

**POLICE  
LIFE**

THE SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE MAGAZINE  
VOLUME 40 NO. 5

## **A Police Force in Unison The Parts that Make The Whole**



# **A FORCE FOR THE NATION**



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## FOREWORD



AC Melvin Yong  
Editorial Advisor  
*Police Life*

"We pledge to uphold the law, to protect life and property, to prevent and detect crime." This is the pledge that my fellow officers and I recite when we first joined the Singapore Police Force.

In June each year, the Force reaffirms our dedication to our pledge and our mission through three significant events.

The main event is the Police Day Parade, where we honour our past and rededicate ourselves to the service of the nation. Individual officers get a pat on the back for their good work during the Commissioner of Police's Commendation Ceremony and we thank our community partners and stakeholders at the Annual Police Dinner.

As the organising chairman for this year's Annual Police Dinner, I am eager to see our guests' response to the programme specially arranged for them.

Similarly, I am excited about my new role as editorial advisor to the **Police Life** team. We have put together highlights from this year's Parade, interviewed several officers about how they safeguard every day and take a quick look at the Force's workplan for the year.

**Police Life** is committed to sharing with you a different and lesser known side of the Police. I hope you find this an informative and entertaining read.

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SSgt Edwin Lim Jia Zhong  
SC Mok Wen Jie

Design and Production  
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# 56 AND COUNTING...

The Singapore Police Force held its first public Police Review at the Padang on 12 July 1958. Fifty-six years on, the Annual Police Review has evolved into the Police Day Parade. Through almost 90 minutes of parade inspection, awards presentation, reciting the Police Pledge, and a post parade music and dance segment, the Police reaffirm their core values of Courage, Loyalty, Fairness and Integrity, and re-dedicate themselves to the service of the nation.





# THE CREAM OF THE CROP

By SSgt Edwin Lim Jia Zhong

The annual Police Week celebrations recognise the hard work, commitment and sacrifices Police Officers put in to ensure that Singapore is safe. At the Police Day Parade, awards are presented to the best performing units. *Police Life* finds out what makes these units tick.

**W**e are the best land division for this year, but we should not rest on our laurels,” said then-Commander of Ang Mo Kio Police Division, Assistant Commissioner of Police Keok Tong San, after his division won the Best Land Division title last year.

Indeed, the division did not, and their efforts have earned them a second consecutive Best Land Division title. This is the first time in the division’s 49-year history that they have won back-to-back titles.

“It is not an easy achievement. If you have good successes in bringing crime down, it’s even harder to

bring it down further. So I’m very proud of my officers to have achieved this,” said Commander (Covering) of Ang Mo Kio Police Division, Superintendent of Police (Supt) Leon Chan.

“I also want to applaud the strong community partnerships that we have with all members of the population covered under the Division. They have been helping us reduce crime. The effort is not from a single person or party but all of us working together to achieve the award,” Supt Chan added.

## —WHAT LED TO OUR WIN—

OFFICERS’ THOUGHTS AND WISHES



“I always emphasise to my officers that the involvement of the community in the fight against crime is effective in preventing, deterring and detecting crime. This has been proven true by the lower overall crime rate achieved by the division in 2013. I strongly believe this was one of the key things that contributed to the title win.”

Deputy Superintendent of Police Tan Boon Heng  
Commanding Officer, Ang Mo Kio South Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC)

“My utmost concern is fighting crime and serving justice to our residents. I have to ensure that the person who committed an offence is convicted in court accordingly. At the end of the day, the residents are our customers. We do all that is necessary, to ensure that we secure the necessary conviction for the accused person.”

Staff Sergeant Johnny Neo Dong Chun  
Investigation Officer, Investigation Branch



“I’ve been in Ang Mo Kio Police Division for 12 years and am proud that the division has won this title for the second time straight. What we can contribute from the intelligence front is to support the NPCs and Investigation Branch on the analytical reports to alert our officers to prone areas of crime. We look forward to working harder and striving better for the unit.”

Miss Nur Ashikin Jumali  
Collator, Divisional Intelligence Branch



### Best National Service Operationally Ready (NSOR) Unit

Ang Mo Kio Police Division was not the only one walking away from this year’s competition with back-to-back titles. Central Police Division’s National Service Operationally Ready Unit retained their title after yet another outstanding year by their officers.

