

# Signal

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The Singapore  
Association  
For The Deaf  
新加坡聋人协会



MCI (P) 069/10/2017

Jan - Jun 2018



SGSecure Talk by Singapore Police Force



SADeaf Family Day @ Universal Studios Singapore™

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Photo credit:

- Mr Raymond Lee
- SGD committee
- SSDeaf Alumni





**Sylvia Teng**  
Executive Director

Greetings! How time flies and I would like to take this opportunity to share some of the highlights/ events which took place over the past 6 months:

### **Conferment of Honorary Membership - Mr Peng Tsu Ying**

On behalf of our Executive Council, we are pleased to announce the conferment (on 24 March 2018) of an Honorary Membership of the Singapore Association for the Deaf (SADeaf) to our highly respected Founder and Deaf Education pioneer - Mr Peng Tsu Ying, in recognition of his contributions to our Deaf and Hard-of-hearing community.

### **Closure of the Singapore School for the Deaf (SSD)**

Though the school has officially ceased operations on 31 December 2017, the spirit of all SSDians is very much alive and apparent during the closing ceremony on 24 March 2018; where alumni and former teachers/staff came back to reminisce the good old times as they revisited the former school

compound to view the exhibits painstakingly arranged by the SSD Closing Ceremony Organising committee chaired by Ms Elaine Teo. We would like to congratulate and thank Ms Teo & the organising committee for having organised a befitting closing ceremony for SSD!

### **Workshops, talks and activities**

SADeaf has always endeavoured to organise interesting and informative workshops, talks and activities together with our dedicated volunteers from the Social Group of the Deaf and Igniters planned and organised Kukup trip, Goat Farm Visit, Yakult factory visit, SGSecure Talk & scam alerts by the Singapore Police Force, talk on Dementia etc for our community to enjoy themselves while having full access to important messages or information.

### **Chinese New Year Celebration & SADeaf Family Day 2018**

Two of our all-time favourite events of the year! Many of our clients, members and volunteers joined us as we ushered in the Year of the Dog with Prosperity Lo-Hei on 24 February 2018. And, most recently on 2 June 2018, we hosted over 100 clients/members and their loved ones for a fun-filled day at the Universal Studios Singapore™.

Meanwhile, stay tuned for a more exciting second half of 2018 as we lined up our calendar leading up to the International Week of the Deaf in September! Hope to see you around!





## 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting

The 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Singapore Association for the Deaf (SADeaf) will be held on Saturday, 22 September 2018 at 3.00pm at SADeaf Hall.

**NEW!**  
**SADeaf**  
**Membership**  
**Benefits**  
 (till 31 December 2018)

## Conferment of Honorary Membership - Mr Peng Tsu Ying

On behalf of our Executive Council, we are pleased to announce the conferment of an Honorary Membership of the Singapore Association for the Deaf to our Founder and Deaf Education pioneer, Mr Peng Tsu Ying in recognition of his contributions to our Deaf and Hard-of-hearing community and is granted full privileges of such membership.



SADeaf President Mr Martin Marini, Mr Peng Tsu Ying and SADeaf Executive Director Ms Sylvia Teng

## Membership Benefits\*

### • 15% OFF Selected Treatments

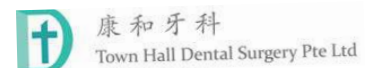
Loh Dental Surgery

盧唯牙科  
**LOH DENTAL SURGERY**  
 Reg No. 53322337K

Mouth Dental Surgery



Town Hall Dental Pte Ltd



### • Dine In For 10% OFF!



\*Please refer to [www.sadeaf.org.sg](http://www.sadeaf.org.sg) for full details.

# Farewell Singapore School for the Deaf (SSD)!

Singapore School for the Deaf was officially de-registered on 31 December 2017. To commemorate the school for all it has done for our community, an official closing ceremony was planned 24 March 2018. A organising committee consisting of SSD alumni was set up to plan and implement this programme. The committee had only two months to plan the event but what a great job they did!

