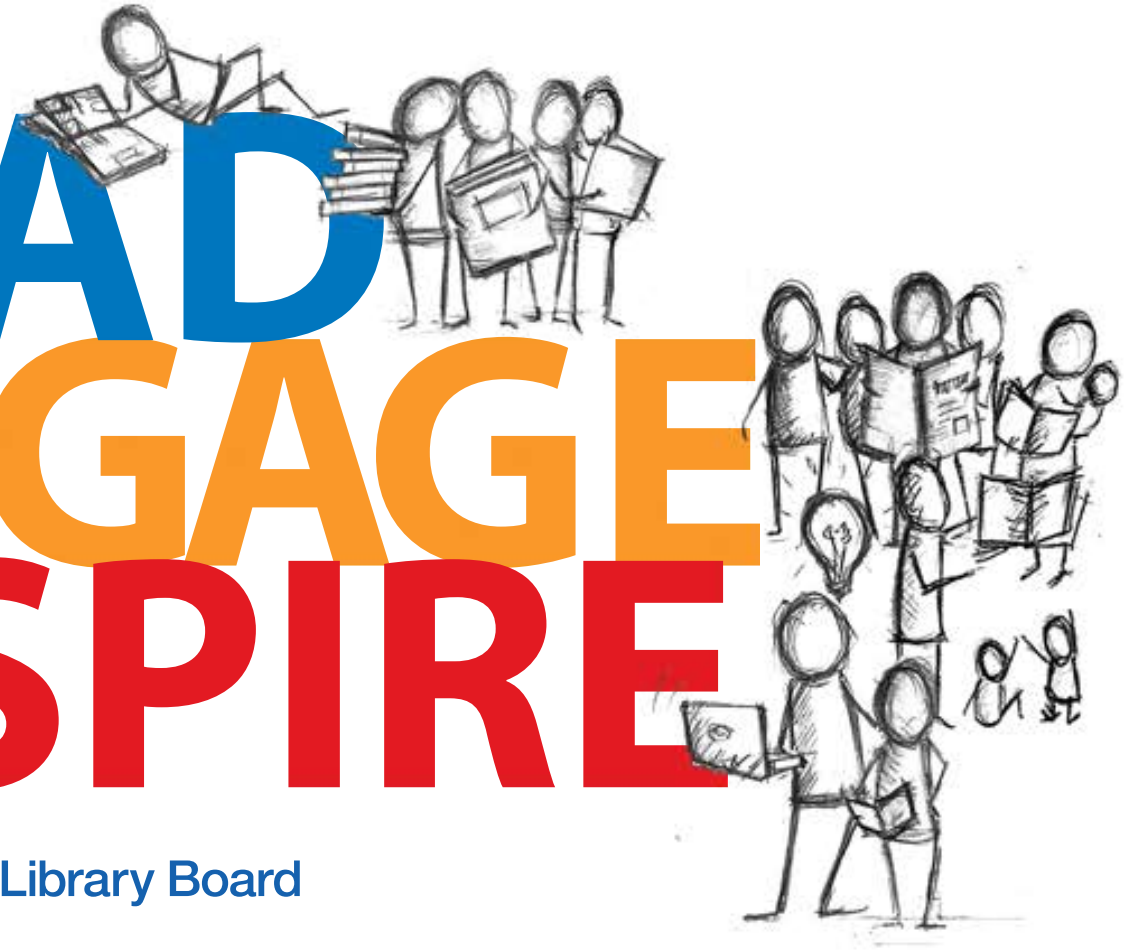
READ
ENGAGE
INSPIRE



NLB | National Library Board
Singapore

CONTENTS

01 Joint Message By Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

04 Board Members

06 Senior Management Committee

08 20 Highlights

30 Our Volunteers

41 20 Faces

62 Our Gems

70 Corporate Governance

71 Our Donors, Sponsors & Partners

VISION

Readers for Life, Learning Communities, Knowledgeable Nation.

MISSION

We make knowledge come alive, spark imagination and create possibilities.

JOINT MESSAGE BY CHAIRMAN & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Mr Chan Heng Kee
CHAIRMAN

Mrs Elaine Ng
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2015 was a year of celebration as we marked SG50, our nation's Golden Jubilee.

It was also a significant year for the National Library Board (NLB) as we celebrated our 20th Anniversary as a statutory board dedicated to the promotion of reading, learning and history through our network of 26 Public Libraries, the National Library and the National Archives of Singapore.

We have accomplished much over the years, and we continue to engage the community to provide more and better programmes and services to promote reading and learning, and to further develop innovative library spaces.

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

NLB's vision is to create "Readers for Life, Learning Communities, and a Knowledgeable Nation". This is an aspirational vision that can only come about through constantly engaging the community to create learning opportunities and inspiring spaces, as well as providing avenues for the community to co-create with us.

To do this, we work with people and volunteers who have a passion for co-creating social spaces. The redesigned Pasir Ris Public Library is a result of a co-creation exercise with teens and parents who shared their ideas for inspiring spaces.

Through this collaboration, we were able to create the Teens' mezzanine space – which is home to the Inspiring Readers Society – our first group of teen volunteers who co-own a library space with us. Our first volunteer-run library, library@chinatown, celebrated its third anniversary in March this year. We are heartened that the library has been able to attract 80 volunteers, double from 40 when we first started. Through their efforts, we have been able to bring library services and spread the joy of reading to the community.

A second aspect of community engagement is working with those who care passionately about promoting a reading culture and helping others to access library services. NLB worked closely with Northeast CDC (NECDC) to set up a community-run container library in Sengkang during the closure of Sengkang Public Library for renovations.

Our collaboration with the Senior Activity Centres managed by Thye Hwa Kwan, NTUC, Alexandra Health Centre and Asian Women's Welfare Association (AWWA), has seen more reading corners being set up. We aim to double our outreach efforts to Senior Activity Centres by 2020. Through reading, we hope our seniors will be able to keep their minds healthy and alert as they stay abreast of current affairs and learn new skills.

Beyond the community, we collaborated with media partners such as *Lianhe Zaobao* and *Lianhe Wanbao* to bring their programme, *Accompanying You In Reading Newspapers* to our libraries. We are also partnering with The Straits Times to present talks on various topics by well-known journalists in our libraries.

In making our history discoverable, we attracted 260 community volunteers through the Citizen Archivist Project, our crowdsourcing initiative that was launched in March 2015. To date, we have provided descriptions of over 1,700 unidentified photographs and transcribed more than 10,000 pages of historical materials such as handwritten Straits Settlements Records. We look forward to expanding the scope of the project to include oral history recordings.

Volunteers have always been invaluable members of the NLB family. Today, we have a total of 5,000 active volunteers who have contributed over 100,000 hours to our various programmes and initiatives. In the next five years, we aim to work closely with our community partners and grow the number of active volunteers to 7,000, who would contribute 150,000 volunteering hours in total.

PROMOTING READING

We have continued to provide many successful reading programmes for the community. Read! Fest 2015, our annual signature programme focused on Singapore literature and paid tribute to the contributions of our young volunteers – the Junior and Teen Reading Ambassadors. We also promoted 82 poems in the four official languages by Singapore poets in an exhibition titled *Poetry on Platforms* at the City Hall MRT Station.

In line with our strategic priorities to promote reading in mother tongue languages, we have introduced 11 Mother Tongue Language Clubs to date. In 2015, our libraries also ran 12,000 programmes, which reached out to some 1.8 million participants.

MAKING HISTORY ACCESSIBLE

Our rich collections are critical to preserving the nation's history and heritage. We have been building our collections at the National Library (NL) and the National Archives of Singapore (NAS), and placing greater emphasis on a digital strategy in order to make our library and archival materials more accessible.

Over the last two years, we have made available over 530,000 materials on our online e-resources platforms, such as HistorySG, NewspaperSG, PublicationSG and BookSG. These materials were previously only accessible on-site at our libraries. Besides providing public access to a digitised catalogue of some 1 million published materials in Singapore from the early 1900s to the present through PublicationSG, we also successfully digitised more than 56,700 pages of Tamil literary works under the Tamil Digital Heritage Project in August 2015. This collection of 350 works produced by the Tamil literary community in Singapore over a period of 50 years is now available on BookSG.

JOINT MESSAGE BY CHAIRMAN & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

In January 2016, we signed a five-year agreement with the Autism Resource Centre (ARC) to provide meaningful employment for the autistic community in Singapore as well as build our digitised collections. Special-needs individuals are being trained to provide scanning and data entry services to digitise library materials.

We have also made remarkable progress in opening up access to our historical content. Following the digitisation of over 84,000 records in 2015, NAS has to date uploaded some 1.2 million records online. These include oral histories, audio visual recordings, photographs, maps and government papers presented to Parliament. Recent additions include audio-visual clips of National Day Rally speeches and National Day Messages from 1966 to 2015 in English, Malay, Chinese, and even Hokkien, as well as the Berita Singapura collection – a series of news magazine films documenting Singapore's history in the 1960s. All of these have seen a significant increase in the number of visitors to NAS' Archives Online, from 20,000 hits per month in 2012 to over 400,000 per month in 2016.

