</b>	3% off with minimum \$15 purchase on regular-priced items Free VIP card for new members
<b>The Fullerton Hotel Singapore</b>	<i>Lunar New Year Package</i> • From \$348 per night for a Courtyard Room • \$38 Nett dining credit per stay <i>Weekend Special</i> • From \$348 per night for a Courtyard Room • Complimentary late check-out at 3 pm (subject to availability)
<b>Nature's Farm</b>	20% off purchase of minimum 2 regular-priced items 30% off purchase of 3 or more regular-priced items Additional 5% off for Nature's Farm VIP members
<b>HABA</b>	10% discount on all health and beauty items
<b>Noel Gifts</b>	10% discount on orders place through phone or fax
<b>Forbes Asia</b>	Subscribe to a year of Forbes Asia at a special price of \$80 and save 50% off the cover price of \$161
<b>W Eye Clinic</b>	Intralase® Wavefront LASIK (both eyes) surgery at \$2738 (before GST)
<b>Ritzbo</b>	5% discount on all online purchase of luxury items
<b>Matrix</b>	Sign up for a Matrix overseas SIM Card at 25% off voice rental (from as low as S\$12) and enjoy free incoming calls and free bundled minutes to Singapore
<b>Lotto Carpets Gallery</b>	20% off every purchase of \$1,800 or more

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY.** Please visit <http://tinyurl.com/Members-Benefits> for more information

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One might have unknowingly stopped to marvel at one of her larger than life sculptures at prominent places in Singapore, such as the National Museum of Singapore, Terminal 3 of Changi Airport and the favorite shopping hotspot Ion Orchard. The unassuming lady behind all these visually stunning pieces is none other than Kumari Nahapan, a Singapore based contemporary artist, known to many more familiarly as 'The Chili Lady'.

Reputed for her sculptures that explore Nature's forms and Asian identity, she has gained international acclaim, especially for sculptures of chilies in various forms of personification, which earned her the nickname. Her love for this hot fiery vegetable recently won her the Sculpture of The Year award in Shanghai, China at the 15th edition of the Shanghai Art Fair 2011.

Represented by 7Adam Gallery, Kumari has built an impressive artistic practice over the twenty years. As a budding artist, she won the richest and longest running Art competition in Singapore, the United Overseas Bank Painting Award in 1998. Kumari went on to be the first woman and foreigner to be awarded the prestigious Ksatria Seni Award in 2004 by the renowned Museum Rudana in Ubud, Bali.

### Art Stage 2014

Fans can catch Kumari's works at Art Stage Singapore 2014 held from 16 to 19 January at the Marina Bay Sands exhibition halls. Titled "Revising Nature", it is a celebration of all things "ordinary and mundane"; a journey of Song and Dance.

Riding on the success of Art Stage 2013 which welcomed 40,500 visitors over five days, the 2014 edition will showcase international galleries from all over the world. Art Stage Singapore, is becoming one of the most important regional art fairs and differentiates itself by heavily featuring the works of Southeast Asian artists.

Sculpture of the Year winner at the Shanghai Art Fair 2011, "Tango" from Kumari's Song and Dance series will once again take center stage in her installation. A 1.5 metre duplication of the 6.6 metre "Tango" will be displayed alongside other



## 7Adam Gallery displays Singaporean talent on an international platform

From left: Tango; These Boots Are Made For Walking.

pieces from the Song & Dance series and also the Seeds & Pods series. Inspired by song and dance as its title suggests, this series is a theatrical showcase of chilies, exuding their vivacious personalities. Impressing with their unique eccentricities, they capture an honest expression of celebration and joy.

The introduction of Angsana seeds from the Seeds & Pods series are symbolic of new life and untapped energies that arouse and stimulate a multitude of sensations. This is

the first time these works will create an interplay of energy and raw mischievous passion, creating a whole new dimension to her repertoire.

Take a walk on the wild side; explore the fun and eccentricities of the ordinary at Revisiting Nature.

For more information, contact  
7Adam Gallery  
7Adam Park Singapore 289926  
Email: [artenquiries@7adam.com](mailto:artenquiries@7adam.com)  
Tel: +65 6463 0777

### About 7Adam Gallery Restaurant

A marvellous fusion of food and art, 7Adam Gallery Restaurant is nestled amongst lush green foliage at Adam Park. It is the perfect place to spend a romantic evening, have a warm gathering with friends or simply lull away a leisurely afternoon with a feast for the senses. The gallery and restaurant housed in an evocative colonial house, features an eclectic mix of haute cuisine and contemporary art by acclaimed artists from around the region.

AT THE  
CORE  
OF

SINGAPORE'S  
IDENTITY

# AS OUR CITY-STATE CONTINUES TO ATTRACT FOREIGNERS AND TRIES TO STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN MODERNITY AND HERITAGE WITHIN ITS BUILT ENVIRONMENT, **AUDRINA GAN** EXPLORES IF SINGAPOREANS ARE AT RISK OF LOSING THEIR NATIONAL IDENTITY.

**T**he announcement in January 2012 to prepare policies and infrastructure for Singapore's population to grow to as large as 6.9 million by 2030, to mitigate low birth-rates and an ageing society stirred debate. If fulfilled, it meant that Singaporeans would form little more than half the population, prompting concerns over the dilution of national identity and a fraying social fabric.

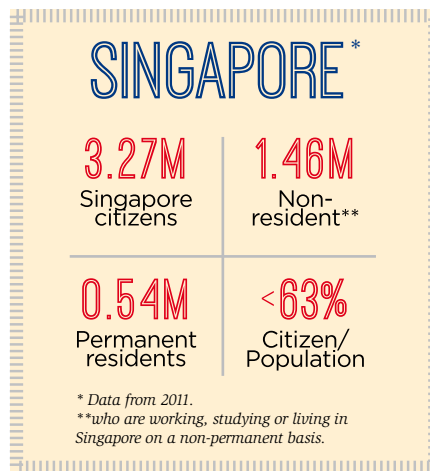
Singapore has 3.27 million Singapore citizens, and 0.54 million permanent residents as of December 2011. There is another non-resident population of 1.46 million who are working, studying or living in Singapore on a non-permanent basis.

Much of the debate was premised on the notion of what exactly encapsulated a Singaporean identity. It seemed that the question was no longer as simply answered or as straightforward as it used to be.

"There is no denying that much of that difficulty is due to the fact that we are at the crossroads of an exceptional period in Singapore's relatively young history. Our politics is evolving, a fact acknowledged by the Prime Minister. Our society, both in terms of mindset and its general composition, has changed significantly, with more changes seemingly on the horizon," wrote Mr Pravin Prakash, a political science graduate at the National University of Singapore, in an article published in April 2013 in *TODAY*.

## Blending Identity with Race

The way he saw it, the concepts of race and ethnicity were critical forces that shaped the identity of the individual and society. Mr Prakash said, "The Singapore identity is essentially a hyphenated one. Every Singaporean is a Singaporean - 'Something', with



an ethnic identity accompanying his national identity. Each race was also allocated a race-language, and it was made compulsory for Singaporeans to take the prescribed race-language as a mother tongue."

He added, "This policy has had some benefit, with links to culture and language being emphasised. However, within the context of creating a national identity, this only served to further complicate the already difficult task of creating a national identity that Singaporeans could subscribe to."

Mr Sudhir Vadaketh, author of *Floating on a Malayan Breeze*, concurred, "When I was growing up, our choice of second language was not dependent on our race, like it is now. Of course, this policy is meant to preserve each culture's language, but it might have to change given the influx of immigrants. Otherwise, among other things, students in local schools will face tighter language restrictions than those in international schools."

"We are a multi-racial society but we may have to move away from race-consciousness to become race blind in future. We should also move away from ethnic quotas when it

comes to allocation for HDB flats," added Mr Vadaketh.

In contrast, Mr Vincent Goi, 36, a trained architect and interior designer, felt that imposing an ethnic quota for public housing was necessary. "HDB is a place where most Singaporeans reside. Singaporeans are made up of people of multi-races. So there should not be an exclusive enclave of towns for a single race to dominate. Without a planned policy, there may be no balance," Mr Goi said.

However, Mr Vadaketh observed that ethnic enclaves have now formed including a rather posh Indian one in the East Coast and a more humble Vietnamese one in Joo Chiat.

Mr Vadaketh noted, "Foreign languages and dialects are all the rage, echoing through the corridors of high finance down to the back alleys of coffeshops. China-born Olympic table tennis bronze medal winner Ms Feng Tianwei, to the bewilderment of her fellow citizens, has not bothered to learn English, despite having lived in Singapore for five years. In terms of identity, it is as if native-born Singaporeans have been marshalled and spanked for years while migrants, including new citizens like Ms Feng, have been given carte blanche to be whoever they want to be."

## Differentiating Ourselves

There are many who are worried that Singapore is fast becoming a country for migrants. In 1990, more than 86 percent of Singapore's population was made up of citizens. By 2011, this had dropped to below 63 percent. Proponents of high immigration in Singapore pointed to the demographic makeup of global cities such as London and New York.

"London and New York are global cities that are connected to much larger heartlands. No matter how

cosmopolitan they become, there will never be any doubt about what it means to be, respectively, a British and an American. The identity of those countries is never in question,” said Mr Vadaketh.

He added, “The combination of globalisation, low birth rates and high immigration has essentially overturned the very essence of a Singaporean identity that our forefathers tried to build. The traditional notion of ‘tribe’ — Chinese, Malay and Indian — has been disrupted.”

“My Singaporean Chinese friends used to speak only English to me,” Farouk Khan, a Singaporean who lives in Kuala Lumpur, told Mr Vadaketh. “Now whenever we meet, they are always trying to litter their conversation with Malay words and phrases. They are trying to show that they are local Chinese, different from the Mainland Chinese,” Mr Khan said.

Such attempts to differentiate themselves may become tinged with some racism or other prejudice but the most basic instinct that has been driving these actions is the loss of identity. “Singaporeans are desperately clawing at any vestiges of *Singaporean-ness*,” notes Mr Vadaketh.

Professor Chua Beng Huat at the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore said that the question of identity arises from citizens who do not really know how identity was formed. Prof Chua said, “It is not a recipe that you can cook up. Singaporeans will always have an identity just by defining themselves against others. You have to think about the differences rather than look at unique features that are common to everyone. If you think in those terms, you will always have an identity.”

As with other countries’ identity, Mr Goi said that Singapore’s national identity lay in the common and shared feelings among the people who lived and grew up here.

“It is not who you are or what you are, but the fact that you grew up and lived here, interacting with other people in Singapore, and all the daily things that you do everyday in this country that shapes you into a Singaporean,” he said.

Professor Chua agreed, “Nothing

“LONDON AND NEW YORK ARE GLOBAL CITIES THAT ARE CONNECTED TO **MUCH LARGER HEARTLANDS**. NO MATTER HOW COSMOPOLITAN THEY BECOME, THERE WILL NEVER BE ANY DOUBT ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE, RESPECTIVELY, A BRITISH AND AN AMERICAN. **THE IDENTITY OF THOSE COUNTRIES IS NEVER IN QUESTION.**”



**Mr Sudhir Thomas Vadaketh**

Author of *Floating on a Malayan Breeze* on comparing Singapore to other global cities.

concretely makes us Singaporean. The fact that your way of life is clearly different from an American makes you a Singaporean. Your food habits would be different, your school experience would be different from going to an American high school and your experience in living in high-rise buildings would be different from most Americans.”

### What we have in common

In an article published in *The Straits Times* in September last year, Singapore’s ambassador-at-large Professor Tommy Koh wrote that one of the things that makes him a Singaporean is the fact that his close friends include Chinese, Malays, Indians, Eurasians, Arabs, Jews and Armenians.

“I venture that hardly any Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Indian or Indonesian can make the same claim and few even among Americans, from the land of the melting pot,” said Prof Koh.

Prof Koh also believed that Singaporeans share certain core values. He observed, “The Singaporean is honest, hard-working, law-abiding and reliable. We believe in meritocracy. For this reason, Singaporeans are headhunted by the private sector and sought after by international organisations.”

According to him, Singaporeans also speak English in an identifiably unique way in terms of our accent and intonation. He related an example, “I had a very close American friend



In 1990, more than 86 percent of Singapore’s population was made up of citizens. By 2011, this had dropped to below 63 percent.

named Miriam Levering. One day, she was on a streetcar in Vienna. She heard several men talking to one another in English. She went up to them and asked whether they were from Singapore. They said 'yes' and asked her how she knew. She said, 'You speak just like my friend, Tommy Koh.'

Although Prof Koh has spent more than 20 years of his life in America, he has not acquired an American accent.

"I therefore cannot understand why some Singaporeans, who have had much less exposure to the West, speak English with a fake foreign accent. We should be true to ourselves and speak English in the Singaporean way. There is no need to put on an Oxbridge accent or an American accent," he said.

