

[Embargoed till Saturday, 3 August 2019, 1.30 pm]

# Media Release



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1 August 2019

News Editor

## **SOUTH WEST RESIDENTS LEARN ABOUT DISTRICT'S GREEN HERITAGE AT SINGAPORE BICENTENNIAL ROADSHOW**

- **South West District showcases green heritage with virtual map**
- **Showcase of the South West Natural Heritage Map, a youth-led ground-up initiative to engage residents in appreciating the district's heritage**
- **Residents young and old come together to learn and enjoy the history and heritage unique to South West District**
- **Bicentennial showcase brought to nearly 120,000 residents island-wide over five roadshows, concluding at South West roadshow**

At the **Singapore Bicentennial Roadshow @ South West** which starts this Saturday, 3 August 2019, residents in the South West District will be able to learn more about the district's green heritage through a youth-led ground-up initiative.

2 The **South West Natural Heritage Map** is a community project that 21-year-old Chaw Ji How and his team mates have been working on for four months as their Final Year Project. The group of five students from Republic Polytechnic's School of Engineering had wanted to create something for the community to learn more about its history, and decided on an interactive map to spotlight the South West District's green heritage. "Creating the South West Natural Heritage Map opened my eyes to

the beautiful and storied heritage in Singapore that I have never heard of or seen. It's exciting for me to know that this heritage is part of what makes Singapore special, and I would be sure to explore these places again," said Ji How. His teammate Tan Kok Wei, who resides in the South West District, added, "Even though I stay in the South West District, I realised that I am not as familiar with my district as I would think, and be able to identify all the landmarks with ease. This project provides me with the opportunity to learn about heritage places in my district, and share what I learnt with my fellow residents."

3 Designed to be an interactive experience, the 1.5-metre long x 2.1-metre tall laser-cut acrylic exhibit features 15 places of interest within the South West District, of which six (6) will get special feature, with silhouettes that light up at the press of a button. A QR code provides quick access to the online version of the map, which includes historical nuggets of each landmark to enrich the learning experience. Interested residents can also sign up for community tours organised by grassroots organisations to personally experience the landmarks showcased on the South West Natural Heritage Map. The community tours will be held throughout the duration of the nine-day roadshow.

4 Held from 3 August to 11 August 2019 at Keat Hong Community Club, the Singapore Bicentennial Roadshow @ South West will coincide with the nation's celebrations of Singapore's 54<sup>th</sup> birthday and a much-welcomed long weekend. The nine-day roadshow will reach out to an estimated 10,000 residents in the South West District and feature the following South West-centric highlights:

- The South West Natural Heritage Map;
- A LEGO Wall Mural featuring Long Ya Men and Fort Siloso, both key icons in Singapore's history that are located in the South West District; and
- An interactive touchscreen table featuring lesser-known facts about the history of the South West District, such as Telok Blangah being where Sang Nila Utama first landed, the smallest HDB block situated in Chua Chu Kang, and the fact that the last tiger spotted in Singapore was shot in Chua Chu Kang.

5 The series of Singapore Bicentennial Roadshows concludes with the fifth and final roadshow in the South West District. Held over five months, totalling 45 days and reaching close to 120,000 residents across the island, the Singapore Bicentennial Roadshows are a collaboration between the Singapore Bicentennial Office and the five Community Development Councils (CDC) of Singapore to bring the Bicentennial experience to the heartlands.

6 A series of ground-up projects in the South West District, organised by residents and supported by the People's Association, will also be showcased. These can be found in Annex A.

7 The roadshow will be launched by Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister for Health, joined by Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and Ministry of Health, Mr Zaqy Mohamad, Ministry of State, Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Manpower, and Adviser to Keat Hong Grassroots Organisations (GROs), and Mr Yee Chia Hsing, Adviser to Nanyang GROs, and hosted by Ms Low Yen Ling, Mayor of South West District.

