

**POLICE
LIFE**















THE SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE MAGAZINE
VOLUME 40 NO. 11

WE'VE GOT **HEART & TALENT!**



**In Tune With Her Musical Desires
Savouring the Culinary Artistry**

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NOTE FROM THE TEAM



SC/Cpl Gabriel Chan Duen Yue
Journalist
Police Life

I have been playing chess since young and I realise that it has taught me so much about life. Each intellectual match of chess tests my ability to think and make decisions critically, be accountable for my actions, plan ahead and explore new possibilities – and sometimes, you learn how to accept sacrifices for a desired outcome to succeed!

Even during the last few weeks of my Basic Police Training before we declared, "POP lo!" at our passing-out parade, my squad-mates and I created our very own chess board and pieces from scraps of paper so that we could play them during our free time.

Exercising your talent, depending on how you see it, can be conceived as something which could complement your work and growth in character. To realise its full potential, it needs to be nurtured conscientiously.

In this special edition, we unveil to you our officers who leverage their talents to succeed in life or harness their passion to bring about benefits for people and their organisation.

See how our officers within and outside of their work tap into their talents and their inner compassion: from one who lives his creative dream as a graphic designer in the Force; to our 'Batman' police officer who constantly sets out on missions, not only to fight crimes, but also to bring smiles and heartfelt joy in the lives of people.

Just like a game of chess, there are many pathways to success and opportunities to look out for. Do not limit yourself or get yourself into the bad end of a 'checkmate' situation. Discover your talent or if you already have one, continue to cultivate it. You may never know what lies ahead or when your talent will shine through for you and others.

COMMITTEE

Editorial Advisor
AC Melvin Yong

Chief Editor
DAC Tan Tin Wee

Senior Editor
Ms Leena Rajan

Editor
Ms Tham Yee Lin

Journalists
Ms Chew Si Lei Jinnie
SC/Cpl Gabriel Chan Duen Yue
SC Mok Wen Jie

Photographers
SSgt Chee Yong Tat
SC/Cpl Gabriel Chan Duen Yue
SC Mok Wen Jie

Design and Production
Redbean De Pte Ltd

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WE'VE GOT HEART & TALENT!

By Ms Ines Yeo
Public Affairs Department

With the end of work each day, police officers join the crowd of commuters on the road to head home and spend time with their loved ones. Unknown to most people, there are many officers who peel off their blue uniforms and swap them for their soccer jerseys and chef coats, often surprising people with the exceptional talents that they possess. Others take on new identities as superhero characters and leaders of community service projects. For some of them, the experience gained while they pursue their passions allows them to empathise with and forge closer bonds with fellow Singaporeans, strengthening their resolve to protect Singapore. And what brings them back to their work stations at the start of each new day are a renewed purpose and a genuine heart to serve and safeguard Singapore.

DESIGNER OF ALL TRADES

By SC/Cpl Gabriel Chan Duen Yue

Staring intently at the screen filled with virtual artworks and gliding his pen deftly along the surface of his black tablet at his workstation, Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Hairul Fazli Ariffin from the Public Affairs Department (PAD) spends his days on graphic designs and putting materials up online as a Web & Design Officer.

Using computer software such as Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator Creative Suite, he helps conceptualise new and creative designs for the Singapore Police Force's publicity needs.

With a passion for the Arts which begun during his kindergarten years, he still brings along a sketchbook wherever he goes and pens down whatever ideas or thoughts that comes through in his mind and also doodles on it while on the go.

To keep up with the latest trends, he browses online tutorials and forums, and subscribes to feeds from design-related sites on social media platforms. He also picks the brains of the National Service Full-Time (NSF) officers who are assisting him and gathers informative insights into 'what's trendy and what's not.'

"I appreciate the experiences and knowledge shared by the NSF and reservist officers alike who are in the design field, as there's always something new to learn."

His talent would not have materialised without the encouragement and guidance from his mother, he says.

"My mother first taught me how to draw a 'kampong' (village in Malay). Eventually, my drawing of art pieces progressed to cartoon characters in the eighties like Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Transformers.

In school, where there were opportunities for him to exercise his creativity due to the availability of graphic design software on school computers, his artistic works soon extended from pencil-sketching to creating works of digital art.

Although he dabbled in Interactive Media Design during his post-secondary education, his core interest still lies in graphic design.

SSgt Hairul recalled, "That interest was rekindled when, as a Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC) Officer in Bedok South NPC, I was tasked with creating powerpoint slides for my Work Improvement Team project. I decided to create simple yet quirky and well-designed slides. Those slides turned out to be well-received by my former Commanding Officer and that incident motivated me to want to do more".

SSgt Hairul subsequently found himself in PAD where his peers and supervisors see that his talent is put into great use.

Leveraging his perceptual and artistic skills, he draws parallels from his daily observations of life and work and turns those ideas into visual art pieces which are attention-grabbing and would effectively convey the underlying message to the intended audience.



One example of his work was a crime prevention poster on 'Illegal Betting', for which he bagged top honours in the National Crime Prevention Council's 'Anti Illegal Soccer Betting' poster design competition.