Over 400 alumni, ex-SSD principals, teachers, staff and invited guests attended the event, which began at 10:00 am and ended at 6:00 pm. It was more of a homecoming for the many alumni who attended, meeting their old friends and their ex-teachers. Many enjoyed reminiscing their days at SSD from the many photos exhibited around the school compound and a "museum" which was specially set up in one of the classrooms of the school.

It was an enjoyable day for all with many freebies and activities. The most treasured of freebies had to be the magnetic replicas of the five badges of SSD that were worn by students from 1963 to 2017. Participants also enjoyed free ice-cream, kacang puteh, cotton candy, and a sumptuous high-tea buffet.

To officially mark the closing of the school, a ceremony was held at the school hall, with the SADeaf President, Mr Martin Marini, as the Guest-of-Honour. The ex-principals, teachers, and staff were honoured during the ceremony with appreciation awards. Mr Peng Tsu Ying, who pioneered the use of Sign Language in the education of the Deaf in Singapore and inspired generations of Deaf students in his 35 years as an educator of the Deaf,



was conferred the Honorary Membership of the Singapore Association for the Deaf. There were also speeches by ex-students, principals and teachers and a special performance by the ex-members of HI Theatre, which brought laughter to the audience.

To end the ceremony, the Guest-of-Honour rang the school bell for the very last time. Although it was sad to bid farewell to the Singapore School for the Deaf, we believe that its legacy will continue to thrive and inspire for many years to come. One example is the integrated programme at Mayflower Primary School, which was developed in close collaboration between MOE and the teachers of SSD.

Finally, our hats off to the SSD Closing Ceremony Organising Committee, Elaine Teo (Chairman), David Lee, Low Jarn May, Ahmady Masurie, Gophi Nathan, Mimi Ng, David Ong, Edwin Ong, James Ong, Dennis Tan, Tan Keng Ying, Francis Tang, Teo Bee Chuan, James Teo, and lastly but not least Kenny Tiang. They managed to put up an event in a short time, with the support from staff of SSD and MVS, and volunteers, that had the community chatting about it on the social media even today.





## A Day in the Life of ...



Today the spotlight shines on **Michael Lim Lee Seng**, an Instructor at Mountbatten Vocational School (MVS). Michael joined MVS way back in 1981 and today, at 58, he is as youthful and energetic as when he first started training Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing trainees at the school. He was the first Hard-of-hearing instructor to teach at MVS.

When asked how he could maintain his youthful and healthy look, he stated that he always try to maintain a positive outlook in life and be cheerful all the time. He also keeps himself trim from his daily cycling between his home in Toa Payoh and work during school days.

### Q: How did you come to know of MVS or work for the school?



It was my mother who introduced me to the Vocational School for the Handicapped (VSH), which was the old name for MVS. After my studies at the Vocational and Industrial Training Board, which later became the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) at the age of 17, my mom felt that I was still too young to work, so she sent me to VSH to continue my studies. It was at VSH that I came to know other Deaf students like me and I learned Sign Language from them.

After completing my training in VSH, the Administrator of the school at that time, offered me a job at the school as an assistant to the instructors. When I started working at the school, I was just 20 years old. After four months working as an assistant instructor, I was asked to take over the position of another instructor who left. I have been with the school since then.



### Q: What does your job involve?



I will be in school by 7:30 am usually. The main subjects I teach are Computer Application and Office Skills but I help out in the kitchen and restaurant as well when we have in-house training for the students. For CCA, I partner another instructor to take charge of the soccer activity for our students. During my free periods, I will prepare my lessons, mark assignments or prepare the computer lab for the next class.

And with my colleagues in school, we will be involved in the planning and organisation of official events in school, such as the graduation ceremony, year-end prize-giving, sports day, National Day celebration, outings, etc.



**Q: Do you find your work fulfilling and meaningful?**

“ I truly admire my teachers when I was a student at MVS. They were very helpful and encouraging. They were the reasons why I decided to be in education. I want to share the knowledge, skills and values that they have imparted to me with my students. I always feel happy and satisfied to see my students improving in their studies and do well in their training and work after they have graduated.

