

# THE NEW EURASIAN

Jan – Mar 2022 | eurasians.sg

Recognising  
Volunteers through the  
**Outstanding Contribution Award**

Home for  
*Christmas*



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for Eurasian  
**'YOUNG LIONS'**



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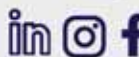
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# In Touch



Dear fellow members of the EA

The last quarter of 2021 saw the EA push ahead to organise several important events, which you can read about in this issue of The NewEurasian.

Last October, the Youth Sub-Committee organised a very important online discussion session on “Racial Harmony: What will Singapore look like in SG75”, with Guest-of-Honour, Minister for Transport and Minister Representing the Eurasians in Cabinet, S. Iswaran, and Senior Minister of State (Ministry of Communications and Information, and Ministry of Health) and Chairman of OnePeople.SG, Dr Janil Puthuchery. Do read about the issues discussed on page 17.

During the December school break, the Education Sub-Committee organised some fun and enriching programmes, including a public speaking programme, as well as a “Funny Faces Caricature” programme. I’m sure our students enjoyed the break from studying to have a good time.

Perhaps the most significant event was the conferment of the EA’s Outstanding Contribution Award by Guest-of-Honour, Member of Parliament for Tanjong Pagar GRC Joan Pereira, to six wonderful EA members: the late Bryan Davenport, the late Barry Pereira, Edmund Rodrigues,

Valerie Scully, Benett Theseira and Timothy de Souza. On behalf of the EA, I would like to thank these members and their families for all that they have done for the Eurasian community.

Looking ahead, there is much to look forward to in 2022. Singapore is slowly but surely moving towards resuming everyday life, and so too will the EA. This quarter, the EA will gradually resume some physical activities, so do keep a lookout for more details on these activities on the EA’s Facebook and Instagram social media platforms. We are also looking forward to welcoming members back to our Eurasian Community House for our Annual General Meeting on 23 April. More details can be found on page 17.

We hope you will join all of us at the EA to continue to uplift the community. If you have a passion to help the less fortunate, would like to join us for social events, or learn about Eurasian heritage, do come forward! Together we can all make a difference.

**Dr Alexius Pereira**  
President

## Share Your Stories With Us!



If you have an interesting story to share with the wider Eurasian community, let us know! Email Natasha Darwood at [natasha@eurasians.org](mailto:natasha@eurasians.org)



You can read The New Eurasian magazine online at [eurasians.sg/neweurasian-magazine](http://eurasians.sg/neweurasian-magazine)

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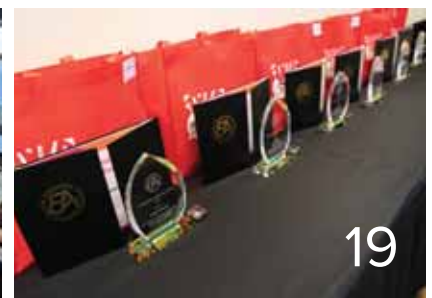
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### The New Eurasian

Magazine of the Eurasian Association, Singapore

The New Eurasian is published quarterly and read by more than 17,000 Eurasians in Singapore. It is circulated to senior government offices, various ministries, statutory boards, community organisations and self-help groups.

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\* Dates may change

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# Project Ray of Hope and Coral De Cruz Fund Awards

Recipients of the Project Ray of Hope had a pleasant surprise when they received a special delivery of 'Back to School' Popular and Bata vouchers in the mail last December, as the annual ceremony was postponed due to safe management measures.

67 students from the primary to tertiary level also received a Christmas goodie bag comprising stationery items such as notebooks, sketch book, colour pencils, a pencil box and erasers.

Nine secondary school students also received cheques and certificates from the Coral de Cruz Memorial Fund, generously donated by Simon de Cruz, former Ambassador to Indonesia and Justice Judith Prakash, the EA's Trustee.



Thank you for the certificate and vouchers. Those items received will definitely come in handy for my kids when school resumes.

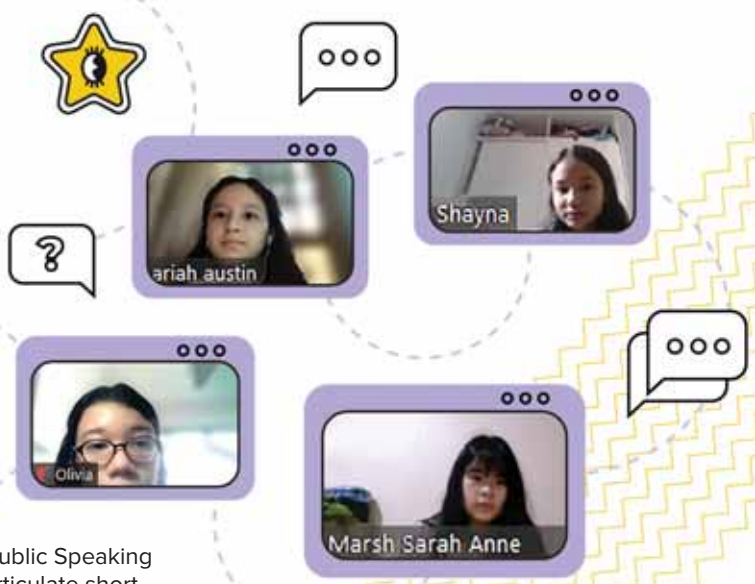
Valerie De Silva,  
mother of recipients Atisha and Arman.