These digital efforts have also contributed to an increase in the digital visitorship of our library materials, from 26.7 million in 2008 to 68.8 million in 2015. We are now in the midst of re-launching our enhanced NLB mobile app to provide greater access to our resources.

One major initiative will be the re-opening of Memories at Old Ford Factory (MOFF) in February 2017. The exhibition will showcase archival records that incorporate creative multi-sensory elements to enhance the visitor's experience of Singapore's World War II history and provide a better understanding of life during the Japanese Occupation.

Another initiative is the exhibition titled *Law of the Land: Highlights of Singapore's Constitutional Documents*, scheduled to open in the last quarter of 2016. NLB has partnered the National Gallery Singapore to present a multi-sensory exhibition of archival records at the former Chief Justice's Chamber in the Gallery's building.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

As we continue to make these goals a priority, we are also thankful to have scaled new heights by achieving a Customer Satisfaction Index of 4.46 in 2015, from 4.39 in 2014. Our achievement in service co-creation also won us the prestigious Service Medallion Award 2015 (Organisation Commendation Award). Another accolade was the prestigious President's Design Award conferred on library@orchard for its outstanding interior design. library@orchard also received the American Library Association's (ALA) Presidential Citation Award.

We have been successful only because of the hard work and contributions of our NLB family – our board members, staff, donors, volunteers, partners, our patrons and international friends.

We would like to thank our former Chairman, Ms Yeoh Chee Yan and past board members, Ms Goh Ann Nee, Mr Dhirendra Shantilal, Mr Timothy Teo, Mr Kwa Chong Guan, Mrs Chua-Lim Yen Ching and Ms Rahayu Bte Mahzam for their invaluable guidance and contributions to NLB during their term of office.

As we engage everyone to "Read More, Read Widely and Read Together" and build a nation of readers through the National Reading Movement, a five-year initiative launched in June 2016, we look forward to co-creating projects and initiatives with the community and expanding our network of partners.

We are counting on your continued support as we roll out our ambitious plans in the months ahead.

MR CHAN HENG KEE
Chairman

MRS ELAINE NG
Chief Executive Officer

BOARD MEMBERS



Mr Chan Heng Kee

BOARD CHAIRMAN
Chair of Establishment Committee

PERMANENT SECRETARY
Ministry of Health



Mr Derrick Goh

Chair of Audit Committee

MANAGING DIRECTOR & REGIONAL HEAD
DBS Treasures Private Client & Treasures
DBS Bank Ltd



Mr Arthur Fong

Chair of Finance Committee

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Greater China Market Head
Bank of Singapore



Dr Lee Shiang Long

Chair of Innovation & Technology Advisory Committee

DEPUTY CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER, *ST Engineering* /
DEPUTY PRESIDENT, *Defence Business, ST Kinetics*



Dr Shashi Jayakumar

Chair of National Archives Advisory Committee

HEAD
Centre of Excellence for National Security,
S Rajaratnam School of International Studies



Mr John Koh

Chair of National Library Advisory Committee

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR
NSL Limited



Mrs Teng Soon Lang

Chair of Public Library Advisory Committee

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
Head (Group Quality & Service Excellence), OCBC Bank



Mr Chan Cheow Hoe

ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE
(Government Chief Information Office Wing)
Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore

BOARD MEMBERS



Mr Michael Koh

FELLOW, CENTRE OF LIVEABLE CITIES
Ministry of National Development



Mr Kok Ping Soon

DEPUTY SECRETARY (DEVELOPMENT)
Ministry Of Manpower



Assoc Prof Albert Lau

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Department of History
National University of Singapore



Ms Neo Gim Huay

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Enterprise Development Group
Temasek International Pte Ltd



Mr Sajjad Akhtar

MANAGING PARTNER
PKF-CAP LLP
CHAIRMAN
Board of PKF International
CHAIRMAN
Asia Pacific, PKF-CAP LLP



Ms Sia Aik Kor

DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL
(Transactions & Administration)
Civil Division
Attorney-General's Chambers



Mdm Zuraidah Binte Abdullah

DOMAIN COMMANDER (AIR)
Integrated Checkpoints Command (Air)
Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

SENIOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Mrs Elaine Ng

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Ms Tay Ai Cheng

DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE
CHIEF LIBRARIAN



Mr William Tan

ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE
(Corporate)
DIRECTOR
(Finance & Administration)



Ms Catherine Lau

ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE
(Public Library Services)



Mr Eric Chin

DIRECTOR
(National Archives of Singapore)
GENERAL COUNSEL



Mr Lee Kee Siang

DIRECTOR
(Resource Discovery & Management)
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER



Mr Chua Kim Pau

DIRECTOR
(Properties & Facilities Management)



Ms Judy Ng

DIRECTOR
(Libraries of The Future)

SENIOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Mr Patrick Yee

DIRECTOR
(People Management & Development)



Mr Ramachandran Narayanan

DIRECTOR
(Systems, Applications & Operations)



Ms Sabitri Devi

DIRECTOR
(Communications, Relations & Development)



Mr Siow Shong Seng

DIRECTOR
(Technology & Service Innovation)



Ms Valerie Cheng

DIRECTOR
(Content & Services)



Mrs Wai Yin Pryke

DIRECTOR
(National Library)



Mr Kevin Cheah

ACTING DIRECTOR
(Strategic Planning & Research)



Mr Stanley Tan

ACTING DIRECTOR
(Public Library Operations)



20 HIGHLIGHTS





Awards and accolades





Customer Satisfaction Survey

Year 2015	4.46
Year 2014	4.39
Year 2013	4.38

Statistics were derived from an annual survey conducted to gauge the customer satisfaction of NLB patrons, with a maximum score of 5.

OUR 20th anniversary was filled with many reasons for celebration. NLB received the Singapore Service Excellence Medallion (SSEM) Award for Service Co-Creation in May 2015. The SSEM is the most prestigious national level award under the Go the Extra Mile for Service (GEMS Up) Movement, a multi-agency movement that aims to bring service excellence up to the next level. Our senior library officer, Ms Idah Mariyani was also recognised for her stellar service with the Service Professional Individual Medallion.

Our unwavering efforts to serve patrons have borne fruit, with ratings rising each year in the annual Customer Satisfaction Survey. From a score of 4.38 out of 5 in 2013, overall customer satisfaction rose to 4.39 in 2014 and 4.46 in 2015.

In December, library@orchard received a birthday gift one year after its re-opening in October 2014. It became the second library to clinch the prestigious President's Design Award, following in the footsteps of Bishan Public Library in 2007. library@orchard's iconic curved bookshelves and cosy reading cocoons were among the design features that earned it that accolade. At the American Library Association's (ALA) annual conference held in Orlando in June 2016, library@orchard also received the ALA's Presidential Citation Award for Innovative International Library Projects in recognition of its contributions to international librarianship through design thinking.

library@orchard

1ST Public library to be redesigned using design thinking process

Collaborated with **30** polytechnic students and lecturers

Ideas and insight collected from over **900** members of the public





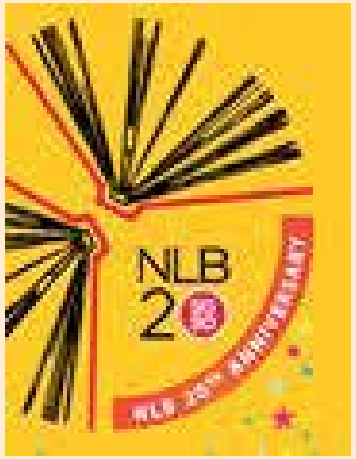


Celebrating 20 years



OUR birthday celebrations on October 3, 2015 spanned 131 programmes at our 27 premises island-wide. The activities included talks, library tours, storytelling and a massive live 'escape game' at the National Library Building, as well as the #MiniLibrarian programme.

New young members received commemorative edition membership cards, and all library members enjoyed a special loan promotion of 20 physical books and 24 e-books until January 31, 2016.



Unveiling PublicationSG

IN commemoration of our 20th anniversary, we launched PublicationSG, a catalogue of works deposited with NLB since the 1900s. This catalogue comprises over a million items of our printed heritage, from pre-war entertainment magazines to government pamphlets, videos and sound recordings. This was made possible with the help of our volunteers who spent over 1.5 months digitising the catalogue. Thanks to their hard work, members of the public can now access the records of our heritage collection through PublicationSG and view the materials, either in person or online.





PublicationSG

1 million library materials

sorted, digitised, catalogued

332 volunteers

over 1.5 months

Giving the gift of books





IN celebration of Singapore's Golden Jubilee and to also showcase literary talent within our shores, we offered our international partners the SG50 Gift of Books. In collaboration with the Ministry of Communications and Information and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we presented 10,300 books on Singapore or by Singapore authors to 46 libraries around the world, from Malaysia and Indonesia to New Zealand and the United States.

Each library received up to 300 books on various aspects of Singapore, ranging from history and political development to greenery and architecture. They also touched on the colourful aspects of Singapore life, including its literature, culture, food and even Singlish. Several recipient libraries also showcased these collections for a month.



Re-opening of Pasir Ris Public Library









PASIR RIS Public Library re-opened in November 2015, after nine months of renovation, as Singapore's first mall library with a dedicated space for teens - curated by teens themselves.