"I drew inspiration from the poker card – a mirror image which you will see every time you rotate the card 180 degrees. The poster depicts two different emotions of the subject (illegal bettor/ bookie), from feelings of excitement of winning to utter remorse. The colours

yellow and red are used to represent these two moods while also illustrating the elements of soccer. They are an analogy for a soccer game – when one player makes a foul move, he is booked with a yellow card; similarly when one engages in illegal betting activity, he is already in the 'danger zone'. Subsequently, when booked with a red card, the player will be out of the game. Likewise, the illegal better or bookie will be arrested and prosecuted."

— DECIPHERING — THE LOGO

COPS
COMMUNITY POLICING SYSTEM

He was the man behind the logo concept of the Community Policing System (COPS). The grid design represents modular technology, being put in place to form a versatile system. The colour scheme is adapted from the SPF Crest. The three different hues of blue (forming the grid) represent phases of implementing the COPS.



AN ADMINISTRATOR WITH AN IMAGINATIVE HAND

By SC Mok Wen Jie

National Service Probationary Inspector (NSPI) Joshua Ang assists with manpower matters for the Central Police Division. He is also a talented artist, and possesses a talent his colleagues (including this writer) are very envious about. We find out more about how this skilled but humble officer came to pick up and hone this talent for art.

A Late Starter, but a Fast Learner

"When I was in Secondary 3, I was studying for my 'O' Level examinations in a library, and was feeling a bit bored. I chanced upon a book about how to draw manga (Japanese comic art), and started drawing based on the book. It was then that I discovered my talent and passion for drawing," NSPI Ang shared with a nostalgic laugh.

Starting off with simply copying the drawings off a book, he went on to developing his own style and character designs by Secondary 4, and took up Digital Media Design (Animation) at the Nanyang Polytechnic after his 'O' Levels. Eventually he worked his way up to taking part with a team in the Competition Commission of Singapore 2012 Digital Animation Film Contest, where he clinched the third prize. In the Tokyo Broadcasting System DigiCon6, he was one of the Top 20 finalists! Even during his National Service, he continued his creative work and went on to become part of the media design committee for his Officer Cadet Trainee batch, designing the badge for his cohort.

A Skilful Multi-Tasker

After graduating as an officer cadet, NSPI Ang was posted to the Singapore Police Force (SPF), and is now dedicated to assisting the Head Manpower with the myriad of human resource matters of the Division.

Being an avid artist, he spends the short breaks he has to conceptualise various characters, and to sketch them out. By the end of his breaks, blank papers are covered in rough sketches, although they look far from 'rough' to this writer!



Dreaming Big

Initially inspired by Japanese manga, NSPI Ang now aspires to be a character concept artist for successful game companies such as "Blizzard" and "Ubisoft" or even card games like "Magic: The Gathering", where he would be creating original character designs and illustrations that could be seen and admired by thousands around the world. For now though, he continues to build up his portfolio, preparing for a bright future ahead.

PROGRAMMED FOR SUCCESS

By SC Mok Wen Jie

"My lifelong aim is to create applications that can help people," said Trainee Special Constable (TSC) A Ameenudeen, who just began serving his National Service with the Singapore Police Force (SPF). *Police Life* finds out more about his talent in application programming, and his aspirations that bind the strings of codes together.



Zeros and Ones

Specialising in data analytics and security, TSC Ameenudeen utilises software such as Eclipse and IntelliJ to develop applications. One application he has developed is Fittr (Not affiliated with "Fittr®", which is a different application that allows you to create your own

customised workout plans and track your exercise progress), a healthcare application designed to encourage the general public to pick up a healthy and active lifestyle with a social network. Fittr came in the Top 10 (out of 50 teams) at the Google Plug Fest 2013, a software programming competition hosted by Google in Singapore. Another application he has developed is File Haven, a secure file sharing application aimed for corporate use.



Runs in the family

"I first started tinkering with computers and their components in primary school. Later, I developed an interest in computer programming while I was in secondary school," TSC Ameenudeen said. However, how does a secondary school kid even develop such a complex interest in the first place? He feels that it just was an innate interest in computers, although it might have been influenced by his father, who was working as a programmer then.

To contribute to the SPF, and to society

Like many others serving their National Service, TSC Ameenudeen says that he is very excited about being posted to the SPF. However, he distinguishes himself by saying it with palpable enthusiasm, "I feel that being part of the SPF is very cool. I get to be able to help and contribute to the community almost directly, which is aligned with my goal to contribute to society, and help people."

ECLIPSE? INTELLIJ? WHAT ARE THEY?

Both softwares are, in computer programming terms, integrated development environments written mainly in Java that can be used to develop applications.

TSC Ameenudeen explains, "Just imagine each software as a

building with workers (albeit dull ones) who have nothing to do, and where codes or instructions are put in to get the workers to do things, or in this case, get the application's various functions to work. Java is just the language that you use to talk to the workers".