# Holiday Fun



Close to 30 students spent their school holiday break participating in enrichment programmes organised by the EA Education team.



One group of Eurasian students aged 10 to 15 years spent four days to master the art of public speaking.

Conducted by The Voiceworks Pte Ltd, the Virtual Public Speaking Enrichment Programme covered topics on how to articulate short and long vowels, link words and read text clearly and concisely.



Another group of students aged between six and nine-years-old participated in a Kamal Arts' Funny Faces Caricature Enrichment Programme.

Over two days, they unleashed their creativity and learnt to draw comical, exaggerated versions of their friends and favourite movie characters.

Parents of the students told The NewEurasian how much their children enjoyed participating in the programme.

"My daughter Faith loves to draw and looked forward to the caricature lessons. Thank you, Eurasian Association for this opportunity to pick up new skills this school holiday!" said Gomes Veronica Gladys.



# Education Schemes 2022

The EA is offering several awards, bursaries and scholarships for primary, secondary and tertiary students to support their academic journeys. Interested applicants can refer to the table below for the EA's suite of education schemes, the eligible criteria for each scheme and the application deadline.



S/N	Education Scheme	Level	Description	Quantum	Income Criteria	Application Period
1	Eurasian Community Fund (ECF) Education Awards	Primary, Secondary, Tertiary	A one-time monetary reward in recognition of students' academic progress and achievements	\$100 - \$300	GHI ≤ \$3,000, or PCI ≤ \$800  *Income criteria are only for Bursary Awards. Merit, Excellence and Distinction Awards do not have income criteria	Apply by 28 June 2022
2	Project Ray Of Hope	Primary, Secondary, Tertiary	Disbursement of Popular and Bata vouchers to purchase educational items for the next academic year	\$250 - \$350	GHI ≤ \$3,000, or PCI ≤ \$800	Apply by 28 June 2022
3	Irene Joseph Memorial Fund & P.K.P Nair Memorial Fund	Primary	A one-time monetary reward in recognition of students' academic progress and achievements	\$200	PCI range: \$626 – \$1,000  *For students <u>not</u> under MOE FAS	Apply by 28 June 2022
4	Coral De Cruz Memorial Fund	Secondary	Supports the cost of school fees, books, uniforms and transport for 1 academic year in recognition of students' academic progress	\$1,200 for one academic year	GHI ≤ \$3,000, or PCI ≤ \$800	Apply by 28 June 2022
5	Merit Bursary Award	ITE and Polytechnic  (NP, NYP, RP, SP, TP)	Covers tuition fees, including book stipends, for the full duration of the course students are enrolled in	Cap: ITE: \$1,600/yr for a 2-yr course Poly: \$3,600/yr for a 3-yr course	GHI ≤ \$3,000, or PCI ≤ \$1,000	Apply by 30 April 2022
6	EA University Scholarship	University  (NUS, NTU, SMU, SUSS, SIT, SUTD)	Covers full tuition fees, including book stipends, for a 3-year university course	Cap: \$10,000 per academic year for a 3-yr course	GHI ≤ \$3,000, or PCI ≤ \$1,000	Apply by 30 March 2022
7	Edward D'Silva Scholarship	ITE and Polytechnic  (NP, NYP, RP, SP, TP)	Covers the full cost of tuition and provides a book stipend for 1 academic year of the course students are enrolled in	Cap: ITE: \$1,600/yr for 1 year only Poly: \$3,600/yr for 1 year only	GHI ≤ \$3,000, or PCI ≤ \$1,000	Apply by 30 April 2022
8	Minnie Leicester-D'Rozario Award  (for Literature in English at O-levels)	Secondary 4 O-Level student	A one-time award for a Eurasian student(s) who attained A1 for Literature in English at the "O" Level examinations	\$1,000  If there is more than one candidate, the quantum per student will be decided by the Education Committee	Nil	Apply by 30 April 2022
9	Joseph Schooling Sports Grant	Ages of 14 -19 in calendar year of application	A one-time monetary grant to defray training and/or equipment cost in pursuit of sporting excellence	\$5,000	Nil	Apply by 30 April 2022

NOTE: GHI = Gross Household Income : Total monthly income of all working adults in the household  
PCI = Per Capita Income : Total monthly income divided by the number of people in the household

To apply, please contact **Shareen Galistan at 6447 1578 (ext 205)** or email [shareen@eurasians.org](mailto:shareen@eurasians.org)

Application forms can be obtained from the EA Secretariat office at Level 3 of the Eurasian Community House, 139 Ceylon Road, Singapore 429744

Scan the QR code to download the forms.