**Q: Your hero?**

“ My teacher at MVS, Mr Goh, who was very helpful to me. He was always encouraging me to do better not only in my studies but in my life as well. He was my mentor when I was a student and when I started work at the school. He is retired now but we are still in contact.



**Q: What do you like to do during your free time?**

“ I like spending time with my family, especially my three daughters, who are 18, 17 and 14. The two elder ones are now in Polytechnics and the last one is in Secondary 2. They grew up so fast and soon they will be working and have their own life. Before they leave the nest, I want to spend as much time as I can with them.

**Q: Your dream?**

“ My dream is to see all my daughters do well and be happy in their life. And also, I would like to travel a bit when I retire.





## 46<sup>th</sup> National Inclusive Athletics Championships 2018

Our Deaf students from Moutbatten Vocational School and Beatty Secondary School displayed an outstanding performance in the recent 46<sup>th</sup> National Inclusive Athletics Championships 2018.

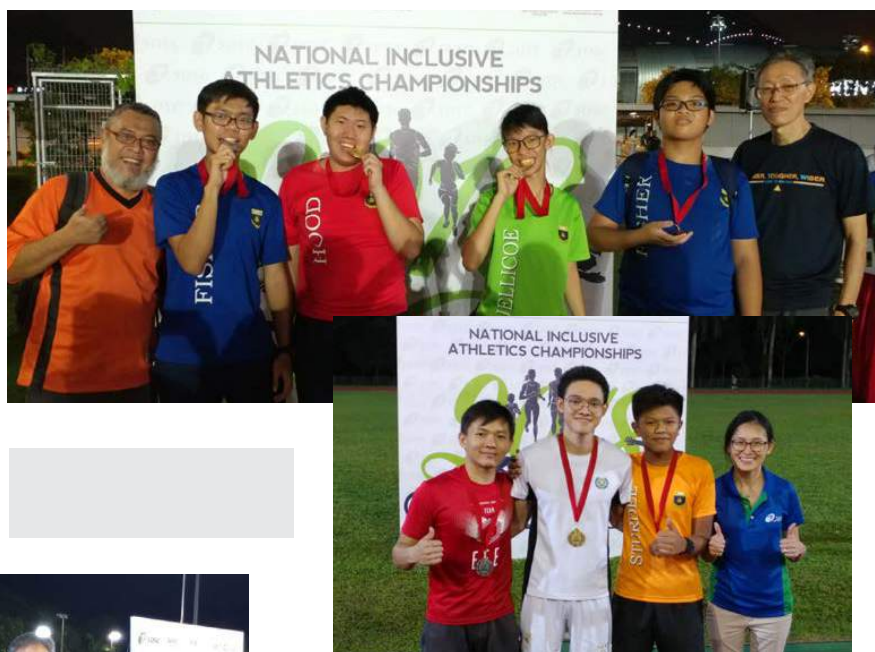
The Field Event was held on 20 April 2018 at the Home of Athletics and the Track Event was held on 28 April 2018 at the Ministry of Education (MOE) Stadium.

Our students garnered an impressive total of ten medals – three Gold medals, four Silver medals and three Bronze medals.

EVENT	CATEGORY	NAME	MEDAL
Javelin	Women Open	Khoo Si Tian	Gold
Shot Put	Men Open	Alvin Sim Wei Da	Gold
Javelin	Men Open	Lee Yong Cheong	Silver
Shot Put	Men Open	Chee Zi Xiang	Silver
100 m	Women Open	Gan Jun Huan	Silver
200 m	Men Open	Muhd Nur Syahir bin Haron	Silver
100 m	Men Open	Amirul Afiq bin Rozlan	Bronze
200 m	Men Open	Amirul Afiq bin Rozlan	Bronze
800 m	Men Open	Lim Jun Hao	Bronze
100 m & 200 m	Men Open	Ryan Cheaw Kian Boon	Participation
100m	Women Open	Ummi Yasserah Binte Mohamed Yasri	Gold
400m	Women Open	Nurulain Binte Mohd Yasin	Participation



Ummi, the champion of the Women 100m Dash!



