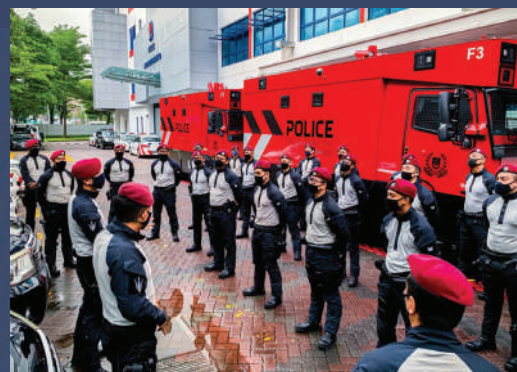


**POLICE  
LIFE**

THE SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE MAGAZINE  
2020 / ISSUE 04

# SINGAPORE GENERAL ELECTION 2020



**Police Day 2020  
All the Right Notes**



# CONTENT SPOTLIGHT



## Police Day 2020

3 June is a special day for the Singapore Police Force (SPF) as we commemorate Police Day with highlights of achievements and contributions from retired and serving officers. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's Police Day Observance Ceremony was held online and attended virtually by more than 2,500 SPF officers, the largest turnout for a Police Day Observance Ceremony!

P6



## Singapore General Election 2020

The Singapore General Election 2020 saw more than 12,000 officers deployed across the island to ensure a smooth and safe polling experience for all eligible voters. *Police Life* brings you snapshots of our officers in action when safeguarding this important event for Singapore.

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## All the Right Notes

From classical music to contemporary hits, music has been an essential part of the human experience, bringing people from all walks of life together. Read on and find out more about the life of Assistant Superintendent of Police Lau Li Feng, Deputy Director of Music from SPF Band, as she shares with us her love for music and policing.

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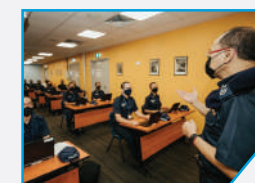
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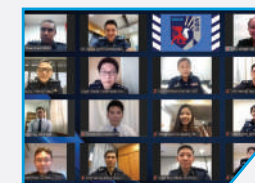
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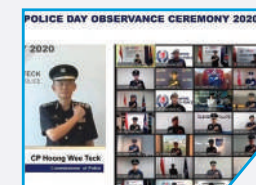
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*Editor's Note: Some of the photos used in this publication were taken before the implementation of the Circuit Breaker measures in Singapore.*

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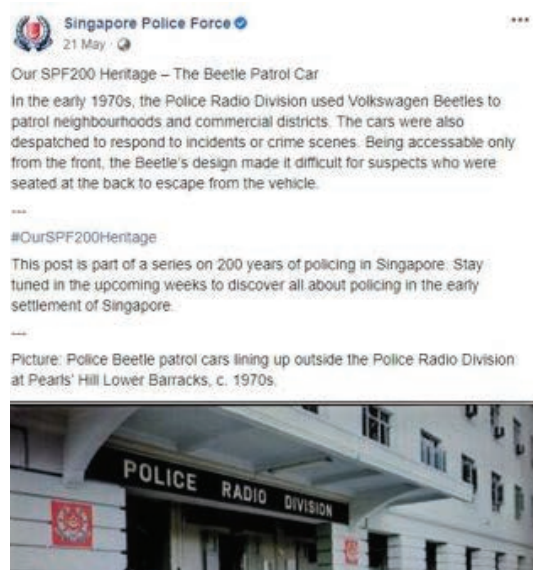
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# Let's Get Social!

By Irwan Shah

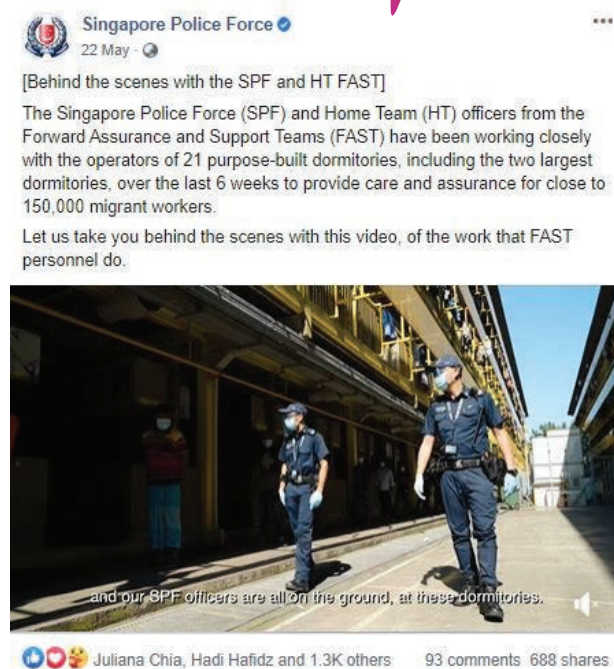
Check out the Singapore Police Force's Facebook page to find out the latest happenings in the Force! Here are some of the highlights from May and June!



- Yau GL** Was on attachment there during my training in 1977.. I remember sweating profusely sitting at the rear because the engine is at the back. 🙄  
Like · Reply · 6w
- Adrian Long** Those days besides the two policemen in front, we have a Vigilant Corp (VC) in white shirt carrying a baton only as support sitting behind of this patrol car too 🙄  
Like · Reply · 6w
- Leslie Wilson Joseph** Congrats SPF200. Thank you to all Officers past and present for keeping us safe. SALUTE!!!  
Like · Reply · 6w



- Alexandra Tan** Congratulations SPF 200 years of national security to protecting SG and am dedicating this ceremony to the memory of my mom who was a state law enforcer #CID  
Like · Reply · 4w · Edited
- Saran Teja** Heartly congratulations to all SPF officer on the 200th years celebrations. To all your services. I m so happy to be staying in singapore. I m proud to say that singapore 🇸🇬 is worlds safe country once again happy SPF DAY with great salute.  
Like · Reply · 4w
- Ganesha Ramasamy** Congratulations spf for celebrating 200 years of commemoration for protecting Singapore security safe country  
Like · Reply · 4w



- Anne Chiam** WOW!  
Thank You SPF and Home Team Officers from FAST. You are doing amazing work there 🙌🙌🙌  
Am pleased to see that almost all of you wear the surgical mask and face shield. Stay safe and stay alert. Will pray for your safety and good health.  
Like · Reply · 6w · Edited
- Remy Oliviero** Thank you to all the SPF & HT personnels.  
Like · Reply · 6w
- Tan Zhenzhi** Respect! Thank you all for the effort and dedication. Stay safe and take care!  
Like · Reply · 6w





# POLICE DAY 2020

By Syam Roslan  
(Photos: Singapore Police Force)

**The Singapore Police Force (SPF) commemorates Police Day on 3 June every year. It is the day where officers come together to celebrate their achievements and recognise the contributions of past and present officers. On this occasion, SPF officers also renew their pledge to reaffirm their commitment to serve the nation and to carry out their duties with courage, loyalty, integrity and fairness.**

Police Day on 3 June 2020 will be one that will be remembered by SPF officers as this is the very first time in SPF history that a virtual Police Day Observance Ceremony was held instead of the traditional Police Day Parade.

Despite the disruption of lives caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the SPF continued to commemorate this significant day by leveraging technology to conduct a virtual ceremony that was live-streamed on one of the SPF's internal communications platforms known as 'Workplace by Facebook'. It was a huge success as the ceremony was attended virtually by more than 2,500 officers from various SPF units islandwide, the largest turnout ever for a Police Day Ceremony!

As part of the observance ceremony, Commissioner of Police (CP) Hoong Wee Teck led the officers in the recitation of the police pledge virtually. The ceremony also observed one minute of silence to pay tribute to officers who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

Lastly, the award recipients for the Best Land Division, the Best National Service (NS) Operationally Ready Unit, as well as the Full-time Police National Serviceman (PNSF) and Operationally Ready Police National Serviceman (PNSman) of the Year were also announced at the ceremony. Bedok Division won the Best Land Division award this year, while Jurong Division won the Best NS Operationally Ready Unit for the second consecutive year.

Check out the highlights here!



Lee Hsien Loong  
3 June · Q

Today is Police Day. This year is a special anniversary – the **Singapore Police Force** is celebrating 200 years since it was formed in 1820.

I was invited to the Police Day Parade that had been planned for today, and was looking forward to meeting our SPF officers and their families there. However, the parade had to be called off because of COVID-19.