“The clarity of mission and purpose was a major factor in our NS Contingent’s drive towards operational readiness and administrative excellence. The alignment of shared vision to be the leading NS outfit enabled us to work towards a common goal,” said National Service (NS) Commander, Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Police (DAC) (NS) Lionel Chai Yee Yuan.

“The strong tripartite bond among the regular police officers, Volunteer Special Constabulary and NS forces in Central Police Division allows us to support operations closely and handle issues encountered promptly and effectively. I see these important factors as the ingredients that allowed us to deliver the results,” DAC (NS) Chai added.



### Best Volunteer Special Constabulary (VSC) Unit

VSC officers are our true real life superheroes where they hold regular day jobs but don the police blue after office hours. In this year’s competition, the VSC unit from Bedok Police Division came out tops to win the Best VSC Unit title.

Bedok Police Division VSC officers have shown commitment, performing above the average of 40 hours per officer per month Force-wide. They contributed in both operational duties and major events support. These events include the National Day Parade (NDP), Formula One (F1) Night Race and the Singapore Airshow.

Head VSC, Bedok Police Division, Supt (V) Tham Wai Kee said, “I’m grateful to every VSC officer of Bedok Police Division who has sacrificed personal and family time to achieve the high standards required of them. VSC officers contribute diligently to frontline and major events support. This award also goes to the families of our officers who continue to support our mission to keep Singapore safe and secure. Finally, the recognition by our Regular counterparts will continue to motivate us to perform these duties.”

## —AWARDS—



### Best Land Division Competition

- 1 Ang Mo Kio Police Division
- 2 Clementi Police Division
- 3 Central Police Division



### Best National Service Operationally Ready Unit

- 1 Central Police Division
- 2 Clementi Police Division and Ang Mo Kio Police Division (joint runners-up)



### Best Voluntary Special Constabulary Unit

- 1 Bedok Police Division
- 2 Clementi Police Division
- 3 Central Police Division



# THE PRIDE AND HONOUR

By SC/Cpl Muhammad Alif Bin Sapuan

They come from different units but feel one thing in common – proud and honoured to be part of the Police Day Parade (PDP).



## Proud to be a Woman

Although travelling to HTA from work can be exhausting, Sergeant (Sgt) Norizan Noordin had fun during the PDP training.

Like many other officers, this is Sgt Noorizan's first PDP. "I feel honoured to be marching with the Bedok Police Division contingent. Furthermore, we are celebrating 65 years of women in policing this year. That is the significance of this year's parade," she said.

In fact, it was Sgt Noorizan's mother who inspired her to join the Force. "She went through a lot to raise the family singlehandedly. My mother is a petite lady but she showed me that every woman is strong in her own way." The Geylang Neighbourhood Police Centre officer added, "Female officers are more emotionally resilient. That is one of our strengths. In fact, there are instances where female officers are fitter than male officers! So be positive, and never compare."



## A Reminder of her Resolve

For Corporal (Cpl) Maithili d/o Vijaya Kumar, the PDP reminds her of why she chose to be a police woman. Participating in the marching contingent this year, the Police Coast Guard officer said, "I get the chance to refresh our regimentation, our rules, our values and our guidelines. When I return to the Home Team Academy (HTA), I feel refreshed again and reminded of the reasons why I wear the uniform."

Being in a specialised unit, Cpl Maithili feels that it is interesting to participate in such an event because she gets to meet her colleagues from other coast guard regions and officers from other units. "I get to interact and bond with these officers. It's fun!" she said.

Previously in the private sector, Cpl Maithili loves her job now. "I chose the SPF because the work is real – handling real problems," she said.

She is not one who is easily daunted. "There are some instances where we (female officers) tend to be a bit weaker than our male officers. But they will assist us and at the same time, we must step up and be of the same standard as them. We can be on par with them and we will."



## Contributing to the Parade

It was Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Celina Koh's first time participating in the PDP. Ditching the spectator role, the Commercial Affairs Department officer was honoured to be part of this year's plain clothes marching contingent. "It is quite a good experience to be involved and understand the process of putting together the parade," said ASP Koh.