If you were home and on social media during the lead up to Christmas, you might have caught the EA's Home For Christmas series aired on its Facebook page on 17 and 23 December.

Hosted by father and daughter duo Mel Ferdinands and Gabrielle Boyd, the two episodes brought some Christmas cheer with a full suite of talented musicians who took centrestage.

The De Cotta Brothers, Leonard and Dudley, Elle & Mel and The Cuzzies were lined up with their rendition of classic Christmas carols while children were treated to some storytelling by Ryleigh Anne Danielle with the Christmas story 'A Little Match Girl'.

Apart from music, Gerard Hendriks and Rene Anthony, together with their families, shared their family traditions on how they decorated their Christmas trees. Father Damian de Wind, Parish Priest of the Church of Divine Mercy, spoke about 'The Meaning of Christmas'.

Scan the QR code to watch the two episodes.







Bringing some Christmas cheer and festive joy to all. From left to right: Father Damian de Wind, Ryleigh Anne Danielle, Gerard Hendriks and Rene Anthony.



The DeCotta Brothers, Leonard and Bernard.



Leonard Rezel and Dudley Nonis.



From left to right: The Cuzzies' Darren Sandosham, Sharon and Chris Pinto.



# Sky's the limit for EURASIAN YOUNG LIONS



Football fans from the local Eurasian community were in for a pleasant surprise in the second-half of last year when the Football Association of Singapore announced its men's squad for the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Under-23 Asian Cup Qualifiers and its women's team for the AFC Women's Asian Cup qualification matches.

For the first time, six Eurasian footballers – Harhys Stewart, Jared Gallagher, Jacob Mahler, Ryhan Stewart and Zikos Chua – were called up to the Young Lions squad, while Lila Tan received her first call-up to the women's team.

During the men's Under-23 Asian Cup Qualifiers held in Singapore last October, the Young Lions put on a credible performance in front of home fans as they took on Philippines, Timor-Leste and defending champions South Korea. The Young Lions finished second in the qualifying group behind favourites South Korea, who went on to book their place in the finals to be held in Uzbekistan in June.

Young Lions skipper Jacob Mahler, who signed his first professional football contract three years ago with the Young Lions to play in the Singapore Premier



Jacob Mahler hopes to play overseas after serving his NS. Photo: FAS



Harhys Stewart spent his childhood in Dubai and Finland before returning to Singapore. Photo: FAS

League (SPL), told The NewEurasian that it was a priceless experience playing in an international tournament. "It's an amazing feeling to be putting on the national jersey and representing the country. For me, it's an honour and something I will never trade anything for," said the 21-year-old, who is currently serving his national service.

Siblings Harhys and Ryhan Stewart, whose mum is Singaporean Malay-Chinese and dad from Wales, shared that it was a proud moment for their family to see them represent the national team. Said Harhys, who is waiting for his national service enlistment, "It was my first time playing with the Under-23 national team and it was a huge privilege and honour."

“I was nervous at the start but I felt that I slowly grew into the tournament. I’m looking forward to putting on the national team kit again soon! Playing against countries in the region was tough but it was a great challenge. I believe our team did well to finish second in the group and we’re looking to improve in future tournaments,” added the midfielder who supports Liverpool Football Club.

Older brother Ryhan agreed. “It’s a big achievement and it was a great experience playing against South Korea, the current Asian champions. Personally, I feel the team did well and we gave our all,” said the defender, who has also played for SPL clubs Warriors FC and Tampines Rovers FC.

For 19-year-old Jared Gallagher, whose mum is Singaporean Chinese and dad Irish, being Eurasian and representing the country of his birth gave him immense pride, and it meant fighting for the flag while donning the national jersey.

“It was very challenging and eye-opening for me as it was my first time



Ryhan Stewart grew up playing rugby and cricket before choosing football. Photo: FAS

playing international football at any age group. But I relished the experience and thought the home support was terrific! Our fans did a great job in creating a thrilling matchday atmosphere for my teammates and me,” said the midfielder who relocated when he was nine-years-old after his parents were deployed overseas for work, before returning in 2020 to serve his national service.

