



Singapore Children's Society Celebrates 60 years!

Dear Friends and Supporters of Singapore Children's Society,

17 April 2012 marked a very special milestone for Singapore Children's Society as we turned 60 on this date. The past six decades have seen constant expansion of the Society's programmes and services: from starting out with our Convalescent Home and casework and counselling services, to currently over 58 programmes and services covering the six service categories of Caregiving, Community, Developmental, Preventive, Public Education and Remedial.

It is only through the support from you – our volunteers, donors and well-wishers – that we have been able to innovate and provide relevant services to meet the evolving needs of children, youths and families in Singapore. Volunteers play a critical role, working hand-in-hand with Children's Society staff to run our daily programmes, while the generous donations from individuals and companies are the lifeline that keeps these programmes going.

The growth of the Society meant that we had to professionalise as a charity, and recruit capable management, social service and administrative staff. We have adopted best practices from other organisations, and our efforts have been recognised through numerous awards. Children's Society is honoured to have President Tony Tan Keng Yam as our Patron-in-Chief, and we thank him for his support.

Several events have been planned to mark this 60th Jubilee. Do look out for them and celebrate with us. The next lap will be more challenging but I am confident that with your continued support and encouragement, Singapore Children's Society will grow from strength to strength to bring relief and happiness to children in need.

Mr Koh Choon Hui

Chairman, Singapore Children's Society



FLAG DAY 2012 - TO DREAM WITHOUT LIMITS

This year's flag day was held on 10 March, the annual event's theme was 'To Dream Without Limits', which expressed optimism for the future.

Early that Saturday morning, volunteers gathered at Jalan Besar Community Club to collect the flag bags before heading to the streets. About 1,200 volunteers, from schools and corporations, fanned out to different parts of Singapore to collect donations.

An additional 900 corporate volunteers from organisations such as OCBC Bank (the Society's Community Partner), Singapore Sports Council, Singapore Petroleum Company and events management company DreamSolutions, also participated through internal collection drives.



A touch of high-tech at this year's Flag Day was the use of an electronic bar-code scanning system during the flag bag issue and collection process. The use of technology shortened waiting times and aided in accounting and record-keeping as well.

Flag Day 2012 raised a total of \$108,196.12 and Singapore Children's Society thanks all volunteers for their hard work and enthusiasm!

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THE STORY OF OUR CONVALESCENT HOME



In the 50s and 60s, children sent to the Convalescent Home were ill or malnourished.

The scene in the years following the Second World War was dismal. There was widespread concern about the lack of proper care for children in Singapore. This stemmed from many parents' lack of awareness or means to provide for their children. Many were malnourished and hospital staff observed that beds were taken up by children whose medical condition did not require the services of a hospital, and these children were often re-admitted.

Dr Gopal Haridas, a pioneer of paediatrics in Singapore and Chairman of Singapore Children's Society (1954-1956), championed for the opening of a home where children could convalesce. The Convalescent Home was built on land along the Changi seafront, where the fresh air would be an advantage and with nutritious food, would help nurse ailing children back to health. It was officially opened on 30 November 1956, and over the years, its capacity expanded to 70 beds.

The Home had a relaxed family atmosphere, with children playing on the grounds, running along the beach or going swimming supervised by volunteers. The volunteers were mostly British expatriates and their wives. With the complete withdrawal of British forces from Singapore in 1971, the local community wholeheartedly stepped forward to take over the mantle.

But in 1975, the Society was notified that the Home had to make way for Changi Airport. The Government offered some army barracks at Keramat Road in Sembawang for the relocation of the Home, and a total of \$200,000 was spent on renovations to prepare the premises for the children. Bed capacity was eventually expanded to 60.

The Keramat Road home was officially opened on 8 May 1977 by First Lady Mrs B. H. Sheares. The children adapted well to the move and the relocation from the seaside to a hilltop did not dampen the atmosphere of the Home. Despite a more remote location, volunteers continued to visit the children – spending time with them through fun activities and providing help with tuition.



Residents of the Convalescent Home at Changi enjoyed a serene seaside environment.



Volunteers in the early days were British servicemen and their families.



Mealtime at the Changi Convalescent Home, with a view of the sea!



The Home at Keramat Road was surrounded by greenery with plenty of fresh air.



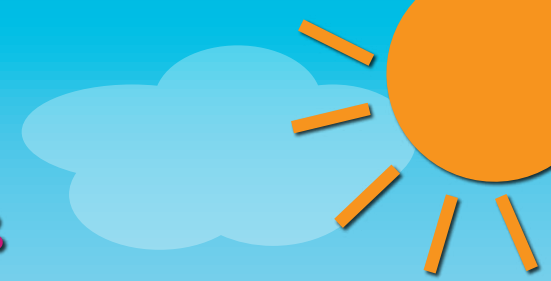
The profile of children admitted to the Home has changed over the years. From cases of malnutrition and illness in the early days, it was gazetted as a place of safety in November 1988 and took in children who were victims of suspected child abuse. The Home operated at Keramat Road for 30 years until relocation, to its current premises at Chua Chu Kang in 2006.