With birth rates unlikely to rise rapidly and immigration likely to continue, will this erode our national identity? Prof Chua said, "All this talk about foreigners is to make Singaporeans more conscious of their differences with others. When you speak to a Mainland Chinese lady, you can tell that she is not a Singaporean from the way she speaks. So of course foreigners are going to make us feel stronger and reinforce us as Singaporeans rather than diffuse it. So if you want a strong Singapore identity, then that is good, but it also makes you more 'anti-others'."

He further explained, "Nationalism has a very serious cost because it comes with prejudice. It makes us have a preference for things that are ours. So when you meet a foreigner, if you come to some other conclusion rather than saying mine is right, that will make you a better human being by being more tolerant, more open-minded, acquiring new skills, acquiring new knowledge."

Perhaps the reality is that Singapore cannot simultaneously build both a national identity and a global city identity.

"The national identity served us well in our formative years, but the global city identity will carry us forward. We are actually in the midst of a transition from the former to the latter. A global city identity is much more fluid, less rooted, than a national identity," said Mr Vadaketh.

He added, "Migrants, many of

whom now have a critical mass in Singapore, tend to live their own lives in their own silos. They interact with others, playing, working and breaking bread together. However, there is no larger, imagined community here that binds all the people in Singapore. The migrants of today

THE FACT THAT YOUR WAY OF LIFE IS CLEARLY DIFFERENT FROM AN AMERICAN MAKES YOU A SINGAPOREAN. YOUR FOOD HABITS WOULD BE DIFFERENT, YOUR SCHOOL EXPERIENCE WOULD BE DIFFERENT FROM GOING TO AN AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL AND YOUR EXPERIENCE IN LIVING IN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS WOULD BE DIFFERENT FROM MOST AMERICANS."



**Professor Chua Beng Huat**

Department of Sociology  
National University of Singapore

will probably never integrate like the migrants of yesterday. The world is more globalised and cognitive distances shorter. Migrants already think of *Singaporean-ness* in terms of a global city identity, not a national one. Many will send their children to international schools as it is hoped they will join the global elite. For these young ones, Singapore is just one of a patchwork of identities they hope to stitch together as they journey through life."

### Injecting local flavours

In Mr Goi's opinion, more can still be done to aspire and open Singaporeans up to the other things in life, such as in the fields of design, fashion, journalism, architecture and many others.

"There are many festivities and events on our calendar celebrating some of these, but we are looking at 'mega' scale supports. For example, despite our success in many areas, some of our biggest and most significant buildings are still being designed by foreign architects and designers. Singapore is certainly a melting pot of talents and we thrive in such dynamism and collaboration.

However, certain things need to go beyond the surface and to go into the 'heart'." He cited the example of Taipei 101, one of the world's tallest building, designed by a Taiwanese architecture firm with the assistance of foreign engineering consultants. The owners of the building did not

give the much coveted job to a foreign architect simply because no Taiwanese firm has ever designed such a tall building. They insist the building to be designed by their locals. The result speaks for itself and there is a soaring ultra-modern skyscraper with aesthetically charming Taiwanese

flavors. "Such icons can truly capture the heart and soul of the people," added Mr Goi.

As Singapore continues to forge ahead, many Singaporeans have felt that the country should also aspire to maintain a balance between heritage and modernity in our built environment. "Some of the greatest cities in the world have preserved so much of the existing buildings and that definitely has a positive impact on their people's sense of national identity. The familiarity of the physical environment plays a sizable role in the link between people's hearts and their national identity," said Mr Goi.

Prof Koh regretted that his primary school had disappeared and that his high school had moved house twice. "However, I am happy that my law school has returned to its original home at Bukit Timah. I am very encouraged by the new interest shown by Singaporeans, young and old, to preserve our memories, history and heritage. This is good because a nation is a people bound together by their collective memories of the past and their shared dreams of the future," he noted.

## Pitting Ourselves Against the Best

Meanwhile, citizens such as Mr Vadaketh are concerned that Singapore has been too focussed on attracting the well-heeled to the country, sometimes at the expense of the middle-class and less fortunate.

"It seems as if we are trying to build a country that appeals to the rich with too many 'mega' events and structures such as the Marina Bay Sands and Formula One. This may undermine our attempt to build a national identity because if too many people are here only to get rich, will they stay when the going gets tough?" he asked.

Others like Mr Goi thinks it is a national strategy for Singapore to attract people who are the best in their leagues or the richest people to come.

"The reason is simple. Mix with the best so that if we are lesser than them, we know where we stand and we can grow and catch up. It is important to realise that this is perhaps one of the best ways to grow. It is even more important to encourage ourselves to stay positive and motivated throughout the process," he said.

Mr Goi elaborated, "National identity is something that is cultivated over a long period of time by the people in a country. New billionaires cannot assimilate a new national identity so quickly. Neither can other new immigrants who have decided to take roots here. I believe our national identity is unique, attractive and enduring. Should the day come that Singapore has no more

I AM HAPPY THAT MY LAW SCHOOL HAS RETURNED TO ITS ORIGINAL HOME AT BUKIT TIMAH. I AM VERY ENCOURAGED BY THE NEW INTEREST SHOWN BY SINGAPOREANS, YOUNG AND OLD, TO PRESERVE OUR MEMORIES, HISTORY AND HERITAGE. THIS IS GOOD BECAUSE A NATION IS A PEOPLE BOUND TOGETHER BY THEIR COLLECTIVE MEMORIES OF THE PAST AND THEIR SHARED DREAMS OF THE FUTURE.



**Professor Tommy Koh**

Singapore's ambassador-at-large, reflecting that his primary school had disappeared and that his high school had moved house twice.

money for Singaporeans, old or new, to be made, I hope it is our national identity and bonding that will make them stay."

For those like Mr Prakash and Mr Vadaketh who noted that an economically unequal Singapore will struggle to find a united identity, Prof Chua said that class differences should not translate into whether that makes us feel more Singaporean or not.

"Within a society, income inequality and social injustice goes on. A middle-class Singaporean may not necessarily feel more committed to being Singaporean than a lower-classed Singaporean. Similarly, if my economic condition makes it necessary for me to leave Singapore, I cannot cut off the *Singaporean-ness* in me. People in Australia will recognise that I am not Australian. So it is not

that easy to lose your Singaporean identity to others," he shared.

Will Singapore be at risk of losing its economic achievements if it does not succeed in building a stronger national identity? Mr Vadaketh does not think so. "Rather than economic loss, a lack of identity will make Singapore feel less like a home and more like a hotel where people pause for a break before moving on with their lives as the world becomes more globalised."

Prof Chua

commented that Singapore does not have to consciously build a national identity because it will always end up in failure. "It is like how each time we try to create a national dress for our beauty contestants, it always ends up disastrous. It is better to get a Singapore designer to just design a dress and because he is Singaporean and the dress will end up being different from others. So you just have to be confident in your way of life, the cultural resources available, and knowing that how you were brought up is different from others." ■

**IN CONCLUSION** Rather than defining a Singapore identity, Singaporeans will always be able to find common ground regardless of race and geographical boundaries.

## A UNITED IDENTITY

LIKE most Singaporeans, Ms Ho Si Mi, 47, an IT professional, enjoys her food and loves shopping. The way she sees it, the influx of immigrants complicates the already challenging task of creating a national identity.

"There are more different races with different cultures and habits. Some do not speak our common language (English) and this can cause communication problems and as a result, some of them may not be able to blend into our society," she said.

Ms Ho felt that income inequality will also result in Singaporeans not being able to find a united identity. She opined, "The lower income will feel left out of the economic growth and need to work harder to survive as compared to the higher-income group." She concluded that it takes efforts from both the government and Singaporeans to develop a strong Singapore identity: "We need to build our identity around our Asian values and blend in with the western values of innovation, creativity and open-mindedness."



**Developing a strong Singapore identity rakes effort.**

Visit to SWAMI Home | 24 August 2013 | SWAMI Home, Sembawang Walk

## Spreading the Cheer

As many as 40 volunteers from NUS visited the SWAMI Home for the elderly and spread cheer and joy to the Home's residents. Much to the delight of the residents and staff, *The SilverStones* provided live music and entertainment. Thereafter, the volunteers served a delicious vegetarian lunch that was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



Art Appreciation 101 | 31 August 2013 | Kent Ridge Guild House

## Seeing with Artistic Eyes

Participants paid close attention as Ms Seah Tzi-Yan, co-founder of ARTSingapore, brought them through the different eras of art and the techniques of collecting art. Many contributed actively to the discussion at the workshop, enhancing the learning experience.



Beauty Series: The Korean Beauty | 28 September 2013 | The Make-Up Room, River Valley Road

## All in the Name of Beauty

Korea seems to have fine tuned the idea of trendy beauty, leading to more ladies desiring to have the beautiful Korean look themselves. At the make-up workshop, participants picked up useful tips to create a flawless look for daily wear. Every lady was gifted a set of make-up brushes to help them continue their practice at home.



## A Molten Night for Chivas Lovers

It was an exciting night of fun games and good company for members and guests who reveled in the Scotch whisky sponsored by Pernod Ricard. They had a go at the pub quiz with winners walking away with bottles of Chivas Regal. The quiz questions covered a wide range of topics including sports and the history of whisky. Robyn (formerly of *Frank and Robyn*) and Terry (formerly of *Tony and Terry with Spencer*) also performed evergreen music for the crowd.



Scan your QR code reader to see more pictures



Social Dinner & Dance - Swingin' Safari | 7 September 2013 | Kent Ridge Guild House

## Close Encounters at NUSS Safari



Scan your QR code reader to see more pictures

Members and guests had a great time at the African-themed dinner and dance organised by the NUSS DanceSport Section. Winners of the Merlion International Dancesport Championship 2013, Natalie Tjokro and Jumil Bacalso, entertained the audience with their agile and nifty footwork.



NUSS DanceSport Charity Tea Dance: Pretty in Pink | 12 October 2013 | Kent Ridge Guild House

## All Wrapped Up in Pink

In support of the Community Cancer Fund by the National Cancer Centre Singapore, the NUSS DanceSport Section organised a tea dance during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. One hundred and fifty members and guests, dressed in various shades of pink, twirled and swirled on the dance floor.



Scan your QR code reader to see more pictures

How to Make Hokkaido Cake | 5 October 2013 | ITS! Baking Studio

## 'Japanese' Cake Satisfies

Named as such, the cream fillings is made with quality milk imported from Hokkaido, Japan. It is a little-known fact that the original Hokkaido cake recipe was actually created in Malaysia and not Japan as perceived by many. Nevertheless, members had a great time learning to make the light and fluffy classic cake at the hands-on workshop.



Scan your QR code reader to see more pictures

Secrets to a Wholesome Breakfast – A Culinary Experience | 19 October 2013 | OSAC International College

## Breakfasting the Healthy Way

If you think that the adage “breakfast is the most important meal of the day” is just an old wives’ tale, think again. At the workshop, participants learnt about the benefits of a healthy breakfast and were hands-on in creating easy breakfast recipes ranging from pancakes to Eggs Benedict. They had the most fun in attempting to make the perfect poached egg.



Scan your QR code reader to see more pictures

How to Make Sweet Buns | 26 October 2013 | OSAC International College

## Sweetest Baking Time



Members worked up a sweat kneading dough from scratch. They had a chance to show off their creative flair by creating soft and fluffy bread with fillings such as red bean and cream cheese, making these the perfect snack to enjoy afternoon tea.