This Teens' Mezzanine floor is managed by youth volunteers from the Inspiring Readers Society, who create 'book trailers' to promote books, and lead library programmes tailored for their peers.

The reopened library is also the testing ground for a new shelf-reading robot, which scans the shelves after dark to spot library materials that are incorrectly placed.

Showcasing our public libraries









OUR public libraries had plenty of chances to shine.

In August 2015, Ang Mo Kio Public Library marked its 30th anniversary, with a special *Timeless* exhibition and an indoor birthday celebration with Jeremy Monteiro and his band as a special treat for our library patrons and volunteers. The exhibition showcased Ang Mo Kio's history through the works of students from Ang Mo Kio Primary School, Naval Base Secondary School and Mayflower Secondary School.

Woodlands Regional Library kicked off the 10-month long exhibition titled *Greatest Gift of a Generation* in July 2015. Minister for Communications and Information, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim dropped by to tour the exhibition in August and spent a joyful afternoon with some pioneers who were featured in the exhibition. The pioneers were there to share their stories with library patrons in person. He also stopped by a Silver Infocomm Junction class and met senior volunteers contributing to the National Archives of Singapore's Citizen Archivist Project.

Sembawang Public Library has dazzled patrons since its reopening in November 2014, impressing them with its high-tech features, such as the Quick Reads screen that allows patrons to borrow ebooks by scanning QR codes, eReaders for children and eMagazine tablets. The library also piloted the reservation lockers which enable patrons to collect reserved items even beyond the library's opening hours.

Celebrating its third anniversary in March 2016 was the much younger library@chinatown. It is Singapore's first community-supported library fully operated by volunteers and having received generous donations from Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple and CP1 Pte Ltd. A volunteers' appreciation party was held as part of the celebrations, with Minister of State for Communications and Information, Chee Hong Tat joining in.

Ready to party with Read! Fest

THE 2nd annual Read! Fest is the signature event of our nationwide reading campaign, Read! Singapore. Into its 11th year, Read! Fest 2015 saw 80 programmes rolled out across the island over two months, from book parties and storytelling to a panel discussion on real crime. We also celebrated the contributions of our young volunteers, known as Junior and Teen Reading Ambassadors, at the Read! Fest opening ceremony in June 2015.

Our Poetry on Platforms exhibition also promoted works of Singapore poets, which were displayed on City Hall MRT platforms for a month from mid-July to mid-August.







Mid-July to Mid-August 2015

82 Singapore Poems



JUNIOR READING AMBASSADORS

Started in Jun 2007

389 trained to date

Reading in mother tongue from young

PAYING a visit to one of our Mother Tongue Language Reading Clubs in February 2016 was Minister of State for Communications and Information, Chee Hong Tat. At Woodlands Regional Library, he read local author, Low Joo Hong's《此地无肉三百两 》*(There is No Meat Buried Here)* to the young members of the library's Little Avid Readers Reading Club and highlighted the importance of cultivating the habit of reading in one's mother tongue from young.





In November 2015, our Mother Tongue Language Festival featured a week of 48 programmes in Chinese, Malay and Tamil. More than 1,700 participants took part in workshops and reading sessions, enjoying picture books and poetry. The opening festival included a performance of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Nightingale*, alongside traditional book-based Malay and Indian dances and a Chinese reading performance.

This was followed by Family Reading Fiestas for each language in February and March 2016. The Tamil edition included an Amazing Race in which parent-and-child pairs searched for books, designed posters, did dramatic readings and completed questionnaires. The Malay Family Reading Fiesta included an interactive storytelling session where parents and kids brought stories to life, while the Chinese session included a poetry recital for the young ones.

In March 2016, Toa Payoh Public Library also collaborated with Chinese newspapers *Lianhe Zaobao* and *Lianhe Wanbao* to bring their news and current affairs initiative, *Accompanying You in Reading Newspapers* into our library as a monthly programme.

Meeting our mobile libraries (MOLLYs)







THROUGH the generous donation from Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple, our mobile libraries have expanded its reach into the community. Following in the tyre-tracks of their larger predecessors, our mini mobile libraries, also known as mini-MOLLYs, have continued growing in popularity since their launch in May 2014. During one of the mini-MOLLY's visits to the PCF Moulmein-Tai Pei Childcare and Development Centre in June 2015, Minister for Communications and Information, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim met the kids and read a story to them.

BIG MOLLY

3000 Fiction and non-fiction books

At any one time caters to

15-20

children up to 12 years olds, teens and adults

MINI MOLLYs

1500
1500

Fiction and non-fiction children books

At any one time caters to

8-12

children aged 3 to 10 years old

LOANS

FY15	306,157
FY14	266,997

VISITORSHIP

FY15	132,537
FY14	96,664

SITES VISITED

FY15	316
FY14	230

Helping readers be S.U.R.E

AS part of this year's S.U.R.E (Source, Understand, Research, Evaluate) campaign that looks at how to find, evaluate and use information effectively and responsibly, film-makers, musicians, celebrity parents and scientists - guest speakers from diverse fields brought information literacy issues to life in four live shows.

The Super S.U.R.E Shows kicked off in July 2015 with a talk on media and film, followed by music and pop culture in October and a parenting special in November. Closing the series was the science and mathematics edition in January 2016, with Nobel laureate David Gross among the speakers.







Bringing forth books of our own

THE official SG50 book, *Living the Singapore Story: Celebrating our 50 Years 1965-2015* was published by NLB in May. It looks back on five decades of nationhood through the eyes of luminaries and ordinary citizens alike.

Among the 58 Singaporeans sharing their stories in the book are icons such as founding Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and singer-songwriter Dick Lee, alongside kampong residents and urban planners, businessmen and artists.

Other books commemorating important academics and donors were launched. In April 2015, we launched *Through the Lens of Lee Kip Lin, Photographs of Singapore, 1965-1995* by Dr Lai Chee Kien, a selection of photographs by the late architect Mr Lee Kip Lin, whose works and papers were donated to us.











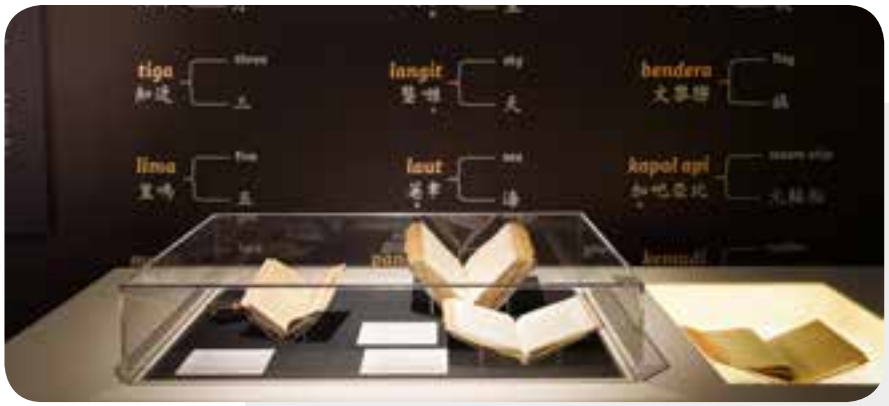
Marking its 10th anniversary was the Taxi Shifu Reading Club, Singapore's only literary club for taxi drivers, which published 《德士师傅读书会十年耕耘 ： 读书会成立十周年回顾 *(Celebrating a Decade of Taxi Shifu Reading Club's Memories)* in November 2015.

In March 2016, we published *The George Hicks Collection at the National Library*, *Singapore: An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Works* in honour of the fellowship funded by the Australian writer and economist, and his donation of books and materials.

Other books published include *Di Sebalik Tabir Masuri S.N.: Biografi dan Karya Pilihan Yang Belum Tersiar (Behind the Veil: Biography and Work of Masuri S. N.)*, the first biography published on the late poet and literary pioneer Masuri Salikun, and leading Raffles scholar Dr John Bastin's *The Family of Sir Stamford Raffles*, launched in conjunction with our *From the Stacks* exhibition in end January 2016.

Unearthing treasures From the Stacks









THIS major exhibition unearthed rare treasures from the library's stacks, dating back to the 18th century, including letters from Sir Stamford Raffles and his wife, the first newspaper in Singapore, and one of the earliest Qur'ans published here.

Running for eight months from February to September 2016, it featured over 100 historical artefacts: manuscripts and publications, maps and photographs, many on public display for the first time.

New ways to remember the past





A few days before the 50th National Day, we successfully wrapped up the Past Forward campaign, organised by the Singapore Memory Project (SMP) in celebration of SG50, which attracted a total of 124,233 participants. This campaign showcased projects created by our 72 irememberSG Fund recipients, who were encouraged to develop content to interpret and contextualise memories related to Singapore. Some of the exhibits included *The Little Red Brick*, a collection of 50 Singaporean landmarks and scenes recreated in Lego, and *3D Printing Singapura Story*, in which key moments in Singapore's history were brought to life as 3D-printed interactive installations.