IN TUNE WITH HER MUSICAL DESIRES

By SC/Cpl Gabriel Chan Duen Yue

She may seem soft-spoken, but she can make a room reverberate with the literally breathtaking and brassy tunes from her trombone. Ms Suky Eng is a Planning Officer in the Planning and Organisation Department of the Singapore Police Force and a member of the Singapore Wind Symphony as well.



The word trombone derives from the Italian language meaning “large trumpet”. But unlike trumpets, nearly all trombones have a telescoping slide mechanism that varies the length of the instrument to change the pitch, as it is being played.

Ms Eng’s musical journey began way back in primary school when she first got her hands on the piano. Subsequently, she enrolled in Ngee Ann Secondary School (NASS), where she joined the Concert Band as part of her Co-Curricular Activities and picked up, what she affectionately calls, the ‘slide trumpet’.

Under the tutelage of her conductor, she learnt and refined her various playing techniques. She reminisces fondly how her music director had always asked of his students “to feel and connect with the dynamism and be expressive instead of going through the motions of performance”. His teachings resonated with her and together with her tenacity, saw her clinched the Gold Award in the Singapore Youth Festival 2003.

She did not stop there—her other notable achievements include Gold Award for the World Music Contest 2005 that was held in the Netherlands, Gold Award in the National Band Competition 2006, and is also a two-time Gold recipient for the Singapore International Band Festival in year 2008 and 2010.

With a love for performing, Ms Eng dedicates herself to two to four performances a year and even performed back-to-back in concerts at various concert venues, organised by different organisations such as the NASS Concert Band, Mus’ Art Wind Orchestra, Tampines Junior College Symphonic Band, Nanyang Polytechnic Symphonic Orchestra, Soka Wind

Ensemble, Singapore Philharmonic Youth Winds and National Institute of Education Symphonic Band.

Seeing many musicians come and go throughout her musical undertaking has taught her the importance of maintaining a careful balance between music and her other commitments. Having attuned herself to the hectic work schedule, she now aims to champion causes in promoting local music and garnering greater appreciation for our home-grown musicians.

Ending the chat on a high note, Ms Eng shared, “Music is the vernacular of the human soul.” To her, these are the words she has lived by and embraced during her music training and performance journey.

Ms Eng genuinely believes that true musicians, whether professional or not, play music from their heart. By weaving their feelings into a music piece that they perform collectively, musicians like her can strike a chord with any appreciative listener and evoke a plethora of emotions. With such a strong passion for music, we can surely imagine how soulful her music is.



SOUND ADVICE FOR YOU

The position of your seat in the concert hall provides different listening experiences. The seats are usually classified into five categories:

Boxes – Closest to the stage and hence provides the best view of the stage.

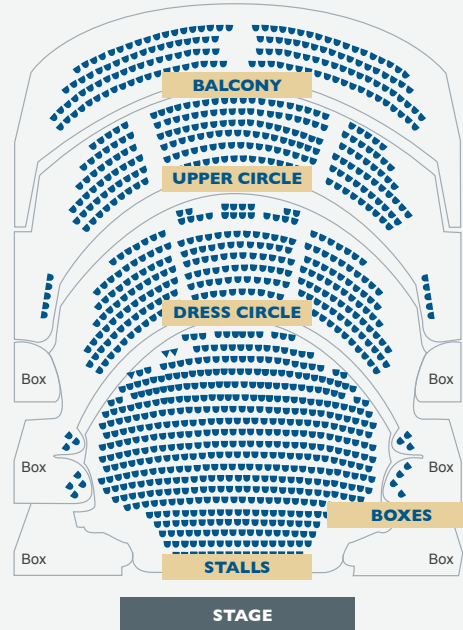
Stalls – Second closest to the stage with a fairly close view of the stage. There are usually also handicap seats near the back of the Stalls section.

Dress Circle – Seats here are higher than in the Stalls and the extra height provides a better view of the stage.

Upper Circle – Higher than the Dress Circle and further from the stage, hence the view of the stage is limited.

Balcony – Highest and furthest away from the stage, nevertheless it can still provide a good listening experience, hence this is recommended for those who are more concerned with listening than watching.

If you want to hear the orchestra directly, you should select the Boxes or Stalls section. If you sit further away, the music is enhanced by echoes against the walls. Do weigh your priorities carefully before matching them to a suitable seat!



SPF'S MISS CONGENIALITY

By Ms Chew Si Lei Jinnie

Standing before the camera for Crimewatch, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Madeline Low Ai Lin is as poised as a beauty queen.



In fact, before she became one of the hosts for one of the most watched television programme on Mediacorp’s Channel 5, Crimewatch, DSP Low had already graced television screens – as one of the Top 10 finalists in the Miss Universe Singapore 2003 pageant.

The Staff Officer from the Specialised Crime Policy Branch of the Specialised Crime Division in the Criminal Investigation Department was then nominated by her modelling agency manager to participate in the pageant during her Honours year at the National University of Singapore.