8 Mayor Low said, "Bringing the Singapore Bicentennial experience to the South West lets our residents learn more about our roots and heritage, and how Singapore became a nation. They will also discover the South West Natural Heritage Map which reveals our district's 200-year old green heritage. We hope this roadshow will also enhance the residents' appreciation of the historic landmarks found in the South West, and deepen their emotional connections to this area."

9 Details of the event are as follows:

Event : Launch of Singapore Bicentennial Roadshow @ South West  
Date : Saturday, 3 August 2019  
Time : 1.00 pm to 2.30 pm (**Media registration at 12.45 pm**)  
Venue : Keat Hong Community Club  
2 Choa Chu Kang Loop  
Singapore 689687

Guest : Mr Gan Kim Yong  
of Honour Minister for Health and Adviser to Chua Chu Kang Grassroots Organisations (GROs)

Special : (i) Dr Amy Khor  
Guests Senior Minister of State, Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and Ministry of Health, and Adviser to Hong Kah North GROs;  
(ii) Mr Zaqy Mohamad  
Minister of State, Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Manpower, and Adviser to Keat Hong GROs; and  
(iii) Mr Yee Chia Hsing  
Adviser to Nanyang GROs

Host : Ms Low Yen Ling  
Mayor of South West District

10 We would like to invite your reporter and photographer/TV crew to the **Launch of Singapore Bicentennial Roadshow @ South West**. Interviews can be arranged upon request. Please contact our media liaison officer for queries. We look forward to receiving you and your crew/photographer.

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### Media Liaison Officers

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## Programme

Time	Programme
12.45 pm	Media Registration
12.50 pm	Arrival of Host Ms Low Yen Ling Mayor of South West District
12.55 pm	Arrival of Special Guests  (i) Dr Amy Khor Senior Minister of State Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and Ministry of Health, and Adviser to Hong Kah North Grassroots Organisations (GROs)  (ii) Mr Zaqy Mohamad Minister of State Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Manpower, and Adviser to Keat Hong GROs  (iii) Mr Yee Chia Hsing Adviser to Nanyang GROs
1.00 pm	Arrival of Guest of Honour (GOH)  Mr Gan Kim Yong Minister for Health and Adviser to Chua Chu Kang GROs
1.05 pm	Opening Performances  Item 1: Song-and-dance item by pre-schoolers from PCF Sparkletots Preschool @ Chua Chu Kang Blk 3 and Blk 19, who will be playing musical instruments and singing "Stand Up for Singapore"  Item 2: Song-and-dance items by pre-schoolers from PCF Sparkletots Preschool @ Bukit Gombak Blk 395A to <i>Singapore Town, Chan Mali Chan and Munneruvaliba,</i>

Time	Programme
	ending with the Singapore Cheer.
1.15 pm	Welcome Address by Mayor Low
1.20 pm	Opening Address by GOH
1.25 pm	Launch of South West Natural Heritage Map
1.35 pm	Tour of Exhibits <i>*Media interview with Mayor Low can be arranged upon request</i>
2.15 pm	End of Programme

### **About the South West Community Development Council (CDC)**

The South West Community Development Council (CDC) was formed on 24 November 2001, with the mission to Assist the Needy, Bond the People and Connect the Community.

Through local help programmes, the South West CDC provides assistance to help the less fortunate in our community. The CDC also organises projects and programmes to promote community bonding and social cohesion. The South West CDC adopts the "Many Helping Hands" approach to encourage community ownership among residents, community partners and corporations to realise its vision of "Owning Your Community".

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**GROUND-UP PROJECTS IN SOUTH WEST DISTRICT, SUPPORTED BY PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION**

*The People's Association Grassroots Organisations (GROs) will rally the community together to commemorate Singapore's Bicentennial in their neighbourhoods, with 40 ground-up activities involving more than 200,000 residents of all ages and backgrounds. Through the activities that will look back on Singapore's rich history, residents can reflect on the contributions made by the different groups and communities that shaped us, and the challenges faced by our nation and how we overcame them. This is an opportunity to reflect on our longer history, the values that have brought us through, and how we move forward with confidence.*

These are some projects in the South West District which will also be presented at the Singapore Bicentennial Roadshow @ South West.