SMP broke new ground in 2015 with its first ever film festival during May and June. The *Rewind/Remind* film festival premiered short films produced by recipients of irememberSG Fund, as well as acclaimed local director Royston Tan's latest film, *Old Friends*. A total of 11 films were featured.

Since its launch in 2011, SMP has enabled memories to be collected, organised, preserved, discovered and researched. To date, more than 1 million memories have been collected.

Tamil community's gift of digital heritage





TAMIL DIGITAL HERITAGE PROJECT

More than **56,000** pages proofread

out of **350** digitised literary works

A collection of 350 Tamil literary works from Singapore, spanning 50 years since independence, was digitised as the Indian community's SG50 gift to the nation. Led by the Tamil Digital Heritage Group in partnership with us, the project was kick-started in 2013 and headed by the chief coordinator, Mr Arun Mahizhnan.

Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies, Tharman Shanmugaratnam launched the digital collection in August 2015. Joining him to celebrate the completion of this special collection was the project's patron, Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry). A special appreciation event was hosted in September, graced by Minister Iswaran, to thank the authors, teachers and volunteers who had contributed to this project. Close to 100 Tamil authors and teachers came forward to annotate the works, and over 250 volunteers and our staff helped to proofread more than 56,000 pages.

Hosting the first Joint Technical Symposium in Asia

FOR the first time in Asia, we co-hosted the international Joint Technical Symposium with the South East Asia-Pacific Audio Visual Archive Association in Singapore in March 2016.

It brought together more than 200 delegates from 27 countries to discuss the challenges of preserving and restoring audiovisual records, and share new technologies and best practices.

Held every three to five years, the global event was organised under the auspices of the Co-ordinating Council of Audio Visual Archives Association, an affiliate of UNESCO.

JTS
JOINT TECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM
SINGAPORE : 2016



Remaking Memories at Old Ford Factory









PUBLIC CALL FOR ARCHIVES FOR MEMORIES AT OLD FORD FACTORY

Over **400** items donated

25 Donors



IN February 2016, Memories at Old Ford Factory was closed for a year-long revamp. The historical site will reopen in February 2017 to mark the 75th anniversary of the start of the Japanese Occupation, offering new archival records and multisensory displays to bring history to life.

To help us better tell the story of Singapore during the Second World War, a public call for donations was made in March 2016 for donations of historical materials from 1937 to 1954, from Japanese textbooks to oral history accounts. Over 400 donated items were received through the public call for archives.

Throwing the spotlight on Asian films

IT was a busy year for the Asian Film Archive (AFA), a subsidiary of NLB.

In April 2015, the AFA hosted the 19th South East Asia-Pacific Audio Visual Archive Association Conference and General Assembly that saw international archivists, librarians and AV specialists attend the symposium and workshops at the National Library Building.

In celebration of SG50, *Spotlight on Singapore Cinema* free screenings at Capitol Theatre showcased films from the 1950s to 1970s that were restored by the AFA.

To commemorate its 10th anniversary, the AFA commissioned 10 Asian short films in an anthology entitled Fragment.

In January 2016, the AFA took part in Singapore Art Week for the first time with *State of Motion*, a tour and exhibition that married classic Singaporean films and iconic film locations with new original art.

From February to April 2016, *Celluloid Void 2: The Lost Films of Southeast Asia* exhibition at the National Library Building examined a selection of lost films from the region, exploring their significance in the historical context of socio-political upheaval.





Korban Fitnah (Victim of Slander), 1959
Image courtesy of Asian Film Archive Cathay-Keris Malay Classics Collection



Partnering the Autism Resource Centre



WE entered a five-year partnership with the Autism Resource Centre (ARC) under a Memorandum of Understanding signed in November 2015 to provide sustainable employment opportunities for beneficiaries from the autism community. These beneficiaries have contributed their services in digitising our heritage collections, such as government records and school magazines, and performing data-entry work at ARC's Digital Services Centre at the Enabling Village from December 2015.

In January 2016, Minister for Communications and Information, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim visited the Digital Services Centre and met the beneficiaries.



Spreading the joy of reading

WE have always believed in giving back to the community.

Project Deliver Me, which started in 2009, is still going strong, with our volunteers making six trips a year to deliver books and audiovisual materials to library members who are homebound and cannot visit libraries on their own. Minister for Communications and Information, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim joined us on one of these visits in July 2015, to Singapore Cheshire Home.

In September, we also held our Charity Book Donation, with more than 40,000 books donated to organisations such as community self-help groups, rehabilitative organisations and overseas projects such as the Bhutan Library Project led by Singaporean volunteer Eileen Tan Tiong Pin, and the Thai Youth Community Foundation & Teung Project spearheaded by students from the Singapore Management University. This also marked the first time that corporate volunteers took part in helping the recipients pack the books. Libraries in Myanmar, Bhutan and Indonesia also received donated books from us last year, as part of NLB's ongoing annual effort to spread the joy of reading overseas.

Our volunteers have also helped run over 270 kidsREAD Clubs across Singapore for children from low income households for the 11th year. The number of volunteers for this programme has grown from 929 in 2012 to 2,470 in 2015.







Thanking our supporters

WE had many people to thank for sharing our journey all these years. Our bi-annual Donors Appreciation Night in October 2015 gave donors a chance to see items from our rare materials gallery and heritage collections made possible by generous contributions from our donors. These materials include rare religious texts, maps and publications from World War II.

In November 2015, we celebrated the people who keep our libraries going: our library patrons and volunteers.

On Customer Appreciation Day, our library patrons were treated to a fun date with fictional storybook characters who turned up at various public libraries to express their appreciation. Later that month, volunteers young and old enjoyed a drama performance of *The Emperor's New Clothes* at our National Library Building.

Marking the first anniversary of the Citizen Archivist Project, the National Archives of Singapore hosted a Citizen Archivist Appreciation Night in March 2016. Our tireless volunteer archivists were treated to an exhibition of original Straits Settlements records, as well as hands-on activities such as notebook-making.







CITIZEN ARCHIVIST PROJECT

over 1700 unidentified photographs described

260 Volunteers

over 10,000 pages of handwritten Straits Settlements Records transcribed

Over 4000 hours

OUR VOLUNTEERS









"OUR volunteers play an important part in helping us to connect with the community. Our role is to engage them in ways that allow them to express their passion to do something for Singapore and make a difference to others, through co-creating social spaces, making history discoverable and promoting reading culture."

Mrs Elaine Ng

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NATIONAL LIBRARY BOARD



Ling Sean Yi

STUDENT

THROUGH VOLUNTEERING WITH NLB, I HAVE GROWN SIGNIFICANTLY IN TERMS OF CONFIDENCE AND UNDERSTANDING TOWARDS PEOPLE.

Previously, I have been unsure of presenting myself before a large audience and frequently suffered from shivering legs. However, after countless storytelling, performing skits and even emceeing, I have become much more at ease during public speaking and have definitely grown in confidence.





Bryan Herbert

STUDENT

I believe that my volunteering experience at **NLB INSPIRED ME TO READ BOOKS AGAIN.** It also reminds me to reflect on whether I have improved someone's life or my own. Working in different libraries, going out to perform for the public or organising competitions are some of the things that we have done for the community which have changed lives.

Nur Eliisa Abdullah

STUDENT

The opening day of Pasir Ris Library after the renovation was one of the greatest memories I have ever had. When the day came, and when I arrived at the library early with the other volunteers whom I now call my friends, I felt this feeling of accomplishment. It was surreal to think that all our hard work has finally been put into place. It was then that I realised that **VOLUNTEERING ISN'T JUST FOR THE CIP HOURS, IT CAN BRING GREAT EXPERIENCES AND MEMORIES TOO.**



Halimatussa'diah Binte Jaffar

EDUCATOR

A child learns best when he or she hears stories that resonates with them. **STORIES HAVE THE POWER TO MOULD A CHILD'S CHARACTER.** As a Malay teacher who constantly keeps abreast of the Malay education landscape in Singapore, I am aware of the importance of reading Malay books frequently to the children so that the Malay language remains relevant. I hope to contribute in my own small way towards the Malay community.





Harris Bin Juraimi

STUDENT

After joining NLB events, I became more interested in reading widely, across different genres, and even reading books in my Mother Tongue language. **STORYTELLING IS A FUN WAY TO REACH OUT TO YOUNG READERS BECAUSE A GOOD STORYTELLER CAN MAKE A STORY COME ALIVE.** We can all learn good values and lessons through stories.



Lim May San, Medha

PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICER

Volunteering at NLB has strengthened my belief that **THE LOVE OF READING EXPANDS THE IMAGINATION OF CHILDREN**, and it allows them to grow into more confident and enthusiastic individuals. All children need to be given one-to-one attention. No question is too silly, especially when it comes from curious minds, if only the people around them had time to spare.