“It was a gruelling period. We had to go through etiquette lessons, catwalk lessons, dance lessons, interviews, sponsors events, fitting sessions, photo shoots or filming day in day out,” recalled DSP Low.

The hectic schedule then may have been difficult to manage but stage fight was never a concern for DSP Low. Dancing since she was a child, DSP

Low is someone who never shied away from the limelight.

Her confidence on stage is evident to those who had the chance to hear DSP Low sing at one of the numerous Singapore Police Force (SPF) events.

Also a talented singer, DSP Low joined a singing competition held during the Senior Police Officer Mess’ Annual Dinner; and performed at notable functions such as Celebration Dinner for the 4th SPF-Hong Kong Police Force-Macau Judiciary Police Inter-Forces Games, and the farewell dinner of the 34th ASEANAPOL Conference.

When asked if it was her family members who discovered her flair for singing, the child of two police officers said that her family has no background in music and accredited the discovery of her singing talent to the Singapore Police Force (SPF) instead.

“(After) many of my colleagues asked me to go for karaoke sessions on and

off; it was then I realised I could hold a tune.”

With her wide range of talents, it seems that she could fare well in the entertainment industry. But it is the fact that she is “blue blooded” – joked DSP Low – that inspired her to continue in her parents’ footsteps to serve in blue.

“I’ve always wanted to join the SPF, as it’s an exciting and challenging career that isn’t deskbound. (It’s) not one with a normal, nine-to-five work week. While being in the entertainment industry also provides a host of opportunities and experiences, policing is very different as we are able to make a real difference to the lives of the people and the community, regardless of position and designation in the Force.

Growing up, I liked dancing, dressmaking, baking, and writing novels too. I’ll never get this kind of satisfaction that policing gives from these activities, so no, my hobbies will just remain hobbies.”

SAVOURING THE CULINARY ARTISTRY!

SC/Cpl Gabriel Chan Duen Yue

Bonjour, Mesdames and Messieurs! Introducing to you Special Constable (SC) Samuel Lee from the Central Police Division of the Singapore Police Force (SPF) – an exceptional young local chef who possesses finesse and flair for French cuisine!



A Culinary Voyage like No Other

With a Technical Diploma in Culinary Arts from the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) under his chef's hat, SC Lee has established a foothold in the cooking industry and has set his sights on becoming a restaurateur or chef de cuisine in some of the most famous French restaurants in the world.

His zest for the art of gastronomy was kindled when he first attended a cooking class as part of his secondary school's Home Economics curriculum. Throughout his five years of culinary education, he devoted most his time hitting the books on fine dining and restaurant management, developing his kitchen skills and creating his own variety of delectable delights.

Towards the end of his second year in ITE, he emerged as one of the four finalists in the intra-school cooking competition (individual category) and qualified for the ASEAN Skills Competition 2013 held in Bangkok, Thailand.

Although he did not clinch any award for the ASEAN Skills Competition 2013, he still emerged as the *crème de la crème* amongst his local counterparts who had taken part in the competition.

Subsequently, he was the sole representative from his school to take part in another prestigious event on an international scale – the World Skill Competition 2013. As part of the competition requirements, he was tasked to complete seven modules comprising tapas, appetiser, entrée, main course, three types of mini

desserts, hot dessert and lastly, the 'black box' challenge, which in culinary terms, refers to making their own unique dish using all the main ingredients provided to them.

Compared to the earlier competition, he had only a month to prepare for the international cooking competition. Despite that brief duration, he was well-seasoned from the toil and eventually managed to bag a Gold Award.

SC Lee is indeed a quintessence of culinary professionalism. When asked what his ingredients to his success were, he quipped smilingly, "It all fundamentally boils down to diligence, persistence, strive for perfection and an indomitable passion for cooking."

Cooked to Perfection!

Police Life paid a visit to SC Lee's home to get a taste of his cooking. The

moment we stepped into his home, we were greeted by an alluring fragrance wafting from his kitchen. Looking smart in his white chef's attire, SC Lee was just about to whip up a tantalising dish for us.

The *plat du jour* was his signature dish – a variation of the Cream of Leek and Potato Soup, garnished with home-made bacon bits, parmesan flakes and fine slices of fresh green apples. The soft and velvety cream, heavily infused with a mixed flavour of caramelised onion and puréed leek, had a distinctive and lingering taste.

Also known by French as *Crème Vichyssoise* (which is pronounced as 'krem vee-shee-swahzz'), the classic soup is made from very humble ingredients – butter, leeks, onions and potatoes.



Let's have a look at the cooking process:

Step 1

SC Lee prepares the ingredients and kitchen utensils.

Step 2

He chops the onion, garlic and potato and slices the leek.

Step 3

He melts the butter on a pan. He tosses the chopped onion and garlic into the pan and stirs them until the onions caramelise. He then adds the potato and leek, and cooks them until the leeks soften.

Step 4

He seasons the mixture with salt (which helps bring out the flavour from the ingredients used). Then he adds chicken stock and adjusts the heat.