Nevertheless, the SPF remains steadfast in their role as our guardians. They have also taken on new duties as part of the Ministerial Task Force on COVID-19, helping to look after our migrant workers.

My deepest appreciation to the men and women of the SPF for their commitment to safeguarding Singapore, without fear or favour, regardless of race, language or religion. – LHL

Message by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong  
on Facebook



K Shanmugam Sc  
3 June · Q

[Police Day 2020: 200 Years of Policing]

The **Singapore Police Force** marks 200 years of policing this year. It has grown from strength to strength, with high public trust and confidence in its ability to prevent, deter and detect crime.

They have helped make Singapore one of the safest cities in the world. They are also working hard round the clock against COVID-19 – helping with contact tracing, managing security in quarantine facilities and foreign worker dormitories, ensuring the welfare of foreign workers, enforcing regulations to keep the community safe etc.

Thank you to all SPF officers for keeping Singapore safe and secure.

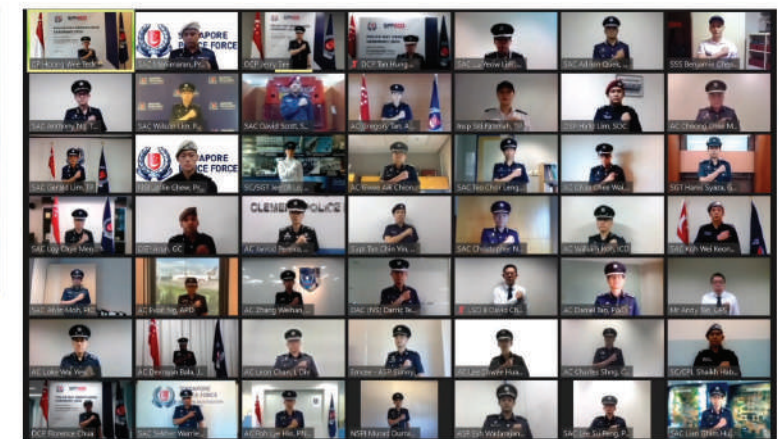
#OneHomeTeam

Message by Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law  
K Shanmugam on Facebook

As the Force comes together to mark Police Day and to commemorate our 200 years of history in the midst of uncertain times, we will always keep in mind our fundamental role as a Force for the nation – to maintain law and order, to protect life and property, and to serve our community. We will remain steadfast in our values of courage, loyalty, integrity and fairness and build upon our strong foundation, as we work as one Force to safeguard our nation's future, for many generations to come.

CP Hoong Wee Teck, Commissioner of Police

## POLICE DAY OBSERVANCE CEREMONY 2020



CP leading officers in the recitation of the police pledge.



Officers participating in the first-ever virtual Police Day Observance Ceremony.

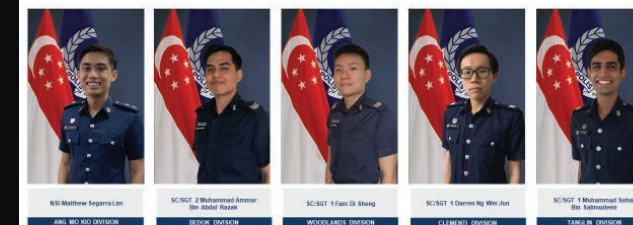


Trainees in Training Command observing one minute of silence to pay tribute to officers who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

## POLICE DAY OBSERVANCE CEREMONY 2020



### PNSF of the Year



Five PNSFs received the PNSF of the Year Award for their outstanding contributions and commitment to NS.

## POLICE DAY OBSERVANCE CEREMONY 2020



### PNSmen of the Year



PNSmen are also given recognition for their outstanding contributions. This year, five PNSmen were presented the PNSman of the Year Award.



Jurong Division named the Best NS Operationally Ready Unit for the second consecutive year at the ceremony. (Photo was taken before the COVID-19 outbreak)



Bedok Division clinched the Best Land Division Award, which was announced at the ceremony as well.



# PNSFs and PNSmen of the Year 2020

By Syam Roslan  
(Photos: Police National Service Department)

*The Full-time Police National Serviceman (PNSF) and Operationally Ready Police National Serviceman (PNSman) of the Year Awards recognise the outstanding contributions and commitment of Police National Servicemen. Police Life spoke to this year's recipients to find out what National Service (NS) means to them.*



**Rank/Name:**  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Police (DAC) (NS)

Benjamin Tan Beng Jin

**Designation:** NS Commander

**Unit:** Protective Security Command (ProCom)

## Highlights as NS Commander:

DAC (NS) Tan has played a vital role in the development of NS ProCom since its inception in 2016. He was heavily involved in the formation of the unit which was transformed and expanded from its previous iteration, the Key Installations Command. This led to the creation of NS ProCom HQ and its Operational Wings, as he helped to reorganise and redistribute the units, as well as redefining old and new Key Appointment Holder / Responsibility Appointment Holder positions. Thanks to the contribution of DAC (NS) Tan, ProCom is now in good stead for the evolving nature of operations and deployments in peacetime or emergency due to heightened security threats.

## What does serving NS mean to you?

It has been a life-changing and meaningful experience. Serving in the Singapore Police Force (SPF) has shaped me to become a humble, discerning and responsible person. This, in turn, enabled me to become a better supervisor, employee, teammate, citizen, family member and friend.

## What advice would you give to those who are waiting to be enlisted into the SPF?

This is the same advice that I have given to my son. Be respectful and treat NS like a real job. Do your best to support your regular colleagues. Reflect and appreciate the immense opportunity to learn and grow during your time with the SPF. Do your best for yourself and the SPF and you will gain as much as you have given.

## Highlights as NS Head Training:

DSP (NS) Lam led his unit to achieve a high level of efficiency, including being self-sufficient in running their own classroom and Police Defence Tactics training without support from regular trainers. He also improved the classroom training programme by making it more engaging and interesting. The programme was very well received by the PNSmen who went through the training. He also introduced new practical training programmes into the curriculum such as the use of Sabre 5000 (trace detector for explosive or chemical agent), person and vehicle checks and the use of the escape hood.

## What does serving NS mean to you?

It was an obligation in the beginning, which eventually turned into a sense of mission after realising how crucial our roles are in contributing to Singapore's safety and security. Serving NS in the SPF is meaningful because maintaining law and order in our society has a direct impact on the lives of my family, my community and the nation as a whole. I am honoured to be able to serve my NS in the SPF. As long as it is possible, I am always willing to continue to extend my service to serve the nation.

## What advice would you give to those who are waiting to be enlisted into the SPF?

I would like to share a quote which meant a lot to me when I was an SPF trainee - "A ship in harbour is safe, but that is not what ships are built for." by John A. Shedd. Some of us are 'bigger ships' than the other. A large ship is stable and can go far, but a small ship is nimble and can go fast. It doesn't matter how big or small your 'ship' is. Most importantly, identify the type of 'ship' you are, understand your strengths and put them to good use as that may make up for the shortfall of others. There is no perfect person but only a perfect team. If you are able to understand this and put it into practice, you will find serving NS in the SPF both meaningful and fruitful.



**Rank/Name:**  
Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) (NS)

Lam Kwok Yew

**Designation:** NS Head Training

**Unit:** Clementi Division



**Rank/Name:**  
Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) (NS)

Farhan Abdullah Bin Shaiful Bahri

**Designation:** NS Head Manpower, Administration and Logistics (MAL)

**Unit:** Central Division

## Highlights as NS Head MAL:

DSP (NS) Farhan Abdullah has displayed great initiative by improving the Key Appointment Holder / Command Appointment Holder retreat to build stronger bonds among themselves. He also led efforts to restructure the troop recall process, instituted changes to the troop's first-day reporting process and even restructured the training unit itself. This resulted in a more vibrant, unified and effective environment in his division.

## What does serving NS mean to you?

It is an honour to serve alongside such dedicated officers in my division. Serving in the SPF allows me to put into practice what I do during my day job as a cabin crew with the Singapore Airlines (SIA) in a different environment. It gives me the chance to serve the public with the finesse that is the hallmark of SIA while being firm and fair, something I learnt during my NS stint with the SPF.

## What advice would you give to those who are waiting to be enlisted into the SPF?

Stay humble. Regardless of your rank, be open to acquiring knowledge. Every situation allows us to learn to and be better as a person. Also, listen to the message, not how it was delivered. Certain leaders may deliver a message differently than what we are used to. We must learn to always take a step back, look at the bigger picture and understand that it is never personal. Lastly, it is good to question the status quo, but always know the timing and the delivery of such questions. There are times when we will feel that the 'old' ways are inefficient or out of date. But take the time to observe and always mind our body language and choice of words when we do bring across our opinions. It is important to ensure a high level of discipline in a uniformed organisation.