As a Senior Investigation Officer in the Financial Investigation Branch, ASP Koh had to ensure that the training did not clash with her interviews or court hearings. "If it does, I will inform the parade coordinator that I will be absent," she shared.

When the training got tough and some of her contingent mates began feeling a bit of the strain, ASP Koh encouraged and motivated them. "No matter where you come from, once you are in a contingent, you march in the same step with the same objective – to look smart in front of the audience and to make the SPF proud," she said.

To ASP Koh, the parade is where the officers showcase the Force's capabilities to the public. It is also a day to remember past officers who contributed greatly.

## VOICES FROM THE BLUE

# WOMEN CAN BE STRONG

By SC/Cpl Muhammad Alif Bin Sapuan

Following the footsteps of her father, Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Teo Hong Ling joined the Police Force in August 2009. This tall and slim officer may be soft-spoken but she is far from being soft.



## Inspired by her father's experiences

Since she was a young girl, SSgt Teo's father shared his policing experiences with her and her brother. Recounting one of her father's stories enthusiastically, SSgt Teo said, "While on duty, my father and his partner decided to check on a suspicious man. The man was walking along the street alone in the middle of the night. When my father asked the man for his particulars, he fled. Eventually, they managed to apprehend the man and found pills that were possibly controlled drugs." After hearing that incident, SSgt Teo made up her mind to join the Force and continue her father's legacy.

## Determined to Show that Gender Is Not An Issue

She knew that the Force is a perfect place for her and that she made the right choice. As an adventurous person, she actively participates in many sports and work activities. SSgt Teo sure is a tough and determined woman. "When someone said that I can't do something, the more I will prove that person wrong," she said.

When she dons the uniform, she expects herself to be no different from male officers. "I always go around telling my colleagues not to treat me as a woman when I have my uniform on."

As a K9-unit officer since October 2010, SSgt Teo has to handle dogs, but she does not feel disadvantaged by her petite frame.

"There was someone who told me that I was too skinny to handle a larger-sized Labrador. But previously, I had two big dogs and I did not have problems at all!" she exclaimed. To SSgt Teo, it is the technique and skills that you have which ensures that the dogs obey your instructions.

## It's about mind over matter

SSgt Teo has never allowed her gender to be an excuse to do less. Being the committed officer she is, she ensures that she upholds her policing responsibility.

"I recall one incident when I was on my mandatory Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC) attachment after the training at the Home Team Academy. There were four of us arresting a man of unsound mind. My three male colleagues pinned down the man and asked me to stand aside because I am a lady," SSgt Teo shared. The quick-thinking lady knew she had to do something, so she tried to be empathetic and calmed the man down. "I had to coax him like a young boy to stop him from being aggressive," she said.

As a woman officer, she is immune to people who see women as being weak. SSgt Teo took part in the Police Day Parade this year and she has heard of some officers saying that the rehearsals and trainings can be tough. Although SSgt Teo fainted during one of the rehearsals, she displayed determination and resilience. "I overcame it and marched during the parade with my head high," she proclaimed.



# A POLICE FORCE IN UNISON

The 2014 edition of the annual Police Day Parade was held at the Home Team Academy on 3 June. Almost 1500 officers came together to renew their commitment to the Police service when they recited the Police pledge. *Police Life* brings you highlights from the parade.





## HERITAGE



Year 1954 - First Police Week at Tanjong Pagar Police Station

## MEMORIES OF POLICE WEEK

By Ms Loh Shu Lin, Public Affairs Department and SC/Cpl Muhammad Alif Bin Sapuan

## Some Police Week Milestones

The first ever Police Week was held at the Tanjong Pagar Police Station in 1954 with the objective of fostering public-police relationship. For the first time ever, the public was invited to view the work of Police at close range and participate in guided tours at various police stations.

An important feature of every Police Week celebration is the Police Day Parade (PDP). On this special day, officers of the Singapore Police Force come together to celebrate their achievements and to reaffirm their commitment to serve the nation and the force. During the parade, awards such as the Best Land Division Award and Best Volunteer Special Constabulary

Unit Award will be presented. In 2014, the awards 'Best Key Installations and Best National Service Land Division' were combined into the 'Best NS Operationally Ready Unit' award.

Another highlight of Police Week celebrations is the Commissioner of Police's Commendation Ceremony. Every year, the Commissioner of Police presents the Commendation certificates to individual officers and teams in recognition of their outstanding achievements and meritorious service.