Scan your QR code reader to see more pictures

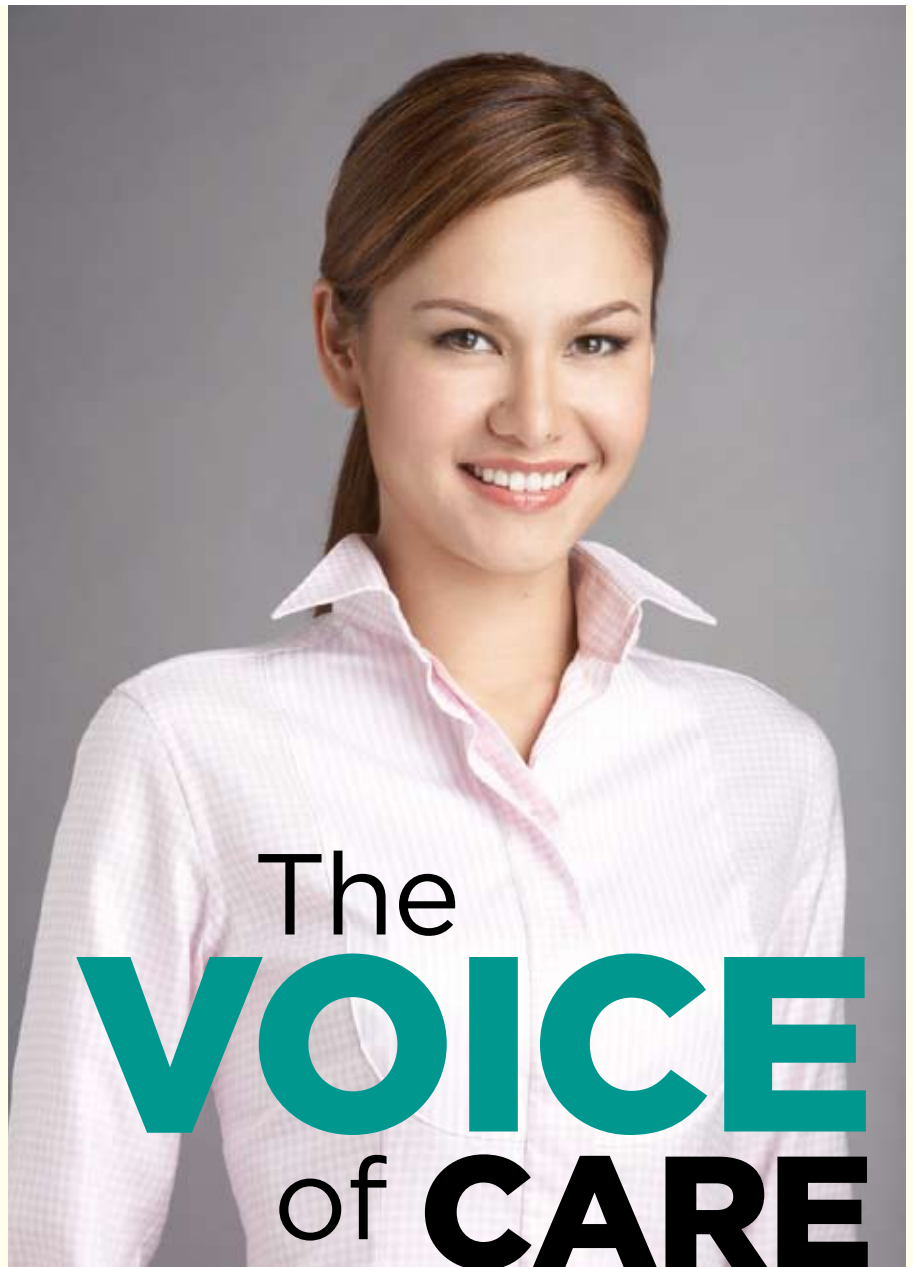
Lending her voice to those who do not have the opportunity to speak out, **Eunice Olsen** takes time out from her relentless schedule with women's work to chat about her passions in life.

**S**itting resplendent in the heart of Dempsey Hill amidst the whistling trees and balmy breeze, Eunice kicked back her heels to enjoy the first real break she has had in some while. With a focused gaze, Eunice proceeded to speak about the work which had been keeping her on her toes but is extremely close to her heart.

Television host, actress, film and TV producer, accomplished pianist and an avid volunteer, Eunice was appointed as a Nominated Member of Parliament in Singapore in 2004, making her the youngest-ever appointed at the age of 27. She was also the winner of the Miss Singapore Universe contest in 2000. In 2008, Eunice was the proud recipient of the prestigious ASEAN Youth Award and was recently nominated as a Young Global Leader representing Singapore at the World Economic Forum.

In addition to her entertainment work, she champions causes such as awareness on human trafficking and people with disabilities. Her latest 'passion project' is *Women Talk*, an online channel which champions and celebrates the social empowerment of Asian women.

She said, "I think you have to really believe in what you are doing. With the idea of women's empowerment work which we have been doing, we are already



partnered with SK-II and the United Nations (UN) Women Entity. *Women Talk* literally started off over dinner at a Hong Kong café. It did not start off with me intentionally saying, 'I want to be a voice'. Instead, it was more of having many other women out there feeling the same way and myself wondering how we could bring them altogether to talk about it."

She explained that there are already so many women in the community who were championing women's rights and who have been doing amazing work. However, Eunice personally felt that there were more questions to be asked, such as how everybody could draw on each other's strength and how each person could further inspire others.

#### >> ENGAGE PEOPLE IN CONVERSATION

"There are women out there who have only limited opportunities but they are more than willing to make something better for themselves in life. My greater concern was how to connect these women together and this was literally how *Women Talk* was born."

She remarked, “There are women out there who have only limited opportunities but they are more than willing to make something better for themselves in life. My greater concern was how to connect these women together and this was literally how *Women Talk* was born. It has since been a bigger and clearer picture to me. I love to engage people in conversation and not be afraid to talk about things that are difficult or that are uncomfortable.”

Eunice had always wanted to have a collection point of beautiful stories revolving around the central question of empowerment because everybody defined it differently. Starting from just pitching the video clips, the demand grew for more and soon, a pilot series was created. However, there was more work to be done. Fuelled by the conviction of her heart, she decided that she would not just pitch anymore because she truly wanted to put her money where her mouth was.

Eunice observed, “There is nothing wrong with just talking about issues and causes. Everybody has a certain measure for risk. However, I feel that it differs from one person to another as each of us have different situations and circumstances in life. Personally, I know this is why I live doing this work and this is what drives me.”

Apart from *Women Talk*, acting in the film ‘3:50’ had kept her busy. As another of Eunice’s latest project, it also marked her first journey as a co-producer. ‘3:50’ explored the

players and dealings around the sex trafficking industry in Cambodia. The feature film, which took two and a half years to make, premiered in October last year and subsequently, enabled Eunice to be partnered with UN Women.

Eunice shared, “My role was to tell the story with the film. I had the pleasure to work in the rural communities in Cambodia with my film and research, bringing me back to Cambodia. For the first time in my life, I saw injustice taking place. At that point, I decided that I did not simply want to be a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) and instead, wanted to fill in the gaps in the existing projects already in place.”

She related that doing the work and having the parents she has are very humbling. Her parents keep her in check and the same goes with her close friends. When Eunice interviews the women in the course of her work, it made her realise that it was a reality for many of the girls and not a situation which was invented. The courage and strength found with each person she encountered bolstered her sense of being fearless.

She commented, “I admire

## >> SENSE OF BEING FEARLESS

“I admire fearlessness and that intrinsically drives me. If I should fail, I would simply try again. Nobody starts off being successful by not making mistakes and I believe that belief and the strength have to come from within.”

fearlessness and that intrinsically drives me. If I should fail, I would simply try again. Nobody starts off being successful by not making mistakes and I believe that belief and the strength have to come from within. Even with *Women Talk*, I do not know whether it is going to be successful at the end of the day, but I am going to push it through to the end. I just know that I need to be surrounded by a good core group of people who believe in the cause or idea and who understand why I do what I do.”

She summarised, “At this point in life, I am simply very grateful - for the work that I can do, for my family, my friends and the risks that I have taken. Though I still do not know where this is heading, I believe it is about me focusing on the work and focusing on why I do what I do. I always tell others that personal conviction and motivation are very important. Every woman whom I have spoken to has given rise to the conviction that I can continue to be a voice for those who may not be able to speak up about their challenges in life.” ■



Olsen is a co-producer of ‘3:50’, a film exploring the players and dealings around the sex trafficking industry in Cambodia.

More information on ‘Women Talk’ can be found on <http://womentalktv.asia>



# Our PASSION that Matters

Success to many Singaporeans may mean materialistic achievement that we classify as the five Cs. While these sit well with capitalists, it does not resonate with a growing group of youths who are putting their personal fulfilment first.

**Anthony Koh** finds out how this is possible in Singapore.



More young Singaporeans are willing to earn a lower pay to pursue their passion.

**M**elissa Kwee wanted to help teenage girls at risk and started *Beautiful People*, an empowerment programme.

Richard Chua believed in equal opportunity and he founded *Adrenalin*, a social enterprise that hires youths with special needs and youths-at-risk. Bjorn Low of Edible Gardens left the corporate world for his love for farming. All of them studied practical subjects in universities and except for Kwee, all worked in other jobs before venturing out. One common thread was that they all jettisoned the traditional path of career progression in their thirties.

It was reported that more young Singaporeans are willing to earn a lower pay to pursue their passion. In many cases, their dreams were shared by only a particular group of

people. As such, what they decided for their future was perceived as an alternative choice.

"Most of my friends went to work at corporations and some thought I was crazy," Soh Ju Hu was quoted once during a 'Our Singapore Conversation Reflections' session. The 29-year old mechanical engineering graduate ran an eco-village in Johor Bahru, Malaysia before setting up *SHFT*, a lifestyle platform to convey a more sustainable approach to the way of living to help people, by growing their own foods at home.

Dr Gillian Koh, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies, noted that such attitudes were mostly observed rather than measured. They were common in areas "where they felt they could precipitate social change, 'make a difference', or within the Arts".

"Some do not drop out but instead, volunteer and juggle the demands of the two worlds," she added. That

said, turning passion into a full-time commitment is not for everyone.

"I found that the ones who really agreed to it were convicted or were able to own responsibility for their choices made," said Mr Tong Yee, director of The Thought Collective and spokesperson for National Youth Council (NYC). Many are like Mr Baey Yam Keng, Member of Parliament, who had been active in theatre since his Junior College days. He and his friends preferred to treat it as a hobby after leaving school.

### Passion versus Disillusionment

The deep-seated perception that Singapore is boring lingers in our youth's mind. They have the drive and need an outlet. Mr Tong said that this leads them to do something interesting to beat their boredom.

"I speak to many youths today and they cannot imagine themselves sitting at their desks. My generation could not imagine it either but

On the perception that Singapore is boring to youths

**"I speak to many youths today and they cannot imagine themselves sitting at their desks. My generation could not imagine it either but did it anyway."**

**Mr Tong Yee**

Director, The Thought Collective, and spokesman for National Youth Council



did it anyway,” he noted. Today’s generation hence comes across as ‘I-really-cannot-imagine-and-I-don’t-want-to-do-it.’

Beyond the fact that social media is now shaping how Singaporeans think, Mr Tong felt that social media have also changed how our industries function. This has also made it easier for youths to turn their dream into reality. Despite this, some passions as we know are flashes in the pan; those that have lasted had been thoroughly thought through.

“When people know that they have gone through this process, they will actually respect and encourage them,” said Mr Baey.

Unorthodox career choices - whether for art’s sake or for the betterment of our society - sound noble. Self-appointed director titles on namecards are often an ego booster. Behind these illusions, Mr Tong saw many versions of Zhao Kuo, an armchair warrior from ancient China. Well-versed in military theories, Kuo failed in the battlefields. What we could learn from this historical lesson is that the successes of ideas lie in their execution. In the course of Mr Tong’s work, he encountered many young wannabe entrepreneurs who had ‘crashed and burned’. “Many of these young people who were following their dreams were driven by ideals and had very little business skills,” he said. “They were taking grant money but do not have the rigour to do something sustainable.” The big question then is: can their passion thrive in Singapore?

### Room for Passion

“Fundamental to any business are funding, skills and experience and opportunities,” said Mr Tong.

The government recognised that beyond our financial success, it was equally important to prepare our youths for a future creative economy. In the arts, the Renaissance City Plan was launched since 2000 to fire up our nation in this area. For example, formal education in the arts were offered at tertiary institutions. Outside of school, professional and community-based arts groups have provided more platforms to develop youth’s interest and skills within

**“Many of these young people who were following their dreams were driven by ideals and had very little business skills. They were taking grant money but do not have the rigour to do something sustainable.”**

**Mr Tong Yee**

on the many young wannabe entrepreneurs who had ‘crashed and burned’

the arts. Media practitioners have also been able to upgrade their skills and receive training allowances. As another example, NYC offers both local and international programmes and grants to help sociopreneurs start a social enterprise.



**Mr Baey Yam Keng (above), Member of Parliament, was active in theatre since his Junior College days.**

Despite all the increased effort to help youths pursue their passions, the voices on the ground remain divided. In a poll conducted by Youth.SG last year, 132 students from the Singapore Institute of Management were asked if they felt that chasing their dreams was easy in Singapore. Forty-eight percent replied ‘yes’; the remaining were less optimistic. Ms Airin Lee, a twenty-something freelance makeup artist believed that she could grow her dream anywhere. “The growing process might not be smooth-sailing but each experience is a tiny step to making it come true,” she observed. In contrast, Ms Nicole Lee, an accountant dreaming to become a famous trumpeter doubted she could earn a living from it. “I think few Singaporeans appreciate good trumpet playing,” she said. Undergraduate and freelance photographer, Grey Chen felt that although Singapore is not ideal to start a photography business, it is not without redeeming factors. “Local regulations are pro-business and that helps,” he noted.

Even with the various schemes in place, some are still concerned about the ‘red tape’ involved. Mr Tong said such impression stemmed from prejudice and not reality.