Children's Society strongly believes that the children would fare better holistically in an environment situated close to the HDB heartlands. A purpose-built facility that could accommodate 72 children was completed at 28 Hong San Terrace in Chua Chu Kang. The home was renamed Sunbeam Place and residents moved in on 29 May 2006. It provides a loving and caring environment for children aged between 2 to 18 years.

Sunbeam Place has a layout that children are familiar with: instead of dormitories, they live in units closely resembling HDB flats. This design is based on a small home concept that makes it easier for children to reintegrate with their families after their stay.

Programmes at Sunbeam Place cater to the emotional and developmental needs of its residents. The Group Home Guardians project sees qualified staff actively engaging children on a daily basis through games, supporting homework and sharing meals together. Values such as responsibility and work ethics are imparted through a part-time employment scheme at the Home itself. Volunteers also continue to enrich the lives of the children through activities and academic help.

From the home's initial focus on health, its role has changed to meeting the evolving needs and challenges children face in Singapore. Children's Society thanks all its supporters for making this possible!



Staff and residents of the Home in the 1990s. Children's Society staff and the children it served came from all races and religions.



Over time, facilities were added to the Convalescent Home for the benefit of the children.



The Convalescent Home is now known as Sunbeam Place. It moved to its current address at 28 Hong San Terrace in 2006. It is co-located with Evergreen Place, a home for the elderly.



A warm and cosy activity room at Sunbeam Place.



Bright and airy bedrooms for the children to keep their spirits up!



Milestones of the First Decade: 1952 - 1961



17 April 1952

- Singapore Children's Society was founded by a group of concerned individuals who saw a need to address issues in the care and welfare of children after the Second World War.
- First Chairperson was Mrs K M Smyth, Vice-Chairperson was war-time heroine Mrs Elizabeth Choy, and the first Patron was then-Governor of Singapore, His Excellency Mr J Nicoll.

1952 - 1953

- The Society received full support from the Social Welfare Department and was allowed use of their premises.
- Volunteers such as Professor Jean Robertson, who was Head of University of Malaya's School of Social Studies, helped set up the casework agency with assistance from volunteer professional social workers.

1954 - 1955

- Mrs Barbara E Kinna was hired as the Society's first social case worker.
- An Adoption Sub-committee was formed to coordinate efforts with other social service agencies to find homes for unwanted children.
- Mrs J E Lloyd, wife of a founding member of Children's Society, created the Society's first logo.

1956 - 1957

- The Convalescent Home was opened on 30 November 1956. Dr Gopal Haridas, a pioneer of Paediatrics in Singapore, served as the Home's first Chairman.
- Case workers initiated a 'boarding out' scheme to meet the needs of children awaiting adoption.

1958 - 1959

- The Society presented a paper to the new Singapore government after May 1959, expressing a need for appropriate services for children with mental disabilities.

1960 - 1961

- The Chin-Pu Centre, a day-care service for children with mental disabilities, was opened.
- The Society submitted recommendations to the Ministry of Education for schools to cater to slow learners.



Milestones of the Second Decade: 1962 - 1971

1962 – 1963

- New Wing of Convalescent Home was opened by First Lady Puan Noor Aishah on 27 June 1962, expanding the Home's capacity from 24 to 50 beds.
- In 1962, Children's Society formed a committee that was the forerunner of The Singapore Association for Retarded Children (SARC). The Chin-Pu Centre was handed over to the SARC.
- The Ministry of Education seconds a primary school teacher to the Convalescent Home so that children can continue with their education during their stay.

1964 – 1965

- A 6-month pilot School Social Work Project was undertaken by a graduate teacher-cum-social worker, and a report was submitted to the education ministry.
- A step forward in the Adoption Service was the introduction of a detailed medical examination by a paediatrician for all babies and children prior to adoption placement.

1966 – 1967

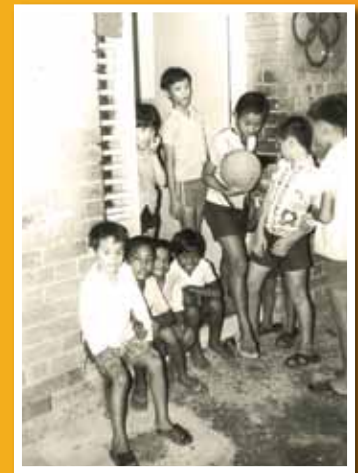
- A pilot Play Project conducted by social work students and the Peoples' Association Youth Leadership Trainees under the supervision of a senior case worker provided a supervised play service for children in the Everton Park estate. This laid the foundation for the Society's expansion into community outreach programmes.
- A broader view of social work was adopted by the Society, thus the Casework Service Sub-committee evolved into the Social Work Service Standing Committee. The Society's services adopted a neighbourhood-based and holistic approach.