Zikos Chua, whose mum is Greek, and dad Singaporean Chinese, felt very much at home with his Eurasian team mates playing alongside him. “It is an

immense honour to don the national jersey. It is even more so given my Eurasian heritage as it is a very small community here and it is good to see many Eurasians representing Singapore, especially in football,” said the 19-year-old who was born in a town called Kastoria in northwestern Macedonia.

Turning his attention to the AFC Under-23 Asian Cup Qualifiers, Zikos, who became the youngest SPL player (17 years and 102 days) to score five goals in 2019, felt playing at the highest level with top quality opponents could



Jared Gallagher spent some time with Kitchee SC, a professional football club in Hong Kong. Photo: FAS



Zikos Chua credits his coach Noor Ali for helping him develop into the player he is today. Photo: FAS



These Young Lions will be hoping to perform well in the 2022 SPL season. Photo: FAS

help him and the team improve their game. “The games were of extremely high intensity from the first whistle, and you could see what it meant for everyone involved. At that level, every little mistake counts, so it was an incredible experience and one that I’m sure will make me as well as my teammates better players,” said the striker.

Also making the news headlines last year was the national women’s team who were playing in the AFC Women’s Asian Cup Qualifiers in Tajikistan, with 18-year-old Lila Tan making her debut against Indonesia.

Lila, whose mum is French and dad Singaporean Chinese, recalled how she felt before taking to the pitch. “It was an insane experience, one that I am still in awe of. I think one of the greatest things of being away with the team was the bond I have created with my teammates. I would do it all over again!”

Reflecting on her debut performance, Lila, who also juggles school, modelling gigs and football with the Lion City Sailors FC said, “There’s always room for improvement and I believe there’s a lot to learn from. But I am immensely appreciative to be able to play in the second game. I truly gave it my all;

including giving away a lot of fouls as I was hungry for the ball. I am happy with my teammates’ performances, and I believe we redeemed ourselves in the second match. However, I don’t think we displayed our full potential as I know what we are capable of and it’s sad that we could not show it on the pitch.”

If there is one thing for sure, the young Eurasian footballers shared a common sentiment throughout their sporting experience, which Lila succinctly summed up, “It’s a beautiful thing to be Eurasian and having the great privilege to have my country’s flag on my jersey.”



Lila Tan used to join an under-16 boys team in training so that she could improve her game. Photo: FAS



## Getting to know the Eurasian Young Lions

### Why football?

**Harhys:** I've been playing football with my brother and dad in our backyard since I was three or four-years-old. My family was always very active and encouraged us to play whichever sports we liked, and it just so happened that my brother and I really enjoyed and loved playing football. I also played other sports while I was growing up like basketball, rugby, cricket, and table tennis with friends or at school.

**Ryhan:** I remember playing football with my brother and dad since I was around four or five-years-old. I played other sports such as rugby and cricket, but I chose football as my main sport. I have played for Warriors FC, Tampines Rovers FC, and Young Lions FC in the SPL.

**Zikos:** I've been playing football for about 14 years now. I started when I was in kindergarten back in Greece. I would play football with my friends during recess using a metal gate as our goal. I'm not quite sure how I got interested in the sport, but my parents told me when I was younger, they'd just give me a ball and I'd kick it about around the house. I think it also helped that my grandfather built a small futsal field next to his house back in Greece, which probably intensified my interest in it as I'd spend a huge chunk of my days playing against my brother in that little pitch.

**Jared:** I started playing football when I moved overseas to Shanghai. All my classmates in school played it so I joined in and fell in love with football immediately. I also played basketball and volleyball in school, but I just loved watching football and trying to emulate the stuff I saw on TV, so I kept playing as I grew older.

**Jacob:** I started playing football at the age of seven and I've never looked back. My love for the game keeps growing every day. My passion comes from my father, who I caught watching football one night when I was young and I have been intrigued by the game ever since. I never did any other sports seriously as my passion for football made me stick with the sport.

### Could you share with us your Eurasian heritage?

**Harhys:** My mum is Singaporean Malay-Chinese and dad is Welsh. I am often mistaken for a foreigner, but I don't mind, I'm used to it. I can speak a little Malay and sometimes, I surprise my teammates when I speak or understand what they say. I've been listening to a lot of Malay music recently!

**Ryhan:** My dad is Welsh while my mum is Singaporean Malay-Chinese. I have been mistaken often for not being Singaporean as I look very 'angmo'.

**Zikos:** My mother is Greek and dad is Singaporean-Chinese. I am commonly mistaken as a foreigner whenever I meet people as they think I'm a bit different compared other Chinese. Taxi drivers will always ask if I am local to confirm their suspicion.