## Highlights as NS OC S&S:

As the NS OC S&S in Woodlands Division, SSSgt (NS) Lin helped to set up the unit from scratch, including proposing recall plans and building an organisation chart which helped them become fully operational within a short timeframe. He also took the time to organise two cohesion sessions which helped introduce the members of his unit to each other while also setting up a communication channel for greater collaboration.

## What does serving NS mean to you?

Serving NS in the SPF made me understand the importance of maintaining a safe and secure Singapore. It makes me appreciate the hard work of our regular officers working round the clock to ensure that Singapore is safe at all times. When I am in the police attire, it makes me feel honoured to be part of the SPF and have a sense of duty in keeping Singapore safe.

## What advice would you give to those who are waiting to be enlisted into the SPF?

Some may think that serving NS is wasting two years of their time. My advice to those waiting to be enlisted is to ponder about what they want to achieve during their two years in the SPF and to adopt a positive mindset towards NS. The skills that they will acquire during their NS will benefit them when they join the workforce in the future. They can be better prepared to face different types of situations. "Tough time don't last. Tough people do!" will be my words of encouragement to all the SPF pre-enlistees. Things might be tough at times, but if you are determined to work through them, you can overcome the situation!



**Rank/Name:**  
Senior Staff Sergeant (SSSgt) (NS)

Lin Yaoliang, Alvin

**Designation:** NS Officer-in-Charge (OC) Service & Support (S&S)

**Unit:** Woodlands Division





**Rank/Name:**  
**Sergeant 3 (Sgt 3) (NS)**  
**Cheah Whye Keat**

**Designation:** NS Provost Officer  
**Unit:** Bedok Division

### Highlights as NS Provost Officer:

With immaculate conduct, turnout and bearing record, Sgt 3 (NS) Cheah is one of the key provost officers in Bedok Division highly regarded for his experience and fair judgment in assessing cases during the PNSmen Charging and Disciplinary sessions.

### What does serving NS mean to you?

I was not sure what to expect when I was enlisted to join the SPF, as most of my friends were enlisted to the Army. But I soon realised that it was much more meaningful than I imagined. I picked up useful skills such as incident management and communication skills through my policing work and interactions with members of the public. My NS stint was also the time when I grew as a person, as compared to my younger and less mature self in the past.

### What advice would you give to those who are waiting to be enlisted into the SPF?

Make full use of the two years in NS to learn new skills, meet fellow NS mates with common goals, and plan for your post-NS life.

### Highlights as Assistant Operations Officer:

NSI Lim was involved in the manpower and logistics planning for his Neighbourhood Police Centre's (NPC) General Elections plans. He also contributed to the NPC's manpower allocation plan and outlining of their primary roles, as well as strategising the logistical and operational concerns. He also played a part in the planning of zoning measures for the Business Continuity Plan (BCP) within the NPC's jurisdiction, by helping to plan out the zones and route to be implemented in the event of a viral outbreak. He is someone with a strong sense of commitment to his work, often staying beyond office hours to accomplish his tasks.

### What does serving NS mean to you?

Serving in the SPF has been a privilege to me. There are not many jobs I see that impact the lives of Singaporeans in such a direct way. Although I do not work on the frontlines, it has been a pleasure to know that my contributions helped to support our frontline officers in the execution of their duties; and by extension, the broader community.

### What advice would you give to those who are waiting to be enlisted into the SPF?

Every new experience is an adventure, an opportunity to grow and learn. Seize every opportunity and have courage always!



**Rank/Name:**  
**National Service Inspector (NSI)**  
**Matthew Segarra Lim**

**Designation:** Assistant Operations Officer  
**Unit:** Ang Mo Kio Division



**Rank/Name:**  
**Special Constable/Sergeant 2 (SC/Sgt 2)**  
**Muhammad Ammar Bin Abdul Razak**

**Designation:** Neighbourhood Police Centre Officer (NPCO)  
**Unit:** Bedok Division

### Highlights as NPCO:

SC/Sgt 2 Ammar was involved in a fire incident at the Kaki Bukit Industrial area, in which he aided the Ground Commander to manage the incident by assisting with the evacuation of the occupants. 150 occupants were evacuated successfully, with zero casualties. For his actions and contributions, he received the Commander's Award. His vigilance and courage on duty also led to the arrest of four individuals for drug-related offences. SC/Sgt 2 Ammar was also commended for his professionalism and patience in guiding a man suffering from dementia, to open the door when he was stuck in his home.

### What does serving NS mean to you?

Serving my NS with the SPF has been a fruitful and rewarding journey as I can contribute to safeguarding everyone's home, including my family and friends. The responsibility that I carry on my shoulders when I don the uniform is unlike any other. I take great pride in knowing that members of the public placed a high level of trust in the SPF to uphold the law and keep them safe.

### What advice would you give to those who are waiting to be enlisted into the SPF?

Embrace and treasure the two years you have in the SPF. Do everything with pride and make the most of the time you have in the SPF.

### Highlights as NPCO:

SC/Sgt 1 Fam's vigilance during a proactive patrol led to the arrest of a serial thief in the neighbourhood. He was also integral in averting a case of suicide, as he successfully persuaded the subject to come off the ledge. For his courage and patience, he was awarded the Service Champion in the second quarter of 2019. He also demonstrated excellent ground incident management when he assisted his team leader on a murder case. For his actions and contributions, he was awarded the Commander's Award on three separate occasions and was also named the Best PNSF in his NPC for seven times between 2019 and 2020.

### What does serving NS mean to you?

Serving my NS with the SPF allows me to experience and learn about the different facets of Singapore. It also widens my perspective of our society.

### What advice would you give to those who are waiting to be enlisted into the SPF?

Enjoy the unique experience that cannot be found elsewhere. I am proud to be able to walk the streets of Singapore as a protector!



**Rank/Name:**  
**Special Constable/Sergeant 1 (SC/Sgt 1)**  
**Fam Di Sheng**

**Designation:** Neighbourhood Police Centre Officer (NPCO)  
**Unit:** Woodlands Division





**Rank/Name:**  
Special Constable/Sergeant 1 (SC/  
Sgt 1)

**Darren Ng Wei Jun**

**Designation:** NS Operations  
Support Officer

**Unit:** Clementi Division

### Highlights as NS Operations Support Officer:

SC/Sgt 1 Ng played a vital role in assisting his division to attain a 100% In-Camp Training (ICT) recall attendance, a feat only achieved by his division in the whole of SPF for the Financial Year (FY). This led to Clementi Division winning the PNSmen Best NS Operationally Ready Unit Competition in the ICT Recall Attendance Category. He was also heavily involved in the planning of PNSmen retreat events by liaising with HomeTeamNS event facilitators and external vendors to ensure the smooth running of all activities. For his dedication to service, he received the Commander's Award in 2019.

### What does serving NS mean to you?

Being in the SPF means that I am expected to uphold certain standards in my duty as a law enforcer. From my experience of working in the PNS Branch of my division, I learnt the importance of organisational and people management skills.

### What advice would you give to those who are waiting to be enlisted into the SPF?

Keep an open mind, as you will learn a lot of things during your NS stint. Never belittle any task that you are given. As a law enforcement officer, every bit of your support contributes towards the bigger mission. Be willing to learn, and NS can be an incredible experience.

### Highlights as an NS Operations Support Officer:

SC/Sgt 1 Suhail was actively involved in various projects for his division, such as being the tester for the new Armoury Management System 1.5 and assisting with data migration. This system was to be implemented Force-wide, and his division led the data migration solution using Robotic Process Automation (RPA), which saved the SPF thousands of man-hours. He played an active role in assisting with the rollout of RPA within his division, which was eventually adopted by other SPF units. In addition, he was also the co-lead of a human resource transformation project to improve the posting system and processes for police officers.

### What does serving NS mean to you?

It has been both a fulfilling and rewarding experience. Even though I am not posted as a frontline officer, my NS experience continued to be just as meaningful. I had the opportunity to learn how the SPF operates, including planning for security events and deployment of manpower. But most importantly, my colleagues have given me a sense of belonging and purpose which made my NS meaningful. It has been a great honour to be a part of something so profound and amazing.

### What advice would you give to those who are waiting to be enlisted into the SPF?

Be open-minded because your attitude and ethics will affect how your NS journey plays out. Make full use of the entire journey to grow, learn and treasure the relationships that you have built. Also, train well, exercise safely and look out for your peers!