1968 – 1969

- With an eye on manpower and talent development, the Society awarded bursaries to two social work undergraduates, with a bond to serve Children's Society upon graduation. A part-time social worker was also employed for the Adoption Service.
- A third Social Work office was opened in Toa Payoh New Town. A bursary recipient Mr S Vasoo (now Dr Vasoo, Associate Professorial Fellow, Department of Social Work at the National University of Singapore) pioneered the community outreach programmes there.

1970 – 1971

- The Convalescent Home started a part-time After Care Service for children discharged from the Home, to help children and their families adjust to each other after a period of separation. This was an extension of the Society's social work service, carried out from April 1970 to March 1971.
- Withdrawal of British forces from Singapore affected volunteer manpower at the Convalescent Home. Fortunately, local volunteers including housewives, students and service organisations filled the gaps left by departing British personnel and their wives. The Society's early work was only possible with the support of expatriate and local volunteers.



Exploring Friendships at **Bully-Free Camp 2012**



This year's Bully-Free Camp was a three-day event, held from 14-16 March 2012 at Bedok South Secondary School. Eighty-one students from ten primary schools were taught the importance of developing true friendship, treating each other with love and respect and protecting themselves from bullying.

Students who participated in the camp graduated as Friendship (Bully-Free) Ambassadors, and imparted the knowledge to their schoolmates during a one-week Friendship (Bully-Free) Campaign held in April. These Ambassadors ensured that a Bully-Free environment is always maintained in school so that students can study safely and peacefully.

There were interesting activities at the camp, such as Banner Painting, a Telematch and a Games Carnival to engage students. For Banner Painting, Ambassadors turned into little Picassos – they created catchy slogans on friendship or anti-bullying, then designed a banner to be displayed in school. The Games Carnival saw students from each school creating two games, one on the theme of friendship and the other on bullying. The game creation was a competition that allowed the Ambassadors to engage and reach out to fellow schoolmates. Through these games, students were not only able to have fun but at the same time, be educated on what to do if they were bullied and also learnt ways to foster positive friendships.

In the Telematch, there were snacks and goodies up for grabs in a nine-station challenge packed with exciting activities. The Ambassadors were put in groups to compete with each other and challenged on speed and knowledge on friendship and anti-bullying. Adding to the excitement, the stations required them to think out of the box and work as a team. After the Telematch, the Ambassadors commenced preparations and planned for their own Telematches to be held in their schools. They were guided on how to plan the stations, the logistics needed and other considerations such as publicity and registrations.

Thanks to the presence and support from school teachers and our counsellors, the Ambassadors were enthusiastic and attentive while enjoying themselves at the same time. The camp ended with a big bang, with all Ambassadors shouting in unison, "Bye to Bullying!"

A NORTH POLE IN SUNNY SINGAPORE!

The name of the CABIN, *The North Pole*, was selected by a group of student helpers. The accompanying tagline *It's cooler than outside*, aptly sums up an aspiration of Project CABIN that students will find the CABIN a better place to spend their time than at shopping centres or game arcades.

Mr Teo Ser Luck, Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry and Mayor, North East District was the Guest-of-Honour. He launched *The North Pole* by planting a flag on a miniature mountain peak – a concept created by the Yuying students. This is the 22nd Project CABIN for Children's Society.

Mr Teo also announced the launch of the "Connect And Be Inspired Now" (C.A.B.I.N) Facebook fan page which was created to connect with youths online. As Singapore Children's Society celebrates 60 years of meeting the needs of children and youth, the Society has identified a key strategic thrust for the future: to be a voice for children and youth. In doing so, the Society aims to be the bridge between them and the community and to represent their interests at appropriate platforms.



From left: Yuying Secondary School Principal Mr Goh Aik Choon, CABIN Secretary Ms Kristine Tan, Guest-of-Honour Mayor Teo Ser Luck and Children's Society Chairman Mr Koh Choon Hui.

COWBOYS, AH LIANS AND LONG SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS



Cowboys and Ah Lians – this was the theme for Children’s Society’s annual staff event, Kachan Club, which took place on 19 November at the York Hotel. The theme was a humorous interpretation of the Hollywood blockbuster *Cowboys and Aliens*, and the *gung ho* staff turned up at the lunch dressed as cowboys, cowgirls, farmhands and sheriffs. The Ah Lians were of course garish in their dyed hair and brightly-coloured outfits, indeed looking the part of the devotees of street fashion whose fashion sense can be said to have more misses than hits!