“The bigger the sum of money, the more ‘red tape’ you are going to face – that is the natural accountability,” he remarked. Dr Koh shared similar sentiments, “When the challenge is one of questioning public policies, then there is always going to be debate as it involves public interest and public monies.” Dr Koh believed that it is par for the course, hence it should not be mistaken that when there is a push-back from the government, then conditions are ‘not conducive’ to do things.

With the days of nation-building behind us, youths can pursue their interests more freely and parents too have been more supportive. The government has also recognised that Singapore now has room for other forms of development.

Since 2006, the Ministry of Education has made changes to our education landscape to focus further on holistic development of youths.

“The educational syllabus has been enriched beyond the technical,



**Passion in action:** With the days of nation-building behind us, youths can pursue their interests more freely and parents too have been more supportive.

vocational aspects to foster skills in critical thinking as well as an appreciation of the broader social and eco-system that we exist in. So the awareness has been raised with these,” observed Dr Koh.

However, like with the arts, where informal arts engagement has produced supporters but does not necessarily professional practitioners, Mr Tong argued that teachers themselves have to break the stereotyping of less popular jobs which have impact on society and civilisation. “If everybody were to follow their dream, I would find a society that is more passionate. Even our shopping centres would be more interesting!” said Mr Tong.

### Different for a cause

To be an individual in a herd is not easy. As our leaders of tomorrow, youths have a great responsibility to shoulder. As such, should we deem personal aspiration as important as national interest? Even when the changes in question are positive and benefit our society, Dr Koh is concerned about how we draw a judgement.

“We know that there will be some issues that will be far more controversial than others. Public intellectuals have to wade in and constantly help to scrutinise the efforts and drive the discussion for the benefit of our social movements, self-help initiatives and social

### On Singapore's education landscape

**“The educational syllabus has been enriched beyond the technical, vocational aspects to foster skills in critical thinking as well as an appreciation of the broader social and eco-system that we exist in. So the awareness has been raised with these.”**



**Dr Gillian Koh**

Senior Research Fellow  
Institute of Policy Studies

enterprise innovations. If broader society is not ready for a cause, is this not the nature of the problem?” she questioned. Perhaps the key to every pursuit is to follow what our forefathers did best – whatever career chosen, whether with the arts or otherwise, one must be prepared to work hard. ■

**IN CONCLUSION** As more youths are taking the road less travelled, they need to introspect if they have the skill and aptitude to endure this journey instead of feeling powerless in their pursuits.



# Taiwan's Golfing and Travelling at its Best

The NUSS Golf Section's Golfing Trip to Taiwan was hailed as a splendid success by all the members who went on the five-day golfing holiday.

**T**he excitement was clearly seen on the faces of the golfers during check-in at Changi Aripport. Arriving in Taiwan in the early hours of the next morning, it was a straight beeline for the first stop on the trip – an early tee-off at the Miramar Golf Club, which boasts two courses designed by the legendary golfer, Jack Nicklaus.

Golfing on Day Two took place at the Sunrise Golf Club, a resort covering over 180 hectares that houses a world-class standard 18-hole championship golf course with a fairway at 7200 yards; equipped with sand bunker, green and water hazard designed by the world-famous golf course designer, Mr. Robert Trent Jones Jr.

The second day of golf was followed by an excursion to the village of Chiufen, once the centre of gold mining in Taiwan. While the gold has since been depleted, these quaint old villages, built of closely-packed houses clinging to steep mountainsides, continue to offer enchanting scenery

and fascinating glimpses into the lifestyles of the past.

After a free-and-easy Day Three when members took in the sights and attractions of Taipei at their own leisure, it was on to the Ta Shee Golf and Country Club on Day Four. Approximately one hour from Taipei, the course was completely reinvigorated in advance of its hosting the prestigious Johnnie Walker Classic and has since hosted the BMW Asian Open and hosting duties on the European, Asian, and Australian pro circuits.

Rounding off an event-filled trip was a farewell and celebratory dinner at the famous Shin Yen restaurant. Day One and Day Two champions

were Benjamin Tan and Kau Yau Chai respectively, while the runners-up were Steven Cheong (Day One) and Joseph Ng (Day Two). The overall champion trophy was ultimately clinched by Samuel Cheong.

The trip culminated in a visit to the Shilin Night Market, thereafter back to the base hotel for the trip – Taiwan's first 5-star international chain hotel, Caesar Park Taipei.

On the return flight to Singapore, members could be heard discussing possible, as well as their ideal, destinations for the next golfing trip. Stay tuned for more adventures! ■

## WINNERS

**Day 1** Champion: Benjamin Tan  
1st Runner up: Steven Cheong

**Day 2** Champion: Kau Yau Chai  
1st Runner up: Joseph Ng

**Overall Champion:** Samuel Cheong

**Courses played:** Oct 3 Miramar Golf Club  
Oct 4 Sunrise Golf Club  
Oct 6 Ta Shee Golf Club



ITIS-NUSS GAMES | 13 April - 17 September 2013 | Various locations in Singapore



# Players Did NUSS Proud

NUSS emerged victorious as overall champions in four out of the five sports played in the ITIS-NUSS Games.

**H**eld over a period of six months at various locations, the ITIS-NUSS Games involved the Society and other tertiary institutions, namely the various polytechnics, NUS and the ITE Colleges in various competitions.

Our badminton team maintained its stranglehold on the title winning the biennial event for the fourth consecutive time since 2007. According to the team members, the Games provided them with a good opportunity to hone their skill and

strengthened their mental resilience.

Following in the footsteps of their badminton counterparts, the NUSC bowlers swept all but one event and retaining their title. Held at the Orchid Bowl in Safra Tampines, the bowlers rolled to victory in the Men's and Ladies Singles, Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles. Only the 4-bowler event escaped the grasp of the keglers. The victory marked one of the highlights of the Bowling Section's achievements for 2013.

The NUSC Golfers also emerged overall champions but by just five



points from their closest rivals – Ngee Ann Polytechnic. Played at the scenic Jurong Country Club, the winner could have gone either way as the contest was closely fought.

Table tennis also proved to be a good stomping ground for the Society as our paddlers battled their way to the championship held at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

While not as successful as the other sports, the Tennis Section still emerged as runners-up to Singapore Polytechnic at the competition held at Nanyang Polytechnic in September 2013.

Win or lose, the atmosphere of the Games was one of friendship despite the keen competition. ■



**28TH NUSS-PAUM GAMES** | 25 & 26 October 2013 | Kent Ridge Guild House, National University of Singapore, Raffles Country Club & Singapore Polytechnic Graduates' Guild

# Strengthening Bonds at the 28th NUSS-PAUM Games

The annual 28th NUSS-PAUM Games received resounding accolades as the Society hosted its counterpart, Persatuan Alumni Universiti Malaya (PAUM), over two days of friendly play.

**N**USS emerged overall champion, breaking the trend of PAUM taking home the challenge trophy every year since 2008. The Games were very keenly contested and it was neck and neck in almost every single sport contested. The Games saw close to 100 participants competing in badminton, bowling, golf, soccer, table-tennis and tennis.

Despite the keen contest, it was evidently clear that the Games were more about building bonds of friendship and camaraderie than winning. At every sport venue, high-fives and applause were witnessed among teammates and opponents alike, congratulating and encouraging one another.

The soccer competition was judged a draw as it was abandoned midway due to inclement weather, much to the disappointment of the players. During the official dinner, friendly shouts of “we will meet again next year” could be heard between the players from both sides.

NUSS President Mr David Ho, in his opening address during the dinner to mark the end of the Games, remarked, “We are here to make friends - it is not about winning or losing. The Games have cemented the bonds between our two alumni clubs which cannot be replicated elsewhere in the region.”

Echoing Mr Ho’s sentiment was Mr James Tan, a participant from PAUM, “Year after year, the bond between the





two Universities (alumni clubs) grows stronger and stronger. Everyone is here to have a good time and winning or losing does not matter.”

In what has become a tradition, the evening's dinner also featured a karaoke segment. Participants were welcomed onstage to sing their favourite songs adding to the relaxed and casual atmosphere.

As the evening came to a close with a joint-singing moment of “Auld Lang Syne”, Mr Eric Goh, the Sports Chairperson of PAUM, said that he looked forward to seeing everyone again next year in Kuala Lumpur where the 29th NUSS-PAUM Games will be held. ■



**“Year after year, the bond between the two Universities (alumni clubs) grows stronger and stronger. Everyone is here to have a good time and winning or losing does not matter.”**

**Mr James Tan**

A participant from PAUM

## RESULTS THE 28TH NUSS - PAUM GAMES

Game	NUSS Score	PAUM Score	Winner
Golf	1 (5.5 games)	0 (4.5)	NUSS
Badminton	1 ( won 7 games)	0 (1)	NUSS
Bowling	0 (8)	1 (12)	PAUM
Soccer	0.5	0.5	DRAW
Tennis	1 (6)	0 (1)	NUSS
Table-tennis	0 (3)	1 (6)	PAUM
<b>Overall Winner</b>	<b>3.5 points</b>	<b>2.5 points</b>	<b>NUSS</b>



Scan your QR code reader to see more pictures



## Friendship Golf Looking to Expand

Testament to the growing ties that NUSS is fostering with alumni associations in the region, the CUAU-NUSS-PAUM Friendship Golf Classic was held for the second time in September last year.

Last year's event was hosted by NUSS, after the inaugural tournament was held in Thailand in 2012. CUAU and PAUM are the alumni associations for Thailand's Chulalongkorn University and Malaysia's University of Malaya respectively.

Sixteen flights of enthusiastic golfers eagerly awaited the afternoon tee-off after the early morning rain threatened to wash out the day's tournament. Fortunately, the rain stopped by lunchtime but still left the ground soggy and wet which did not deter the golfers one bit.

While competitive, there was a distinct air of camaraderie among all the golfers as they cheered one another and playfully teased one another or collectively rued a missed shot.

NUSS emerged a winner by eight points and walked away with the champion's cup, continuing its triumphant reign.

Among the dignitaries who played in the tournament was Malaysia's High Commissioner to Singapore, His Excellency (H.E.) Dato Husni Zai Bin Yaacob. The tournament culminated in an official dinner which was graced by H.E. Marut Jitpatima, Thailand's Ambassador to Singapore.

In his welcome speech, NUSS President David Ho said, "It is easy to start but it is more important that we continue the games. We are very happy to have continued it (the games) this year and next year we are going to Kuala Lumpur."

Mr Ho also shared that there were plans to expand the games to include other universities going forward to hopefully build up a bigger alumni graduate community across the region.

Khun Jirasak, the representative from CUAU, in his address to the audience, also shared that a social media group for "ASEAN Universities Alumni Friendship Golf Tournament" had been created for all participants to share photos and

make more friends.

The evening's proceedings saw performances by *The SilverStones*, who belted out favourite English, Malay and Thai hits popular with the audience. The NUSS Karaoke Competition finalists in 2013 were also on hand to perform popular hits from yesteryear.

Prizes for the various categories were also given out during the evening. NUSS' very own Goh Leng Khiang walked away with the Overall Best Golfer Champion trophy. The applause and appreciation shown to the overall champion were par for the course and reflected the great camaraderie during the course of the tournament. ■

### SCORES

Overall best golfer - Goh Leng Khiang  
Best Golfer CUAU - Yong Yos  
Best Golfer NUSS - Chai Kim Yin  
Best Golfer PAUM - Dato Wira

Champion aged 55 years and below - Stanley Gan  
1st runner up aged 55 years and below - Jirasak  
2nd runner up aged 55 years and below - Melvin Chan

Champion Aged 55 years and above - Somkiat  
1st Runner up aged 55 years and above - Wichien  
2nd runner up aged 55 years and above Benjamin Tan



## JOIN THE SPORTS & RECREATION SECTIONS

# .....➤ NUSS **RUNNING** SECTION

**W**hether you are a weekend runner or a die-hard marathoner, the NUSS Runners cater to members who are running enthusiasts regardless of their standards, ages and speeds.

Although constituted as a social running group, the NUSS Runners have taken part in races such as Sundown Marathon, Standard Chartered Marathon Singapore and SAFRA Army Half Marathon, including some races held in Malaysia.

The ages of runners range from 20s to 50s and the Section tries to incorporate as many social activities as possible with the runs.

The runners run at different locations around the island and are always open to suggestions to explore new routes. Past running routes include Punggol Waterway Park, Singapore River, Gardens by the Bay, East Coast Park and West Coast Park.

In 2014, we will be organising talks and workshops for runners to pick up tips on improving their runs or teach those who are keen to take up running in a safe manner.



### Join us!

The NUSS Runners meet on the following days for runs:

1. **Wednesdays**, 7.15pm;  
Kent Ridge Guild House -  
West Coast Park
2. **Sundays**, 6.30am;  
Upper Circular Road -  
Singapore River

Complimentary drinks will be provided after the run. For more information, please contact James Wong at [jameswong@nuss.org.sg](mailto:jameswong@nuss.org.sg)

# .....➤ NUSS **TENNIS** SECTION



**F**ormed in 1994, the NUSS Tennis Section currently boasts a membership of about 200 members.

Aspiring Nadals, Federers or those more familiar with the era of John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors, and tennis enthusiasts of various grades and levels of experience are welcome to join the Section.

