

HAPPY HANDS

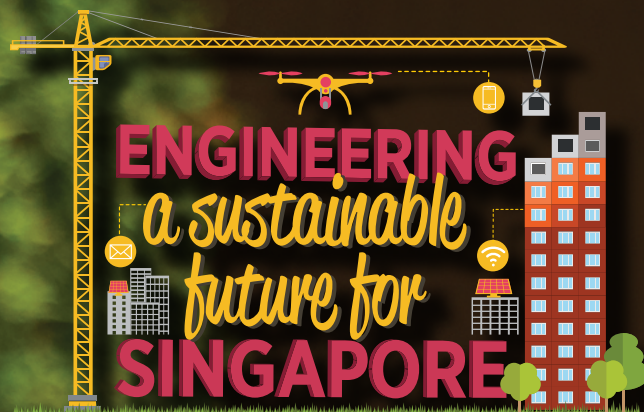
Building An Endearing Home



MND Huddle 2018:
Appreciating the invaluable
contributions of our partners and
volunteers

Learn what inspired HDB Friends of
Our Heartlands volunteer Mr Peter
Lo to give back to the community

Find out how AVA and animal
welfare groups work together to
manage the stray dogs population
humanely and effectively



Ivie Sim hopes to enable
Singaporeans to enjoy both
the convenience of city-living
and the benefits of nature

Ivie Sim
Built Environment Young Leader

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SHARE A STORY

Share a story with us today! We would love to hear your inspiring stories and personal journeys about volunteering with the MND Family. Be it an article, illustration or photograph, we welcome your contributions.

FEEDBACK

Tell us how we are doing and how we can make *Happy Hands* more interesting for you! Do you have suggestions that could jazz up your read?

Do drop us a note at happyhands@mnd.gov.sg!



Chairman of the MND Family Volunteer and Alumni Network, Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for National Development Desmond Lee (leftmost) taking a “wefie” with pioneers and community partners at the 25th anniversary of Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve.

Dear Friends of the MND Family,

2018 was an exciting year with memorable milestones. I would like to highlight some of them here in our first issue of “Happy Hands” for 2019.

We celebrated the 25th anniversary of Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve with the pioneers and community who have worked with NParks all these years to protect Sungei Buloh. The Wetlands support the conservation of our native biodiversity. Beyond our borders, it is also a major stopover for migratory shorebirds on the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. The Sungei Buloh that we know and love today is the result of an entire community's passion and hard work.

We took a major step in ensuring humane and science-based management of our stray animal population, with the launch of a nationwide Trap-Neuter-Release-Manage programme for stray dogs. This achievement was only possible with strong support and collaboration among animal welfare groups, veterinarians, AVA, community volunteers and partners. Hopefully, our collective effort will help pave the way for more harmonious co-existence between people and animals in Singapore.

We also held our first-ever Kampong Glam Day Out, a highlight of the 2018 Architectural Heritage Season. “Kampong” means “village” in Malay, and the spirit of togetherness certainly shone through. The Kampong Glam community, from traders to residents and heritage partners, worked with URA to put together a wonderful programme sharing and celebrating the rich living heritage of the historic district.

I would like to say a big Thank You to all our dedicated volunteers and partners for continuing to walk this journey with us. Your contribution to various causes under the umbrella of the MND Family helps make Singapore that much more special, for ourselves and for our future generations.

I look forward to working closely with you in 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Desmond Lee
Minister for Social and Family Development
and Second Minister for National Development
Chairman of the MND Family Volunteer and Alumni Network

SPECIAL FEATURE

MND Huddle 2018

Appreciating the invaluable contributions of our partners and volunteers



A Warm Welcome: Amidst the Mid-Autumn Festival's spirit of reunion, the MND Family celebrated the dedication of volunteers, alumni and partners at the MND Huddle 2018.

Held on 18th September 2018 at Gardens by the Bay, the annual MND Huddle celebrated the unwavering dedication and diverse contributions of MND Family volunteers and alumni over the past year. In all, 62 volunteers and alumni were presented the MND Medallion and MND Dedicated Service Awards. Hosted by Minister for National Development and Second Minister for Finance Lawrence Wong, more than 400 guests enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with long-time friends, network and establish new connections with one another.



Sunflower Surprise: MND Huddle guests enjoyed a special pre-dinner guided tour at the first ever sunflower display at the Flower Dome.