Step 5

He transfers the mixture to a blender and purées until it is creamy and smooth. He then transfers it to a clean saucepan.

Step 6

He places the soup over the heat then adds the *crème fraîche* and stirs to allow it to combine. He then seasons it with salt and pepper.

Step 7

He delicately ladles out the soup into our bowls. He tops the surface of the soup with bacon bits, cheese flakes and fine strips of green apple, for visual appeal.

Voilà! SC Lee presents his masterpiece!

The soup was truly an impeccable creation and a gastronomic delight – every spoonful of it kept us craving for more. What a way to satiate our appetite!

Crème Vichyssoise

Cream of Leek and Potato Soup

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Though the chef coats instil a sense of uniformity in a kitchen, they are also intended to reflect the excess heat produced by commercial stoves away from the chefs. The culinary apparel is also white so that it can be simply bleached to remove all the cooking stains.

HERITAGE

THE ‘ZAINY’ ARTIST

By Reproduced from
Police Life 1982

Known affectionally as “Sayang”, Mohd Zain bin Mohd Shafi is the pride of *Police Life*. His looks exude boyish charm but it belies the maturity evident in all his art-works. A graduate of the Advertising Art Course of the Baharuddin Vocational Institute, Zain helps out in the layout work for the magazine.

His talent was noticed during his training days in the Police Academy. He was attached to Training Aids for a brief period before he was posted to the Public Relations Department. And since then, he has been exercising his artistic talent to the fullest. Some of the photographs and cartoons in past issues of *Police Life* were Zain’s efforts.



Zain’s enthusiasm caught the eye of his colleagues and superiors and he was awarded a testimonial for “diligence,

devotion to duty and consistently maintaining a high standard of performance” this year.

Zain’s interest in art was kindled during his Secondary school-days when he was an active Art Club member. In his spare-time he dabbles in logo competitions. He has won both top and consolations prizes for his entries to the “Sime Darby” package design competition, “The Thomson Medical Centre” and the “Singapore Training and Development Association” logo competitions.

Career-wise, Zain hopes to be a commercial photographer. He is meanwhile preparing a portfolio of photographs, taking “creative” shots of otherwise ordinary objects. He even has a makeshift darkroom in his house.



Colleagues find Zain warm, friendly and cheeky. Perhaps these are the qualities that have cause his colleagues to dub him as the “Zainy Artist”.

HE’S 54, BUT ASP LIM IS A MASTER IN THE DEADLY ART OF KENDO

By Reproduced from
Police Life 1976



At the age of 44 when other men opt for less strenuous sports, ASP Lim Kwa Chwee took up kendo – a Japanese art of sword fighting.

He first studied kendo under a Malay instructor who had learnt the art during the Japanese Occupation.

In June 1973 ASP Lim went to Kuala Lumpur to take part in friendly matches and was awarded his first and second dan black belt in kendo.

Then in August last year, ASP Lim went to Japan to attend a two-week training seminar and received his

first dan in laido – another Japanese art of sword fighting.

ASP Lim was Singapore’s sole representative to the 3rd World Kendo Tournament held in London in April. While in London ASP Lim received his third dan black belt in kendo.



ASP Lim, 54, took up kendo in 1966. “Kendo is vigorous and aggressive. It is a contact sport with no holds barred.”

Even with protective padding ASP Lim, a father of two children, has winced with pain from blows struck by his opponent and returned home with bruises.

ASP Lim is also the president of the Singapore Kendo Club which was formed in 1972. “Like all sports kendo keeps a person fit especially if he enjoys it.”

“It is time well spent for it provides an opportunity to let off steam because of its vigorous and aggressive nature.”

GETTING A KICK OUT OF FOOTBALL

By SC/Cpl Gabriel Chan Duen Yue



SC/Cpl Amy Recha



SC2 Muhaimin bin Suhaimin



SC2 Sufianto bin Salleh

Three young talented footballers liken the football game to a typical day on a battlefield – two territories divided by their allegiance; two groups of players performing their utmost in their pre-assigned tactical formations; strikers and defenders charging forward to achieve their goals; the arena is saturated with incessant cheers from the different supporting sides. It is a decisive battle which ultimately puts their skills, endurance and most importantly, teamwork to the test. Both sides know only one team can reign supreme – they have to strive to win it and do their nations proud.

These three are our very own Police National Service Full-time (PNSF) officers, SC/Cpl Amy Recha, SC2 Muhaimin bin Suhaimin and SC2 Sufianto bin Salleh who are currently active players in their football clubs (FC), namely the Young Lions FC and Home United FC. They have represented Singapore in a multitude of football events hosted by other countries.

SC/Cpl Amy (A) and SC2 Muhaimin (M) are currently Field Instructors at the Home Team Academy (HTA); SC2 Sufianto (S) is currently a PNSF officer at the HTA who manages NS officers’ allowances and welfare.

Q :What interested you in playing football?

A :At the age of 7, I played my first football match with a group of friends at a void deck near my house. When I was 11 years old, my passion for football was noticed when one day, a stranger came up to me while I was playing with my friends at the void deck. He invited me to join the Football Association of Singapore (FAS) U-21 Competition.