The Section also organises social and competitive games which pit our members against

players from other clubs and institutions. In 2014, the Section will be organising events to commemorate the Society's 60th anniversary.

### Join us!

The Tennis Section meets on the following days for tennis at Kent Ridge Guild House:

1. **Wednesdays**, 5pm - 10pm
2. **Fridays**, 5pm - 9pm
3. **Sundays**, 2pm-7pm

For more information, please contact Thipa Mogan at [thipa@nuss.org.sg](mailto:thipa@nuss.org.sg)

# Dealing with DEMENTIA

If you have been forgetting names, repeating yourself, misplacing keys or getting lost in a familiar place, realise that these may not be signs of normal ageing. There could be an underlying medical reason for these behavioural changes – dementia.

**D**ementia is an illness that affects the brain, where there is a degeneration of brain function at a faster rate than usual. As a result, the mental abilities of the individual begin to decline. This leads to a failing memory, impaired judgement, disorientation and a deterioration of intellectual function.

“Eventually, the brain disease affects social or occupational activities in day-to-day life like work, shopping and cooking,” adds Dr Nagaendran Kandiah, Consultant, Department of Neurology, National Neuroscience Institute. “This is unlike the normal ageing process, although the elderly are more susceptible to getting dementia.”

With the fastest ageing population in the Asia-Pacific region – about 20 per cent of Singapore’s total population will be above the age of 65 by 2030 – dementia is a major healthcare concern here. There is an estimated 30,000 dementia patients now. The figure is set to increase to 53,000 in 2020 and 187,000 in 2050.

There are different types of dementia, but the four most common conditions are the following:

- **Alzheimer’s Disease:** Usually occurring in elderly above 65 years old, this accounts for about 70 per cent of all dementia cases.
- **Vascular Dementia:** A type of dementia often brought on by stroke, this preventable condition has been observed in patients as young as 40 years old and accounts for 25 to 30 per cent of all dementia cases.



Dementia patients are usually not able to pinpoint exactly when symptoms started happening, but may find that they are progressively losing their mental capacity.

- **Parkinson’s disease with dementia:** About 30 to 80 per cent of patients with Parkinson’s disease will develop dementia.
- **Frontotemporal Dementia:** This condition accounts for 20 per cent of young-onset dementia cases, and usually occurs in patients who are in their 50s.

Risk factors include diabetes mellitus, hypertension, stroke and family history of dementia.

## Warning signs

The onset of dementia is insidious – patients are usually not able to pinpoint exactly when symptoms started happening. But they may find

## In most cases, dementia cannot be reversed. In such cases, the goal of treatment is to make life as smooth as possible for the patient and caregivers.

that they are progressively losing their mental capacity with a decline in functional ability.

“Although memory lapses are a key symptom of dementia, it is worth noting that they don’t necessarily mean that you have dementia,” says Dr Nagaendran. “Behavioural changes, problems with language and planning and the slowing of mental processes are also some of the symptoms.”

Generally, there are three stages marking the onset and progression of the disease.

### ■ Stage 1: Mild dementia

At this stage, patients display episodes of forgetfulness – such as misplacing keys, forgetting to lock doors or turn off the stove, and missing work or social appointments – and occasionally being repetitive. At times, they are observed to behave oddly and can be withdrawn, lethargic or agitated. Even the planning of daily activities becomes a challenge – they may not be able to organise events, dinners or holidays.

### ■ Stage 2: Moderate dementia

The behavioural changes become more noticeable here, with memory lapses being more obvious. Patients may forget the names of common objects and familiar people. They may also become disorientated with place and time, such as wandering out and getting lost or losing the way while driving. Neglecting personal hygiene, not being able to manage finances, irritability and agitation may also ensue.

### ■ Stage 3: Severe dementia

By this time, patients may not be able to recognise family members and may need help in personal care such as bathing, going to the bathroom, dressing and eating. Their speech may become impaired and may forget the meanings of words. In severe cases, they may even develop hallucinations or become suspicious and hide their belongings from others.

It can take three to four years for the disease to worsen from one stage to another. With early diagnosis and intervention, the degenerative process can be delayed up to eight years.

### Detecting dementia

There is no cure for dementia. However, steps can be taken to slow its progress. That’s why it is best to consult a doctor for a detailed assessment and diagnosis if you or a family member displays the symptoms of dementia.

Dr Nagaendran says: “It is important to seek diagnosis early, as doing so can reduce the anxiety that the patient and family face. At the same time, they can plan for the future with better access to resources and information.”

During the consultation, the doctor will perform cognitive testing (like memory questionnaires and neuropsychological tests) – and order brain imaging (like CR or MRI scans) to be done. From there, the doctor will be able to diagnose the type of dementia the patient is suffering from and advise on the right treatment, such as prescribing medicines. Initiation of dementia medicines at an early stage of disease, can delay the progression to more severe stages of dementia.

Recently, a new 3-D software has been introduced to diagnose brain function in stroke and early dementia patients. Conceived by the National Neuroscience Institute (NNI), it simulates real-life activities, such as buying groceries at the supermarket or choosing ingredients for breakfast.

“As the patients perform these tasks, the data from their decisions and actions are tracked and compiled,” says Dr Nagaendran. “A diagnosis can be made within 45 minutes, which is about 80 per cent less than the time needed using conventional tests.”

### Living with dementia

Upon diagnosis, doctors will first determine if the patient’s type of dementia may be reversed. Some cases of dementia are caused by medical conditions that can be treated; treatments may restore some or all mental functions.”

If so, medications like thyroid hormones for hypothyroidism and antidepressants may first be prescribed. Supplements such as vitamins for a deficiency of vitamin B12 may also be recommended.

However, in most cases, dementia cannot be reversed. In such cases, the goal of treatment is to make life as smooth as possible for the patient and caregivers. Medicines to improve mental function, mood or behaviour can be prescribed to alleviate symptoms. Support and counselling are usually recommended as well.

Meanwhile, health professionals are usually tasked to guide the patient to be independent and manage daily life as long as possible. Such non-pharmacological management include providing cognitive training with regular sessions of computer-based activities and encouraging patients to play mental stimulation games such as Sudoku puzzles and letting them wear safety bracelets.

Treatment will also include working with the caregivers to create a safe and comfortable environment for the patient, such as ensuring that the home is uncluttered with dangerous equipment locked up. Caregivers can also be trained to manage the patient’s behavioural problems.

In Singapore, new treatments are being developed for the prevention and treatment of dementia. There are on-going clinical trials and other research efforts as well. Unfortunately, even with the best care, a dementia patient will progressively get worse. Dr Nagaendran says: “Ultimately, we aim to help patients continue to enjoy an assured quality of life – even with dementia.” ■

*The article was contributed by Singapore Health Services (SingHealth), which offers more than 40 clinical specialties across Singapore with two tertiary hospitals, five National Specialty Centres for Cancer, Heart, Neuroscience, Eye and Teeth a community hospital and a network of primary healthcare clinics.*

# How To Keep Your Resume ON TOP OF THE PILE

The first step to achieving your ideal career begins with landing the first interview. While attaining the relevant qualifications is essential, your resume is just as important to get the attention of your potential employer.

**T**his winning document is likely to set you apart from the rest of the applicants and secure the all-important job interview. Here are some insights on creating a resume to get the necessary interest.

## 1 Make the first impression

The first step to nabbing the attention of hiring managers is to make your curriculum vitae (CV) look presentable. Choosing a suitable layout, making it easy to read and ensuring a good length is important. Ideally you would not want to appear too long-winded or casual in your CV. Some people choose to use special fonts or designs to make their CVs stand out, but unless you are in applying for a graphic designer's role, it is recommended to stick with a professional format.

## 2 Highlight your skill sets, achievements and rewards

Before applying for a role, do your background research to understand the exact requirements. Your resume should then be tailored to suit the position. Precision is key and you should highlight your skill sets that are most relevant to the job. Employers usually take approximately two minutes to screen a resume so consolidate your achievements and rewards and place them right at the top.

## 3 Be clear, concise and use action verbs

It is important to be concise and use action verbs to beef up your resume. Writing in point form is perfectly acceptable. After indicating your achievements and rewards, write down your work experience. If necessary, provide reasons to justify why you have switched jobs



**It is important to be CONCISE and use ACTION VERBS to beef up your resume. Writing in point form is perfectly acceptable.**



Employers usually take approximately two minutes to screen a resume so consolidate your achievements and rewards and place them right at the top.

frequently so that prospective employers will not mistake you for a serial job hopper. Additionally, be very specific and use personal examples or case studies to amplify your achievements. Your unique experiences will give you the extra edge in ensuring prospective employers remember you. Ideally, your resume should take up a maximum of two pages.

#### **4 Tailor your CV to your job**

Part of doing background research on your potential employers includes understanding the specific qualities, attributes and experiences the role requires. In order to be shortlisted for the role, you need to demonstrate your ability to meet their selection criteria. And by doing so, there is a need to tailor your CV to suit the company you are applying to.

Check for grammatical mistakes. While this may seem tedious, always

check and double check for careless mistakes such as typos, spelling and grammatical errors in your CV. Hiring managers are highly unlikely to consider a CV that is filled with errors and it will not work in your favour should your CV be spotted with these blunders.

#### **5 Put in the extra bit of effort**

Keeping your resume on top of the pile requires a few finishing touches to ensure employers see your sincerity. Always make sure your resume is accompanied by a short cover letter or email introducing yourself and your current employment. There should also be mention of how you can value add to the organisation with your current skill sets. When you have the entire document complete, run a very stringent spelling and grammar check to remove all errors.

#### **6 Use a professional recruitment agency**

A professional recruitment agency can also help in drawing more attention to your resume. They are most aware of the specific needs of the employer and aid in customising your resume to suit exactly what employers are looking for. Additionally, recruitment agencies maintain an extensive network and good relationships with companies. Hence, specialist recruiters have the direct contact with the relevant hiring managers to best recommend your resume. ■



Article contributed by Joanne Chua, Associate Director, Robert Walters Singapore. She specialises in recruiting high-calibre professionals across a wide variety of sectors.

# INVESTING for Seniors

Whether you are still building your retirement savings or investing spare cash after setting aside enough for your basic needs during retirement, most seniors would probably say that they cannot afford to lose money when investing.

**B**efore you invest, do set aside sufficient funds for daily needs and emergencies. If you are risk averse, you should generally avoid products which can cause you to lose your capital or cannot be easily liquidated for cash when you need this. You may wish to consider products which generate a regular income at regular intervals. Build and maintain a diversified portfolio using more conservative/low-risk instruments.

It takes time and effort to monitor your investments on a regular basis, so do avoid any investment that could

add stress and affect your general well-being. Here are some things to consider if you are investing:

## **What is your investment objective?**

Are you investing to earn a regular income? Are you investing to preserve your capital sum? Or are you investing a sum of your funds to grow your capital or hedge against inflation? How does the product you are considering achieve these objectives? Does it complement the rest of your portfolio of investments or add more risk?

If your retirement savings are not big, you probably shouldn't take too much risk when you invest.



### How much risk can you afford to take?

Know your risk profile well: Are you a “conservative” investor who cannot afford to lose capital? Can you afford the possibility of losses that come with products that offer higher potential returns? If your retirement savings are not big, you probably shouldn’t take too much risk when you invest. You may not have the luxury of time to earn back what you might lose if an investment turns bad.

### What is your investment time horizon, i.e. the amount of time you have to invest to achieve your financial goals?

Generally, the shorter your time horizon, the less risk you should take with your investments. If you are likely to need access to your money at short notice, do not invest in products that cannot be liquidated easily or that will impose penalty charges for early withdrawal. You may wish to allocate or “bucket” your investments into products suitable for different investment horizons (short, medium and longer term). If you stagger your access to funds at different intervals during your retirement years, you could consider adopting different investment objectives for each period. You might consider conservative or more liquid investments in short-term “bucket 1” to cover your immediate living expenses. Subsequent buckets could aim for some growth to hedge against possible inflation risks and for withdrawals in periods further away.

This approach may not suit everyone, so do take time to carefully consider whether it suits you in terms of your personal circumstances, risk appetite and also how well you understand the various financial products. You should assess whether a product is conservative, or liquid or allows for some growth, and is suitable for the objectives you have in mind.

### What are your responsibilities and rights when investing?

If you are an experienced investor, you probably know what to avoid:

Do not invest in “hot picks” or “trendy stocks” just because others are buying them.