Mingling: Minister of State for National Development and Manpower Zaqqy Mohamad (second from left) with MND Huddle guests.



Everyday Heroes: Snapshots of some MND Family volunteers and partners sharing what they do.

Clockwise from top left:

- Anbarasi Boopal, Deputy Chief Executive of Animal Concerns Research and Education Society
- Insyirah Bte Imran, Student from the Department of Architecture in National University of Singapore and Volunteer Facilitator with HDB Friends of Our Heartlands
- David Tan, Research Assistant at Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum and Member of NParks Friends of Rail Corridor (Lead, BioBlitz)
- Prof. Brenda Yeoh from National University of Singapore and Member of URA Board and Architectural Heritage Awards Assessment Committee
- Dave Huang, Business Development Director of Kok Fah Technology Farm Pte Ltd and Vice President of Singapore Agro-Food Enterprises Federation
- Ivie Sim, Assistant Development Manager at Paya Lebar Quarter, Lendlease and Member of the Built Environment Young Leaders Programme and Built Environment SkillsFuture Tripartite Taskforce

Learn more about what MND Family volunteers and partners do here: bit.ly/huddle2018video

As dinner commenced, a video was screened in appreciation of our volunteers and partners who have worked closely with MND agencies to make Singapore a better home.

Some do this by helping to conserve our rich biodiversity and educate the public on co-existing harmoniously with wildlife in our biophilic City in a Garden. Some work to raise the quality and profile of our locally-farmed produce. Others design shared spaces in our heartlands for neighbours to interact, or carefully plan green buildings and precincts for a sustainable future. At the same time, let us not forget that amidst our iconic skyline stand many historic landmarks to protect and cherish, as they tell of Singapore's heritage and unique cultural flavour.

We are fortunate to have passionate volunteers and partners who play important roles in conserving our precious natural and built heritage, and forging a sustainable future for us all. MND Family volunteers and partners come from all walks of life, but all have one thing in common – to help shape Singapore into a place we are all proud to call home.

A very big thank you to all our volunteers and partners for your invaluable contributions. We look forward to continue working with all of you.



Mrs Theresa Foo receiving the MND Medallion for her contributions as the former chairman of Gardens by the Bay Board of Directors.



Er Chua Koon Hoe receiving the MND Dedicated Service Award for 20 years of sterling service to the MND Family.

PEOPLE

Engineering a sustainable future for Singapore

Built Environment Young Leader Ivie Sim shares her dream of creating a more sustainable Singapore, a home where people can enjoy both the convenience of living in a city and the benefits of being near nature at the same time.

“

When I was in Finland for a student exchange programme, I realised how sweeping landscapes and nature were very much a part of the everyday lives of people living there.

In Singapore, we do not have the luxury of land so it made me appreciate our nation's efforts in planning sustainably and greening our city. I wanted to be part of this movement.”

Ivie Sim

Built Environment Young Leader and NParks Volunteer

”



Brimming with energy, enthusiasm and passion on the topic of sustainable development, Ivie Sim, a cheerful Assistant Development Manager for Paya Lebar Quarter, an upcoming precinct in the heart of Paya Lebar, shares how our city can be both urban and sustainable at the same time.

As an Environmental Engineering undergraduate at the National University of Singapore, Ivie clinched the BCA-Industry Built Environment Scholarship with Lendlease. She was nominated to the Built Environment Young Leaders Programme (YLP) and is a member of the Built Environment SkillsFuture Tripartite Taskforce. Together with other young leaders, Ivie is helping to build a sustainable Singapore.

What sparked your interest in sustainable building?

I developed a budding interest in sustainable buildings back in my third year of engineering studies when attending a course on “Strategies for Sustainable Architecture”.

I was intrigued that there is no “one size fits all” or “one concept fits all” approach to achieving sustainability in the built environment. And I learned how strategies are better embraced by the local community if they have been tailored to the local context to meet the needs of the people who will use and occupy those spaces.

When I was in Finland for a student exchange programme, I realised how sweeping landscapes and nature were very much a part of the everyday life of people living there. In Singapore, we do not have the luxury of land so

it made me appreciate our nation's efforts in planning sustainably and greening our city so that we can enjoy the lifestyle and convenience of a city and yet enjoy the benefits of nature. I wanted to be part of this movement.

Tell us about your experience as part of the Built Environment YLP.

In an environment where societal needs, trends and technology are rapidly changing, the programme aims to nurture built environment professionals for the future, to upskill and stay relevant.