**Rank/Name:**  
Special Constable/Sergeant 1 (SC/  
Sgt 1)

**Muhammad Suhail Bin Salimudeen**

**Designation:** NS Operations  
Support Officer

**Unit:** Tanglin Division

# STAYING FIT DURING THE CIRCUIT BREAKER

By Irwan Shah  
(Photos: Public Affairs Department)

The recent Circuit Breaker restrictions have inspired many people to discover new ways of keeping themselves active and fit while at home. To encourage our SPF officers to do likewise, the Police Sports Association held a Home Workout Contest to showcase officers' home workout routines from 19 May to 3 June 2020. Contestants were required to submit a short video of their workout routines and share them on, 'Workplace@Facebook'. Police Life spoke to the officers behind the top three videos with the most number of likes and learnt more about their motivations behind their home workout routines.

## FIRST PLACE

Staff Sergeant Chang Mu Chen (Airport Police Division)



### What motivated you to create the workout video for this contest?

As some of us are the fitness advocates of the division, we decided that it would be fun to create a small skit to promote healthy living among our officers through a simple home workout routine.

### What were the challenges you faced when making this video?

Owing to the COVID-19 safety measures, there were difficulties in arranging the filming and the sequence of the videos. However, every member of our small group chipped in and helped each other as best as we could through constant communications using video calls to work out the routine for the video.

### What is your advice for people who want to get fit?

Do not be afraid to start and press on. Some people gave up after a while because they do not see results immediately. Achieving fitness is a journey, not a destination. The key is perseverance and hard work.



### The Workout Recipe

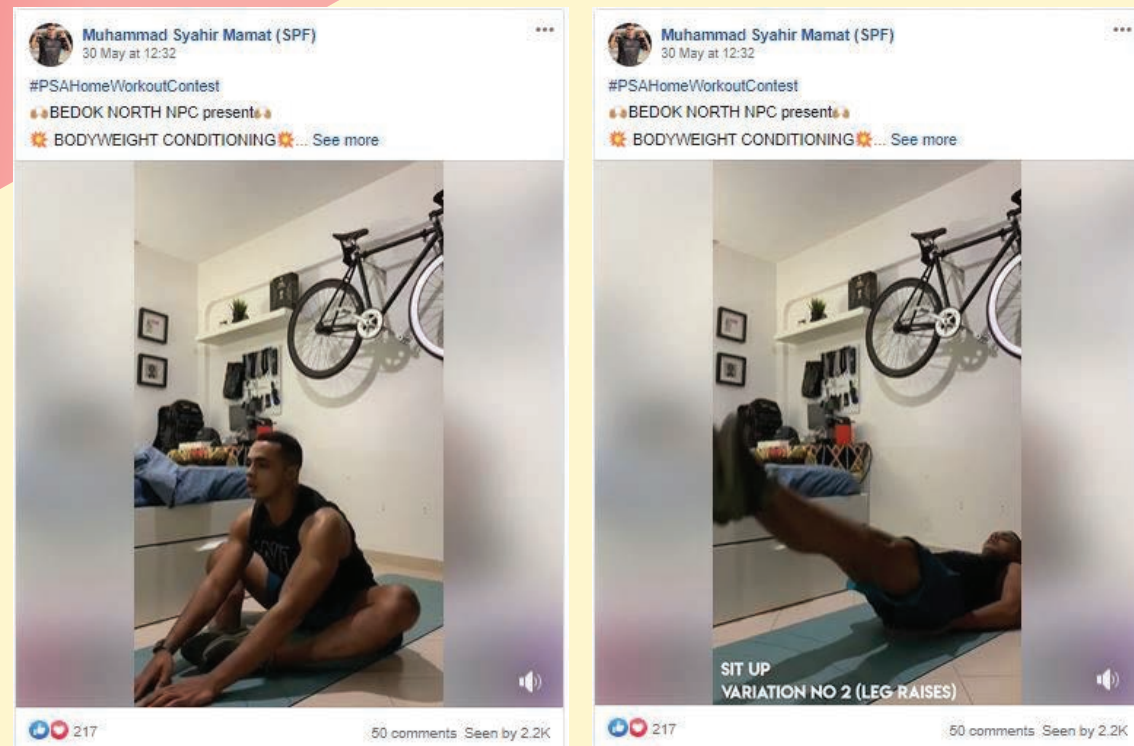
- 20 Seconds - Mountain Climbers
- 30 Repetitions - Crunches
- 30 Repetitions - Bicycle Crunches
- 20 Repetitions - Push-Up Planks  
(\*Up and down = 1 repetition)
- 20 Repetitions - Push-Ups
- 20 Repetitions - Lunges
- 20 Repetitions - Squats

Three sets in total



## SECOND PLACE

Muhammad Syahir Mamat (Bedok Division)



### What motivated you to create the workout video for this contest?

I was initially hesitant to enter the contest as I saw many amazing workout videos by other fellow contestants. However, my Commanding Officer encouraged me to give it a try. My colleagues and friends were also incredibly supportive of the idea and were excited to see the end product.

### What were the challenges you faced when making this video?

For a first-timer, it was not easy to talk in front of the camera. I kept laughing halfway through the recording, and I recorded the whole segment many times over. Aside from recording the video, I also had to develop a workout routine that is challenging but also makes you feel good after completing the whole session. Sheer determination and constant support from my peers helped me to overcome the obstacles.

### What is your advice for people who want to get fit?

We all must start somewhere. Develop a plan that suits your abilities and do not compare yourself with other people. Focus entirely on your progress, and try to learn new methods to enjoy. Just go for it!

### The Workout Recipe

#### Warm-Up

20 repetitions – Single-leg Romanian Deadlift  
10 repetitions – Inchworm  
30 Seconds – Handstand Hold/Plank

#### Two sets in total

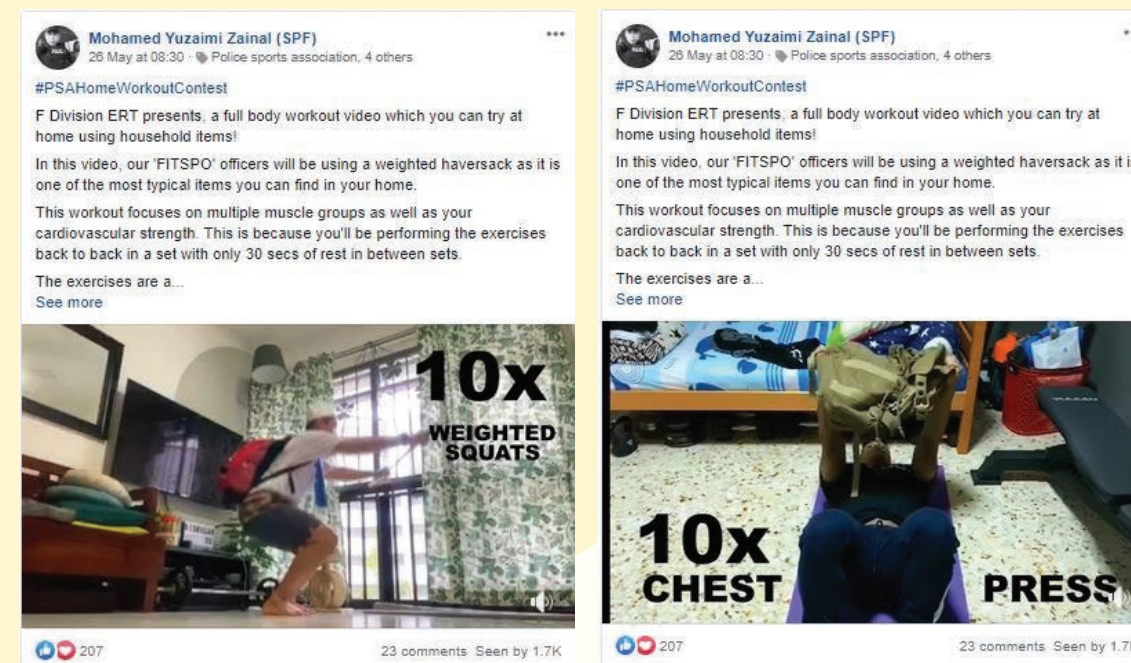
#### Workout

10 Repetitions – Hand Release Push-Ups  
15 Repetitions – Butterfly Sit-Ups/ Leg Lifts  
20 Repetitions – Lateral Jump Over an Object

#### Five sets in total (20 Minute per set)

## THIRD PLACE

Station Inspector Mohamed Yuzaimi Zainal  
(Ang Mo Kio Division)



### What motivated you to create the workout video for this contest?

As a member of the Fitness Team in my division's Emergency Response Team, we have already been sharing home workout videos within our division during the Circuit Breaker. So, it was rather fortunate that all of us are on the same wavelength when it comes to this contest. The enthusiasm and the drive, led by our team leader, were encouraging and every one of us did our part for the video. It is safe to say that it is right up our alley when it comes to doing home workout videos.