**Jared:** My dad is Irish while mum is Singaporean-Chinese, but I don't think I look like either of them. I've been mistaken to be Filipino many times. I suppose it's because I'm quite tan.

### Future plans in football?

**Harhys:** I want to try and play overseas after my NS. It will be challenging, but I believe in myself and I will work hard to be the best version of myself and play overseas. I also want to represent the senior national team and help the national football scene grow and improve.

**Ryhan:** My aim has always been to play overseas after serving NS.

**Zikos:** My goals for the near future are to perform well in this year's SPL with the Young Lions and try to get myself in the national 'A' team. From there on, it is definitely an aspiration of mine to play football overseas in the near future.

**Jared:** I'm looking to further my studies in addition to continuing to play football, so I'm opened to opportunities overseas and locally.

**Jacob:** To complete NS and venture overseas to play and become a better player, hopefully in Europe.



Name: **Harhys Stewart, 20-years old**  
Position: **Midfielder**

Name: **Ryhan Stewart, 21-years-old**  
Position: **Defender**

Name: **Zikos Chua, 19-years-old**  
Position: **Striker**

Name: **Jared Gallagher, 19-years-old**  
Position: **Midfielder**

Name: **Jacob Mahler, 21-years-old**  
Position: **Defender/Midfielder**

**Fun fact:** I can solve a Rubik cube.

**Pet peeves:** Bad smells or odours.

**Matchday routine:** I stretch and do a light workout in the morning, take a quick nap, and then a cold shower before I head to the stadium.

**Music playlist:** I listen to every genre so it really depends on what I'm feeling on that particular day.

**What I'm watching on Netflix:** Bojack horseman and it's really interesting and deep despite being an animated show.

**Favourite team and player:** My family and I support Liverpool and my favourite player at the moment is Fabinho. We play in the same position so I am always trying to learn and model my game after him.

**If I weren't a footballer:** I really don't know what I would be if I weren't a footballer, but maybe something within marketing or sports.

**Biggest achievement:** I think I have so much to improve on, so I don't think I have one right now. Come back and ask me in 10 years!

**Harhys Stewart**

**Fun fact:** I am an introvert.

**Pet peeves:** People who don't chew with their mouth closed. I just find it weird and annoying.

**Matchday routine:** Pasta and eight hours of sleep.

**Music playlist:** I like listening to French music, especially artist Aya Nakamura.

**What I'm watching on Netflix:** Money Heist because the storyline is interesting.

**Favourite team and player:** Manchester United and Paul Scholes. I grew up watching him and supporting the club with my dad.

**If I weren't a footballer:** I would want to be a pilot.

**Biggest achievement(s):** Winning the Merlion Cup and making my senior debut.

**Jacob Mahler**

**Fun fact:** The first time I tried char kway teow was when I was 18 despite having lived in Singapore for many years prior.

**Pet peeves:** None.

**Matchday routine:** Before match day, I will usually do some stretches upon getting up to 'wake up my body' and just relax and visualise how I will play in the game. I will also just listen to some music on the way to the game and in the changing room.

**Music playlist:** I have gotten a lot of stick from my friends as they have this silly notion that I only listen to today's top hits on Spotify, but that couldn't be further from the truth. I don't have a particular genre of music that I like but I'd say I'm more into pop and rap.

**Favourite team and player:** Manchester United and very predictably, my favourite player is Cristiano Ronaldo. He made me fall in love with the game.

**If I weren't a footballer:** I think I'd most likely be a basketball player. I only got into watching NBA and playing basketball about five years ago, but it has really captured my eye due to its fast-paced nature. Given my height, I don't think I'd make too bad a point guard.

**Biggest achievement:** Being the youngest player to have scored five league goals in a season in the SPL, although this is something that I hope will not remain as my biggest achievement for too long.

**Zikos Chua**



**Fun Fact:** I love writing.

**Pet peeves:** People who cut queues.

**Matchday routine:** A good night's sleep and a big meal.

**Music playlist:** A big mix, I'm not very specific with music, as long as it's upbeat.

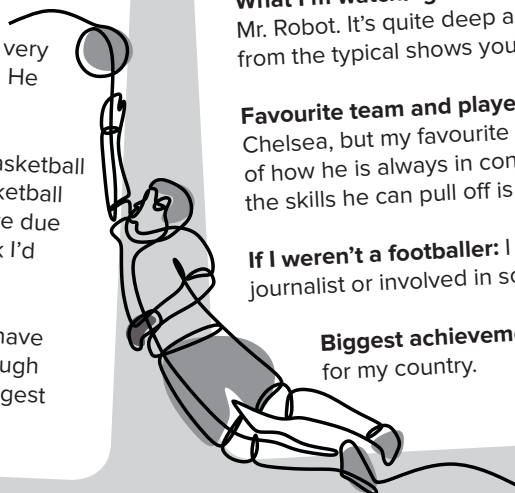
**What I'm watching on Netflix:** I just finished Mr. Robot. It's quite deep and I find it quite different from the typical shows you find on Netflix.