M :I became interested in football when I saw my father watching a football match at home – I could not remember which year but that was back in my primary school days. I started playing a simple match of ‘street soccer’ using used plastic bottles with my schoolmates and that was how I was drawn to playing football.

S :I first started playing when I was 9 years old. At first, I didn’t take it seriously but my parents gradually encouraged me to play more especially with my friends. At the age of 11, football sparked my passion and led me to want to achieve more. I also watched junior football matches on television to help improve my techniques.

Q :Tell us more about your soccer achievements.

A :My first competition was the FAS U-21 held in Japan – I was 12 at that time. Three years later, I was selected to play for the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) 2010. My team and I clinched a Bronze Medal.

Subsequently, I became a member of the Young Lions and till now, I have represented Singapore in many football competitions hosted around the world.

M :I always told myself, “I want to be a national soccer player”, but that dream didn’t happen throughout my school years and I thought of abandoning the dream after facing many waves of rejection. At 18, I went for a trial conducted by Geylang United (GU) U-21 just for the fun of it. What turned out was a life-changing moment for me. I got accepted by them and got into their squad.

Though I play in the Singapore League (S-League) Reserve, it is already a great opportunity to represent my nation and make my family proud.

In 2011, my team came in second for the annual Polytechnic versus Institute of Technical Education (POL-ITE) soccer games. In 2012, my team won the S R Nathan Cup Challenge Trophy Soccer Tournament.

S :In Primary 6, I went for a football trial conducted by the Singapore Sports School (SSS). They were impressed with my performance. I was shortlisted and got enrolled into the SSS for 4 years. There, we trained twice almost every day. In the morning, we worked on strength and conditioning while in the evening, we trained on the field.

When I was 15 years old, I was called up to join the national football team and represent the Asian Football Confederation U-16 Championship 2010 in Uzbekistan.

At 16, I took part in the Inter-school Competition (‘B’ Division) and my team emerged as ‘Champion’.

Subsequently, I became a member of Home United Football Club, and represented the Singapore Police Force in matches like the Bogaars’ Cup.

Q : What do you enjoy most about playing soccer?

A :Besides the beautiful game of soccer, I also enjoy travelling to many places to play in the football tournaments.

M :Knowing people from all walks of life and befriending foreign and local counterparts after a soccer game.

S :When I see my team come together and play with strong fighting spirit together, I know it is going to be beautiful match and that keeps my hopes up and drives me to perform beyond my potential.

Q :What is the most unforgettable moment throughout your soccer journey?

A :Scoring my first goal in an international game, the Youth Olympic Games 2010, against a team from Zimbabwe.

M :When I was playing for the Sultan of Selangor Cup in Malaysia, the spectators were not in the hundreds which I had usually seen, but in the tens of thousands – more than 60,000 of them! It was an adrenaline-rush moment as the event was televised and all eyes were on me!

S :I still remember the words my coach said to me, “I believe in you.” He has trained me from the ground up to be a better player. He is like a father to me – he knows me and my potential well.

Q :What is your favourite trick shot?

A :Rabonna-style.

M :Christiano Ronaldo Knuckle-shot.

S :I am good at free kicks.

Q :What is your favourite club?

A :I am an Arsenal fan!

M :Liverpool!

S :Manchester United!

Q :What words do you live by or want to share as a national soccer player?

A :My coach used to say this to my team, “Sometimes you win, sometimes you learn!” Even if we lose a match, there is always an opportunity to learn from our mistakes.

M :“Dreams don’t work until you do” – these words are etched in my mind.

S :To those people out there who have not achieved their goals, don’t give up. Endure, keep fighting and stay positive. Even if you have achieved something, just remember, “This is not the end of your journey, it is the beginning.”



EXTENDING BEYOND PUBLIC SERVICE

By Cpl (NS) Tan Cheong Hui Albert
Public Affairs Department



“Treat all fellow human beings with dignity, honour and respect regardless of their status in life”

Use words from Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Teo Zi-Ming, who is

an assistant director at the Ministry of Home Affairs' Policy Development Division. DSP Teo's passion for community work sparked off when he was a member of the Boys Brigade in his secondary school days. In his junior college days, he represented and served as camp commandant for a University- Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Singapore (Uni-Y) residential camp for adults with physical and intellectual disabilities. A passionate leader, he inspired others to join his cause, mobilising 40 of his Anglo-Chinese Junior College schoolmates to volunteer as befrienders to participating beneficiaries during the camp.

The zeal for volunteer work carried on when DSP Teo was an undergraduate, devoting two months of his summer vacation to conceptualise and establish Uni-Y, a service club for like minded undergraduates who shared his passion. The first Uni-Y became an official student club of the Singapore Management University in 2005 which later extended to the National University of Singapore in 2007 and the Nanyang Technological University in 2009. Penetrating the hearts of fellow youths to instil the fervour to help others, along with 28,000 hours of volunteering work for both local and overseas projects, the Uni-Y project was conferred the SYA 2014.