I have had the opportunity to connect with and learn from other passionate young leaders in the industry. We were able to share our views and provide inputs to key industry initiatives such as the development of the Construction Industry Transformation Map.

I also get to participate in site visits to exciting public projects that I would not normally get to see. For example, we got to visit the construction site of the new Marina Bay MRT station for the Thomson-East Coast Line!

You are also a member of the Built Environment SkillsFuture Tripartite (BEST) Taskforce. Tell us about this.

I believe in the value of investing and ensuring quality education to nurture our future generations for Singapore to grow and succeed as a nation.

Being part of the BEST Taskforce enables me to play a part in transforming our tertiary education curriculum and the Continuing, Education and Training framework. The aim is to enable industry practitioners to better respond to future trends and needs as well as to prepare our graduates as they transition into the work force.

Why is nature and sustainability important to you?

I grew up living next to Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park and was fortunate to witness its transformation from a canal into a beautiful park under the Active, Beautiful, Clean Waters (ABC Waters) scheme. I have always loved the outdoors and nature since I was young, but through this transformation I appreciated nature even more as I

saw wildlife coming back to the park. The idea then grew on me to protect nature so that future generations can experience and enjoy nature like I did.

I was inspired to volunteer for NParks Community in Nature biodiversity conservation initiatives such as the NParks Butterfly Watch and NParks Garden Bird Watch, which I participate in twice a year.

I was also keen to spread my love for nature and encourage greater appreciation of our park connectors among my colleagues, so I jumped at the chance to partner with NParks to spruce up the Sims Avenue Park Connector as part of our annual Community Day project these past 2 years.

We got together 60 volunteers to plant shrubs under the MRT track. The park connector is a part of our everyday commute to work, and watching how these plants grow and thrive over time gave us a sense of achievement and connection with this area.

Some advice for those starting out their career in the Built Environment sector?

Built Environment is a varied and ever-growing sector that offers endless learning opportunities. But the responsibility lies within oneself to take

ownership of your learning journey, to embrace new knowledge and never hold back from pursuing your dreams.



Ivie Sim (right) with Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for National Development Desmond Lee (centre) and fellow Young Leader Colin Yip (left). Ivie and Colin worked on the Sustainability and Building Information Modelling technology aspects for Paya Lebar Quarter.

Watch a video of Ivie and her journey in the Built Environment sector here: bit.ly/IvieSimVideo



All images courtesy of Ivie Sim.



Minister Desmond Lee with Built Environment Young Leaders on a site visit to Straits Construction's Integrated Construction and Prefabrication Hub at Greyform Building in Kaki Bukit in October 2017.

PEOPLE

Inspiring change, one step at a time

Watching Singapore's transformation through the years inspired Mr Peter Lo to give back to the community and spread the word about it.



Every little bit counts. It could be as simple as educating a resident who is using the recycling bin incorrectly. It takes only about five minutes to do that but it can hopefully change a habit and improve the surrounding environment by a lot.

Peter Lo
Friends of Our
Heartlands Volunteer



Having seen the changes that Singapore has undergone since the 1950s, Mr Peter Lo, a passionate volunteer with the Housing & Development Board (HDB), has been fascinated by the transformation of neighbourhoods and towns through the years. This inspires Mr Lo to share his stories with the community.

For the Love of Community

The joy of interacting with people, especially young Singaporeans moving into newer towns like Punggol and Sengkang, spurred Mr Lo to volunteer with HDB a few years ago.



Mr Lo with other Friends of Our Heartlands volunteers at a volunteer training workshop at Punggol Town Square.

As a volunteer with HDB's Friends of Our Heartlands (FOH) network, Mr Lo brings students on Eco-Learning Journeys to the north-eastern estates, pointing out interesting eco facts about the developments and the precincts' history. Cherishing the interactive experiences, Mr Lo adds, "There's learning all around – I teach them about the place; they teach me about how young people speak."

Finding His Voice

Given Mr Lo's affable nature, it is no surprise he is a hit with participants of the FOH programmes. However, Mr Lo shared that he had not always been confident about speaking publicly. When he started volunteering 15 years ago, he was nervous about engaging the public. "There was always a fear that people would not be happy with me," shared Mr Lo as he recalled his first volunteering stint.

Frustrated after seeing irresponsible residents let their pets soil public parks and gardens, Mr Lo resolved to do something about it. "I began carrying bags with me, distributing them to residents who were walking their pets."