**Favourite team and player:** My favourite team is Chelsea, but my favourite player is Thiago because of how he is always in control of the ball. Some of the skills he can pull off is also unreal.

**If I weren't a footballer:** I think I would be a journalist or involved in something to do with media.

**Biggest achievement:** Making my debut for my country.

**Jared Gallagher**



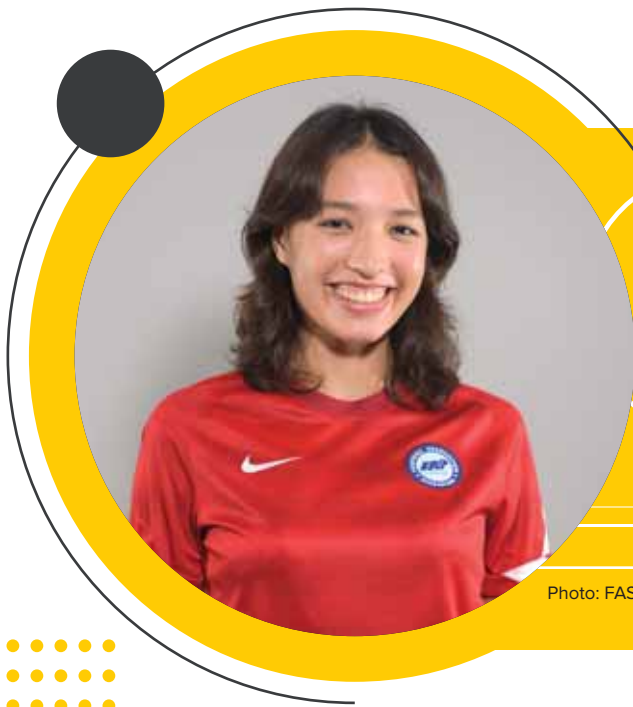
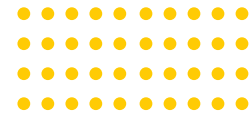
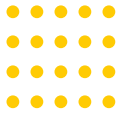


Photo: FAS

## September double bonanza



### A fun fact about yourself?

I am a black belt in karate.

### Your biggest pet peeve and why?

People who are rude to waiters/waitresses, it shows a lot about their personalities and who they are as a person.

**What's your routine before match day?** I like to meditate and write down my manifestations for the game!

**What's on your music playlist and why?** All sorts of different genres! I like rap and R&B to get me hyped up!

**What are you watching on Netflix and why?** I am watching Money Heist, love the storyline!

**Your favourite team and player – why?** PSG - I love Messi and Jordyn Huitema very much!

**If I weren't a footballer, I would be...** Everything and anything I wanted to be!

**What's your biggest achievement so far in football?** Representing my country in the AFC qualifiers!

Like the saying that good things come in pairs, September was a month of double celebration for 18-year-old Lila Tan.

She was named one of the Miss Universe Singapore 2021 finalists, before being called up to the women's national team for two Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Women's Asian Cup qualification matches in Tajikistan.

Speaking to The NewEurasian, she shared that juggling football and modelling is challenging. "It is something that I am still in the midst of overcoming. I try to list out my priorities and fixate on them."

However, for Lila, who lived in Shanghai for 14 years after her French mum and Singaporean dad relocated there due to work, it seems that football has an edge over modelling as she charts out her plan after her debut against Indonesia.

"I would love to pursue football at a professional level! The next step would be to play at a high level in university overseas," she shared before adding what she needed to do to improve her game. "I need to learn how to read the game better so I can make better runs both with and without the ball."

Women's national team skipper Ernie Sulastris shared that Lila has the potential to do well, as long as she continues to work hard to improve her game.

"I thought she did well for her debut. During the match, she managed to adapt well despite feeling nervous which was understandable especially when she was playing her first match," said Ernie.

"I hope Lila overcomes any fear and have confidence in herself, and play every match like it was her last," she added.

Off the pitch, Lila works out at the gym regularly to improve her strength and conditioning, and while her fitness regime may seem daunting to some, she stresses the importance of finding the right balance between work and play.

"For my mental health, I like to take time off to focus my energy back to myself and listen to my body. I like to read inspirational and motivational quotes and implement them in my life."