It was an excellent opportunity for staff from the various centres to mingle at the buffet tables and bond. They also displayed great sportsmanship when participating on stage during the games. Kachan Club is also the occasion when the Society recognises its long-serving staff. Mr Alfred Tan, Executive Director of the Society, presented awards to 14 staff:

- 35 Years – Juffri Bin Mahmood, Admin Assistant, Student Service Hub (Bukit Merah)
- 20 Years – Vimala A/P Ragavan, Senior Programme Assistant, Student Care Centre (Henderson)
- 15 Years – Habibah Bte Abdul Rauf, Admin Assistant, Family Service Centre (Yishun)
- 15 Years – Taniah Tan Sok Tjeng, Attendant, Family Service Centre (Yishun)
- 10 Years – Chen Sheue Ling, Acting Assistant Director, Student Service Hub (Bukit Merah)
- 10 Years – Marie Christina Patricia Appadoo, Head, Youth Centre (Jurong)
- 5 Years – Tan Li Li, Director of Corporate Services, Corporate Office
- 5 Years – Chan Qing Rong, Senior Research Officer, Research and Outreach Centre
- 5 Years – Kay Zar Oo, Housemother, Sunbeam Place
- 5 Years – Kyi Kyi New, Housemother, Sunbeam Place
- 5 Years – Siew Lai Keun, Director, Sunbeam Place
- 5 Years – Yeo Lye Hiang, Cook, Sunbeam Place
- 5 Years – Periya Dhrashini D/O Silvaraji, Programme Assistant, Student Care Centre (Henderson)
- 5 Years – Gan Meng Kiang, Programme Co-ordinator, Family Service Centre (Yishun)



HORRORWEEN at ITE COLLEGE WEST



Thirty-four students from Class RJ of the Nitec in Retail Studies programme at ITE College West put on their scariest best at a Halloween project on 31 October 2011 to raise funds for our Sunbeam Place residential home. The students converted a classroom into a Haunted House and sold entry tickets. Dressed in their spookiest best, the students created an atmosphere of hair-raising fun for visitors. Some students roamed the classrooms selling goodies and spread the word for their cause.

“It was an awesome event where everyone within the class bonded,” said Daryl Lim Kai Jun, one of the leaders of the event. The students raised about \$300 for Sunbeam Place through ticket sales and push-carts selling Halloween candies and goodies. Their hard work paid off: not only did they raise funds for a good cause, they also enjoyed themselves, learnt to organise an event and fostered a spirit of teamwork.



Our New Website is Ready!

Dear Friends and Supporters, we are pleased to announce that our new website has been launched! The redesigned interface lets you find the information you want quickly, and with the social media integration, you will also see what is new on our Facebook page at a glance.

Do check out our new site at <http://www.childrensociety.org.sg>, and join us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/SingaporeChildrensSociety>.



Mid-Autumn Revelry!

Staff volunteers from SIA Cargo Private Limited invited 32 children and 22 of their parents from Student Care Centre (Henderson) to a family day outing at the Chinese Garden on 16 September 2011.

The cool evening air made it pleasant to be out and about and the children, their parents, volunteers and staff from the Society were seen enjoying the Garden, which was specially dressed for the Mid-Autumn Festival. The children could not contain their excitement as they asked for candles to light up their lanterns and join the festivities.

Certainly the lanterns were a highlight. They were in different shapes, sizes and colours, and especially popular were those made in the animals of the Chinese Zodiac.

There was a mini-carnival with carousel pony rides, game stalls and booths selling a variety of lanterns, and even traditional Chinese medicine! The garden was filled with gaiety, from the children, their parents and the many photo sessions as well as having fun with lanterns and sparklers.

SIA Cargo treated all to a feast of pizzas and mooncake for dinner. Leaving nothing to waste, leftovers were duly packed up to be brought home.

Coping with bread-and-butter issues left many parents with little time for such activities and the chance to spend time with their children. Some parents shared that it had been years since they were in the Garden, and some even revealed that the last time they were there was during courting!

The staff from SIA Cargo, who have been volunteers at Student Care Centre (Henderson) for the past seven years, were glad to see everybody enjoying the evening together. The event lasted three hours, and many wished that they could have more time together!

In the Heart of Nature



Twenty-six volunteers from UBS (a Swiss global financial services company) hosted 45 children from the Children Service Centre's Sunbeam Friends Kids Club and Tots Club on an outing to MacRitchie Reservoir on 22 October 2011.



Sunbeam Friends Kids Club and Tots Club are for children to gather, make friends and broaden their horizons through channels such as academic learning, sports, games, arts and craft and excursions.



Photos courtesy of UBS AG

The theme for this outing was "Habitats" and the objective was to educate children on Nature and the habitats within. MacRitchie Reservoir was chosen as an ideal location as the children could engage in art activities in a natural environment, and observe and be inspired by Nature.