Initially nervous, Mr Lo took on a friendly approach. "Instead of scolding pet owners, I would chit-chat about their furry friends. When they were more relaxed, I then urged them to adopt a more considerate behaviour. That, I discovered, was the best way to get my message across."

Every Little Bit Counts

Encouraged by his early success, Mr Lo began volunteering more actively with organisations like the People's Association and the National Environment Agency. For every volunteering activity, he had one goal in mind: "I wanted to do my part to enrich the community."

As a retiree, Mr Lo acknowledges that he has the luxury of time to volunteer. He advises his children and grandchildren, as well as other time-crunched adults and teenagers, to give however much they can. "Every little bit counts and it could be as simple as educating a resident who is using the recycling bin incorrectly. It takes only about five minutes to do that but it can hopefully change a habit and improve the surrounding environment by a lot."



Volunteering at HDB Community Week 2018.

Mr Lo's advice for starting a volunteering journey:

1. Find a cause that sticks.

It should be something you really care about so that you will be able to sustain your interest.

2. Be realistic about your contributions.

Consider your current work and family commitments and be realistic about how much time you can set aside for your volunteering efforts.

3. Make friends along the way.

Whatever the cause, there are bound to be others interested as well. Volunteering with friends turns giving back into an enjoyable, social activity that you would be willing to make time for.

Find out more about HDB's Friends of Our Heartlands network and discover the various ways you can make a difference here: www.hdb.gov.sg/FOH

This is an abridged version of an article originally published in HDB's Life Storeys, a quarterly community publication featuring stories and happenings from the heartlands. Read it here: www.lifestoreys.hdb.gov.sg/inspiring-change.html

All images courtesy of HDB.

PARTNERSHIP

Pawsome news for stray dogs

Trap-Neuter-Release-Manage programme launched nationwide as a humane and effective way to manage stray dogs population.



Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for National Development Desmond Lee presented certificates to TNRM partners in appreciation of their strong support and contributions to the successful launch of the programme.

After years of discussion, collaboration and smaller-scale implementation of the approach by animal welfare groups (AWGs), the five-year Trap-Neuter-Release-Manage programme was officially launched on 10 November 2018, at AVA's Happy Pets, Happy 'Hood Responsible Pet Ownership event.

“

This work will not be easy. We need the patience and support of the public, and the partnership of other animal welfare groups, vets and responsible animal feeders.

**Second Minister for National Development
Desmond Lee**

”

What is TNRM?

TNRM is a humane and science-based approach to manage the stray dog population in Singapore. It involves humanely catching and sterilising stray dogs, and thereafter, rehoming as many of them as possible. Those that cannot be rehomed will be released at suitable locations to live out their lives naturally.

Stray animal management is important to mitigate against public health and safety risks that stray animals may pose to humans.

How does TNRM work?

TRAP

AVA works with AWG partners to trap stray dogs for sterilisation. As the lead coordinating AWG for this programme, SPCA will coordinate trapping operations.

To better equip volunteers and staff, AVA invited experts from Indonesia to

conduct training in humane capturing and handling techniques for stray dogs in September 2018. The Indonesian officials have been conducting mass vaccinations of stray dogs in Bali since 2011 as part of a rabies control programme under Indonesia's Ministry of Agriculture.



Training by experienced officials from Indonesia on humane capturing and handling techniques for stray dogs (seen here: demonstration on how to muzzle a dog).



Members of the public can identify on-going TNRM operations at sites as trappers will wear a TNRM armband, as seen here on SPCA Shelter Supervisor Pribakaran S/O Kunju.

AVA works closely with AWGs and veterinarians to build capability, co-develop operational workflows and address TNRM programme related issues, including putting together a Trapping Manual and Veterinary Guidelines for handling the animals.

NEUTER (STERILISATION)

AVA will provide funding support for basic body checks, microchipping, vaccination against rabies and sterilisation services for all stray dogs trapped under this programme. Sterilisation services will be provided at SPCA's clinic.

RELEASE

Thereafter, AWG rehoming partners will assist to rehome as many sterilised animals as possible. Those that cannot be rehomed will be released at suitable locations to live out their lives naturally.

MANAGE

AVA and AWGs will continue to closely monitor the situation on the ground.

Community partners play an important part in outreach and education efforts, to raise public awareness on TNRM and how to respond to stray dog encounters in their neighbourhoods.