# // Coaching in Everyday Life //

## Webinar

by Jeffrey Angus



The EA Youth kicked off a new series of webinars conducted by mentors from the EA Mentorship Programme with a coaching webinar by Jeffrey Angus, an organisational psychologist who has spent much of his career in leadership development and helping organisations such as Siemens, Allianz, and IKEA foster a more inclusive environment.

Jeffrey is also an Associate Certified Coach from the International Coaching Federation. He started coaching in 2017 and has since helped individuals from all walks of life, including middle managers, high-potentials, young graduates, and youths in their transformation.

The 'Coaching in Everyday Life' webinar will introduce coaching as a tool to be used in everyday living and empower participants to start living consciously and intentionally. The webinar also provides insights on how coaching is different from other support occupations and modalities such as therapy or counselling.

If you are interested to be part of the EA Mentorship Programme or attend any of the upcoming coaching webinars, please contact [Desmond@eurasians.org](mailto:Desmond@eurasians.org)





# Youth Focusing on Racial Harmony in Singapore

A racial harmony dialogue organised by the EA Youth Committee in partnership with OnePeople.SG, saw more than 130 participants, including those from other Self-Help Groups such as CDAC, SINDA, Mendaki, as well as organisations such as People's Association and Ministry of Education.

The dialogue which was held last October, focused on providing a safe space to talk about sensitive issues around rising racial incidents. It was also attended by Minister for Transport and Minister representing the Eurasian Community in Cabinet S. Iswaran and Senior Minister of State (Ministry of Communications and Information and

Ministry of Health, and Chairman of OnePeople.SG) Dr Janil Puthuchery.

Speaking to participants, Mr Iswaran reminded youths that when it comes to racial harmony, everyone has a role to play. He said, "Whatever laws we have, whatever programmes we have, whatever efforts we did, ultimately it starts with what we have in our hearts."

Dr Puthuchery added, "We will have to try to educate and bring everybody along on this journey."

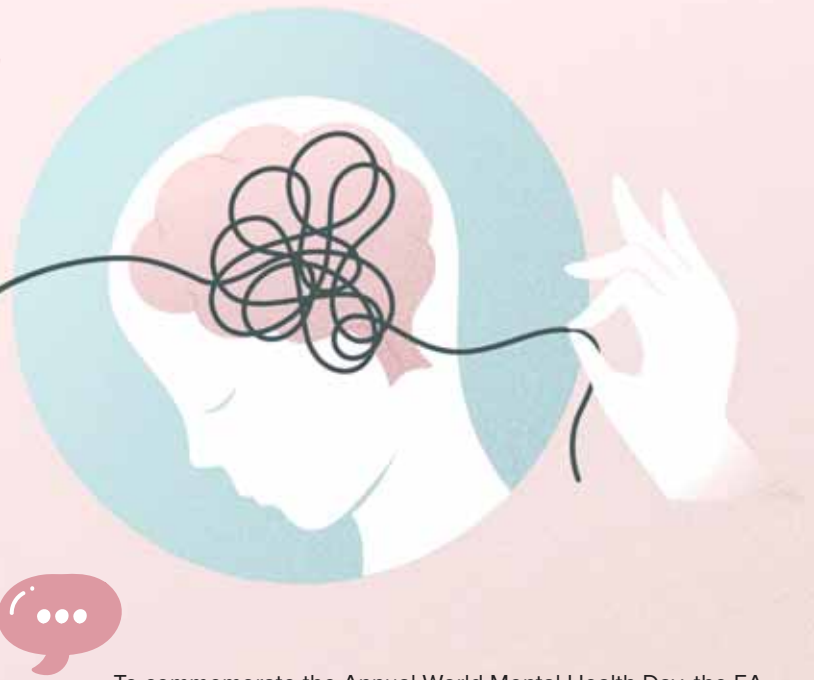
## RSVP for EA AGM 2022

The EA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2022 will be held on Saturday, 23 April at 5pm. The 2021 Annual Report will be mailed to all members by 25 March. Members who wish to attend the AGM will have to return the registration form in person at the EA Community House or via mail by Tuesday, 5 April.

We look forward to your RSVP!

\*All members attending the AGM must abide to all safe management measures.

WORLD   
**Mental**  
 HEALTH DAY



To commemorate the Annual World Mental Health Day, the EA Youth Committee collaborated with Youth Corps Singapore (YCS) to organise a half-day virtual engagement session with the theme “Mental Health in the Age of Social Media”.

Over 140 youths participated in the three events organised last October, which aimed to raise awareness of mental health challenges in Singapore and mobilise efforts in support of mental health.

The event also featured young Eurasians who are actively driving positive change in the mental health space, including EA Youth Committee members Varian Monteiro and Viaano Spruyt.