The sunny weather made it a perfect day, and the children were filled with excitement, whipping out their drawing paper and crayons as they immersed into the verdant environment. They certainly displayed their artistic streak that day!

The subtle sweetness of flowers, the warm sunshine and tranquillity of the reservoir put the children in the right mood for putting on paper the best that Mother Nature had to offer.

So inspired were the children by their surroundings, each drew a picture depicting what their senses derived, enhanced with their fertile imagination. A girl drew a picture of a sunny day, birds flying and a turtle walking on water with fish swimming by.

Another picture was from a boy fascinated with marine life under the water, while another boy chose to capture the serenity of the environment around the pavilion where he sat. The children were so proud of their artistic accomplishments that they displayed their work readily.

There was also a quiz related to the "Habitats" theme, and prizes were awarded to those who answered correctly. It was a fun and fruitful activity for the children as they had the opportunity to get close to Nature and its habitats through art. We hope the children will be inspired to nurture and care for the environment, and pursue their interest in art.

Pilots Association Continues Commitment to Children-in-Need

On 22 December 2011, the Airline Pilots Association of Singapore (ALPA-S) made a donation of \$52,000 to Sunbeam Place, our residential home and a gazetted place of safety for children in need of protection and shelter.

Representing ALPA-S, Captain David Eliathamby presented the cheque to Dr Stephanie Leonard, Chairman of the Sunbeam Place Standing Committee, and Mr Chia Boon Kiang, Director of Fund-raising, Singapore Children's Society.

ALPA-S has been supporting Sunbeam Place since 2001, with members of the association serving as volunteers in the Sunbeam Place Standing Committee. The association's dedication was recognised at the Society's annual awards, where ALPA-S was conferred the Gold Service Award in 2010 and the Gold Award (for fund-raising) in 2011.



Children's Charities Association Annual Christmas Fair 2011



The annual Christmas Fair organised by the Children's Charities Association (CCA) was held at Ngee Ann City Civic Plaza on 26 November 2011. Close to 50 organisations put up stalls at the event, which kicked off with a 2km walkathon from Ngee Ann City to Tanglin Mall and back. Later, a festive carnival of handicrafts, food and games was held. Guest-of-Honour and Patron of Children's Charities Association, Mrs Mary Tan, graced the event.

As one of the original members of the CCA, Children's Society participated with youths from Youth Centre (Jurong) manning a booth and putting up performances. Youths from the Centre also provided a manicure service for a small fee, while staff from the fund-raising department sold merchandise such as coasters, T-shirts and mobile phone lanyards.

Despite a wet start to the day, crowds turned up to browse the selection of trinkets, food and games on offer. Beneficiaries of participating charities provided the entertainment for the carnival, drawing enthusiastic applause from the audience.

Our K-pop dance group from Youth Centre (Jurong) took to the stage with their suave and smooth moves and wowed the crowd with two dance items. No stranger to the stage, the group also performed at last year's SingHealth Nurses' Day at Suntec City.

Corporate Philanthropy Undeterred by Uncertain Economy



DPM Teo (centre, in suit) and Mr Koh Choon Hui (on DPM's right) with representatives from corporate partners in the 1000 Enterprises initiative.

Despite the bleak economic outlook, 498 enterprises enrolled in the 1000 Enterprises for Children-In-Need project, and raised more than \$1 million in 2011. On 16 February, Children's Society hosted an appreciation dinner at the InterContinental Singapore to thank the companies for their support. Among them were the Presenter of the project, Noble Group and the Society's Community Partner, OCBC Bank.

The event was graced by the patron of 1000 Enterprises for Children-In-Need, Deputy Prime Minister Mr Teo Chee Hean, who presented tokens of appreciation to the participating companies. DPM Teo congratulated the recipients and encouraged the business community to continue supporting Children's Society and embrace corporate social responsibility.

A silent auction for eight items was held, the highlight of which were three commemorative plaques bearing an advertisement published in the Straits Times thanking all participating companies for their support. These were autographed by DPM Teo upon his arrival, and all items found successful bidders that evening.

Since its inception in 2009, the programme has garnered the support of 646 companies and has raised about \$2.88 million since. Mr Koh Choon Hui, Chairman of Singapore Children's Society, expressed his thanks to the corporate partners and the Society's staff for the success of the 1000 Enterprises for Children-In-Need initiative.

Bolstering Money Management Skills for the Young

Twenty-seven Sunbeam Friends children (from our Family Service Centre) spent time at a fun-filled workshop to learn the importance of savings and how to spend money wisely. It was conducted on 24 March, with Miss Daphne Fan, founder and director of MoneyChamp at the helm, assisted by three of her volunteers.

The money management workshop used MoneyChamp's patented board game as a teaching tool. The game comprised experiential learning and at the end of the game, children were required to make decisions on whether to keep the income for future use, to invest it to earn more income or to spend it by purchasing snacks or little goodies at an interim mini-store set up by the sponsor.