M Ilakkiya

STUDENT

Before I started volunteering at the NLB, I read a very limited genre of books- mainly adventure and chick-literature. My volunteering experience exposed me to other genres which motivated me to read more so that I can learn more and encourage others to read. **INTRODUCING OTHERS TO A NEW BOOK OR GENRE GIVES ME SATISFACTION AS I FEEL LIKE I HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE.**



Vandana Aggarwal

EDUCATOR

My special moment was when I got carried away while transcribing the Straits Settlement Records and was transported to a time 200 years ago. For a moment I thought Sir Stamford Raffles was actually dictating a letter to me. The enormity and the responsibility of what archivists do hit me at that moment. **IT IS SURREAL TO THINK THAT I AM PLAYING A PART IN PRESERVING SINGAPORE'S HISTORY.**





Morgan Meyer

STUDENT

Each time I volunteer at library@chinatown, I am happy that I get to help people of all ages, across different cultures and languages. **I KEEP COMING BACK BECAUSE I KNOW THAT I AM HELPING PEOPLE AND CONTRIBUTING BACK TO SOCIETY.** I am not 100 percent fluent in Mandarin. Volunteering at the library allows me to get some conversational practice that I do not normally get during school hours, or with friends.



Tan Cheng Pheng

HOMEMAKER

Not all kids love books naturally. But kids can be hooked on reading if they have someone to guide them and entice them with good reads that appeal to them. **KIDS OF ALL AGES ENJOY HEARING A GOOD STORY. ADULTS TOO!** Having fun makes people reach for the next book.

Sun Xi Niu

TAXI DRIVER

Although the members of Taxi Shifu Reading Club are adults between 30 to 80 years old, we often have students helping us out. They are the junior volunteers of NLB. I hope that by spending time with us, these young ones will be inspired to start their own reading clubs in future. **I AM REALLY HEARTENED THAT NLB IS FAR-SIGHTED WHEN IT COMES TO PROMOTING READING TO OUR NEXT GENERATION.**



Gunasekaran Gautham Kumar

STUDENT

EVERY MOMENT OF VOLUNTEERING WITH THE LIBRARY WAS SPECIAL. The staff were friendly and they taught us many things. I learnt something different from each and every one of them.



Left to Right: Gautham, Ahmad, Yassim

Ahmad Izzuddynn Bin Zakhiyon

STUDENT

I GOT TO KNOW PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS WHEN WE WERE HELPING TO DIGITISE TRIBUTES TO OUR LATE FOUNDING FATHER MR LEE KUAN YEW. While everyone came from different backgrounds, we had a memorable time together.

Yassin Bin Mohd Jalil

STUDENT

WHAT STRUCK ME MOST WAS SEEING MANY PEOPLE, BOTH YOUNG AND OLD, TAKING THEIR TIME AND EFFORT TO JOIN US in digitising the tributes to the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew. This shows that people still remember and care about Mr Lee and are willing to honour him by contributing.

Hong Whvan Hsin

STUDENT

Storytelling is my passion. It is also a craft that I am constantly trying to sharpen. I am extremely passionate about storytelling because **STORYTELLING MAKES PEOPLE HAPPY AND IT MAKES ME HAPPY TOO.** Stories contain subtle signs, and telling the story is like passing the message. It is a craft in the sense that there are various ways to tell a story.





Jensrani d/o Thangavel

RETIRED EDUCATOR

The volunteering experience showed me that in a span of 10 sessions, I could influence young children through reading and writing. **IT WAS FULFILLING TO SPEND MY SATURDAYS WITH THESE CHILDREN AND THEIR CREATIVITY AND IMAGINATION AMAZED ME.** In fact they have inspired me to write my own book!



Arin Herbert

STUDENT

I once volunteered to participate in the storytelling session in a library where I had to wear a big fancy dress and act as *Sleeping Beauty*. **TO ME, STORIES TRANSPORT A PERSON TO A DIFFERENT PLACE.** For example, when you read *Aladdin* you can picture yourself smelling the aroma of spices as you see Aladdin walking in the market place with his monkey Abu.

Yeo Hong Eng

RETIRED EDUCATOR

I love books. I love to read. When I was young, I was deprived of reading as books in those days (immediately after World War II) were not easy to come by. When digitising the tributes to the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew, I looked forward to be the first to read what others have written about him. **I WANTED TO HELP NLB DIGITISE THOSE TRIBUTES SO THAT OTHERS COULD READ ABOUT THEM SOONER.**



Huang Jierui, Pauline

OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE

I am most fascinated by how different every volunteer at the kidsREAD programme tells a story. Each one is as unique as a snowflake, yet all are engaging to both the children and myself as an adult! **FOR ME, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING TO LEARN FROM THE OTHER VOLUNTEERS** when it comes to storytelling, as well as the handling of the children.





Tomoko Kurahashi

HOMEMAKER

I am interested in libraries and heard that library@chinatown is volunteer-driven. Therefore, I chose to volunteer there in order to learn how a volunteer-driven library works. **AS I SERVED LIBRARY USERS' NEEDS, I GRADUALLY GOT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT CHINESE CULTURE.** There were library users who kindly taught me how to pronounce some Chinese words.

20 FACES



I design and create the Libraries of the Future. The library of the future is an inclusive and accessible library. Anyone can walk in and feel that they can be a better version of themselves, whether through acquiring knowledge or doing volunteer work. While these are physical libraries, they also have no borders – anyone can access materials or connect to the libraries from anywhere.



FELICIA CHAN
LIBRARIAN
LIBRARIES OF THE FUTURE



JOY LOH
ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN
CONTENT & SERVICES

I ensure that the National Library is the premium resource centre for researchers. As a librarian, I focus on managing our music archive MusicSG. This includes compiling music materials, clearing copyrights for digitising music and networking with local musicians and educators so as to promote and archive local music. Championing a cause I believe in and rallying support for it makes me feel excited about life and work. Music is able to express the self, bond people and connect us to something greater.

I build NLB's partnerships with international libraries. Through our collaborations, overseas libraries can get to read Singapore publications and we can also receive materials from these countries that may not always be available in commercial bookstores. On a typical workday, we could be talking to people from three continents across five different time zones. It is a lot of fun!



LUKE CHUA
MANAGER
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT



IDAH MARIYANI MOHAMED SAHID
SENIOR LIBRARY OFFICER
SENGKANG PUBLIC LIBRARY

I promote reading and make our libraries more accessible.

It is heartwarming to see how supportive the parents are in involving their children with the fun activities and programmes that our libraries offer. It gives me great satisfaction when library users appreciate my service in big or small ways.

I engage donors to enrich our library's collections.

We collect publications, periodicals, textbooks, yearbooks, manuscripts, mimeographs, diaries, maps, letters and photographs. I am happy to play a role in the National Library by sourcing unique, useful and valuable donor collections that will help to enhance, enrich and fill the gaps in our national collection.



SANDY TOH
ASSISTANT MANAGER
ENGAGEMENT



INDRASHAH MD ISA
PROJECT MANAGER
ARCHITECTURE & INNOVATION

I keep NLB at the forefront of technological advancements.

Our notion of a traditional library has to evolve. Beyond being a place to borrow books and get information, it should be a social space where people discover new things. When people walk into our libraries, we want to have the resources for them to pursue their dreams.

I teach people to be S.U.R.E of the information that they find. In this age of information where anyone can post anything on the Internet, it is sometimes difficult to verify the credibility of the information or its sources so it is useful to learn how to do so.



YASHODHA DEVI D/O NADARAJAN
EXECUTIVE
ENGAGEMENT



JESSIE YAK
ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN
EXHIBITIONS, CURATION & RARE COLLECTION

I curate rare materials in the library and keep them safe. It is very exciting to touch and feel history physically through tangible objects like old books, and when we discover gems in our collection. It is also satisfying when researchers and members of the public find our collection useful and easy to use.

I crowdsource memories related to Singapore. Being part of the Singapore Memory Project is very meaningful and the satisfaction comes from knowing I am documenting memories from the man on the street for posterity. We encountered many people who said their memories are not important enough or too common for sharing. But those are the memories we want – the happy, sad, funny, heartfelt moments of their lives in Singapore – that is otherwise untold.



GRACE CHAN
MANAGER
ENGAGEMENT



SUHAILA GHANI
SENIOR LIBRARY OFFICER
JURONG REGIONAL LIBRARY

I make libraries accessible to all across the island. Being on a mobile library bus, MOLLY, I get to visit different places and meet people from all walks of life. The MOLLY also reaches out to people who do not have easy access to public libraries, especially the underprivileged and the special needs community. This brings extra meaning to my work and I am happy to be able to serve the community.

I work with volunteers to achieve great things. I love meeting people and interacting with them. Our volunteers play an important role in helping us to connect with the community and we work hand in hand with them to pull off big events and fun activities.



NORAISAH HASSIM
SENIOR OFFICER
CSR & VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT



MAVIS CHENG
ARCHIVIST
AUDIO VISUAL ARCHIVES

I restore audio-visual materials to bring records of history to life. A moving visual consisting of 24 frames a second is powerful enough to stir your emotions and bring you back to a particular moment in history. We all have a national and personal connection to these past records and I am glad to be contributing to nation building and the collective memories of Singaporeans, in my own small way.

I preserve books for future generations so they can continue learning from them. The bound volume of about 200 sheets manuscript of Straits Settlements records that I have conserved felt like I have done a 10,000-piece, double-sided puzzle and without having any image to refer to. I pieced each fragment together based on edges, shapes and colours and felt a little sense of accomplishment. Conservation helps to prevent further loss to any important content and prolong its life span.