The other event that we still hold today as part of Police Week is the annual Police Dinner. The first recorded mention of the dinner indicated that it was referred to as "Police Dinner & Dance". It was held at the Cathay

Restaurant on 3 June 1975. However, it was not an annual affair until 1998.

## Part of the cool parade

Inspector (Insp) Jeffrey Ang from the Public Affairs Department participated in the PDP in 2007. It was a special parade for two reasons. Firstly, the Reviewing Officer and Guest-of-Honour was Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, who graced the occasion for the first time. Secondly, it was only the second time in the parade's history that it was held in the Singapore Indoor Stadium.

Typically, the marching contingents trained at the Home Team Academy (HTA) under the blazing sun. But Insp Ang and all the contingents were generally spared. "We had to march

under the hot sun for the first few sessions. But our subsequent trainings were held in an air-conditioned venue."

The stadium's layout brought about another set of challenges though. "The contingents had to enter from four entrances instead of the usual two entrances at HTA. We then had to turn corners. It was difficult to get the "fan" effect perfectly when turning corners, so we had to practise numerous times," said Insp Ang.

On the day of the parade, Insp Ang felt very nervous as the stadium was packed. There were so many pairs of eyes watching him and all the contingents marching in. But it went without a glitch and remains deep in his memory as a memorable Police Week.

## DECODING THE POLICE DNA

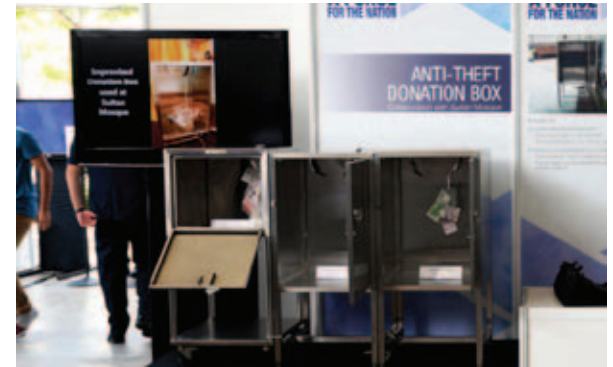
By Ms Chew Si Lei Jinnie

The annual Singapore Police Force (SPF) Workplan Seminar (WPS) is an opportunity for the Force to review the achievements of the year past and plot the way for the year ahead. On 2 May 2014, the Commissioner of Police addressed officers at the WPS and shared about the components that form the Police DNA. *Police Life* decodes some of the Police DNA from certain exhibits.



## Riot Simulation

"During the Little India Riot, our Police Tactical Unit (PTU) troopers were deployed on the ground. They encountered projectiles – water bottles, stones and bricks. Our PTU troopers have shown great courage facing the rioters, so today, we would like the members of the public to have a hands-on experience (of a riot situation)," said Station Inspector Ricky Loh, Officer-in-Charge, School of Public Order Training, Special Operations Command (SOC). Tennis balls were used to simulate the projectiles and participants wore protective gear and stood behind long shields. Ninety three "projectiles" were hurled at them in 45 seconds. Through this simulation, the public can feel for themselves how the SOC trains and confronts such adversity.



## Anti-Theft Donation Box

In August 2013, two persons were arrested for stealing cash from the donation boxes in Sultan Mosque. After the incident, Senior Station Inspector Muhamad Aziz Elias from Rochor Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC) thought of enhancing the security of the donation boxes to deter theft. Together with the Rochor NPC's Community Policing Unit (CPU), he met with the management of the Sultan Mosque. After numerous meetings and trials of different prototypes, six boxes have since been replaced with the modified version that was displayed at the WPS. The mosque's management will gradually replace all the boxes in the Mosque. Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Han Zechou, Officer-In-Charge of the CPU in Rochor NPC, said that they "hope to share this concept with all places of worship in Singapore."



## Body Worn Camera

With the completion of several technical trials in 2013, an operational pilot of equipping frontline officers with body-worn cameras will take place in the middle of the year. With the cameras weighing only 79 grams, the officers who participated in the trials have found them to be of no hindrance to their duties, said ASP Jude Sherman D'cruz, Operations Officer in the Operations Surveillance branch from Operations Department. By early 2015, all frontline officers will be equipped with similar cameras to enhance the SPF's capability to deter crime, collect valuable investigative leads and to better address service complaints.