- Do not invest in “hot picks” or “trendy stocks” just because others are buying them. Read up on the investment and understand the risks involved. Make sure that you are comfortable with the potential risk and returns before you invest.
- Do not invest in products you do not understand or find unsuitable. Read the investment documents thoroughly. Find out how returns are generated, the risks involved, whether there are critical terms and conditions to note, and also the fees and charges which would reduce returns to you.
- Do not be enticed by gifts and promotions or promises of high returns. Always remember that the higher the returns promised, the higher the risks you may have to bear.

**Do not be enticed by gifts and promotions or promises of high returns. Always remember that the higher the returns promised, the higher the risks you may have to bear.**

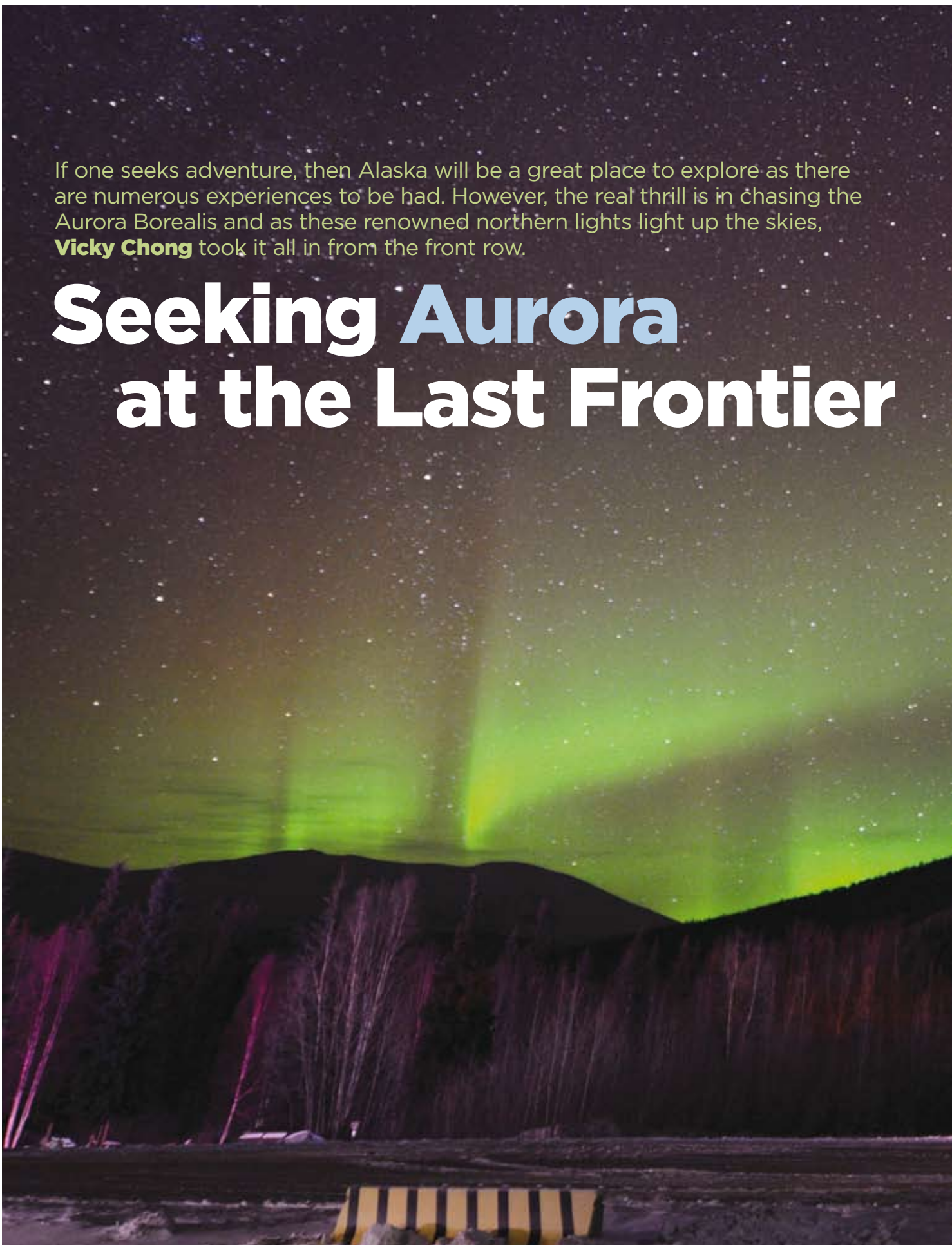
Ask for assistance if you find it difficult to understand the information. You won’t be the only one, so don’t be shy.

**Monitor the performance of your investments regularly to ensure that they continue to meet your needs.** ■

*This article is based on information prepared in collaboration with the Association of Banks in Singapore, the Consumers Association of Singapore, Gerontological Society, Life Insurance Association Singapore, Investment Management Association Singapore, National Council of Social Services, Ministry of Social and Family Development and the Monetary Authority of Singapore as part of the MoneySENSE national financial education programme.*

If one seeks adventure, then Alaska will be a great place to explore as there are numerous experiences to be had. However, the real thrill is in chasing the Aurora Borealis and as these renowned northern lights light up the skies, **Vicky Chong** took it all in from the front row.

# Seeking Aurora at the Last Frontier



**N**ative arts. Calving glaciers. Arctic wildlife. Frontier quirk. Alaska teems with indelible highlights including misty fjords, colossal glaciers, temperate rain forests, and sprawling tundra among them. While hiking, biking, kayaking, fishing, and expeditions, to see the wildlife of Alaska such as wolves, whales, moose, and bears will thrill many in the summer months, it is still nature's own grand theatre unfolding above during wintertime as the most spectacular light show takes centre stage which calls for endless encores.

The most commercialised place to view the Aurora Borealis is at Chena Hotspring Resort, an hour's drive away from Fairbanks. Forget all the tourist reports about viewing the lights at Anchorage or Fairbanks. Although the residents there we spoke to have seen the lights, chances of visitors viewing the lights in these cities are very slim. The best place still to catch the lights is at a deserted dark place and for that, you could book private cabins or camp out in the mountains. Most tourists, especially plane loads of Japanese during the peak season from January to March every year, choose to go to Chena.

You might consider staying three nights at Chena to maximise your chances of viewing the lights. Despite watching the night sky from 9pm to 2am for the first two nights, there was only a faint greenish glow beyond the shadow of a mountain range. For some who stay only a night, it was reward enough for them.

On your last night in Chena, if you have yet to catch the lights, chances are that there would be no further opportunities to view them.

Although there is no fixed timing for when the show starts, closer to 2 am was when we got to behold the magnificent sight. Streaming out into the -34 degree celcius cold to view the lights was worth it as it seems to be brightest of the lights seen so far. A greenish, glowing light rises from behind the mountains, much like a wave of silk ribbon dancing in a sea of black as its back-

drop, occasionally blending with a tinge of red dye that often brings 'oohs and aahs' from Japanese tourists or comments such as 'cool' or 'super awesome' from Americans.

Once the Aurora Borealis had been sighted, it was time to move onto another highlight of the Alaskan trip – travelling on the historic Alaska Railroad (ARR), one of America's last flag stop trains. On this wilderness run during summer, hikers and campers could likely get off and on the train anywhere along the 55-mile stretch between Talkeetna and Hurricane.

The Railroad was first constructed in 1904 to provide access to the varied mineral resources along the route. Although hauling freight was its primary purpose, the ARR has since been serving the tourist industry, running daily between Seaward in the South and Fairbanks in the North in the summer months since 1923. During winter, the route named *Aurora Winter Train* runs only during the weekends.

The journey takes travellers leaving from Fairbanks in the early mornings. The train we boarded had arrived at Fairbanks from Anchorage the day before and was making a return journey. It was a breeze checking in luggage as there were only a few in the group taking the 12 hours journey to Anchorage. In contrast, the plane ride from Anchorage to Fairbanks takes only an hour. The travellers were told the ARR is not profitable and was sustained by the state government.

The train we boarded had two passenger cabins and a dining cabin. The bright interior and nice big window was a plus. As soon as the train set off, everyone was surprised with how quiet and smooth it was from within. The gentle rocking motion soon lulled passengers into a peaceful slumber and even though it was 8.30 am, it was still pitch dark outside. Those suffering from jet lag, having had interrupted sleeps nightly from watching the Aurora Borealis, were snoozing in no time.

Through the journey, various announcements could be heard. The captain, Harry, would point

out interesting scenery or historic facts. At times, the train would slow down for passengers to photograph the sights. Having woken in time for lunch, passengers made their way to the dining car. The menu selection was reasonable but expensive, something expected from a tourist ride such as this.

Viewing through the windows of the train, peaks of snow-covered granite gave way to pine tree forests and then to meandering rivers. Coming from a tiny tropical island such as Singapore, the grandiose scenery in comparison was awesome. At times, the train travelled across majestic bridges spanning between mountains allowing an even more breathtaking view.

At Sherman, a town stop on the route, an elderly couple, Mary and



On the historic Alaska Railroad (top) and Captain Harry (above)

**Viewing through the windows of the train, peaks of snow-covered granite gave way to pine tree forests and then to meandering rivers.**

Right: Going on sled dog ride, or "mushing", in Anchorage, Alaska.

Clyde Lovel, and their daughter Lisa boarded the train to promote the book written by Mary herself, entitled *Journey to a Dream*. In the book, she described how her family drove from Missouri to Alaska via Canada in 1963 to set up an Alaskan home-stead. Her books were quickly sold out to the travellers, a nice memento for the train adventure.

All too soon, the rail journey arrived and ended at Anchorage. The experience was certainly more enjoyable than expected, perhaps because of the intimacy of the small number of people travelling together. It is highly recommended to take the ARR for a unique Alaskan experience.

At Fairbanks, going on a sled dog ride was at the top of the list. After coming all this way from the equator, we thought riding on a dog sled would be an experience very few Singaporeans would have done. However, we were disappointed when told at Chena, that there was not enough snow for mushing - another term for dog sled-ding. It was quite unbelievable when all the snow was evident around and it was around -30deg, but there was nothing that could change the fact.

A fellow traveller from Prague then mentioned that she had done mushing at Anchorage and that it was very expensive. The mushing tour was priced at US\$169 per person for a total of four hours, including an hour of mushing and another half hour of snowshoeing. Expensive or not, it looked like one could only do these upon arriving at Anchorage.

The mushing guide we found mentioned that we would be mushing with the winner of 2012 Iditarod Race. We had heard of the Iditarod from a friend the night before. With a name travellers couldn't pronounce upon first try, it took a while before our friend realised that we had no idea what she was going on about. The Iditarod is a big event in Anchorage. The 1,000 mile mushing race from Anchorage to Nome attracts competitors from all over the world.

Hence, when the guide mentioned meeting the winner of the race, we were excited. Dallas Seavey not



Dallas Seavey, 2012 winner of the 1,000 mile mushing race from Anchorage to Nome.



The author (left) with fellow passengers Clyde and Mary Lovels on the Alaska Railroad.

only won the 2012 Iditarod, he also emerged as champion for the Yukon Quest. To top it off, he made history by being the youngest winner as well.

We arrived at the mush site to find dogs howling and barking away. They were huskies, but did not resemble the long-haired breed my neighbor owned. The dogs were excited and raring to go. We were introduced to Dallas, the man himself, and his assistant Christine. Dallas is a third generation musher and conducts these tours for tourists regularly.

There were two sleds and all they had to do was to tie the dogs, seven to each sled, and we were off. As the dogs set off, Christine was behind the sled, helping to push the sled along. Christine called out 'Whoa' to slow the dogs, and clicked her tongue with a 'Come on boys' to drive them on.

Most of the time, the dogs ran like they were chasing after something in front of them.

The ride took us uphill to a spectacular view of the city of Anchorage, before making a round back to the starting point. The musher stands most the way and unlike what was expected, the sled ride wasn't all smooth and was quite bumpy overall.

Having experienced many 'firsts' during the trip to wintry Alaska [first-time seeing the Aurora Borealis, first-time mushing, and first-time braving -34 degree celcius] for people coming from a little red dot in the tropics, it was more a thrilling adventure and not so much a vacation. ■

## GOODTOKNOW

■ **Delta Air** flies daily to **Anchorage** via Tokyo and Seattle. **United Airlines** also offers return flights with the same stopovers from \$2,500 upwards per person. Tours can be booked for travel to **Chena Hotspring** via the internet included accommodations at Fairbanks and Chena, transfers, and the ARR ride. The **mushing tour** was booked locally at Anchorage upon arrival.

■ **Be well prepared for the cold.** You might consider being dressed in at least five layers before venturing out. Layering is more effective than dressing in one thick coat. Exposure of the face to the cold makes one lose heat really fast. In that temperature, it is also crucial that we do not perspire and thus wet our inner clothes. Travellers were told physical exertion, such as walking in knee deep snow would cause perspiration.