MICHELLE NG
OFFICER
ARCHIVES SERVICES



MARK WONG
SPECIALIST
ORAL HISTORY CENTRE

I record personal stories from all walks of life. Many people come up to me and say, 'Wow, there is such a job?' It is a wonderful fit for me because I am interested in both history and meeting people. The wonderful personal stories which I record give us the history that is not found in books. When we hear the experiences of people, we begin to understand more about why people do what they did and it broadens our perspective.

I cultivate the love of reading in students. In a storytelling session, children need to be entertained to better understand or accept the message behind the story. It is satisfying when even the shy and quiet ones come up to me after the storytelling session to ask about the book and where they can borrow it.



MARCUS LEONG
ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN
CONTENT & SERVICES



SONJA WONG
ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN
SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

I work with artists to bring quality arts programmes to you. Most of the artists we work with are generally very down-to-earth and friendly people. Being able to introduce many unique and diverse art forms to the public gives me purpose in what I do. I get to see the followers of our programmes growing artistically through the years and many have actively followed us for years.

I bring the joy of reading to the elderly. The Senior Activity Centre outreach project enables my team to select books and set up reading corners in those centres as some seniors may not have the chance to step into our libraries. Some seniors were surprised by the variety of recreational titles available and others have discovered new hobbies such as origami folding through the books.



SHARON HENG
ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN
MARINE PARADE PUBLIC LIBRARY



KARTHIK RAMASAMY
ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN
SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

I promote the love of reading in mother tongue languages. I plan and pilot reading initiatives to ignite reading interest among different segments of the community and expand their reading diet. Book Rangers is a bilingual project that I have helped to pilot for children aged 7 to 10 years old. Each session is conducted in English and Tamil to inculcate an interest for reading among children as well as to nurture the next generation of effectively bilingual writers.

I curate meaningful exhibitions where people can learn. For some reason, I always end up curating content about Sir Stamford Raffles. When I joined NLB in 2011, one of my first projects was to coordinate the exhibition, *Raffles' Letters* where 20 original letters by the founder of modern Singapore were featured. In the latest exhibition, *From the Stacks*, I curated sections on letters by Raffles and his wife Sophia, which give insights into their private lives as well as the first school in Singapore that was founded by Raffles, the Singapore Institution. I now feel a connection towards this historical figure, which used to be, to me, that white marble statue along Singapore River!



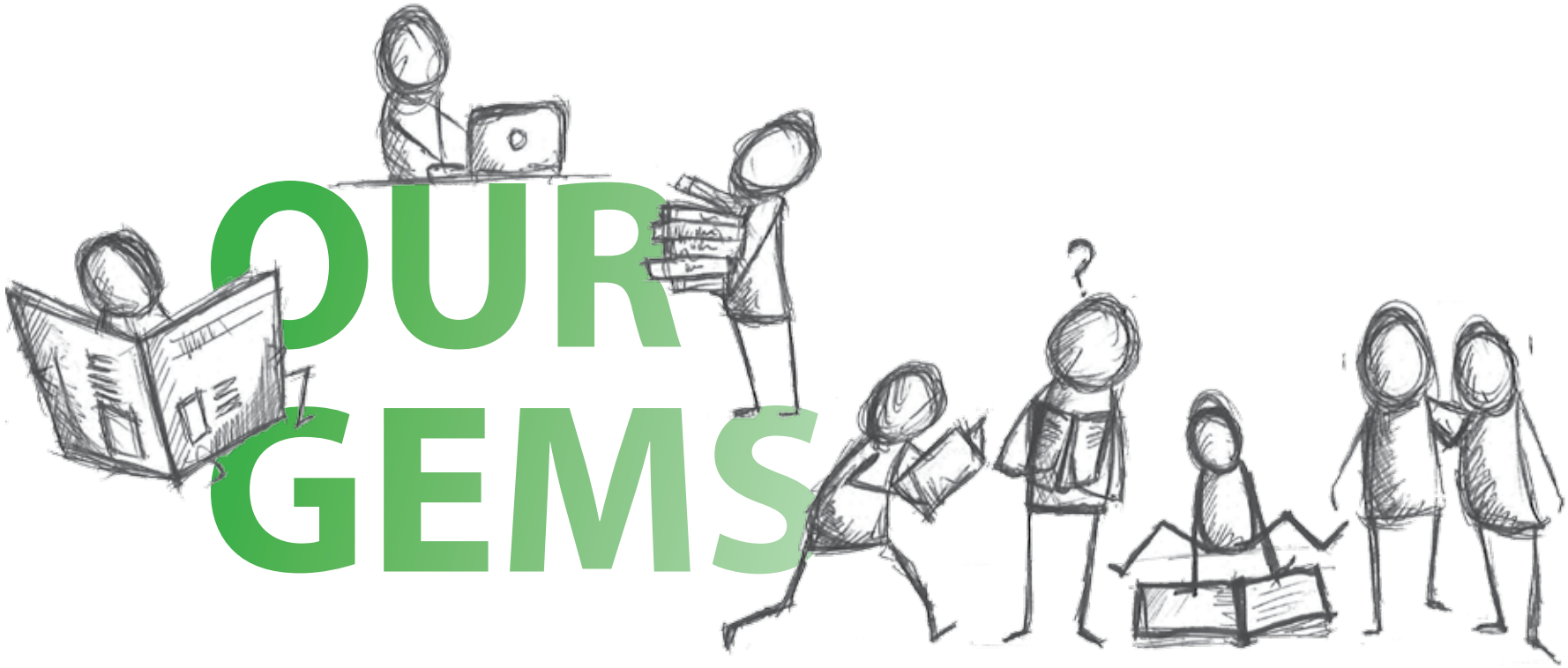
CHUNG SANG HONG
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
EXHIBITIONS, CURATION & RARE COLLECTION



YOGEETHA DHANSUKHLAL
MANAGER
QUALITY SERVICE MANAGEMENT / CUSTOMER RELATIONS

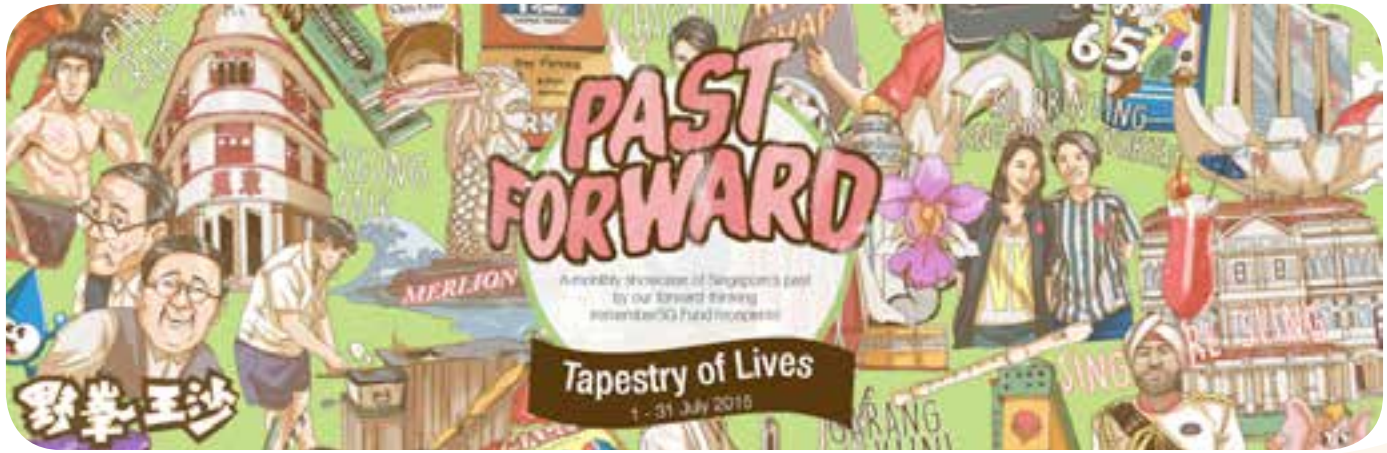
I respond to your queries promptly and ensure that you can have a delightful experience at our libraries and archives. When customers compliment our colleagues, services or programmes, it is motivating because the person has made an effort to write to us despite their busy schedules. Every feedback and suggestion is important to us, as it shows that our libraries are important places to our patrons and they care enough to be involved in its development.

OUR GEMS



Past Forward showcase

Our Singapore Memory Project (SMP) celebrated Singapore's 50th birthday with the launch of Past Forward, a showcase of 72 projects that received support from the irememberSG Fund.



library@orchard

Reopened in October 2014, library@orchard is themed "Design is for everyone" and centred on lifestyle, design and the applied arts.

Divided into The Studio and The Loft, it features a collection size of approximately 100,000 titles and remains the library to discover all things new and trendy.





AutoSorter

Following its successful pilot at library@chinatown, the enhanced AutoSorter system was introduced to Sembawang Public Library in November 2014 and Pasir Ris Public Library in November 2015.

The AutoSorter can automatically scan and sort returned items into specific categories for easy shelving. It can also identify popular titles and put them back on the shelves faster, so that others can borrow them.