### What were the challenges you faced when making this video?

The transferring of the large video files for editing was cumbersome. My colleagues were recording videos using different mediums and thus, receiving varying qualities of the videos were inevitable. Fortunately, Google has been our best friend and we quickly resolved the tech issue in no time.

### What is your advice for people who want to get fit?

Do not overthink and do not procrastinate. Just move and start with something small and manageable. A small workout is always better than no workout at all.

### The Workout Recipe

10 Repetitions – Weighted Squats  
(Haversack worn on the back and front)

10 Repetitions – Bicep Curls/  
Triceps Extensions

10 Repetitions – Chest Press

10 Repetitions – Front Raise

Four sets in total (30 seconds rest  
between each set)



# Singapore General Election 2020

By Irwan Shah  
(Photos: Public Affairs Department)

The Singapore General Election (GE) 2020 saw over 12,000 Singapore Police Force (SPF) officers deployed across the island to ensure a smooth and safe polling experience for all eligible voters. The combined effort of officers deployed on the frontlines and behind the scenes, brought about the success of the GE 2020 operations that began with the issuance of the Writ of Election right up to Polling Day. Let us look back at some of the highlights of our officers in action!



Officers from Ang Mo Kio Division in action at the division's command centre on Nomination Day.



An officer from Woodlands Division conducting security checks at the Nomination Centre on Nomination Day.



Home Team Science and Technology officers setting up their command post at Protective Security Command for GE duties.



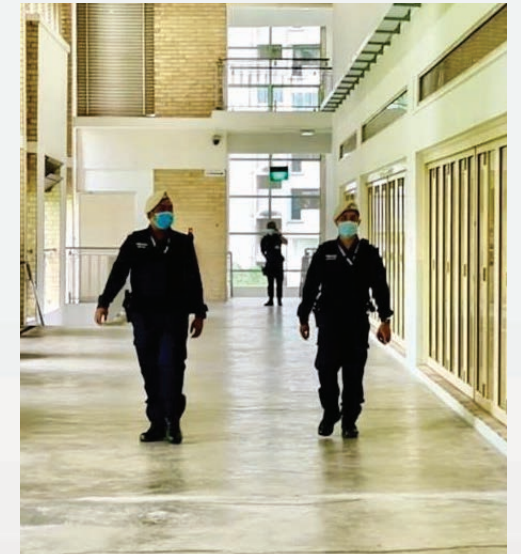
Support and Technical officers from Ang Mo Kio Division unloading food rations for officers in preparation for Polling Day.



Operationally Ready Police National Servicemen, Full-time Police National Servicemen, and Voluntary Special Constabulary officers attending a briefing for General Election 2020 deployment at Clementi Division.



Briefing to officers deployed for the security escort of ballot boxes.



Officers from Protective Security Command patrolling at the school hall of Deyi Secondary School.



Traffic Police officers preparing to set off from Traffic Police Headquarters on Polling Day.





Special Operations Command officers conducting a briefing outside Jurong Division Headquarters in preparation for GE deployment.



Logistics officers at the Police Logistics Branch on Polling Day.



Officers on duty at the Police Headquarters Incident Command Post on Polling Day.



Police officers from Woodlands Division ensuring the safety and security at a polling station on Polling Day.



Officers from the Public Affairs Department on duty at the Information Management Centre on Polling Day.



Police officers from Jurong Division patrolling a polling station on Polling Day.



# FIGHTING COVID-19 WITH POLICE PATROL ROBOTS AND DRONES

By Irwan Shah  
(Photos: Public Affairs Department)

*In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, more than 3,000 Singapore Police Force (SPF) officers have been deployed to support the nation's battle against the COVID-19 virus. To further enhance the SPF's operational effectiveness, the SPF has also leveraged technology through the deployment of autonomous police robots and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) at the migrant worker dormitories – gazetted as isolation facilities – to augment police operations.*



## Robots on the Ground

With their ability to patrol and navigate routes without supervision, two Multi-purpose All Terrain Autonomous Robot (M.A.T.A.R.) 3.0 units have been deployed at Changi Lodge 2 Dormitory and Toh Guan Dormitory to complement police officers on the ground as they conduct foot patrols and project police presence at the isolation facilities. As these robots are able to perform automated routine tasks, they are able to help patrol an area, minimise the need for officers to come into close contact with the dormitory residents, and thereby lowering the risk of infection. Moreover, the M.A.T.A.R. also keeps the dormitories safe by helping to ensure safe distancing within the premises.

*“The M.A.T.A.R. 3.0 also plays a deterrent role. When the residents see M.A.T.A.R. 3.0 patrolling, generally, they tend to adhere to the safe distancing measures,”* explained Assistant Superintendent of Police Teo Wan Ling, Overall-In-Charge (OIC) of Team C at Changi Lodge 2.

The functions of M.A.T.A.R. 3.0 have surpassed that of its predecessors. Working closely with research institutes and industry partners, the SPF and the Home Team Science and Technology Agency conducted iterative trials and reviews to develop the first generation M.A.T.A.R. to M.A.T.A.R. 2.0 and subsequently enhancing it further to become M.A.T.A.R. 3.0. The current version comes in two variants, each with its own set of unique gadgets. One variant has a Pan-Tilt-Zoom Camera, which can be raised up to two metres to provide 360-degree surveillance coverage. The video feed captured by the camera can then be live-streamed to the police command centres on the ground or to the Police Operations Command Centre (POCC) at the Police Headquarters, providing real-time footage from the frontlines to assist in sense-making. There is also a two-way communication feature on the robot that allows officers on the ground to communicate with officers in the command centres. This communication feature has also been used to remind the migrant workers at the dormitories to adhere to safe distancing measures.



The other variant of M.A.T.A.R. 3.0 spots a tethered Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) which can soar up to 30 metres, providing enhanced aerial surveillance of the surrounding area. Like the Pan-Tilt-Zoom Camera, the UAV can transmit a video live-feed direct to the command centres, which proved to be very useful in assisting SPF officers involved in the dormitory operations.

## Eyes in the Sky

In addition to the patrol robots, the SPF has also deployed UAVs, operated by certified SPF UAV pilots, to support the dormitory operations at the Kranji Lodge Dormitory and Cassia@Penjurong Dormitory as a form of contactless patrol, and to reduce the frequency of police patrols on site. The UAVs are used to conduct aerial surveillance of the perimeter surrounding these dormitories. Having ‘eyes in the sky’ allows the SPF officers to detect any anomalies within the compound, such as crowd gathering or trespassing, and also enables them to coordinate their responses to better manage such situations.



*“Our responsibilities are to support the in-situ officers in the dormitories by complementing their patrol with aerial surveillance,”* said Station Inspector Jason Quek, a UAV pilot. *“During the UAV patrol, we are able to remind the foreign workers, through the UAV’s loudspeakers, not to congregate at the open area and wear their masks at all time.”*



Since its first deployment in 2016, the SPF's UAVs have undergone continual improvements to ensure that they are enhanced with the latest UAV technologies to meet the challenges of SPF's operational landscape. The Sky Aerial Response Command (SkyARC), which was unveiled during the Police Workplan Seminar 2019, was part of such developments. The SkyARC, which was also deployed for the dormitory operations, is equipped with an arsenal of UAVs capable of advanced aerial surveillance on different terrains and acts as a mobile UAV response force. The footage and images captured remotely by these UAVs can be live-streamed to the police command centres, enabling better sense-making and enhanced operational responses to be made.

## Always Evolving

As technology continues to evolve, the SPF must constantly adapt to ensure the relevancy and effectiveness of its capabilities. Currently, the Home Team (HT) UAV Unit is working with specialist units, such as the Criminal Investigation Department and Traffic Police, to develop 3D scanning tools in UAVs for scene reconstruction, and to embrace artificial intelligence that utilises UAV footage for video analytics. SPF UAV pilots from the various land divisions and specialist units, are also concurrently trained to grow the SPF's own organic ground forces for future UAV deployments. Beyond these ongoing developments, the SPF remains committed to working with its partners to develop more technologies to better augment police operations.