**Project 1**

<b>Title of Project</b>	Rediscovering our 'Hood @ Chua Chua Kang GRC & Hong Kah North SMC
<b>Synopsis</b>	<p>Chua Chu Kang GRC is featuring the stories and place histories of their estates through a specially curated heritage trail, as well as a roving heritage exhibition.</p> <p>The heritage trail, held on 27 July, covered Chua Chu Kang GRC and Hong Kah Central. It was specially put together by the Youth Executive Committees documenting the stories and histories of the neighbourhoods through different stages of research, oral interviews and outreach events. It culminated in a Heritage Carnival.</p> <p>At the SWCDC roadshow, a roving exhibition will also be on display, and will feature the literature, visual materials, oral histories and stories compiled and presented as part of the documentation and curation of trail.</p>

**Project 2**

<b>Title of Project</b>	Jurong Cluster Bicentennial Projects
<b>Date/ Time</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exploring our Past @ Jurong Spring - Bicentennial Display, 9 August</li><li>• "Singapore to Singaporean – A Taman Jurong Edition" Book – book launch in end-November</li><li>• Bukit Batok Commemorating the Bicentennial - 27 July 2019 to 10 August 2019</li><li>• Commemorating the Singapore Bicentennial - Our Yuhua, Our Story - 9 August 2019, 7.30am to 11am</li><li>• Jurong Heritage Trail – Bicentennial Edition – 24 and 25 August</li></ul>

	2019, 7 and 8 September 2019, 9am and 2pm per day
<b>Location</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring our Past @ Jurong Spring - Bicentennial Display – Hall at Blk 509 Jurong West Street 51</li> <li>• “Singapore to Singaporean – A Taman Jurong Edition” Book – To be confirmed.</li> <li>• Bukit Batok Commemorating The Bicentennial - Bukit Batok Secondary School</li> <li>• Commemorating Singapore Bicentennial - Our Yuhua, Our Story – Yuhua Community Club and Yuhua Park</li> <li>• Jurong Heritage Trail – Bicentennial Edition – Various locations in Jurong</li> </ul>
<b>Synopsis</b>	
<p>Jurong GRC will be showcasing past and upcoming Bicentennial projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>The Singapore Race</b> was organised by Jurong Central CCC and its local partners including secondary schools in the constituency. Held on 6 July, the race covered places of historical significance to Singapore's development in Jurong. The event was organised for families of Jurong Central to understand the history leading up to Singapore's growth into a modern metropolis from a small fishing village. The finale of the race was an exhibition at Jurong Green CC, with a recap of the sites that had been visited during the day.</li> <li>2) <b>Exploring our past @ Jurong Spring</b> consists of a series of events to commemorate the bicentennial year, including heritage tours that were organised to allow residents to understand Jurong Spring's history and better appreciate how Singapore became its current state today. Earlier this year, local youths were also involved in lunch sessions with seniors to learn and better understand the seniors' perspective as they were growing up during Singapore's early nation-building years. Residents are also invited to visit the Bicentennial Display during the National Day Observance Ceremony to learn about our past by viewing different exhibition panels, featuring four distinct periods in Singapore's history.</li> <li>3) <b>Pictorial Book titled “Singapore to Singaporean – A Taman Jurong Edition”</b> is a collaboration between Taman Jurong CCC with Jurong Secondary School to collect pictorial memories and soundbites about Taman Jurong in the past, including how Jurong transformed from an agricultural-based area to an industrial estate. The project will focus on Jurong Town Hall, Old Jurong Drive in Cinema and Jurong Hill and also how the name Jurong came about.</li> <li>4) <b>Bukit Batok Commemorating the Bicentennial</b> is a joint heritage gallery project between Bukit Batok Secondary School and Bukit Batok Grassroots Organisations to document the heritage of the school and the Bukit Batok Community. The</li> </ol>	



heritage gallery will be set up in Bukit Batok Secondary School, and will later rove across the four decentralised National Day Dinners in August 2019. The heritage gallery will focus on the origin of the name 'Bukit Batok', the tragedy sites in Bukit Batok during the Japanese Occupation, Bukit Batok Transmission Tower. It will also include a poem by Edwin Thumboo, a Singaporean poet belonging to a three-generation family who are all residents of Bukit Batok.