## Mobile CCTV Camera (Mobicam) System

Crime trends can be very fluid, and it is essential for the SPF to innovate in order to stay ahead of the crime trends. One such technology that we have adopted is the Mobicam system. When a crime hotspot is identified, these battery-operated cameras could be activated and set up quickly at the hotspot over prolonged periods to supplement SPF's existing network of cameras. The cameras have been deployed at various areas island-wide since last year.



## In-Vehicle Video Recording System

SPF is also working on the use of In-Vehicle Video Recording System in our Police Fast Response Cars. The cameras will help frontline officers during traffic enforcement as they will now have the video footage as additional records of vehicles' makes and models. The camera will also act as an additional eye on the ground to allow better management of incidents.



# THE PARTS THAT MAKE THE WHOLE

By SC Mok Wen Jie



**Ms Winnie Loke**  
Strategic Planning & Finance Officer  
Strategic Planning & Finance Division, Police Logistics Department (PLD)

## Job Scope

Ms Loke's role covers a range of developmental and planning issues that revolve around the SPF's capability development matters and PLD-centric corporate planning matters. With PLD spearheading some Force-wide capability development initiatives, part of her work is to coordinate with parties involved, track progress and perform secretariat duties for steering committee meetings for the projects.

Ensuring that internal goals are aligned with the overall mission of the PLD and SPF, she also plans and develops platforms for effective internal communications. These platforms, though non-exhaustive, include work plan reviews, corporate advance, quarterly dialogues and the department's key officers' meeting.

A key deliverable from the PLD's recent transformation exercise is the introduction of the master planning process, which falls under the responsibility of her division. It entails having to engage various operational departments to review strategic threats, risks and filter procurement requirements.

## Enhancing community security through capability planning

Coming from the private sector previously, she joined the SPF in mid-August 2013 through the Ministry of Home Affairs' Home Affairs Senior Executive (HASE) programme, wanting to realign personal goals and values with a more rewarding career that allows her to contribute to the efforts of keeping the community safe and secure.

"The opening in the PLD was timely as it gave me an opportunity to be exposed to the backend logistical support involved in capability planning to enhance security in the community."

## Making a difference in the SPF, uniformed or not

"I need to be able to understand the requirements and challenges frontline units may face, and be able to review and recommend process changes and initiatives that would better support the frontline units in their mission. Thus the concept of Operations-Technology Integration is critical to align what I do to PLD's objective of providing mission-centric capabilities for the SPF."

"Being able to make a difference and be involved in spearheading future capability initiatives gives me a sense of satisfaction and belonging in SPF, regardless of whether I am a uniformed officer or not."

### BITE-SIZED

"One distinct challenge working in the SPF is the dynamic work environment that requires HASE officers to be able to interact with uniformed officers on work matters, which may often see differing views due to varying modus operandi at work."



**Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Xu Ming Cheng**  
Career Officer (Uniform Services Unit - Police Officer)  
Recruitment Division, Manpower Department (MPD)

## Job Scope

SSgt Xu's main role is to manage all applications for the Police Officer scheme. His unit is responsible for tail-end processes such as the conducting of appointment formalities, computing of salaries, and preparing of submission papers to the management for appointment. They also liaise with internal departments and external agencies such as the Police National Service Department, Vital and other ministries regarding pre-enlistee or transfer cases.

Beyond the administrative component, they also interact with the public. For example, during bond-signing sessions, officers can share with candidates about what they can expect during training and address any outstanding concerns they or their sureties may have.

In addition, SSgt Xu's duties extend to the selection process where he plays the role of a Panel interviewer to assess candidates and ensure their suitability for the job. He is also a Career Adviser, attending career events to share with prospects his knowledge and experience of being in the Force.

## Helping others and ensuring a safe community

SSgt Xu has always been interested in a police career since childhood, as police officers are in a position to help others while ensuring that the community is kept safe. Joining the SPF after graduating from Singapore Polytechnic in 2004, SSgt Xu started out with the Special Operations Command (SOC) as a Police Tactical Unit trooper, then joining the Recruitment Division in MPD in 2011.