"This is my first time getting a medal at a competition. I am so elated," exclaimed Lim Jun Hao (third from right), who clinched the Bronze medal in the 800 metre event.



Nurulain and Ummi at the Championships



## Storytelling in Singapore Sign Language (SgSL) at Public Libraries

This time, the sign language storytelling sessions were held at 5 public libraries across Singapore – Jurong West, Yishun, Toa Payoh, Sengkang and Bedok from 12 to 16 March 2018.

Many Deaf and hearing children and their family members participated in the storytelling session. The tales shared for this round were *The Three Little Pigs* and *The Ugly Duckling*. Stories for previous rounds were *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* and *Hansel and Gretel*.

For every story, a Deaf storyteller narrated the story in Singapore Sign Language and this was translated into English by a Sign Language Interpreter. Along with that, we have facilitators to manage powerpoint slides for the learning of sign language vocabulary and to assist with the role play.

Our team also prepared fun and adorable props relating to the two stories. So after learning spoken and sign vocabulary relating to the stories of the day, and listening to the stories, members of the public were invited to role play in the stories. For *The Three Little Pigs*, there were the 3 different houses – made of hay, wood, brick, and even a pot of boiling water!



There were also cute costumes with specially made pig ears. Likewise for the ugly ducklings, there were different types of duckling face masks and eggs for the ducklings to hatch out from!

From the look of the participants' faces, they really were excited to be part of the session and demonstrated learning of the sign language vocabulary. Some children showed their creativeness (and cheekiness!) during the role play. At the end of the session, all participants and young actors received Merdeaf badges to applaud their efforts in participating, and progress in learning and using sign language.

We would like to thank the National Library Board for giving us opportunity to spread Deaf awareness and inclusivity amongst their young readers and their family members.





## SADeaf Family Day 2018

128 participants gathered happily for a day of family bonding at the SADeaf Family Day 2018 on Saturday, 2 June 2018 at the Universal Studios Singapore™.

Breakfast buffet was served at Marty Casa Del Wild and our Executive Director, Ms Sylvia Teng started off the event with a brief introduction of the staff team members who took turns to share more about our various services.

The highlight of the Family Day was the Lucky Draw segment whereby 10 lucky participants walked away with prizes generously sponsored by NTUC, Goodwood Park Hotel, Foodpanda and Okada Coffee & Sweets.

Thereafter, the participants were free to explore and enjoy the theme park.









## United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)

A sharing session cum focus group discussion (jointly organised with Mr Adrian Yap, Mr Alvan Yap, Ms Low Jarn May and Ms Phoebe Tay) was held on Saturday, 6 January 2018 with guest speaker, Mr Michael Steven Stein, a Deaf lawyer from the United States.

18 deaf leaders actively participated in the focus group discussion, identified gaps, voiced their concerns and provided constructive suggestions based on their personal experience as a Deaf advocate.



## Curriculum Development and Teaching Methodology by Dr Bill Vicars

9 sign language instructors attended Singapore Sign Language (SgSL) "Train the Trainer" workshop on Curriculum Development and Teaching Methodology conducted by Dr Bill Vicars from 7 January to 13 January 2018.



Our sign language instructors with Dr Bill Vicars (back row third from left)



## In collaboration with Geylang Neighbourhood Police Centre / Bedok Division ...

### SGSecure

More than 60 participants attended the talk on Saturday, 7 April 2018. The event aimed to provide SADeaf members important counter-terrorism messages. The presenter reminded attendees to be wary of suspicious characters and objects and to "run, hide, tell" in the event of a terror attack.



### Scam Alert

The Talk on "Scam Alert" was held on Friday, 16 March 2018 and attended by 50 participants. Participants were informed of the different types of scam such as "Don't be a Money Mule", "Don't get cheated Online", "Don't be a victim of Love scam" and "Don't be Fooled by Imposters".





## Goat Farm Visit

by Bernard Koh, SAdeaf Igniters

Igniters organised a visit to Hay Dairies for members of our deaf community on Saturday, 28 April 2018.