Today, DSP Teo serves in the Board of Directors of YMCA and the Chairman of YMCA's Youth and Volunteer Development Committee, providing strategic guidance.

“I have also enjoyed good team work and working arrangements with my colleagues” DSP Teo mentions as he is thankful for the understanding of fellow officers to have the flexibility to take on volunteer pursuits outside of work.

His work with YMCA has broadened his horizons and developed his communication skills. The experiences gained as a young volunteer has shaped him as police officer – to temper fairness and professionalism as an officer of the law with empathy.



Youths represent what the future will shape out to be. It's vital to harness empathy and compassion from them to help the less fortunate and be role models in society.

Leading by example, the National Youth Council initiated the Singapore Youth Award (SYA) in 1975. It's the highest accolade to honour outstanding youths, who have taken a step further in enriching the lives of others. In the SYA ceremony, held on 6 July 2014 at the Istana, two of our officers, received the award presented by Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) Tharman Shanmugaratnam.



for the benefit of the community. SSSgt Hasni shares the same belief to mould young people into active citizens.

Starting off as a participant in youth camps organised by 4PM, SSSgt Hasni was soon picked to take on the role of a Programme Planner. His dedicated efforts soon saw him appointed as a departmental Chairperson, overseeing a whole year's programme catered for the students of the Institute of Technical Education, called Project Bestari ITE (Project bITE). Components included developmental programmes, inspirational career talks and seminars.

Last year, SSSgt Hasni was appointed as the organisation's Assistant Honorary Treasurer. SSSgt Hasni has been awarded twice for his contributions. In 2007, he was awarded Anugerah Jasa Bakti (Outstanding Contribution Award) and in 2011, he was conferred the Anugerah Tauladan Bestari (Excellence Exemplary Award).



Paving the way to an improved community

Senior Staff Sergeant (SSSgt) Mohd Hasni who is currently a Community Policing Officer at Sembawang Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC), had been volunteering at the Malay Youth Literary Association (4PM) since his schooling days, for the past 14 years. 4PM was formed in 1948 with a mission to maximise youth potential



Having SSSgt Hasni on their team to continually expand 4PM's scope beyond traditional outreach initiatives to introduce innovative programmes got them conferred the SYA in 2006. For continued excellence, spearheaded by SSSgt Hasni to harness the talents of youths in the right direction and immense contribution towards youth empowerment, 4PM was conferred the Medal of Commendation in 2014.

Leading by example

DSP Teo and SSSgt Hasni have both selflessly given their time to mould the youths of Singapore and enrich the lives of the less fortunate. Beyond commendations and awards, lies the true passion to empathise and help others. Certainly key attributes we want to inculcate in more youths.



SPF K-9 VISITS REN CI NURSING HOME

By Home Team News

Some six K-9 dogs and their handlers spent their Friday morning interacting with residents of Ren Ci Nursing Home. It was a fulfilling and enjoyable session. Home Team News shares more.

On the morning of 25 April 2014, six K-9 dogs and their handlers arrived at Ren Ci Nursing Home, anticipating hours of fun interaction with the residents there.

Residents like Mr Teo, 70, were thrilled to have the friendly K-9 dogs accompany them that morning.

Mr Teo was all smiles as caramel coloured Labrador, Brad, leapt on the side of his wheelchair to greet him.

Mr Teo also held onto the Brad's leash as the dog handlers assisted beside his wheelchair.

The trio then took a stroll along the outdoor pavements of the nursing home.

Dog trainer Station Inspector Mahadavan who has been with the unit for almost 30 years, says that sniffer dogs are generally friendlier as they are used to being around people.



Operational guard dogs are not selected to come for such visits as they might be slightly more aggressive than their sniffer counterparts.

The handlers themselves had a lot of fun telling residents about the K-9 dogs and speaking to them.

Dog handler Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Teo Hong Ling, 26, joined the force as she was influenced by her father who was a Volunteer with the Police Force for over 20 years.

She finds a career with the K-9 Unit extremely rewarding.

"On top of keeping Singapore safe and secure, we (K-9 Unit) are also able to do our part for society and bring some laughter and fun to the residents of Ren Ci Nursing Home," says SSgt Teo.

She has a close relationship with her dog Brad, a six-year old, caramel coloured Labrador whom she trains.

"I can also see that the residents truly enjoyed our visit here today as they engaged in some pet therapy," says SSgt Teo.

Pet therapy is a popular technique involving animals and patients to make them feel better.

As excellent companions, pets provide psychological benefits which translate to positive clinical outcomes.

Resident Mr Tan was glad that he benefited from the visit by the K-9 Unit and he learnt that K-9 dogs performed various roles in safeguarding Singapore.

"I thought that the dogs only do patrol; now I learnt that they can detect drugs, firearms and explosives,



times have changed. I am thankful that they come down today. It was a lovely meeting," said Mr Tan.