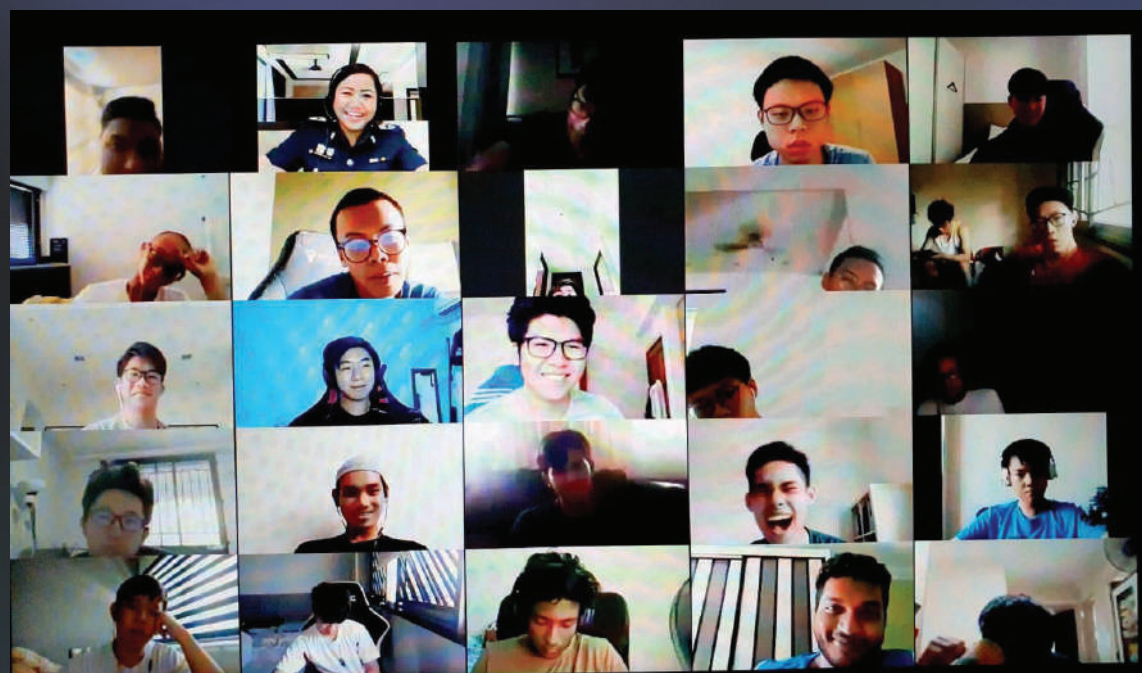


# TRAINING SAFELY AMID A PANDEMIC

By Syam Roslan  
(Photos: Public Affairs Department)

When the 'Circuit Breaker' (CB) was implemented in early April to combat the spread of COVID-19, most workplaces were ordered to be closed, except for those providing essential services. Schools went into Home-Based Learning (HBL), and most workplaces adopted telecommuting as the default mode of working. In tandem with the nationwide measure to contain the spread of the pandemic, the Singapore Police Force suspended the Police Officer Basic Course (POBC) until 1 June 2020, which was the tentative end date of the CB period at the time.

Despite the suspension of POBC, the Basic Training School (BTS) from Training Command continued to work tirelessly to process the scheduled enlistment of incoming trainees. The 179th Full-Time Police National Service (PNS) Intake was enlisted administratively on 15 April 2020 while the 180th Full-Time PNS intake was enlisted administratively on 13 May 2020. Both intakes then adopted HBL, where BTS trainers used Zoom to conduct non-sensitive lessons to the trainees, while materials deemed as sensitive were delivered to the trainees directly. During the HBL, Field Instructors also conducted simple static exercises to maintain the physical fitness of the trainees at home. All trainees will be required to take an assessment test when they report to the Home Team Academy (HTA) after the CB period.



Lessons were conducted by the Course Manager from BTS for HBL during the Circuit Breaker period.  
(Photo: Basic Training School)

When the CB ended on 1 June 2020, the BTS arranged for the return of the intakes to HTA. The 179th Full-Time PNS intake and 180th Full-Time PNS intake trainees reported to HTA for training on 2 June 2020 and 8 June 2020 respectively.

To reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19, the BTS put in place several safe distancing measures to ensure that the POBC could be conducted safely. These measures include ensuring wider physical spacing during drills, classroom lessons and mealtimes. Tapes were also used to mark out where trainees should stand, especially when queuing to collect their meals. Check out some of the training highlights, with safe distancing measures in place.



Physical training conducted, with trainees spread out.



Mask on for both trainer and trainees during classroom sessions.



Areas marked for trainees while queuing for meals.



Even with safe distancing measures in place, the trainees' spirits remained high as camaraderie is strengthened during mealtime.

With the resumption of POBC after the CB period, BTS has put in place safe distancing measures in all training activities to enable all trainees to train safely in the HTA. All trainees are required to wear a mask during training and take their temperatures twice a day. Any trainees who are not feeling well during training, even with the slightest symptom, are referred to the HTA Medical Centre for immediate medical attention. Everyone plays an important role in ensuring a safe training environment for all in Training Command.

**Superintendent of Police Koh Lye Meng**  
Commanding Officer  
Basic Training School

The safe distancing measures implemented in HTA has been very effective. BTS ensures that every one of its staff and trainees adheres strictly to it regardless of their training locations and activities. With constant reminders from trainers and even fellow trainees amongst respective squads, social distancing is practised and maintained throughout. These measures have made training in HTA safer for everyone.

**Trainee Special Constable**  
**Nursyafiqram Bin Sha'ari**  
NS 31/180th Intake

The safe distancing measures in HTA have been strict yet very effective. The spacing and instructions given by the Field Instructors and Course Managers are clear and concise.

**Trainee Special Constable**  
**Debayan Banerjee**  
NS 25/179th Intake

Safe distancing is a simple and effective method in controlling and minimising the chances of COVID-19 spread within HTA. For example, when having meals at the mess hall, trainees are to sit in a staggered position and must be one seat apart. Furthermore, each intake has different timing to eat in the mess hall to prevent overcrowding.

**Trainee Special Constable**  
**Zhong Wen**  
NS 32/180th Intake



## CRIME FILES: CAUGHT ON CAMERA

By Irwan Shah (Photos: Public Affairs Department)

*In this issue of Crime Files, Police Life reveals how Investigation Officers (IOs) from the Criminal Investigation Department leveraged Police Camera (PolCam) footage and successfully arrested a loanshark runner responsible for harassing 24 housing units over a week-long period, vandalising and even setting fire to several of these units.*



Station Inspector Chee, from the Criminal Investigation Department, was one of the Investigation Officers involved in the case.

### Fire on the "Wrong" Floor

On 12 June 2015, the Police were alerted to a fire incident on the 12th floor of a residential unit along Toh Guan Road. The IOs who arrived at the scene spotted loanshark graffiti scribbled on the wall at the staircase landing.

However, something was amiss. The unit that was set on fire was the unit above the one that was stated in the loanshark graffiti. Further investigation revealed that the occupant of a unit at the 11th floor had taken a loan from "Denzel", whom he had believed to be a licensed moneylender. The debtor also shared with the IOs that "Denzel" had threatened him when he was unable to repay his loan. With the information provided by the debtor, the IOs tried to establish the link with other loanshark harassment cases reported. However, investigations went cold as the mobile number scribbled on the wall was linked to a pre-paid sim card belonging to a foreigner who had already left Singapore.

### Vandalism at Serangoon Avenue 3

On the same day, another case of loanshark harassment was reported at a residential unit along Serangoon Avenue 3. This time round, the unit was splashed with yellow paint and loanshark graffiti, scribbled in similar fashion as the case at Toh Guan Road, were found on the wall of the 5th floor staircase landing. But instead of "Call Denzel", it was "Call Marco" scribbled on the wall. Upon examining the graffiti, the IOs discovered an uncanny resemblance of the fonts and handwritings, and decided to send the images of the scribbles for handwriting analysis by the forensics team to ascertain if the same person wrote them.

In addition, the IOs also obtained PolCam footage of the vicinities where these two incidents happened and spotted a person in similar outfit appearing at both locations. The handwriting analysis results by the forensics team also indicated that the graffiti was likely scribbled by the same person, establishing the links between both cases.

### Almost Splashed

Two days later, on 14 June 2015, a resident staying at a flat along Tampines Avenue 9 reported to have had a close brush with a loanshark runner. It happened when the resident opened her door to investigate some strange noises along the corridor. As the door opened, the resident came face-to-face with the perpetrator who was attempting to open a can of paint in front of the unit. Shocked, the perpetrator, who was wearing a pair of sunglasses and a black cap, fled the scene immediately.