■ **Driving is not recommended.** Any emission, whether it is from chimneys or vehicle exhausts, would create a white opaque fume. Thus, when at a traffic waiting for the lights to change and the car in front of you accelerates, you are immediately blinded by the white fog from the front. People tend to drive slow, due to poor visibility often caused by these white fogs as well as slippery roads.

If travellers choose to drive, park the car alongside the roads with the engines on. This is a must as extreme temperatures would freeze petrol or any lubricants in the engine within a short time. Many local hotels or malls provide either free or paid plug-ins for your car. With plug-ins, you then do not have to leave the engine on.



# Chinese New Year Promotions at NUSS

*U*sher in the Year of the Horse with sumptuous Chinese New Year Reunion Dinner and delicious festive goodies!

## REUNION DINNER (30 JANUARY 2014)

### KENT RIDGE GUILD HOUSE

First seating: 5.30pm to 7.30pm  
Second seating: 8pm to 10pm

**Café on the Ridge**

3 to 4 persons from \$228

**The Scholar Chinese Restaurant**

8 to 10 persons from \$688

**Della & Seng Gee Guild Hall**

Banquet packages for 8 to 10 persons from \$488

For reservations and enquiries, please call

- Café on the Ridge - 6586 3722 or email [psnathan@nuss.org.sg](mailto:psnathan@nuss.org.sg)
- The Scholar Chinese Restaurant - 6586 3710 or email [scholar@nuss.org.sg](mailto:scholar@nuss.org.sg)
- Della & Seng Gee Guild Hall - 6586 3771 or email [agnesphua@nuss.org.sg](mailto:agnesphua@nuss.org.sg)

### SUNTEC CITY GUILD HOUSE (FULLY BOOKED)

**The Bistro**

4 to 6 persons from \$468

**Function Rooms**

8 to 10 persons from \$698

For reservations and enquiries, please call

The Bistro at 6395 6628 or email [maypang@nuss.org.sg](mailto:maypang@nuss.org.sg)

## FESTIVE GOODIES

- Chinese New Year Yu Sheng
- Chinese New Year Pen Cai
- Pineapple Tarts
- Honey Cashew Nuts coated with Coconut Crumbs
- Suckling Pig
- ... and many more!

To order, please call The Scholar Chinese Restaurant at 6586 3710 or email [scholar@nuss.org.sg](mailto:scholar@nuss.org.sg)



#### Note:

- KRGH, BTGH and SCGH will be closed on 31 January and 1 February 2014 for Chinese New Year. APGH will be closed on 31 January 2014 and will resume operations on the following day
- F&B credits are accepted

# The Scholar Chinese Restaurant

## Kent Ridge Guild House

For reservation, call 6586 3710. Visit [www.nuss.org.sg](http://www.nuss.org.sg) for more information.

**17 FEBRUARY - 28 MARCH 2014**

### Pocket Friendly Deals Menu

Available Mondays to Fridays for lunch and dinner  
(Except eve of public holidays and public holidays)

Poached Prawns with  
Chinese Herbs and Wine



Buddha Jumps Over The Wall



Signature Lobster Porridge  
in Superior Broth



**15 FEBRUARY - 31 MARCH 2014**

### Value Set Menus

Starting from \$38 (2 persons) to \$268 (10 persons)  
Available daily for lunch and dinner



Cereal Tiger Prawns

Fish Maw Soup Hokkien-Style



Crispy  
Fried  
Tilapia  
with Thai  
Chilli Sauce

Fried Hokkien Mee Sua



Note: F&B credits are accepted. Prevailing GST applies. Terms and conditions apply.

# Café on the Ridge

Kent Ridge Guild House

For enquiries, call 6779 1811. Visit [www.nuss.org.sg](http://www.nuss.org.sg) for more information.

## DAILY SET LUNCHES

**\$10.90** Includes Dessert of the Day

### JANUARY 2014

#### Highlights

Chicken Nasi Biryani Set



Mutton Lababdar Set



Korean Saba Fish Set



### FEBRUARY 2014

#### Highlights

Chicken Malai Tikka Set



Mutton Shahi Korma Set



Japanese Curry Chicken Set



### MARCH 2014

#### Highlights

Kuah Lada Ikan Pari Set



Tandoori Chicken Set



Curry Chicken Set



Note: F&B credits are accepted. Prevailing GST applies.

# The Bistro

Suntec City Guild House

For reservations, please call 6395 6628. Visit [www.nuss.org.sg](http://www.nuss.org.sg) for more information.

**SOFT OPENING SPECIAL**

## *Weekend Brunch Buffet*

11am to 3pm (Reservation is required)

Adult: ~~\$38~~ \$18.90

Child (12 years old and below): \$12.90



Note: F&B credits are accepted. Prevailing GST applies



Scan your QR  
code reader to  
reserve online

# The Dunearn

Bukit Timah Guild House

For reservations, please call 6586 3260. Visit [www.nuss.org.sg](http://www.nuss.org.sg) for more information.

## EXECUTIVE SET MENU

Available Mondays to Thursdays

**3-Course Set Lunch @ \$35:** Appetiser or Soup, Main Course and Dessert

**4-Course Set Lunch/Dinner @ \$40:** Appetiser, Soup, Main Course and Dessert

Each Executive Set includes  
a glass of housepour wine (red/white) **or** juice (excludes freshly squeezed) **or** a mug of Tiger Beer

**JANUARY 2014**

### Highlight

Chicken Stroganoff Vol-au-vent



**FEBRUARY 2014**

### Highlight

Oven Baked Atlantic Cod with  
Assorted Seasonal Vegetables



**MARCH 2014**



### Highlight

Grilled Sea Prawns and Clam with Pesto Risotto  
and Seasonal Vegetables

Note: F&B credits are accepted. Prevailing GST applies. Terms and conditions apply.

## All-Day Set Menus Promotion

With the interest of NUSS members at heart, Chef Reynaldo P. Arriola has created a sumptuous 4-course meal specially for NUSS members all year round at \$47++.

In January's edition, start off with a *Beetroot Carpaccio with Black Kalamata Olives and Eggs* drizzled with *White Truffle Oil*, followed by a *Veloute of Carrot and Ginger Soup with Croutons and Cream* and get a choice of *Grilled Javanese Lamb Chops served with Creamy Potato Puree, Balsamic Reduction and Sauteed Seasonal Vegetables* or *Pan-seared Buttered Barramundi served with Carrot Puree, Sauteed Chorizo and Sauteed Seasonal Vegetable with Saffron Cream Sauce* for your main. To top it off, the pastry chef has prepared a *Chocolate Marquise served with Ice Cream* as the dessert to complement your meal.

\*\*No Discount is applicable for this promotion.



## 7Adam Gallery Restaurant grooves to New Beats

Unwind with 7Adam's new resident band in the lush greenery of Adam Park, one-for-one drinks and great tapas on Chill-On-Deck nights happening on Fridays or Saturdays evenings till late. It will feature new resident (local) band Princess and The Lilies, a 7Adam-exclusive cocktail and a range of delectable tapas.

With a one-for-one promotion, exclusive to Chill-On-Deck nights, from 7.30pm to 10.00pm on all beverages, you will be hard-pressed not to sample a mix of other specially curated cocktails, wines and beers on the menu.

Pair your booze with 7Adam's selection of Tapas, specially created by Executive Chef Reynaldo Paulinho Arriola. Exclusive to Chill-On-Deck nights, it features crowd favourites like *Truffle French Fries*, *Croquettes de Crevettes* and *Crispy Goma Chicken*, vegetarian options like the *Vegetarian Samosa with Chili Dip* and *Tomato Pomodoro with Gratinated Cheese and Truffle Oil*, and contemporary fusion creations like *Creamy Chicken in Yam Nest*.



Ala Carte orders for Tapas is priced at \$12++ each. Platter option is available at \$37++, with a choice of four tapas items.

Chill-On-Deck nights happen weekly at 7Adam Gallery Restaurant on Friday or Saturday from 7pm to 11pm. The schedule, updated every three weeks, can be found on 7Adam's Facebook page: [facebook.com/7Adam.sg](https://facebook.com/7Adam.sg).



# CALENDAR

## JANUARY 2014



 Public holidays  
 School holidays

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, Dancesport, Running, Tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Billiards, Darts, Squash	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, DanceSport, Table-tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, Bridge, Running, Tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Billiards, Choir, Darts, Squash, Table-Tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> DanceSport, Tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, DanceSport, Table-Tennis
			<b>1</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness	<b>2</b> Zumba Gold Zumba® Dancercise	<b>3</b> Zumba Fitness Pilates Swimming for Juniors	<b>4</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic
<b>5</b> Swimming for Juniors	<b>6</b> Yoga Flow Gentle Yoga Flow Energy Pilates	<b>7</b> S-Connect Pickle-Ball S-Connect Connection "Journeys" Art Talk by Tan Ngiah Heng	<b>8</b> Soccer Section Friendly Match at Turf City	<b>9</b> Zumba Gold Zumba® Dancercise	<b>10</b> Zumba Fitness Pilates Swimming for Juniors	<b>11</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic Oil Painting for Beginners
<b>12</b> Swimming for Juniors	<b>13</b> Yoga Flow Gentle Yoga Flow Energy Pilates Aqua Aerobics for Ladies	<b>14</b> S-Connect Pickle-Ball S-Connect Connection	<b>15</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness	<b>16</b> Zumba Gold Zumba® Dancercise Predictions 2014 by Master Lynn Yap	<b>17</b> Zumba Fitness Pilates Swimming for Juniors	<b>18</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic Achieve Your Personal Best for Half Marathons Collecting Contemporary Art: Explore Art Stage Singapore Yoga Fundamentals Workshop Ba Kwa Cookies Baking Workshop Oil Painting for Beginners
<b>19</b> Swimming for Juniors Yoga Fundamentals Workshop	<b>20</b> Yoga Flow Gentle Yoga Flow Energy Pilates Soccer Section Friendly Match at Turf City Aqua Aerobics for Ladies Light Poetry: The Watercolours of Winston Oh	<b>21</b> S-Connect Pickle-Ball S-Connect Connection S-Connect Book Club The Magic of Everyday Things	<b>22</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness	<b>23</b> Zumba Gold Zumba® Dancercise	<b>24</b> Zumba Fitness Pilates Swimming for Juniors NUSS President's Trophy	<b>25</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic Oil Painting for Beginners
<b>26</b> Swimming for Juniors	<b>27</b> Yoga Flow Gentle Yoga Flow Energy Pilates Aqua Aerobics for Ladies	<b>28</b> S-Connect Pickle-Ball S-Connect Connection	<b>29</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness	<b>30</b> Zumba Gold Zumba® Dancercise	<b>31</b> Chinese New Year	

Information is correct at time of print.  
 For details and updates, please visit [www.nuss.org.sg](http://www.nuss.org.sg)

# CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY 2014



 Public holidays  
 School holidays

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, Dancesport, Running, Tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Billiards, Darts, Squash	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, DanceSport, Table-tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, Bridge, Running, Tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Choir, Billiards, Darts, Squash, Table-tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> DanceSport, Tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, DanceSport, Table-tennis
						<b>1</b> Chinese New Year
<b>2</b> Swimming for Juniors	<b>3</b> Pilates Yoga Flow Energy Yoga Flow Gentle Aqua Aerobics for Ladies	<b>4</b> S-Connect Connection S-Connect Pickle-Ball	<b>5</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness Golf Ang Pow Game	<b>6</b> Zumba® Dancercise Zumba Gold	<b>7</b> Pilates Swimming for Juniors Zumba Fitness	<b>8</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic Valentine's Day Chocolate Truffle & Praline WordPress Web Creation Workshop Oil Painting for Beginners Rendezvous at Paramount
<b>9</b> Swimming for Juniors Lion Dance at KRGH CNY Lunch for the Elderly	<b>10</b> Pilates Yoga Flow Energy Yoga Flow Gentle S-Connect Fellowship Lunch Aqua Aerobics for Ladies	<b>11</b> S-Connect Connection S-Connect Pickle-Ball	<b>12</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness Soccer Section Friendly Match at Turf City	<b>13</b> Swimming for Ladies Zumba® Dancercise Zumba Gold Financial Planning: Giving Your Child a Headstart	<b>14</b> Pilates Swimming for Juniors Zumba Fitness	<b>15</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic Chinese Tea Appreciation Workshop
<b>16</b> Swimming for Juniors	<b>17</b> Pilates Yoga Flow Energy Yoga Flow Gentle Aqua Aerobics for Ladies	<b>18</b> S-Connect Connection S-Connect Pickle-Ball S-Connect Book Club	<b>19</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness Conversational Korean - Elementary	<b>20</b> Swimming for Ladies Zumba® Dancercise Zumba Gold Osteopathic Talk	<b>21</b> Pilates Swimming for Juniors Zumba Fitness	<b>22</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic
<b>23</b> Ballet for Juniors Swimming for Juniors	<b>24</b> Pilates Yoga Flow Energy Yoga Flow Gentle Aqua Aerobics for Ladies	<b>25</b> S-Connect Connection S-Connect Pickle-Ball	<b>26</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness Conversational Korean - Elementary	<b>27</b> Swimming for Ladies Zumba® Dancercise Zumba Gold	<b>28</b> Pilates Swimming for Juniors Zumba Fitness	