Upon reaching Hay Dairies, the participants are warmly welcomed by the staff there. The staff then orientated the participants around the goat farm and introduced them to the goat milking station. There were many goats lining up, ready to be milked by the farmers at this station. All of the participants were amazed by how much milk a goat can produce in a day.

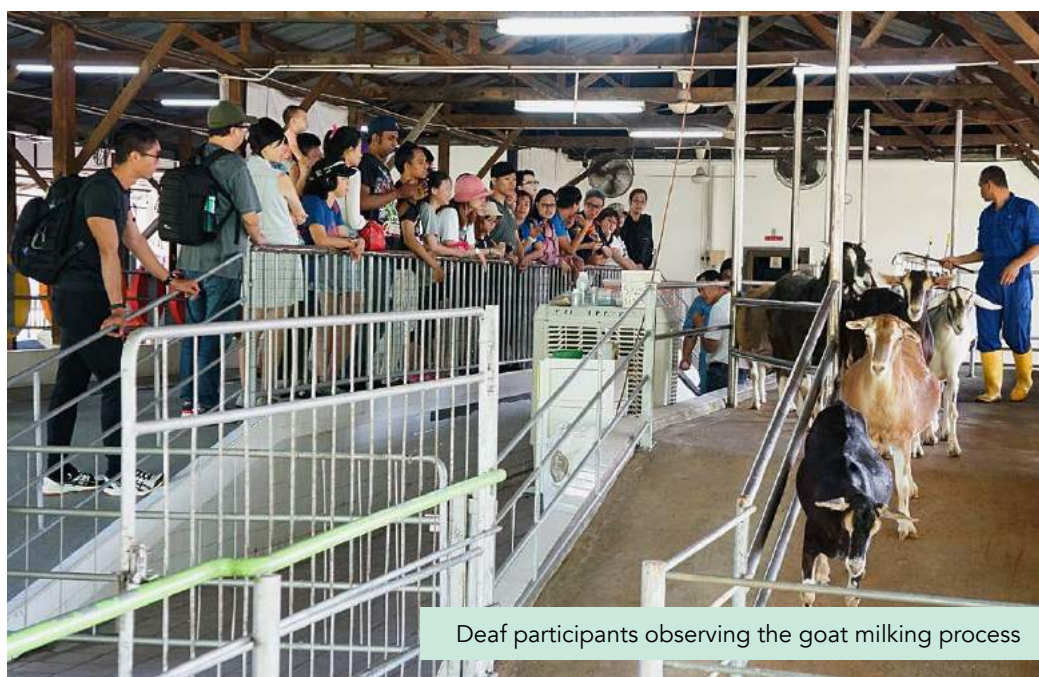


Group photo at Hay Dairies Farm

Together with an interpreter, the staff began his sharing about the history of Hay Dairies and their goats. He further explained that all the goats in Hay Dairies are from Australia and are meant for domestic milking only. He also went on to explain the health benefits of goat milk compared to cow milk. Before he ended his sharing, he distributed several packets of Alfafa hay to the participants which can be used to be fed to the goats later.

For many of the participants, it was their first time interacting with the goats. Many got the chance to feed the goat and managed to touch them. The goats there were also very friendly and they enjoyed the treats of hay given by the participants during their free and easy tour around the goat farm.

After the free and easy session, the participants were treated to a bottle of delicious cold chocolate goat milk. All of them also received a tote bag.



Deaf participants observing the goat milking process

Overall, this goat farm tour had truly been a meaningful and enriching trip for many of the participants who were experiencing it for the very first time.



## Yakult Factory Tour Visit

20 participants visited the Yakult Factory on Thursday, 10 May 2018.

During the tour, the fully trained public relations staff shared the background of the company and products. Following this, participants watched a scientific documentary on the benefits of probiotics and animated video on the role *L. casei* strain Shirota plays in the maintenance of the digestive system. A complimentary bottle of Yakult were given to each participants during the presentation.

After the presentation, a guided tour to view their entire high-tech production process through the glass-walled viewing gallery. The glass walls were specially constructed to provide clear viewing and prevent contamination, accidents and interference.