The game also educated the children on delayed gratification, where they learnt that the more they saved, the higher the future returns. Some parents were invited to observe the workshop, and both parents and children felt that the workshop was very educational and helpful. The parents were encouraged to talk to their children and reinforce the concepts learnt during the workshop.

Youths Learn and Contribute Through Community Service

Clara Tan Jie Ru, Chairperson of Bedok South Secondary School's CABIN Club, shares her experience of performing a community service project during the CABIN Club camp. She was awarded 'The Best Female Camper' at the camp.

My fellow Bedok South Secondary School CABIN Club members and I attended the annual CABIN Club Camp organised by the Student Service Hub (Bukit Merah) of Singapore Children's Society. It was held at the MOE Labrador Adventure Centre from 8 to 10 November 2011.

The camp presented us the opportunity to interact with CABIN Club members from other secondary schools (Bowen, Chua Chu Kang, Manjusri and Westwood) and forged friendships with the volunteer facilitators.

The theme this year was 'To Experience through Service', the purpose was for us to understand the concept of service-learning and the importance of community building within our society. On the first day, we attended workshops to understand the issue of an ageing population and how we can help.

My team and I were assigned to Block 51, and together with our facilitators, we went knocking on every door to explain our project and ask for old newspapers. What I liked most during the newspaper collection was the fact that I could see that we were working as a team. As there were many apartments to visit, we split into smaller groups in order to reach more residents.



One of the highlights was the Mass Community Service project on the second day, where we collected old newspapers in the Marine Terrace housing estate to exchange for food rations at the Family Service Centre nearby. The food rations were donated to the elderly poor living in the area.

In addition, we put up performances to entertain the elderly, and realised that they were very happy to see us perform. We also gave them handicraft items made during the first night of the camp. The camp concluded on the third day with a ceremony where 'The Best Male Camper' and 'The Best Female Camper' awards were given out.

It was memorable for me as I saw everyone enjoying themselves and knowing that we were doing this for a good cause. I felt happy performing community service, and I will participate in more volunteering work in the future!



PEDALLING FOR A GOOD CAUSE

OCBC Bank held its annual signature event, the OCBC Cycle Singapore, at the F1 Pit Building from 2 to 4 March 2012. Singapore Children's Society and Dover Park Hospice were the two charities selected to be beneficiaries for this event.

The Bank extended an invitation to the children and their parents, volunteers and staff from the Society's Family Service Centre (Yishun) to participate in the five-kilometre Mighty Savers Kids Ride on 3 March. Staff and former CABIN youths from the Student Service Hub (Bukit Merah) also participated in the 19-kilometre Community Ride category on 4 March.

For some of the participants from the Society, it was their first time tearing down the F1 track on a bicycle – a novel experience indeed. And judging from the smiles and laughter from the children and youth that day, we know for sure that it was all-out fun for everyone!



A Småland Christmas Party at IKEA!



The animated characters and their stories kept everyone enthralled.



Ingredients for a fantastic party: great friends, great food and sculpted balloons.



Gingerbread cookies for the festive mood...

Fifteen children from our Children Service Centre were treated to a wonderful Christmas party at the Nation of Småland in IKEA.

Nine-year-old Robina Tan, Prime Minister of the Nation of Småland, and eight of her elected ministers hosted a Kids-for-Kids Christmas party. They decreed that children from our Centre be treated to stories, games, balloon sculpting and delicious food!

This Christmas event, held on 7 December 2011, is one of the many initiatives that IKEA organises to reach out to children in the community. It was made all the more special as the party was organised and run by children, for children. Mr Alfred Tan, Executive Director of Singapore Children's Society, agreed that the party was "one of the most interesting activities for our children. Because children understand their own age group better, there are some sure-fire winners in this plan."

Indeed, our children had a great time, thanks to the warm hospitality of Robina and her Småland ministers. And a visit from Santa Clause was the delightful surprise that topped off a truly memorable day!



And Santa Claus to complete the party!



新加坡儿童会欢庆60周年钻禧！

亲爱的朋友和支持者：

2012年4月17日标志着儿童会一个非常重要的里程碑，因为我们在这一天欢庆成立60周年。过去60年来，儿童会的计划和服务不断扩大：从早期设立的儿童疗养院、个案和辅导服务，到目前涵盖看护、社区、发展、预防、公共教育与补救这6个领域的超过58个计划和服务项目。

这一切都有赖于您——义工、捐助者和支持者，我们才能不断创新、提供相关服务，以配合本地儿童、青少年和家庭不断变化的需求。

承蒙陈庆炎总统担任儿童会的名誉赞助人，我谨代表儿童会感谢陈总统的支持。

为欢庆60周年钻禧，儿童会筹划了连串庆祝活动，敬请期待与我们同欢共庆。下一段旅程虽更艰辛，但我相信有您的支持和鼓励，新加坡儿童会将继续茁壮成长，为有需要的儿童带来慰藉和幸福。