Upon receiving the report, the IOs contacted the Police Operations Command Centre (POCC) to conduct a review of the footage of the PolCam in the area. Concurrently, the IOs also pooled together a list of recent loanshark harassment cases involving the name "Denzel" or "Marco", and discovered that there were six of such harassment cases within the past week at various locations around Singapore – all bearing similar traits including reports of fire or vandalism.

### The Breakthrough

After trawling through hours of PolCam footages, the IOs finally found a strong lead from one of the PolCam footage from the Tampines Avenue 9 case. In the footage, the perpetrator was seen hailing a taxi by the main road and left hurriedly. With the vehicle number plate, the IOs managed to find out the route of the taxi from the taxi company and their investigation led them to a block in Toa Payoh where the perpetrator alighted. This lead was reinforced further with PolCam footage extracted from the vicinity and the Toa Payoh block, showing the perpetrator alighting at the block and heading up to the fourth floor.

On 15 June 2015, the IOs staged an operation to arrest the perpetrator. Operating in two teams, they eventually found the perpetrator's unit on the fourth floor where they spotted the same type of shoes worn by the perpetrator in one of the incidents as seen in the PolCam footage. When the perpetrator answered the door, the IOs immediately placed him under arrest and searched his unit. The officers found markers, gloves, sunglasses, a black jacket and cans of paint inside his backpack – all matching the descriptions provided by the eyewitnesses and as seen from the PolCam footage.

### End Game

Over 200 hours of PolCam footage and more than 20 witnesses were interviewed to solve the case within two weeks. It was established that the perpetrator, Mohamed Ashyik Mohamed Shawal had borrowed money from unlicensed moneylenders – "Denzel" and "Marco" – but was unable to repay the loan. The loansharks had struck a deal with Mohamed Ashyik to clear his debt, if the latter agreed to work for them. "Marco" offered him \$80 to harass the debtor by splashing paint and writing graffiti on the wall. "Denzel" offered him \$1,000 to harass the debtor by setting fire in addition to writing graffiti. The temptation was too great and Mohamed Ashyik agreed to work for them. For his crimes, Mohamed Ashyik was sentenced to five years' corrective training and 24 strokes of the cane on 30 November 2015.



The residential unit that caught fire along Toh Guan Road.



Items seized from the perpetrator's backpack.

## ADVISORY

If you have information on loansharking activities around you, please call the Police Hotline at 1800 255 0000 or submit the information online on [www.police.gov.sg/iwitness](http://www.police.gov.sg/iwitness) or via the i-Witness tab of the Police@SG application. Alternatively, you can contact the National Crime Prevention Council at their X Ah Long Hotline at 1800-9 24-5664 / 1800 X AH LONG.



# THE BEST LAND DIVISION 2020

By Syam Roslan  
(Photos: Bedok Division)

From solving high-profile cases to rolling out new initiatives to enable a safe and secure community, it has been an action-packed year for Bedok Division. For their relentless crime-fighting efforts and unyielding service to the community over the past year, the Gryphons (as officers of the division call themselves) received the Best Land Division Award at a virtual Police Day Observance Ceremony on 3 Jun 2020 that was live-streamed and 'attended' by more than 2,500 officers forcewide.



## Keeping the Crime Rate Low

Introduced in 1995, the Best Land Division Award has been presented yearly to the most deserving Police Land Division for their outstanding performance in crime fighting efforts. Over the past year, Bedok Division, which oversees the safety and security of the eastern part of Singapore including Pasir Ris, Bedok, Tampines, Geylang, Marine Parade and Changi, saw a significant decrease in overall crime within their division's jurisdiction (excluding scam cases, which has significantly increased across the board, in Singapore) as compared to the previous year.

## Steadfast Commitment

With great resolve and a strong commitment to the SPF's mission, officers from Bedok Division were involved in solving several high-profile cases over the past year. These cases included an attempted armed robbery case at a pawnshop in Bedok in July 2019, where the suspect was arrested within 32 hours and the Geylang stabbing incident which happened shortly after in August, where six suspects were arrested within 28 hours.

### Three suspects arrested within 28 hours of incident



### Man charged with trying to rob Bedok pawnshop



Source: The Straits Times © Singapore Press Holdings Limited. Reprinted with permission.

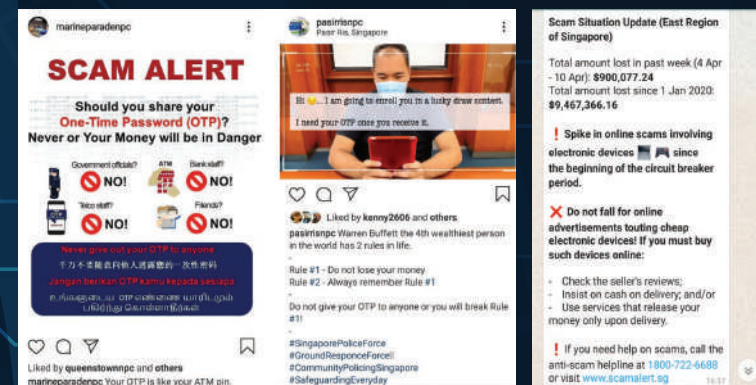
## Partnering with the Community

Recognising that the Police cannot fight crime alone, Bedok Division has been working closely with the community to address socio-economic challenges upstream.



The strong partnership with the community has been a driving force behind a range of new crime prevention initiatives. For instance, in December 2019, various community partners came on board to join the Police in organising the Youth Carnival @ Bedok, which reached out to needy families and provided opportunities for youth to serve the community. The carnival saw more than 10,000 people in attendance. Many of these young people also signed up for various programmes to serve the community.

"By working with the community to address socio-economic challenges upstream, we are in a stronger position to strengthen public trust and safety," said Assistant Commissioner of Police (AC) Julius Lim, Commander Bedok Division.



To tackle the scourge of online scam, the division also intensified their efforts and worked tirelessly to raise public awareness by leveraging social media and messaging platforms to push out anti-scam videos, as well as crucial and timely advisories to the public.

One of their anti-scam efforts include using WhatsApp to share crime prevention messages, maximising the reach of their advisories to the residents within the jurisdictions of the various Bedok Division Neighbourhood Police Centres.

## Committed in the Collective Fight Against COVID-19

Since the onset of COVID-19, officers from Bedok Division have also been mobilised for various COVID-19 related operations. Over the past few months, in addition to their regular duties, officers have also been deployed to ensure public order and safety at multiple government quarantine facilities, migrant worker dormitories and other areas to support the nation's efforts in curbing the spread of the virus. Despite the risk and prolonged period of deployment, Gryphons have stepped up to the challenge. Their resilience, strength and determination reflects the strong sense of duty to the SPF's mission that they are committed to fulfil.

Dedicating the division's achievements to his fellow officers, AC Lim is proud that they have displayed "courage and commitment in keeping their neighbourhoods safe from crime, while also coping with COVID-19 related deployments at quarantine and isolation facilities".



## United as One

Be it fighting crime or supporting the nation's battle against the pandemic, the SPF works as one united force to achieve its mission. Emerging as the best land division, as what AC Lim aptly summarised – is an affirmation of the combined operational effectiveness of all SPF units.

Winning the Best Land Division is not simply a recognition of Bedok Police Division's achievements. But also, an affirmation of the strong partnership that exist between the division and the other units in the Singapore Police Force. On behalf of Bedok Police Division, I would like to thank the other land divisions, staff units and specialist units for the strong support that you have rendered over the past 12 months.

To my officers, remember that what matters are the values that make us special as police officers. A sense of duty to the SPF's mission, responsibility to the community and care for each other. Congratulations! A job well done. Keep up the good work!

— AC Lim, Commander Bedok Division



# AIRBORNE DRONES FOR A CRIME-FREE ZONE

## HOW SPF AND HTX ARE TRIALLING A NEW DRONE BOX SYSTEM TO FIGHT CRIME

Reproduced from Home Team News (MHA)

By Tiffany Tan  
(Photos: Tiffany Tan)

*While many of us stay at home during this Circuit Breaker period to fight the spread of COVID-19, our Home Team Guardians are working harder than ever to combat crime on the ground – with the help of eyes in the sky.*



It was a mid-week afternoon and I was on the roof of a nondescript industrial building in the western part of Singapore. In a corner of the roof stood two rectangular grey structures about two metres tall. These drone boxes are part of an initiative by the Singapore Police Force (SPF) and the Home Team Science and Technology Agency (HTX) to trial drone operations.