EXTENDING A HELPING PAW

By Ms Ines Yeo, Public Affairs Department

The Police K-9 Unit first initiated visits to nursing homes for the elderly in 2012 and they have been carrying out regular sessions ever since. In fact, they intend to maintain a long-term partnership with the two homes that they have been visiting- Ren Ci Nursing Home and Sree Narayana Mission Home, conducting dog therapy visits to them at least three times a year.

HOLY ALTER EGO, BATMAN!

By Rei Kurohi
Singapore Press Holdings Limited

Much like Batman, Mr Jacen Khoo has dedicated his life to fighting crime – he is a police officer.

But when the weekend rolls around, he trades in his blue uniform for a black one and dons a cape, lending support to charity events and cheering up less fortunate children.

The 31-year-old father of three leads Pause for Cause, a group of 90 cosplayers who dress up as famous characters to promote good causes.

Just yesterday, Mr Khoo and some of his group members made an appearance at a superhero-themed birthday party for a five-year-old with leukaemia. The event was organised in collaboration with non-profit organisation, Make-A-Wish Foundation.

While Mr Khoo is aware that his appearance does not alleviate physical pain or remove the consequences of a ravaging disease, being able to bring momentary joy and delight to a child is exceedingly gratifying.

"I can't describe the feeling to you," he says. "You look at this kid, who is supposed to be at his lowest when receiving chemotherapy, smiling when he sees his favourite superhero right in front of him. It's very fulfilling."

His mostly handmade costume is the result of a month of painstaking effort involving lots of cutting, glueing and painting.

"When I had time, I spent an hour or two after work constructing it," he says with a hint of pride. He finally completed the project in October last year.

There have been many versions of Batman, but only one Batsuit would do for Mr Khoo.

"I was inspired by the realistic, military design from *Batman Begins*," he says.

The 2005 film's darker depiction of the DC Comics superhero is what ignited Mr Khoo's fascination with the Caped Crusader.

While his costume looks impressive and is close to the movie version, he admits he is not naturally gifted in handicraft and that it was his knowledge of cosplay techniques that enabled him to find inventive ways to create the outfit.

His Batsuit, which cost him about \$200 to make, is mainly constructed from EVA foam sheets, a denser version of craft foam that children use. He ordered it online from Malaysia.

Even more impressive is how he crafted his own Bat mask. By "unfolding" a digital 3D model of it using a computer program, he recreated the pattern on foam and then reassembled it into a wearable mask.

Although the members of Pause for Cause are passionate about

supporting good causes, it took some time for organisers of charity events to warm up to the idea.

"I started the group at around the same time I first started cosplaying, back in 2005. It was quite hard to find recognition then because cosplayers were not perceived very well," he says.

Since then, the group has tapped on the power of social media and the growing popularity of cosplay to help spread awareness and reach out to the community.

Last November, they appeared at a fund-raising event for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan, which devastated parts of the Philippines.

Participants could donate money in exchange for a printed photograph of themselves posing with the Pause For Cause heroes. The event as a whole raised more than \$32,000 over just two weekends.

The group has also made Christmas visits to children at KK Women's and Children's Hospital.

Mr Khoo's six-year-old daughter Zhi Xuan (left) is also enthralled with Batman.

At the photoshoot for this story, dressed in her homemade costume, she playfully insists her name is

Batman. When asked who her favourite character is she says, "All of them!", and proceeds to name a string of characters from the Batman franchise.

"She asked me to make her a Robin or a Nightwing costume so that she can be my sidekick when I attend conventions and events," says Mr Khoo with a chuckle.

His wife has also joined in the fun. Madam Nonnicha Prabalee, 32, dressed up as Catwoman to accompany her husband for a Halloween party last year.

"She's been very supportive – and tolerant," says Mr Khoo.

"The foam rolls I buy to make costumes are 1.5m tall. Imagine a few of those monsters piled up in the hall! Still, she lets me indulge in my passion."

Looking ahead, Mr Khoo has big dreams for his cosplay group. He hopes to garner more support for Pause for Cause, and not just from other cosplayers.

"Right now we are still quite a DIY effort," he says.

GOING BATTY: Mr Khoo with his wife Nonnicha Prabalee as Catwoman. Behind him is oldest daughter Suputcha Khoo, 13, Khoo Zhi Xuan, six (on his left), and Khoo Le Xuan, three.



BEHIND THE MASK

By Ms Chew Si Lei Jinnie

Police Life had a quick chat with Senior Staff Sergeant (SSSgt) Khoo – the man behind Batman's mask.

When asked how his day job helped him in portraying the Night Crusader, SSSgt Khoo said, "I enjoy being the back stage of things. In my eleven years as a police officer, I found that I enjoyed finding out more about issues and incidents, planning for circumstances and executing the plans, and all the while adapting to circumstance as much as possible."

"All these skills are very relevant in everyday life, and they have certainly helped me lead the community of over a hundred passionate cosplayers under Pause for a Cause," said the officer from Ang Mo Kio Police Division.

Pause for a Cause is still on an active lookout for more volunteers. For more information on the charity group, please visit: <http://www.pfacsg.com>





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