许俊辉先生
新加坡儿童会主席



售旗日2012——梦想无界限

为欢庆新加坡儿童会成立60周年，今年的常年售旗日活动在3月10日举行。售旗日的主题是“梦想无界限”。

来自各所学校和企业机构的大约1千200名志愿者，当天一早便聚集在惹兰勿剎民众俱乐部，领取捐款袋。他们随后分散到全岛各地，向公众募款。

一些机构的900名职员也通过公司内部捐款活动，为儿童会募款。这些机构包括：华侨银行（儿童会的社区伙伴）、新加坡体育理事会、新加坡石油公司和活动策划公司DreamSolutions。

跟往年不同的是，今年的售旗日采用电子条码扫描系统，取代往年的人工记录方式。这不但缩短了志愿者领取和归还捐款袋的等候时间，也有助于点算和行政工作。

活动最终筹得大约10万8千196元。儿童会由衷感谢所有志愿者的努力和热情！



反欺凌营 2012

今年的“反欺凌营”于3月14到16日，在尚义中学举行。来自10所小学的81名小学生，在为期三天的活动中，了解有关友情的真谛，也懂得用爱和尊重来对待彼此。他们还学会了如何保护自己、免受他人欺凌。

参与活动的学生都受委为“友谊（反欺凌）大使”，并在4月举行的“友谊（反欺凌）宣传周”期间，负责向校内同学传授相关知识。这群大使有助维持校园内的无欺凌环境，让同学们能在安全、和平的情况下学习。

“反欺凌营”的活动多姿多彩，包括：横幅彩绘、趣味竞赛，以及游戏嘉年华，让大使们尽情参与。

随后，大使们也为各自校内的趣味竞赛作准备。在专人指导下，他们懂得如何策划每一个游戏项目、所需的后勤支援，以及宣传和报名等其他考量。

在学校老师和辅导员的支持和鼓励下，这群小小大使都积极、认真地参与各项活动，同时也玩得不亦乐乎。活动结束前，大使们齐声高喊：“欺凌，再见！”



儿童疗养院的故事



二战后，新加坡社会民不聊生，许多儿童因为缺乏照顾而营养不良。医护人员发现：一些孩童其实并不需要接受医院的医疗服务，但却常被送入医院。

有鉴于此，本地儿科权威兼新加坡儿童会主席（1954年至1956年）Gopal Haridas 医生当时提议开设疗养院，方便这群儿童休养。儿童疗养院就建在樟宜海边，新鲜的空气加上营养餐食，有助体弱病童康复。儿童疗养院于1956年11月30日正式启用；接下来几年，则逐渐扩大到70张床位。

1975年，儿童会接获通知，要求儿童疗养院搬迁，以配合樟宜机场的兴建工程。政府腾出位于三巴旺的克拉默路军营，作为儿童疗养院新址。儿童会花费20万元装修和布置新的疗养院，床位总数也逐渐达到60张。

1977年5月8日，克拉默路的儿童疗养院由薛尔思总统夫人主持开幕礼。

到了1988年11月，疗养院从早期的儿童营养不良和患病个案，改为收容疑似受虐儿童的安全栖身处。在克拉默路运作了30年后，疗养院于2006年再度搬迁。

为了让儿童习惯组屋区环境，儿童会于是在蔡厝港的丰山台28号，兴建可容纳72名孩童的多用途新设施。儿童疗养院也改名为“晨曦儿童之家”，并在2006年5月29日迁入新设施，为2岁到18岁的儿童和青少年提供一个温馨、关爱的居住环境。

晨曦儿童之家的设计同组屋相近，并以小家庭为设计概念。这一来，当孩子们离开、同家人团聚时，就能更好地融入家庭生活。

从最初关注儿童的健康问题，转变为应付本地儿童不断面对的需求和挑战，儿童会在此感谢所有人士一路来的支持！



经济情况不明朗 企业爱心仍不断



尽管全球经济前景不明朗，仍有498家企业加入“千家企业筹款计划”，并在去年筹得超过1百万元善款。对此，新加坡儿童会于2月16日，在新加坡洲际大酒店举办晚宴，答谢所有鼎力支持这项计划的企业。

“千家企业”计划的名誉赞助人——副总理张志贤先生，是当晚的特别嘉宾。他在晚宴上颁发纪念品给参与计划的企业机构，以兹表扬。张副总理也鼓励业者、商家继续支持儿童会，并履行企业社会责任。