- 5) **Commemorating Singapore Bicentennial-Our Yuhua, Our Story** will explore the multicultural and multi-racial roots through different food cuisines representing various racial groups at the main event on 9 August 2019. Prior to that, there will be collaborations with community partners and residents to collect photographs of Jurong East/Yuhua in the past. These will be included in a heritage trail that will reflect on and celebrate the developmental milestones for the nation and the estate. The artworks collected from a colouring competition among residents will also form part of the exhibits at the main event.
  
- 6) **Clementi Racial Harmony Day** was held on 21 July, and featured the inaugural Racial Harmony Carnival showcasing different types of local food, customs and ceremonies of various ethnic groups, alongside hands-on experiences and games. This was organised by Clementi CCC, in collaboration with Clementi IRCC, Darussalam Mosque, Church of the Holy Cross, Clementi Centre Market & Hawkers' Association, and Clementi Town Shop-Owners' Association. An exhibition and a GenFUNtastic Race were also held, documenting the town's progress since the 1960s from villages in the swampland, to the newly-built HDB satellite town. The GenFUNtastic Race involved groups of inter-generational, multi-racial or multi-religious participants visiting heritage landmarks in Clementi and served as a platform for residents to reflect on Singapore's history.
  
- 7) **Jurong Heritage Trail – The Bicentennial Edition** will bring residents on an intriguing bus tour to learn about the fascinating and layered history of Jurong's transformation from a swampland to an industrial estate, to a thriving town for business and leisure today. The trail is led by Taman Jurong Integration and Naturalisation Champions (INCs), and supported by Jurong Cluster INCs and South West CDC. Residents will be brought to places of significance in Jurong such as the Jurong Town Hall, the former Jurong Drive-In Cinema and Jurong Port. Activities will also be carried out at Jurong Hill, the highest ground in Jurong.

### **Project 3**

<b>Title of Project</b>	Our Walk to Remember @ West Coast GRC
<b>Date/ Time</b>	Boon Lay Bicentennial Commemoration & Tree Planting – Exhibition ongoing since 13 July
<b>Location</b>	Boon Lay Bicentennial Commemoration & Tree Planting – Common area next to Blk 207A Boon Lay Place
<b>Synopsis</b>	

West Coast GRC presents two events:

- 1) Boon Lay Bicentennial Commemoration & Tree Planting** is an open space exhibition of Boon Lay's history from the 1850s to present-day. Launched on 13 July, the three-month-long exhibition features prominent landmarks, such as Savoy Theatre, Boon Lay Community Club and Boon Lay Shopping Centre, as well as key local persons of historical importance such as Chew Boon Lay. Information and photos are presented on panels in a neighbourhood park in the heart of Boon Lay near Blk 207A Boon Lay Place, while a HDB wall mural at Blk 207 Boon Lay Place features iconic heritage sites. In conjunction with the launch, a tree-planting event was held to signify Boon Lay's roots as a rubber plantation area in the late 1700s. The story of Chew Boon Lay, who owned some of these plantations, was also chosen to showcase his pioneering value of self-determination, and his life story also traces the history of the area.
- 2) Communities of our Home** showcases the rich history of Telok Blangah and Dover. Following a heritage tour that was conducted on 20 July, an e-book highlighting the heritage areas in Telok Blangah was also launched. The walk was organised in collaboration with JTC, ACJC and My Community, and brought participants to key historical sites like Telok Blangah Hill, Pasir Panjang (where Bukit Chandu used to be) and the Keppel Bay area, to showcase the significant role Telok Blangah played in the larger picture of Singapore's transformation from a small Malay fishing village to a thriving metropolitan neighbourhood.