Led by SOSD and supported by AVA and NParks, AWGs have jointly developed a handbook on responsible stray feeding. As feeding of stray animals near residential or high human traffic areas may lead to more human-animal interactions and potential pest problems from leftover scraps, responsible feeding could help to significantly reduce public health concerns and safety issues.

This is an abridged version of an article originally published in AVA's newsletter, Animals Connect, which covers topics related to animal health, welfare and management.

All images courtesy of AVA.

How can you be involved?

Write in to AVA_Engage@ava.gov.sg* to find out how you can volunteer for the TNRM programme. Everyone is welcome!

Our volunteers help with:

- Public outreach at community events and roadshows
- Transportation of stray dogs for trapping and release
- Feeding
- Cleaning of enclosures and surrounding areas

Veterinarians are also welcome as volunteers to conduct sterilisations for the stray dogs.

* With effect from 1 April 2019, please write in to AVS_Engage@nparks.gov.sg.

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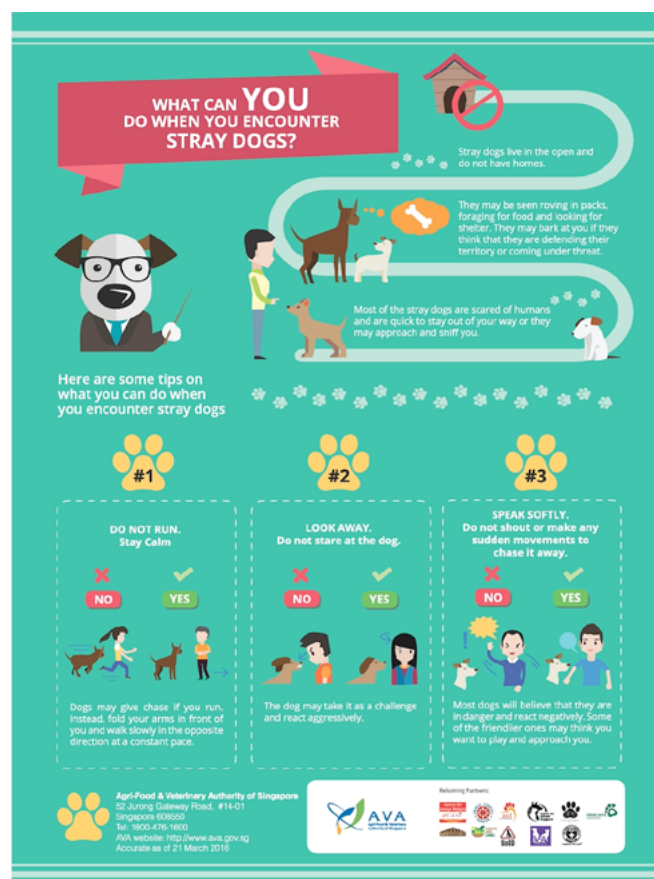
The nationwide TNRM effort is a game changer for street dogs in Singapore and we are thrilled that this is happening.

Dr Jaipal Singh Gill
Executive Director of SPCA

”

Our Rehoming Partners

Action for Singapore Dogs (ASD)
Animal Lovers League (ALL)
Causes for Animals (CAS)
Exclusively Mongrels (EM)
Mercylight (ML)
Noah's Ark CARES (NAC)
Oasis Second Chance Animal Shelter (OSCAS)
Purely Adoptions (PA)
SOSD
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)
Voices For Animals (VFA)



PROGRAMME

Happy Pets Happy 'Hood

Responsible Pet Ownership takes center stage at Bukit Panjang's Hillion Mall

Hillion Mall MRT plaza was abuzz with excitement and activity for people and pets alike during a week-long event on Responsible Pet Ownership organised by AVA in November 2018.

Visitors of all ages were treated to stage performances and Do-It-Yourself souvenirs. Outreach booths and educational exhibits provided useful information for current and potential pet owners on the care and responsibility involved in having a pet. Just like bringing up a child, owning a pet is a lifetime commitment.

About 80 pet owners brought along their pet dogs, cats and rabbits for the Free Pet Health Checks (FPHCs) offered at the event. Licensed veterinarians volunteered their time and expertise to conduct basic physical examination of the pets, implant microchips provided by AVA free of charge and provide veterinary advice on pet health.

AVA organises FPHCs in partnership with veterinarians to increase awareness of the importance of routine veterinary care for pets, to ensure their pets' health are optimum, and to educate pet owners on preventative pet care.

Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for National Development Desmond Lee launched the nationwide Trap-Neuter-Release-Manage (TNRM) programme at the event together with 11 animal welfare groups. Read more about the TNRM initiative on [page 10](#).

The event was organised with support from community partners including animal welfare groups, educational institutions, NParks and the Municipal Services Office.



Dog obedience demonstration by Mercylight, one of AVA's rehoming partners.



Adoption drive for animals looking for their forever homes.



Educational games put up by one of AVA's education partners, PCF Sparkletot @ Whampoa Block 85.

Images: AVA

Licensed veterinarians conduct basic physical examination on pets and provide veterinary advice on pet health as part of AVA's Free Pet Health Check.

Here are some tips for potential and existing pet owners:

- Do not get a pet on impulse
- Consider adoption first
- Do not abandon your pet
- Sterilise your pet to prevent unwanted litters
- Be a responsible and considerate pet owner



PROGRAMME

Celebrating Volunteerism and Friendships in NParks

From a small group of about 50 volunteers in 1996, NParks' community of volunteers has grown to over 40,000 today. Coming from all walks of life, they include Community in Bloom gardeners, citizen scientists and other participants of Community in Nature activities, Friends of the Parks and more.

On 24 November 2018, 12 dedicated NParks volunteers received Long Service awards from Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for National Development Desmond Lee.

A big thank you to all our volunteers and partners for working with us towards our shared vision for Singapore as a biophilic City in a Garden!



Volunteers received their 10-year and 15-year Long Service awards from Minister Desmond Lee.



(Left) Volunteers getting up close with various specimens of tree seeds at a booth by Friends of TreesSG, a community group that promotes and shares a love for trees in Singapore. (Right) A young guest participating in a quiz on safe riding by Friends of Park Connector Network.



Friends of the Parks Community

Friends of the Parks (FOTP) is a ground-led initiative to promote stewardship and responsible use of our parks. Made up of localised communities that represent the various active stakeholders and volunteers within the park's ecosystem, members play active roles in promoting active and responsible uses of our parks through community-led programmes and initiatives.



Friends of Bukit Timah Forest and volunteers repairing the Mountain Biking Trail located at the periphery of Bukit Timah Nature Reserve.



Friends of Park Connector Network conducting a Bike Maintenance Clinic to teach participants how to keep their bicycles in good working condition.



Friends of Rail Corridor taking part in a Nationwide BioBlitz session as part of Biodiversity Week. Biodiversity survey results are crucial in facilitating habitat enhancement works and conservation efforts for Singapore's biodiversity.

Find out more about how you can volunteer with NParks here: www.nparks.gov.sg/contribute/volunteer

Images: NParks

IN THE NEWS

Celebrating 25 years of Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve

The 25th anniversary celebration of Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (SBWR) was held on 7 October 2018 in conjunction with World Migratory Bird Day. In the early days, after discovering the rich biodiversity of the area, members of the Malayan Nature Society (Singapore Branch) [now the Nature Society (Singapore)] Bird Group formed a Conservation Committee and tabled a proposal for a nature conservation area at Sungei Buloh. This kick-started the conservation movement for SBWR. With the support and efforts of other individuals, interest groups and organisations in partnership with NParks, Sungei Buloh today is a haven for wildlife.

Hear what SBWR volunteers and staff have to say here: bit.ly/SBWRvideo



(Left to right) Members of the nature community, Mr Alfred Chia, Nature Society (Singapore) Bird Group Member, Mr Lim Kim Chuah, Chairman of the Nature Society (Singapore) Bird Group, Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for National Development Desmond Lee and Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong, looking through a commemorative issue of Nature Watch, an official magazine of Nature Society (Singapore).

Safe haven for our native turtles

Singapore's first turtle hatchery was launched at the Sisters' Islands Marine Park on 29 September 2018. Strategically located on Small Sister's Island, away from disturbances caused by human traffic and sheltered from predators, the protected area zoned for conservation and research is a safe nesting ground for turtles native to Singapore and increases their chances of survival. The new hatchery also serves as a hub for public education research programmes and volunteer training.

Watch a video of Hawksbill Turtle hatchlings making their way into the sea here: bit.ly/turtlehatchingvideo



Image: NParks

A member of NParks' Marine Team, Koh Kwan Siong, sharing about turtle conservation measures with Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for National Development Desmond Lee, together with Mr Tony Lewis, Area Head of HSBC Securities Services and Prof. Leo Tan, Chairman of the Garden City Fund.