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 For details and updates, please visit [www.nuss.org.sg](http://www.nuss.org.sg)

# CALENDAR

## MARCH 2014

 Public holidays  
 School holidays

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, Dancesport, Running, Tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Billiards, Darts, Squash	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, DanceSport, Table-tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, Bridge, Running, Tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Choir, Billiards, Darts, Squash, Table-tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> DanceSport, Tennis	<b>SECTION NIGHT</b> Badminton, DanceSport, Table-tennis
<b>30</b> Ballet for Juniors Swimming for Juniors Tree-Climbing Course 8D7N Wonders of Vietnam	<b>31</b> Pilates Yoga Flow Energy Yoga Flow Gentle					<b>1</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic
<b>2</b> Ballet for Juniors Swimming for Juniors	<b>3</b> Pilates Yoga Flow Energy Yoga Flow Gentle	<b>4</b> S-Connect Connection S-Connect Pickle-Ball	<b>5</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness Soccer Section Friendly Match at Turf City Conversational Korean - Elementary	<b>6</b> Swimming for Ladies Zumba® Dancercise Zumba Gold	<b>7</b> Pilates Swimming for Juniors Zumba Fitness Official Opening of SCGH	<b>8</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic Silkscreen Workshop
<b>9</b> Ballet for Juniors Swimming for Juniors	<b>10</b> Pilates Yoga Flow Energy Yoga Flow Gentle	<b>11</b> S-Connect Connection S-Connect Pickle-Ball	<b>12</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness Global Megatrends: How can they benefit me? Conversational Korean - Elementary	<b>13</b> Swimming for Ladies Zumba® Dancercise Zumba Gold	<b>14</b> Pilates Swimming for Juniors Zumba Fitness	<b>15</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic Flavours of Italy – Pasta Perfect
<b>16</b> Ballet for Juniors Swimming for Juniors	<b>17</b> Pilates Yoga Flow Energy Yoga Flow Gentle Iron Boy's Amazing Science Adventures	<b>18</b> S-Connect Connection S-Connect Pickle-Ball S-Connect Book Club Soccer Section Friendly Match at Turf City	<b>19</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness Conversational Korean - Elementary	<b>20</b> Swimming for Ladies Zumba® Dancercise Zumba Gold Junior Robotics Engineer	<b>21</b> Pilates Swimming for Juniors Zumba Fitness Fun With Math Craft	<b>22</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic Bike Maintenance Workshop - Novice Parent-Child Puppetry Workshop: Journey to the West
<b>23</b> Ballet for Juniors Swimming for Juniors 8D7N Wonders of Vietnam	<b>24</b> Pilates Yoga Flow Energy Yoga Flow Gentle 8D7N Wonders of Vietnam	<b>25</b> S-Connect Connection S-Connect Pickle-Ball 8D7N Wonders of Vietnam	<b>26</b> Exerfit Moves Zumba Fitness Natural Body Shaping Workshop 8D7N Wonders of Vietnam Conversational Korean - Elementary	<b>27</b> Swimming for Ladies Zumba® Dancercise Zumba Gold 8D7N Wonders of Vietnam Protecting Venus: Financial Planning for Ladies	<b>28</b> Pilates Swimming for Juniors Zumba Fitness 8D7N Wonders of Vietnam	<b>29</b> Badminton, Karate, Swimming & Tennis for Juniors Badminton for Adults Social Dance Classes Taiji Yoga Therapeutic Tree-Climbing Course A Coffee Journey: From Crop to Cup Nurture your Health with Taiji and TCM 8D7N Wonders of Vietnam

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# Directory

## Kent Ridge Guild House

Tel: 6779 1811

<b>Operating hours</b>	Sun – Thurs (including PH) – 8am to 12am Fri, Sat, & eve of PH – 8am to 2am
<b>The Scholar Chinese Restaurant</b>	Lunch: Mon to Fri & eve of PH – 12pm to 3pm Sat, Sun & PH – 11.30am to 4pm Dinner: Sun to Thurs & PH – 6pm to 10pm Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 6pm to 10.30pm
<b>Café on the Ridge</b>	Sun to Thurs & PH – 12pm to 10pm Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 12pm to 10.30pm Breakfast is available from 9am to 11am on weekends and public holidays Mon-Fri – Closed from 3pm to 6pm
<b>The Ridge Bar</b>	Sun to Thurs & PH – 11am to 12am Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 11am to 2am
<b>The Chill-Lab</b>	Mon to Thurs – 4pm to 12am Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 12pm to 12am Sun & PH – 12pm to 12am
<b>The Right Note Karaoke Lounge</b>	Mon to Thurs – 4pm to 12am Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 12pm to 2am Sun & PH – 12pm to 12am
<b>Jackpot</b>	Sun to Thurs & PH – 11am to 12am Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 11am to 2am
<b>Swimming Pool</b>	Daily – 7am to 10pm, except Wednesdays 9am to 12 noon
<b>Fitness Centre/ Aerobics Room</b>	Daily – 7am to 10pm
<b>Ridge Reading Room</b>	Daily – 9am to 9pm
<b>Children's Playroom</b>	Daily – 9am to 10pm

## Suntec City Guild House

Tel: 6779 1811

<b>Operating hours</b>	Sun – Thurs (including PH) – 8am to 12am Fri, Sat, & eve of PH – 8am to 2am
<b>The Bistro</b>	Mon to Fri: Lunch - 11.30am to 3pm Dinner - 6pm to 10pm (last order at 9.30pm) Note: Tapas and Local Delights will be available at The Bar from 3pm to 6pm from Mondays to Fridays. Sat, Sun & PH: 11.30am to 10pm (last order at 9.30pm)
<b>The Bar</b>	Sun to Thurs & PH – 11.30am to 12am Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 11.30am to 2am
<b>K Room</b>	Mon to Thurs – 5pm to 12am Fri & eve of PH – 5pm to 2am Sat – 12pm to 2am Sun – 12pm to 12am
<b>Jackpot Room</b>	Sun to Thurs & PH – 11am to 12am Last change of redemption ticket – 11.30pm Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 11am to 2am Last change of redemption ticket – 1.30am

## Bukit Timah Guild House

Tel: 6779 1811

<b>Operating hours</b>	Sun to Thurs & PH – 11am to 12am Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 11am to 2am
<b>The Dunearn</b>	Lunch: 11.30am to 3pm Dinner: 6.30pm to 10pm
<b>The Dunearn (Alfresco Area) &amp; The Upper Quad</b>	Sun to Thurs & PH – 11.30am to 12am Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 11.30am to 2am
<b>Jackpot</b>	Sun to Thurs & PH – 11am to 12am Fri, Sat & eve of PH – 11am to 2am

## Adam Park Guild House

Tel: 6467 0777 (7Adam), 6463 0777 (Gallery)

<b>Operating hours</b>	Restaurant (7Adam) Daily: 11am to 11pm Gallery Daily: 11am to 8pm
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For full listing of facilities and operating hours, please visit [www.nuss.org.sg](http://www.nuss.org.sg)

## The Secretariat Management Team

<b>Secretariat</b>	<a href="mailto:secretariat@nuss.org.sg">secretariat@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>The Graduate Magazine</b>	<a href="mailto:thegraduate@nuss.org.sg">thegraduate@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Corporate Communications</b>	<a href="mailto:comms@nuss.org.sg">comms@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Finance</b>	<a href="mailto:finance@nuss.org.sg">finance@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Information Systems</b>	<a href="mailto:is@nuss.org.sg">is@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Membership</b>	<a href="mailto:mship@nuss.org.sg">mship@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Sports</b>	<a href="mailto:sports@nuss.org.sg">sports@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Events</b>	<a href="mailto:events@nuss.org.sg">events@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Banquet Services</b>	<a href="mailto:agnesphua@nuss.org.sg">agnesphua@nuss.org.sg</a>

## Regular Happenings @ NUSS

<b>Badminton</b>	Wednesdays @ KRGH: 7pm – 10pm Saturdays @ KRGH: 2pm – 4pm Sundays @ KRGH: 3pm – 6pm Contact <a href="mailto:sports@nuss.org.sg">sports@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Balut</b>	Every last Wednesday @ KRGH: 7pm – 11pm Contact Santhi at <a href="mailto:santhi@nuss.org.sg">santhi@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Billiards</b>	Mondays @ KRGH: 6pm – 10pm Thursdays @ KRGH: 6pm – 10pm Contact Santhi at <a href="mailto:santhi@nuss.org.sg">santhi@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Bowling</b>	Monthly competitions @ Superbowl SAFRA Mount Faber Contact Santhi at <a href="mailto:santhi@nuss.org.sg">santhi@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Bridge</b>	Wednesdays @ BTGH: 7pm – 11pm Contact Santhi at <a href="mailto:santhi@nuss.org.sg">santhi@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Darts</b>	Mondays & Thursdays @ BTGH: 8pm – 11pm Contact <a href="mailto:sports@nuss.org.sg">sports@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Golf</b>	Monthly Medals @ various venues Contact Thipa Mogan at <a href="mailto:thipa@nuss.org.sg">thipa@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Running</b>	Wednesdays @ KRGH: 7pm – 8.30pm Sundays @ Singapore River: 6.30am Contact <a href="mailto:sports@nuss.org.sg">sports@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Soccer</b>	Various venues Contact <a href="mailto:sports@nuss.org.sg">sports@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Squash</b>	Mondays @ KRGH: 6pm – 10pm Thursdays @ KRGH: 6pm – 10pm Contact Thipa Mogan at <a href="mailto:thipa@nuss.org.sg">thipa@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Table-Tennis</b>	Tuesdays @ KRGH: 7pm – 10pm Thursdays @ KRGH: 7pm-10pm Saturdays @ KRGH: 2pm – 6pm Contact Santhi at <a href="mailto:santhi@nuss.org.sg">santhi@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Tennis</b>	Wednesdays & Fridays @ KRGH: 5pm – 9pm Sundays @ KRGH: 2pm – 7pm Contact Thipa Mogan at <a href="mailto:thipa@nuss.org.sg">thipa@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Choir</b>	Thursdays @ KRGH: 7pm – 11pm Contact <a href="mailto:events@nuss.org.sg">events@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Kids' Club</b>	Regular activities @ various venues Contact Valerie at <a href="mailto:valerietoh@nuss.org.sg">valerietoh@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>S-Connect on Tues</b>	Tuesdays @ KRGH: 10.30am – 5pm Regular activities at various venues Contact <a href="mailto:events@nuss.org.sg">events@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>DanceSport</b>	Tuesdays @ KRGH: 7.30pm – 11pm Contact Events at <a href="mailto:events@nuss.org.sg">events@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Toastmasters Club</b>	Every 4th Thursday @ KRGH: 7pm – 10pm Contact Valerie at <a href="mailto:valerietoh@nuss.org.sg">valerietoh@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Music</b>	Regular activities @ KRGH Contact Events at <a href="mailto:events@nuss.org.sg">events@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>DramaWorks</b>	Regular activities @ KRGH Contact <a href="mailto:events@nuss.org.sg">events@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Arts Connections</b>	Regular activities @ KRGH Contact <a href="mailto:events@nuss.org.sg">events@nuss.org.sg</a>
<b>Karaoke</b>	Regular activities @ KRGH Contact Events at <a href="mailto:events@nuss.org.sg">events@nuss.org.sg</a>

For more information and registration details please contact the respective personnel.

## Overseas connections

NUSS members enjoy reciprocity with graduate associations around the world. For more information please contact Azira at 6586 7056 or email [mship@nuss.org.sg](mailto:mship@nuss.org.sg)

**University House, Australian National University** Canberra, Australia  
**The Graduate Union of the University of Melbourne** Melbourne, Australia  
**The University Club of Western Australia** Perth, Australia  
**University Club of Montreal** Quebec, Canada  
**The University Women's Club** London, United Kingdom  
**University Club of Denver** Colorado, United States of America  
**The Yale Club of New York City** New York, United States of America  
**Hong Kong University Alumni Association** Hong Kong

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### INFORMATION SESSIONS

Date : 22 Jan 2014 (Wednesday)

6 & 19 Feb 2014 (Wednesday)

6 Mar 2014 (Wednesday)

Time : 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm

Venue: Singapore Management University

Lee Kong Chian School of Business

Level 4, Meeting Room 4.1

60 Stamford Road, Singapore 178890

Find out more at [www.smu.edu.sg/emba](http://www.smu.edu.sg/emba)



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