It is not just the Singapore Police Force's (SPF) frontline officers such as Neighbourhood Police Centre Officers (NPCO) or Investigation Officers (IO) who prevent, deter and detect crime. *Police Life* speaks to three officers behind the scenes, whose work might not be as well known as the frontline officers', but who work just as hard to fulfil the SPF's mission.

"It is a job which helps me develop my confidence level as we get to interact with people."

## Selecting the individuals who represent the Force

One of the major challenges he faces includes having to manage a large volume of Police Officer applications. Career Officers have to be extremely meticulous, as any inaccurate information will affect the officer's career in the long run.

As policing requires individuals who are not only passionate about the job but have the competency to do it well, the role of recruiting the best people for the job is crucial. Although not in the frontline fighting crime, SSgt Xu and other Career Officers play an important role in ensuring a constant supply of quality recruits to divisions/units.

"I feel proud about being an SPF officer, as my role is responsible for selecting and appointing the very individuals who will represent the image and core values of the Force. Also, seeing officers whom I have had a personal involvement in appointing receiving compliments from the public also gives me a true sense of satisfaction being a recruitment officer."

### BITE-SIZED

During peak periods, the SPF could receive up to 100 applicants who wish to join the Force, and approximately one out of five applicants is female.



**Senior Station Inspector (SSI) Baharuddin B Hassan**  
Officer-in-Charge Force Transport  
Automotive Engineering & Management Division (AEMD), PLD

## Job Scope

SSI Baharuddin is in charge of monitoring the movement of the various types of SPF reserve vehicles, also known as AEMD Tech-float. These vehicles are loaned out to Divisions and Units should there be an urgent need to temporarily replace a broken-down vehicle or boost the numbers needed during major events, operations & exercises.

Besides monitoring the vehicles, he also oversees their maintenance to ensure that they are road-worthy. This is usually done by running the engines periodically and sending them for scheduled servicing.

In addition to the AEMD Tech-float vehicles, he supervises the officers assigned to drive, deploy & maintain the Forward Command Vehicles (FCVs). The approximately 25 tonnes (Unladen weight) FCVs are deployed at the site during contingencies, and have proven to be effective. The FCV crew attends to the FCV daily maintenance to ensure that it is always ready for any activation.

## Keeping Singapore safe for 30 years and still going

SSI Baharuddin has been with SPF for the past 30 years. He joined as he desired to contribute towards the SPF's effort in keeping Singapore streets safe. He performed team policing at Ang Mo Kio Police Division before posting to Seletar Neighbourhood Police Post. He then served at Hougang Neighbourhood Police Centre and is now a re-employed officer in AEMD.

## Providing Units with the resources for success

SSI Baharuddin mentioned that the main challenge is to deliver the required types of vehicles quickly and efficiently, so that the Divisions/Units that require the vehicles can proceed with their operations smoothly and without delay.

"When they are able to provide SPF Units with all their requisition and without undue delay, Divisions/Units would be able to focus & carry out the plans & tasks unhindered. I can feel proud when Divisions/Units manage to undertake all their tasks successfully, knowing that my team and I have done our part in contributing to their success."

### BITE-SIZED

Due to the rigorous use of vehicles in day-to-day operations, vehicles need regular maintenance. This is not limited to internal workings; external maintenance, such as regular washes, are just as important in maintaining and projecting the SPF's image!



# THEY PROTECT OUR PEOPLE, OUR HOMES, AND OUR COMMUNITIES.

By SC/Cpl Muhammad Alif Bin Sapuan

## Team Award



**Inspector Lim Jia En Jeanice**  
General Investigation Squad, Clementi Police Division

Years of Service: 1 year 9 months

**Q:** Tell us briefly about your job scope and how it contributes to the safety of Singapore?

As an Investigation Officer, my job is to investigate cases which are referred to us. We gather information and evidences to be able to recommend the appropriate charges.

Our main focus is to bring these perpetrators to justice. The job we do, the processes that we go through, definitely contribute to Singapore. We show members of the public that the Police are serious in keeping crime low in Singapore. At the same, when we take action, we are also deterring people from committing crimes.

**Q:** Do you think the work you do matters?

As guardians of Singapore, we are concerned about the safety of Singaporeans. Sometimes, we will do follow ups on unreported cases when necessary. An example would be a Facebook post about a lady who claimed that her niece was almost abducted.