Outstanding restoration gives conserved buildings a new lease of life

Recognising the efforts of building owners, architects, engineers, contractors and conservation specialists to enrich Singapore's heritage landscape, Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for National Development Desmond Lee presented the 2018 Architectural Heritage Awards for the outstanding restoration of two national monuments, a boutique hotel and the headquarters of a home-grown biscuit brand.

2018 Award for Restoration winners: Jurong Town Hall and The Great Madras hotel. Jurong Town Hall was rejuvenated as a symbol of Singapore's industrialisation journey in the post-independence years and of the Merdeka Generation's can-do spirit to build a new country.

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At that time, this building served as the start for the design and transformation of Jurong Town as an industrial estate. At the moment, we need to transform the industry with more innovation, digitalisation and we need to get this message out through the trade associations. So it is timely for us to house everybody together in this building and make this building a Trade Association Hub.

Mr Roland Ng, president of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry

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Jurong Town Hall

Image: Edward Hendricks, courtesy of Forum Architects Pte Ltd



The Great Madras

Image: StudioPeriphere, courtesy of F&R Architects Pte Ltd

“

I found this place through Instagram and I think that it is great that they decided to restore this building. I like the elements of the Miami Art Deco style. The younger generation is attracted to this kind of unique design and it is good that we conserve such buildings for the next generation so that they know such buildings exist.

Ms Iffah Rahim, a hotel guest of The Great Madras hotel

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2018 Award for Restoration and Innovation winner: Khong Guan Building. Khong Guan is a home-grown biscuit brand familiar to Singaporeans.

“

I often see passers-by interested in the building; I think they are interested in the history of Singapore and I feel very proud of it.

Mr Chew Ban Chye, a long-time staff of Khong Guan

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Khong Guan building

Image: Darren Soh, courtesy of META Architecture

A new category of award, the **2018 Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts**, was introduced to recognise new projects with outstanding design that complement and enrich appreciation of their heritage setting. The Kwek Hong Png Wing and Riverfront Wing of the Asian Civilisations Museum is the inaugural winner of this award.



Kwek Hong Png Wing, Asian Civilisations Museum

Images: Nigel Greenhill, courtesy of GreenhilLi Pte Ltd



Riverfront Wing, Asian Civilisations Museum

2018 Special Mention: 3 conserved buildings in Sophia Hills Development, namely the former Trinity Theological College Chapel, former Nan Hwa Girls' School and the Olson Building of the former Methodist Girls' School.



Former Trinity Theological College Chapel



Former Nan Hwa Girls' High School



Olson Building of Former Methodist Girls' School

Images: XTREME Media Pte Ltd, courtesy of Hoi Hup Sunway Mount Sophia Pte Ltd

Discover the stories behind these conserved buildings here: bit.ly/AHA2018winners

IN THE NEWS

Kampong Glam Day Out

The first ever Kampong Glam Day Out, a highlight of the 2018 Architectural Heritage Season, was held on 24 November 2018, celebrating all things heritage in the historic district.

Passionate Kampong Glam stakeholders and community partners, together with URA, organised a day of fun and enriching activities such as guided tours of historic landmarks, talks and workshops on traditional trades, and street carnivals for visitors of all ages and interests, introducing them to the rich heritage of the precinct.

“

We are delighted to have an eclectic mix of activities that cater to every visitor. This is representative of Kampong Glam's unique character as a community of diverse cultures and backgrounds, that have rallied together to enliven the neighbourhood.

Mr Saeid Labbafi, founder and chairman of One Kampong Gelam

”



Participants on the guided tours learnt about Kampong Glam's history, communities and trades while discovering its lesser-known stories and spaces.



Students from Teck Whye Primary School collaborated with URA to produce two children's storybooks on the adventures of Billie the Hornbill, URA's conservation mascot, in Kampong Glam.

Images: URA

EVENT

Sakura Matsuri Floral Display

9 March 2019 – 31 March 2019

9am – 9pm

Gardens by the Bay Flower Dome*

Feel the crisp chill of early spring in the air at Flower Dome and experience the ephemeral beauty of cherry blossoms at the Sakura Matsuri Floral Display!

For more information, visit www.gardensbythebay.com.sg/sakura

*Admission charge to Flower Dome applies



Image: GB

For more MND Family News, please visit www.mnd.gov.sg/mndlink

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