晚宴的另一亮点是无声拍卖活动。被拍品的8件物品中，包括3幅由张副总理亲笔签名的纪念牌匾。所有物品都在当晚成功拍卖出去。

计划自2009年推出以来，至今已获得646家企业支持，并筹得大约288万元义款。感谢所有企业伙伴和儿童会职员为这项计划的努力付出！

青少年通过社区服务学习付出

尚义中学“集装箱活动社”主席陈捷如分享了她在“集装箱活动社营”期间，参与社区服务计划的体验。她在活动上获选为“最佳女营友”。

我和尚义中学“集装箱活动社”的会员参加了由新加坡儿童会学生服务中心（红山）主办、一年一度的“集装箱活动社营”。活动从2011年11月8日起，在教育部拉柏多探险中心举行，为期3天。

除了有机会同其他中学的集装箱活动社会员交流，我们也和志愿服务协调员增进友谊。

活动今年的主题是“从社区服务中体验”。我们从中了解关于“服务学习”的概念，以及社区建设的重要性。活动的第一天，我们参与工作坊，认识有关人口老化的课题，以及如何帮助社会。

隔天，我们展开一项大型社区服务计划。我们在马林台组屋区收集旧报纸，然后拿到附近的家庭服务中心换取粮食，再将粮食分发给居住在这一带的贫困老人。

我们也为老人家呈献表演，还把活动第一晚制作的手工艺品送给他们。活动的第三天则是举行颁奖礼，颁发“最佳男营友”和“最佳女营友”奖项。

大家都玩得十分尽兴，而且能为慈善献出爱心，令我们感到欣慰。我很开心能够参与这次的社会服务，今后一定会参加更多义工工作！



小小孩童 理财有方

来自新加坡儿童会家庭服务中心的27名“晨曦之友”，在3月24日参与了一个有趣的工作坊，学习储蓄的重要性，以及如何理财。活动由财务教育公司MoneyChamp的职员，通过公司的专利棋盘游戏，进行教导。

参与工作坊的孩子们必须决定：是否该保留收入，作为日后用途？还是将这笔钱拿来投资，以赚取更多收入？又或者，把钱花在工作坊开设的迷你摊位，购买零食或物品？孩子们也从中学会了“先苦后甜”的道理：储蓄得越多，将来的回报越大。

出席工作坊的家长和孩子们都一致同意：这场工作坊既实用又具教育意义。



骑吧！新加坡儿童会



华侨银行于2012年3月2日到4日，在F1维修大楼举办常年特别企划——“骑吧！新加坡”脚踏车赛。新加坡儿童会是这项活动的其中一家受益慈善组织。

在银行的邀请下，来自儿童会家庭服务中心（义顺）的孩子和家长，以及义工和职员参与了3月3日举行的“万能储蓄宝5公里孩童组”项目。隔天，来自学生服务中心（红山）的职员，连同“集装箱活动社”的一群前社员，则参与了“19公里社区组”项目。

对一些参与者来说，他们可是首次体验在F1车道骑脚车的滋味。大家的欢愉笑声和脸上的笑容，都说明了他们全都乐在其中！



投入大自然怀抱

来自瑞士银行的26名志愿者，在2011年10月22日陪同儿童服务中心属下的“晨曦之友”儿童与幼儿俱乐部的45名孩子，到麦里芝蓄水池游玩。

活动以“自然生态”为主题，目的是教育孩子们有关大自然和生态环境的知识，让他们有更深一层认识，从而学会珍惜、爱护环境。活动也有助培养他们对艺术的兴趣。孩子们在蓄水池畔观察自然环境，从中寻找灵感，进行艺术创作。

晴朗的天气加上清幽的环境，令孩子们兴奋不已，纷纷拿出画纸和蜡笔，展现他们的绘画天分！

当天的活动还包括问答游戏，问题主要围绕“自然生态”，答对问题的孩子都获得了奖品。相信所有参与活动的孩子都度过了愉快、充实的一天。



热带岛国的北极圈



四季如夏的新加坡居然出现北极圈？其实，这是新加坡儿童会和育英中学展开的“集装箱活动社”合作计划。

集装箱活动社取名“北极圈”，名称是由一群学生助手选出的。这也是儿童会第22个“集装箱活动社”计划。

特别嘉宾——贸工部政务部长兼东北区市长张思乐先生，将一面旗帜插在一座小山丘上，象征为“北极圈”主持启用礼。这个别出心裁的仪式，完全由育英中学的学生构思而出。

在这同时，张先生也宣布：为社交网站Facebook推出“Connect And Be Inspired Now”（简称C.A.B.I.N）粉丝页面，方便同青少年在网上交流。

网站重新出击！

新加坡儿童会的网站改版后，重新出击！网站页面经过重新设计，方便您浏览和查找资料。随着社交网络日益普及，新网站也增添了儿童会在Facebook社交网站的链接和最新消息。

欢迎浏览<http://www.childrensociety.org.sg>，也诚意邀请您加入我们的Facebook社交网站<http://www.facebook.com/SingaporeChildrensSociety>。