Pasir Ris Public Library

Situated within the popular White Sands Shopping Centre, Pasir Ris Public Library was officially reopened in November 2015. The redesigned library covers an area of 1,986 square meters, and is the first shopping mall library to feature a special teens' mezzanine, a dedicated space for teens to hang out, both for reading and leisure.





Asian Children Literature (ACL) collection

Our 24,000-volume Asian Children's Literature (ACL) collection, located at the Woodlands Regional Library, has been painstakingly built up over half a century. It is recognised by the UNESCO as one of the "nationally and internationally significant library collections".

The collection serves a broad spectrum of readers such as researchers, teachers and parents looking for bedtime stories for their children, as well as the young who love fascinating tales. Our patrons can borrow from about 7,200 books in 4 official languages.





My Tree House – world's first green library for kids

My Tree House located at the Central Public Library was opened on 31 May 2013 by Minister for Communications and Information, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim. Developed in collaboration with City Developments Limited (CDL), this unique eco library facilitates environmental literacy in children. It was awarded the Green Mark Platinum Award by the Building and Construction Authority of Singapore.





library@chinatown

library@chinatown is our first volunteer-run library in Singapore sponsored by Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple and CP1 Pte Ltd. It is also NLB's first themed library on Chinese arts and culture. The library operates optimally with the help of volunteers and self-service library kiosks. library@chinatown turned three on 4 March 2016. We now have 80 volunteers who assist with day-to-day library operations.





Archives Online

Archives Online provides 24/7 access to National Archives of Singapore's various databases and materials such as photographs, maps and plans, oral history and audio-visual recordings.



Highlights available on Archives Online

Berita Singapura collection

This collection is a series of news magazine footages produced by the Ministry of Culture in four official languages and Chinese dialects in the 1960s to document the economic and social-cultural development of Singapore.



National Library in the 1960s



1966 Singapore Grand Prix

Oral history records

Our Oral History Centre has been conducting interviews with individuals and recording accounts of Singapore's history since 1979. These oral history recordings are now available online.

National Day Rally speeches and National Day Messages

The public can now view all the National Day Rally speeches and National Day Messages from 1965 to 2015. This collection was assembled from silent film footages and sound-only films and tapes by the audio-visual team at the National Archives of Singapore. These highlights include the English and Hokkien speeches by the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew during the 1968 National Day Rally.



OVERVIEW OF NAS' ARCHIVES ONLINE

Addition of
84,000
digitised records in 2015

TOTAL:
1,200,000 Items

PAGE VIEWS PER MONTH

2016	400,000
2012	20,000

NLB's eResources

Our one-stop online resource platform offers 70 databases with access to 4 million copies of e-books, 4000 titles of electronic newspaper in 60 languages and 40,000 music tracks, in addition to e-journals, e-comics and e-magazines.

Patrons are also able to access an electronic encyclopedia with a collection of articles on Singapore's history, culture, people and events, written by our librarians; a collection of pictures and photographs showcasing the cultural, geographical, historical and sociological development of Singapore; and over 400 digitised works by prominent Singapore artists.









eReads

As more people take their reading online, this collection that offers digital and audio books, newspapers and magazines from various genres and in English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil is gaining popularity over the years.



From the Stacks exhibition

From the Stacks: Highlights of the National Library is an 8-month long exhibition from February to September 2016 that features over 100 artefacts from the NLB's Rare Materials Collection, dating back to the 18 century. Visitors will get to see letters penned by Sir Stamford Raffles and his wife Lady Sophia; an intricate "Loyalty Address" presented by local Chinese merchants to Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, in homage of his visit to Singapore in December 1869.



Haji's nursery rhymes

Listen to popular nursery rhymes like *Baa Baa Black Sheep* and *Jack and Jill* in Malay,

Highlights of the exhibition



Sir Stamford Raffles' private letters

These include a letter from his wife, Lady Sophia, who professed her love for her husband.



Qur'an printed in Singapore in 1869

One of the earliest copies printed in Kampong Glam.



Chinese-Malay dictionary

A Malay dictionary that needs to be read in Hokkien or Teochew.



First Singapore cookbook

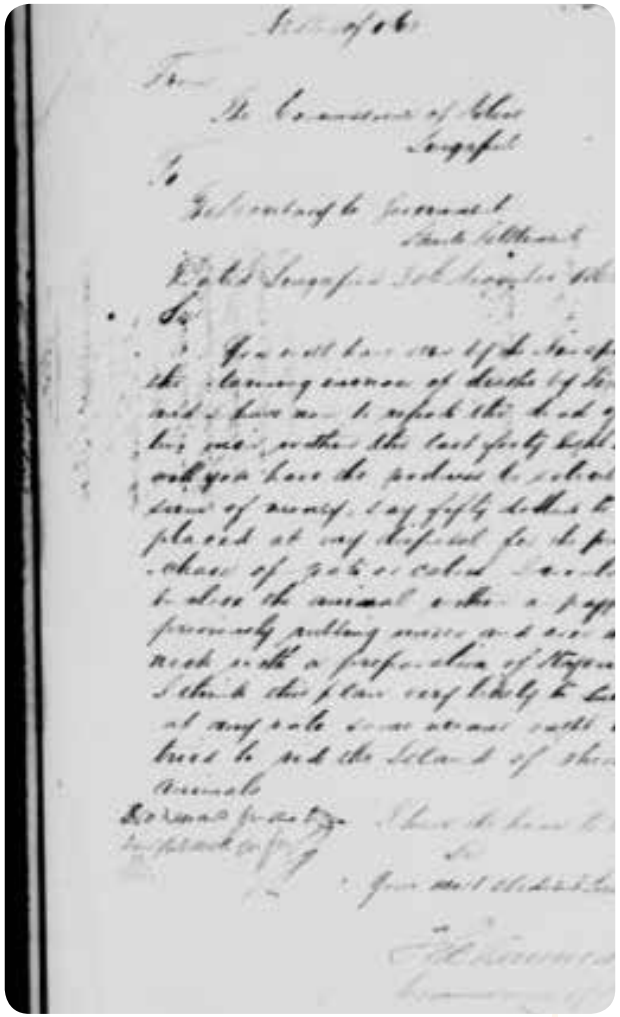
Written by Ellice Handy, this book was dubbed 'the bible of Singapore cooking'.

Citizen Archivist Project

Since March 2015, the Citizen Archivist Project initiated by National Archives of Singapore has been crowdsourcing with the help of Singaporeans to describe many unidentified photos and transcribe manuscripts of the Straits Settlement Records on Archives Online. To date, over 1,700 photos have been described and more than 10,000 manuscripts have been transcribed. Members of the public can now also transcribe audio recordings of oral history accounts.

The photo below dated 10th September 1965 shows a street stall selling different types of moon cakes.





An interesting example of the Straits Settlement Records is the manuscript above dated 30th November 1863 that describes the alarming increase of deaths by tigers in Singapore.

Asian Film Archive's collection of short films

This collection of films by Rajendra Gour is some of the earliest known local short films in the 1960s and 1970s. Before the likes of Eric Khoo and Anthony Chen, these locally made short films were screened and won awards at international film festivals, no mean feat for an independent local filmmaker during those decades. These experimental travelogues and docu-films represent the dreams and hopes of a Singaporean.



***Labour of Love – The Housewife (1978)*, a film by Rajendra Gour**

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The National Library Board (NLB) is established under the National Library Board Act (Chapter 197) and is governed by the statutory functions and constitution set out in the NLB Act. A Board comprising the Chairman and 14 non-executive members from sectors such as academia, the finance and social sectors, and public institutions guides NLB in the performance of its functions to the public. With their diverse backgrounds and experience, members of the Board are well placed to provide NLB with strategic leadership as well as to put in place effective controls to meet the highest standards of governance. There is also one observer from the Ministry of Communications and Information.

The Board reviews and oversees NLB's plans, performance and policies; ensures accountability in its operations; and develops mechanisms for gathering and responding to stakeholders' feedback. Board members helm seven committees. These are: the Audit Committee, the Establishment Committee, the Finance Committee, the National Library Advisory Committee, the Public Library Advisory Committee, the Innovation & Technology Advisory Committee and the National Archives Advisory Committee.

An Internal Audit Unit further strengthens NLB's corporate governance. Reporting directly to the Chairman of the Audit Committee and administratively to the Chief Executive Officer, the Internal Audit Unit reviews the adequacy and effectiveness of NLB's internal control system. This includes evaluating policies, procedures and systems to assess the integrity of financial and operating information, compliance with laws and regulations, and economical and efficient use of resources.

All NLB staff also uphold public trust by complying with a Code of Ethics and Conduct. NLB staff are empowered to report potential ethical breaches confidentially to the Board's Establishment Committee.

As a charity, NLB adheres to the recommended guidelines set out in the Code of Governance for Charities and Institutions of Public Character proposed by the Charity Council (the Code). NLB openly discloses its corporate governance practices covering board governance, conflict of interest policy and other relevant governance practices and controls on an annual basis. Any deviations from the Code are also explained as part of this annual submission. NLB continually seeks to improve governance to maintain the trust and confidence of our stakeholders.