GRAPHIC: Home Team News



I watched as the panels on the top of one of the drone boxes slid open to reveal the star of the show – an advanced drone measuring about 1.8 metres wide and weighing about 10kg. With its propellers spinning, the drone lifted off and embarked on a flight path that took it over the surrounding industrial estate.

The drone box system in action.

### Supporting Our Boots on the Ground

In recent years, SPF has introduced drones with various capabilities to complement Police operations. Equipped with lights, cameras and speakers, such drones offer officers a better situational picture in order to enhance their responses on the ground.

This latest drone trial began in early May 2020 and demonstrates how SPF and HTX are rising to the challenge in these challenging times by employing innovative technologies to support crimefighting on the ground.

“The industrial estates can get rather deserted during this Circuit Breaker period, and the Police need to keep up our presence to detect unusual or illegal activities,” explained Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Elvin Chong, Commanding Officer of Clementi Neighbourhood Police Centre. “We don’t want criminals to take the opportunity to break into warehouses or offices, especially during this difficult period.”

## The Drone Box System: Automated for Effectiveness

Walking us through the drone box system’s capabilities was Low Hsien Meng, Senior Engineer, Robotics, Automation and Unmanned Systems, HTX. An aerospace engineer by training, he worked closely with his HTX colleagues to conduct a comprehensive review of the operational requirements and deployment area before deploying the drone box system.



Unlike conventional drones, the drone box concept allows the preflight process to be largely automated. Within each drone box are robotics systems that complete preparatory tasks like attaching mission-specific payloads (such as cameras) and changing batteries. This allows the drone to be prepped for flight by an operator at the Command and Control Centre.

“With routine tasks and activities taken care of by automation, SPF officers can focus on what’s important, which is to complete the mission at hand,” explained Hsien Meng.

Low Hsien Meng of HTX with a tablet that can show “live” video from the drone in flight.

### Airborne Force Multiplier

I watched as the drone flew across the industrial estate, stopping at a series of preset waypoints. While in flight, cameras on the drone capture video that’s transmitted in real time to the Command and Control Centre. “This video can also be sent to officers who are on foot patrol or in a vehicle, via a tablet,” said Hsien Meng. “This gives them a better situational picture, especially of areas that are hard to access.”

Another feature of the drone box system is that it can deploy a drone without a pilot or visual line-of-sight control. With a few clicks of a button, an operator at the Command and Control Centre can deploy the drone and fly it beyond line-of-sight, extending its effective range in an operation.

Monitoring the drone’s progress, Hsien Meng explained how the trial has yielded important data for his team. “This is a very good opportunity for us to collect real ops data on system reliability and mission effectiveness,” he said. “With this information, HTX engineers can customise solutions to better support officers in the field.”



DSP Sum Tuck Meng (centre) with fellow UAV pilots.

Among the officers sharing their feedback with HTX is DSP Sum Tuck Meng, Officer-in-Charge, UAV Operations, Home Team UAV Unit, Operations Department, SPF. Having served 25 years with SPF, he’s excited by the capabilities offered by the drone box system. “With its automated functions and ability to perform virtual aerial Policing, it has the potential to be a force multiplier for our ground patrols,” said DSP Sum.

As the drone completed its route and returned under the watchful eyes of Hsien Meng and DSP Sum, a second drone had finished its automated preflight check and soon took off to cover a different area of the industrial estate – little noticed by most people, but playing a vital role during this challenging period to keep us all safe.



# ALL THE RIGHT NOTES

By Elliot Wong (Photos: Public Affairs Department and Assistant Superintendent of Police Lau Li Feng)

*Shakespeare once wrote, “If music be the food of love, play on.” From classical musicians like Beethoven to modern pop artistes like Ed Sheeran, music has been an essential part of the human experience, bringing people from all walks of life together. The Singapore Police Force (SPF) Band wields this power of music with their stirring melodies, occasionally even taking centre stage in their very own concerts. Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Lau Li Feng, Deputy Director of Music of the SPF Band, shares with us her unique experience as both a musician and a police officer, as well as the challenges that she had to overcome to balance her two passions.*



## A Childhood Dream

*“When I was around seven or eight years old, I attended a performance by the SPF Band at the British Club. Though I did not know of the band at that time, I was deeply inspired by the way they carried themselves throughout the show, playing their instruments with a kind of excellence and fervour that struck a chord with me.”* This was ASP Lau’s first encounter with the SPF Band, and one that would stick with her for many years to come, igniting her passion for music and leaving on her a deeply respectable impression of the SPF.

At the age of 14, ASP Lau was introduced to the euphonium (a brass instrument) in her school band. *“Beyond mere entertainment and a good portfolio, playing that instrument felt magical to me. Through this instrument, I was able to speak in a universal language that transcended cultural and linguistic barriers, forming a connection with people from all walks of life.”*

## Pursuing the Dream

In 2006, after spending four years at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, ASP Lau graduated with a Diploma in Music. She went on to pursue a degree in Mass Communication and upon graduation, explored a variety of career choices - from conducting as a band instructor to performing all sorts of gigs. Soon, she began to realise that she needed more in her career. Apart from earning a stable income, she wanted just as much to build a career that would allow her to give back to the community.

In her search for her ‘dream’ job, ASP Lau recalled her past encounters with the SPF Band. Seeing that the SPF would give her the platform to serve the community and perhaps, even further her musical career, ASP Lau thought to herself, *“why not?”* And so, she took the leap of faith and signed on as a senior officer, which turned out to be a journey that would take her to places that she never would have imagined.

## Journey to Policing and the SPF Band

After completing her training, ASP Lau spent a few years as an Investigation Officer (IO) at Central Division, followed by a few years as a Team Leader (TL) in the Public Transport Security Command (TransCom). Her time in Central Division and TransCom came to teach her many valuable lessons about leadership.

*“As a TL in TransCom, I had to lead a large group of men. Even though hierarchy matters in a uniformed organisation, I soon began to realise that leadership extended beyond rank alone, and that I would need to exercise compassion and sincerity to gain the respect of my men.”*



ASP Lau soon grew into her roles in the SPF, and through trial and error, found her own unique style of leadership that enabled her to fulfil her role as a police officer, leading her men in keeping Singapore’s streets safe. Over time, she developed a love for the profession and began to recognise the importance of her job beyond herself.

While police work has enabled ASP Lau to serve the community, it has also provided her with the opportunity to pursue her passion for music. With the help of a former Commander at the Police Training Command, ASP Lau’s musical talent was recognised and she was finally posted to the SPF Band. The SPF Band not only allowed her to demonstrate her talent, she was also given the opportunity to complete a music degree in the University of Plymouth in the United Kingdom (UK), studying under the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Music programme.



## Not Just the Music

After returning from the UK, ASP Lau was posted to the music development office, and eventually became a Deputy Director of Music. The role was not without its share of menial tasks and challenges, which included rehearsing for performances and conducting the band, to administrative matters such as procuring locations for performances and co-ordinating with technical crew.

Yet, to her, even the most laborious of tasks gave her the opportunity to do what she set out to do those many years ago: meet with people of all walks of life and engage them through music. *“I have had the privilege of meeting people of a variety of disciplines,”* ASP Lau said. *“When we organise a show, I have to liaise with the lights technician, the sound technician and the events manager. I never thought I would get to meet and work with all these people outside my area of expertise.”*



Being in the SPF Band has also given her the creative space to arrange her own musical pieces for performances, blending classic military music with contemporary pop hits. *“I always try to write pieces with my own creative spin on old melodies while keeping it relatable for modern audiences,”* ASP Lau elaborated on her musical arrangements. *“As police officers, our job involves engaging the community that we protect so that we can forge closer ties with them and work together in crime prevention efforts. Being on stage allows us to do just that. Through music, we hope to form a special connection with our audience, and that through seeing us perform, they may trust us to excel in policing as we strive for excellence on stage.”*

## The Magic of a Melody

Though leading the band has not always been easy, ASP Lau takes the challenge in its stride, practising the sincere and compassionate leadership style that she learnt back in TransCom. To ASP Lau, her job is most meaningful when she sees how music changes people, especially her officers who grow during their time in the band.

*“I have seen them grow from people shy of the stage to bold musicians willing to step out of their comfort zone. These stories hearten me as they show that music really can change people, just as it changed me all those years ago.”*





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SAFEGUARDING EVERY DAY

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INSPIRED BY  
200 YEARS  
OF JUSTICE.



Investigation Officer  
STELLA TAY



I AM AN  
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OFFICER

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