## Talk On Dementia

An overwhelming 81 participants attended the first-ever Talk on Dementia on Friday, 22 June 2018. The speaker, Ms Karen Amanda Lim, Assistant Manager of Community Enabling Alzheimer's Disease Association (ADA) shared about the Myths

or Truth, Signs and Symptoms of Dementia. The talk greatly benefitted and created awareness among participants.





## Dragon Boat Festival

25 participants joined us for the first ever Dragon Boat Festival Celebration on Saturday, 9 June 2018.



Participants were treated to delicious Nyonya Rice Dumplings



Dragon Boat origami made by the participants

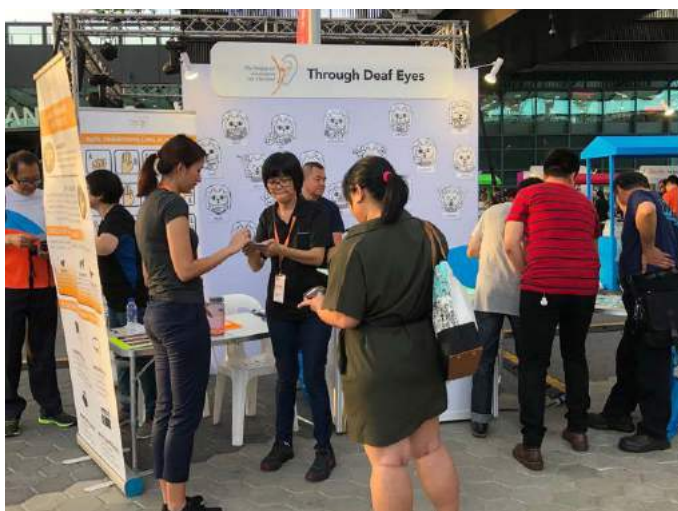


Sharing the Legend of Qu Yuan

## True Colours Festival

Organised by Very Special Arts (VSA)

SADeaf set up a booth from 23 to 25 March 2018 whereby the public get to pick up simple sign language and know more about deaf culture.





## Kukup Trip

Organised by Social Group of the Deaf (SGD)

35 participants had a great time visiting and exploring Kukup on Saturday, 31 March 2018.



## Organic Plants Workshop

Organised by Social Group of the Deaf (SGD)

Participants learnt the value of using different herbs and spices for health as well as important tips on growing herbs/plants on Saturday, 12 May 2018.





## Charity Wash 2018

An annual fundraising initiative jointly organised by NTU Riders Club and NUS Motorcycle Club on 10 February 2018, Saturday.

A big thank you to the members of the NTU Riders Club and NUS Motorcycle Club, the drivers and bikers who came to support the event between 9am - 6pm.





# Chinese New Year Celebration

Ushered the year of the Dog with over 60 clients and volunteers on Saturday, 24 February 2018 and tossed to a year of abundance and good health with "Prosperity Lo-Hei".



(From left to right) SAdeaf President Mr Martin Marini, Vice President Dr Zahabar Ali, Council Members Mr Teo Bee Chuan, Mr Eric Tseng, Vice President Mr Gregory Wee and Honorary Treasurer Mr Jeremy Chan.



恭喜发财







# Deafinitely Durian!!!

Come join us on a Durian Feast for a good cause!



猫山王

Corporate  
Bookings:  
**\$2,000**  
(max 8 persons)

**\$150**  
per person  
(adult)  
**\$ 50**  
per child  
(below 12 years old)

Enjoy durians including Mao Shan Wang as well as other seasonal fresh fruits.  
(Takeaway not allowed)

**28 July 2018, Saturday • 7:00pm - 9:00pm**

The Singapore Association for the Deaf (SADeaf)  
227 Mountbatten Road, Singapore 397998  
(3-minute walk from Mountbatten MRT Station)

For registration or more details, contact Ms Tan Li Zhen at  
6344 8274 Ext 23 or email [lizhen@sadeaf.org.sg](mailto:lizhen@sadeaf.org.sg).



SADeafSG



[www.SADeaf.org.sg](http://www.SADeaf.org.sg)