The members of the Board are paid allowances based on a tiered structure, which takes into consideration the different workload and responsibilities held by the various members. Ten of our Board members receive an annual allowance of between $10,000 to $25,000, while five members receive an annual allowance of between $5,000 to $10,000. The annual remuneration of our four highest paid executives is between $250,000 and $500,000. This comprises their salary, bonus, benefits and employers' CPF contribution.

NLB manages its reserves proactively to ensure funding sustainability for operating expenditure as well as long term commitments. The quantum of minimum and maximum cash reserve, taking into account working capital needs and long-term commitments, is reviewed and approved annually by the Finance Committee of the Board. Our Board regularly reviews our financial results and position via quarterly management reports. The cash reserve as at the balance sheet date was below one year's annual expenditure.

DONORS

Who Enriched Our Collections & Archives

NATIONAL LIBRARY'S RARE COLLECTION

Associate Professor Farish A. Noor
Mr John Koh
Mr Koh Seow Chuan
Messrs Lee Kip Lee & Lee Kip Lin Family Archives
Mrs Lee Kip Lin
Family of the late Mr Ng Mong Guan
Mr Peter Lee

NATIONAL LIBRARY'S SINGAPORE & SOUTHEAST ASIA COLLECTIONS

Individuals
Mr Alex Abisheganaden
Mr Arun Mahizhnan
Mr Du Hung
The late Mr Iskandar Ismail
Mrs K Shanmugam
Emeritus Prof Koh Kheng-Lian
Dr Larry Francis Hilarian
Family of the late Mr Lau Liat Meng
Mdm Lim Geok Leng
Ms Patricia Chen
Mdm Peng Lee Er
Radha Madhav Satsang
Mr Raymond Ng
Mr S A Nathan
Mr Say Lee Tou
Mr Shi Ying
Mr Soh Shong Ying
The late Mr S R Nathan
Ms Stella Kon
Mr Suratman Markasan
Mr Tan Ah Kang
Mr Tan Chang Meng
Mr Tan Swie Hian
Ustaz Ahmad Sonhadji
Professor Wang Gungwu
William and Judith Bollinger
Mr Yeo Oi Sang
Mrs Yeo Siew Khim
Mr Zhou Can

Organisations/Groups
81(P.R.) Squadron R.A.F. Seletar, Singapore
Association of Women for Action and Research (AWARE)
Civil Service College (CSC)
Composers & Authors Society of Singapore (COMPASS)
Health Promotion Board
Hwa Chong Institution
Lembaga Biasiswa Kenangan Maulud (LBKM)
National Trades Union Congress (NTUC)
SAFTI MI Library
The Shanghai Book Company (Pte) Limited
Singapore I-Lien Drama Society
Singapore Polytechnic
The Substation
White Cloud Record Pte Ltd
W!LD RICE LTD

PUBLIC CALL FOR ARCHIVES

Mr Chan Ban Loke
Mr Chan Chin Hsi
Mr Foo Seck Tong
Mr Foo Shang Wee
Mr Han Tan Juan
Mr Ho Kok Foo
Mr Ho Tat Twe
Ms Joyce Loo
Mr Kan Tat Yin
Mr Keng Ah Wong
Mrs Kiang-Koh Lai Lin
Mr Leong Sing Wee
Mr Leong Tai Loon
Mr Lim Choo Kung
Mr Lim Jit Twark
Mr Lim Kheng Chye
Mr Lim Kheng Jun
Mr Lim Siok Poh
Mr Lim Yam Meng
Ms Loh Swee Lin
Mr Ow Peng Hoong
Mr Poh Kheng Cheok
Ms Tan Mui Tin
Ms Tan Teng Teng
Ms Teo Ah Hui
Mr Teo Khai Mun, Dan
Mr Wu Fook Weng
Ms Yong Ek Mui

ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS

Mr Akemi Saito
Mr Allen Goh
Mr Chia Seng Chee
Mr Chow Chan Wai
Chuan Pictures
ComicBook Pte Ltd
Messrs Cynthia and Neill Tanner
Mr David Gabain
EN Films Pte Ltd
Eyecon Productions (S) Pte Ltd
Freestate Productions
Mr George Gilchrist
George Town World Heritage Incorporated
German Embassy
Mr Glyn Wright
Mr Hong Ding Hean
Institut national de l'audiovisuel
Mr James Geoffrey Gilles
Mr James Ow-Yeong
Katong Presbyterian Church
K Muthiah @ Mu Mu Muthia
Mr Leong Weng Kee Philip
Mr Martin Hall
Mediacorp Pte Ltd
Millenia Motion Pictures Pte Ltd
Mr Mitsuharu Nishimoto
Monochromatic Pictures
Mr Pan Seng Tat
Reel Loco Productions Pte Ltd
Mr Robert Hebblewhite
Mr Ron Bachell
SAFRA Radio
Ms Sharon Lim Ming Chu
StarHub Ltd
Mr Tio Phaik Hooi
Mr Tony Shaw
Vertigo Pictures LLP
Mr Victor Pang
Dr Wong Hee Ong
Mr Xie Shengzhi

SPONSORS

of Libraries & Archives

LIBRARY@CHINATOWN

CP1 Pte Ltd
Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple

"MY TREE HOUSE" THE WORLD'S FIRST GREEN LIBRARY FOR KIDS

City Developments Limited

MOBILE LIBRARIES

Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple

JOINT TECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM 2016

Alkem Company Pte Ltd
AV Preservation by reto.ch
Charles and Keith Group
Civica
Dalet Digital Media Systems
DAMsmart
Fotohub Group
Koufu
Lee Foundation
NEC Asia Pacific
The Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision
NOA GmbH
Rei Foundation Limited
Sheng Siong Supermarket
UBS Library Services Pte Ltd
The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
VSolutions Pte Ltd

PARTNERS

Who Brought Our Books to the Less Privileged at Home & Abroad

CHARITY BOOK DONATION

Acacia Welfare Home, Singapore
Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)
APSN Centre for Adults (Student Care Centre)
APSN Tanglin School
Bedok Church of Christ
Bendemeer Secondary School
Bhutan's National Newspaper (Bhutan Shop and Kuensel)
Boon Lay CC Youth Executive Committee
Boys' Home and Girls' Home under Ministry of Social & Family Development
Cheng San Family Service Centre (AMK FSC)
Chinese Development Assistance Council - Student Care Corner @ Bendemeer
Club Rainbow
Coral Primary School
Deloitte & Touche LLP
Delta Senior School
Dunman High School Youth Alumni
Econ Health & Wellness Centre Pte Ltd
EFATA Christian School
Esco Micro Pte Ltd
Faith Educare Centre
Hillside Rosyth Neighbourhood Committee
Hwi Yoh Ville RC Youth Centre
ITE College Central
Kris Energy
Millennia Institute
National Book Development Council of Singapore
National Junior College
Ngee Ann Polytechnic
Ngee Ann Primary School
NTU Hall of Residence 10 Overseas Community Involvement Programme at Jakarta, Indonesia
NTU Hall of Residence 11 Overseas Community Involvement Programme at Nagarkot, Nepal
NTU School of Business and Accountancy
NTUC First Campus – My First School
NTUC First Campus, Student Care Pte Ltd
NTUC Health Nursing Home (Jurong East)
Overseas Union Bank
Pasir Panjang Church of Christ
PCF Sparkle tots @ Punggol North
PCF Sparkle tots @ Sengkang Central
Poi Ching Student Care Centre
PPIS Student Care Centre
Raffles Student Care LLP (Hougang Primary School)
Raffles Student Care LLP (North Spring Primary School)
Raffles Student Care LLP (Punggol View Primary School)
Rainbow Centre Yishun Park School
Rotaract Club of NTU
Saigon Star International School at Ho Chi Minh City
Singapore Indian Development Association
Singapore International Foundation
Singapore Management University
Singapore Technologies Kinetics Ltd
Sony Electronics Asia Pacific
St. George's West RC
Tanoto Foundation
Thye Hua Kwan Moral Society
Viran Orphanage, Batam
Yishun Community Hospital
Young Sikh Association

PROJECT DELIVER ME

Asian Women's Welfare Association
Disabled People's Association
Handicaps Welfare Association
Muscular Dystrophy Association (Singapore)
Singapore Association of the Visually Handicapped
Singapore Cheshire Home
Society of the Physically Disabled

NLB READING CORNERS AT SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTRES

Alexandra Health Centre 1 at Yishun
Alexandra Health Centre 2 at Yishun
Alexandra Health Centre 3 at Yishun
Asian Women's Welfare Association (AWWA) Readycare Centre
NTUC Health SilverACE Senior Activity Centre at Bukit Merah
NTUC Health SilverACE Senior Activity Centre at Lengkok Bahru
NTUC Health SilverACE Senior Activity Centre at Redhill
NTUC Health SilverACE Senior Activity Centre at Telok Blangah
NTUC Health SilverCOVE Senior Wellness Centre at Marsiling
Thye Hua Kwan Senior Services Centre at Taman Jurong
Thye Hua Kwan Social Service Hub at Bukit Batok East



NLB | National Library Board Singapore

www.nlb.gov.sg
All rights reserved.
National Library Board Singapore
ISSN 2424-9394