When we heard of this, we followed up and went to the location. We looked through the CCTV to find out what happened. Through investigation, it was revealed that the culprit was an autistic child who wanted to befriend the lady's niece.

For this case, even though it was a misunderstanding, it was important to assure members of the public that Singapore is safe. Also, officers will take into account matters that affect and cause unnecessary alarm to the public.



**Assistant Superintendent of Police Mohamed Farhan Bin Anas**  
Unlicensed Moneylending Strikeforce, Criminal Investigation Department

Years of Service: 5 years

**Q:** How does your job contribute to the safety of Singapore?

My job contributes on many levels, from arresting members of unlicensed moneylending (UML) syndicates to implementing initiatives to cripple the operations of the unlicensed moneylenders. In 2013 alone, we saw a significant drop in the number of UML reports. This would also mean the fewer people are being impacted by these UMLs. However, I think that there's more that we can do to make things better.

**Q:** For the period of January 2013 to December 2013, you have contributed to the successful crippling of nine unlicensed moneylending syndicates. What was your role and why did it matter?

We have to maintain a very high standard of operations from the very beginning to the end. We need to make a coordinated effort together with other investigation officers and branches in the Criminal Investigation Department. With such effort, we successfully bring these syndicates down. Once they get into our custody, we need to make sure that we can break them down with the evidence that we have and our interviewing skills.

We need to ensure that members of the public are not afraid to come forward to seek our help. Thus far, we have garnered quite positive responses. It is important that people know that we are doing our utmost best.

As we celebrate Police Week this year, officers from across the Force were awarded with the Commissioner of Police (CP) Commendation Award for their outstanding performances in 2013.

*Police Life* interviewed four officers who are first time recipients of this award in either the team or individual categories.

## Individual Award



**Senior Staff Sergeant Anuar Bin Othman**  
Jurong East Neighbourhood Police Centre, Clementi Police Division

Years of Service: 4 years 9 months

**Q:** Tell us briefly about your job scope and how it contributes to the safety of Singapore?

Apart from being a frontline officer, I am a Group Leader and team armourer. My job scope as an officer is obvious. I hold the responsibility in maintaining law and order, preventing, detecting and deterring crimes. There are also times when I attend to messages such as security threats and attending to relational, community and social dispute cases.

Our work as officers definitely contributes to the safety of Singapore. We keep the neighbourhood safe and criminals out. It gives a sense of achievement in reducing crimes in the neighbourhood. This builds a sense of confidence in the community to know that someone is keeping the streets safe day and night.

**Q:** You hold eight secondary appointments, such as unit welfare committee member and Division project QR code coordinator. Did you volunteer or were you appointed to take it on? Do you think that these appointments are work that matters?

These secondary appointments were given to me. To me, whatever tasks I am assigned to matters because it is a challenge for me to take it in my stride and to do my utmost best.

At the same time, I think that all these appointments would benefit me in terms of exposure. While these assignments can be challenging, I think that it tests my capability and responsibility as an officer to persevere, endure and definitely be committed. This will eventually allow me to acquire new skills for me to move ahead in my career.



**Staff Sergeant Muhammed Kamaruizan Bin Kassim**  
Bishan Neighbourhood Police Centre, Tanglin Police Division

Years of Service: 5 years

**Q:** Tell us briefly about your job scope and how it contributes to the safety of Singapore?

I am in Bishan Neighbourhood Police Centre Community Policing Unit as a Community Policing Officer. Our role and main responsibility is to prevent crimes from happening. To me, that is an important aspect of how we can engage the members of public to teach them on how to prevent crime before it can happen. This is also for them to gather the knowledge and information that would help them in their daily life.

**Q:** Besides being a Community Policing Officer, you were involved and took charge of engagements such as the Bishan Anti-Bicycle Theft. Why do you think that these projects matter?

As the saying goes, prevention is better than cure. With these projects and initiatives, we educate members of the public on crime prevention methods. We conduct road shows, exhibitions and house visits to inform residents on ways that they can prevent crime. Then, we will help assess how they can improve their daily routine and security. All these efforts matter because it allows us to reach out to a wider audience so that they can be more aware of the situation.