Minister of State (Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Ministry of Trade and Industry) Alvin Tan joined the panelists comprising key opinion leaders such as Khoo Yi Feng (Limitless), Zhin Sadali, Fauzi Aziz (The Smart Local) and Amanda Ang (Twitter) for a dialogue in the second segment where a variety of topics related to mental health and wellness were covered.





## Recognising Volunteers through the **Outstanding Contribution Award**

The EA's inaugural Outstanding Contribution Award (OCA) ceremony was held on 27 November, with the spotlight cast on volunteers who had gone above and beyond to make a difference in the community.

The event, graced by Member of Parliament for Tanjong Pagar GRC Joan Pereira, recognised six volunteers: the late Bryan Davenport, the late Barry Pereira, Edmund Rodrigues, Valerie Scully, Benett Theseira and Timothy de Souza.



Ms Joan Pereira praised all recipients for their contributions to the community.

Initiated by the EA's Board of Trustees and Management Committee, the OCA hopes to elevate the spirit of the annual volunteers' appreciation, to acknowledge individuals' significant contributions to the community through the EA's platforms.

In her opening address, Ms Pereira lauded the recipients for the role they have played in supporting the EA and the community during a challenging pandemic period.

"We must not forget that these programmes and assistance provided by the EA are only possible with the support of individuals who have volunteered their time and effort in uplifting the community," she said.

"Each and every one of the recipients today has demonstrated a great sense of community leadership and selflessness in making a difference to the Eurasian community in Singapore, and in doing so, contributed to the wider society as well," she added, before congratulating all recipients present at the ceremony.



EA President Dr Alexius Pereira also recognised the hard work done by the working committee.

EA President Dr Alexius Pereira was heartened when the 'call for nominations' was made and over 20 nominations were received. Speaking in his welcome address, he shared insights before the 'real work began'.

"We had to call upon members within the community, who would evaluate and rank the contributions of the nominees. We finally found six persons, whose contributions appeared to be much more significant."

"I would like to thank the working committee for all the background work, which totaled nearly two years since they started. They are Melanie Rodrigues Smith, Angelina Fernandez, Vincent Schoon, Christopher Gordon and Jacqueline Peeris from the EA Secretariat."

The EA would also like to thank the three judges - Edward D'Silva, Christian Eber and Adrienne de Souza for supporting the OCA.



## Getting to know our Outstanding Contribution Award recipients



**Tara Maria Davenport, 41, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, NUS**  
[Daughter of the late Bryan Davenport]

"I am very grateful to the EA for recognising my father's contributions. The ceremony was lovely and I was especially touched to see the video outlining his contributions. It means so much to us as a family as the work that my father did at the EA was one of the great pleasures of his life and the achievement he was most proud of.

I remember attending so many EA functions where my father would give speeches and talk to everyone and would be the life of the party. We always had so much fun as a family at the New Year's Eve dances. I also remember visiting my dad at the EA after school where he would always be very engaged in helping the Eurasian community. I think he made a significant difference with his efforts and played an important role in highlighting the importance of the Eurasian community in Singapore."

**John Francis Pereira, 29, Accountant**  
[Son of the late Barry Pereira]

"My father never ceases to inspire me. His impact is enduring and life-changing. When we were little, my father would bring us to the former EA house at Mountbatten Road on Saturday mornings to help pack rations for the less resourced. Together with Aunty Lena Fox, it would be a morning filled with fun as we helped put the rations in bags according to Aunty Lena's instructions. Sometimes, we would go with him to the homes. I remember my father always chatting and laughing with the families. Although the bags were heavy and there was a lot of walking to do, my father was always cheery and the families welcoming and warm. He lived his life making the lives of others better."



**Edmund Rodrigues, 80, Retired teacher**

"I truly feel elated and proud. There are really two separate contributions which stand out in my memory. The first initiative - a 'Free Math Revision course' for "O" level candidates was initiated during the tenure of the late EA President Brian Davenport. Mrs. Ursula Quah, the Education Chairperson then had asked me if I could conduct this class and I went on to do so for about 10 weeks from the September school holidays. The take up rate was very positive with about 20 students. The sessions were held in the main hall of the Mountbatten Road premises and at times, at the nearby community centres. Although the cohort was generally weak in ability, there was a revival of interest in the subject and with a new approach to the teaching of the subject, quite a number went on to pass the subject for the first time. It was very touching to get to meet the students again after the results were released and to hear their wonderful reactions.

The second contribution which I feel has made a difference to the community was the 'Home Improvement Scheme'. This scheme was the brainchild of a benevolent corporate donor who gave us a donation to improve the lives of the financially challenged families in our community. With the help of our hard-working social worker, Ram and Quentin Pereira, we did a visual inspection of the homes occupied by these families. We were not only moved but sometimes shocked by the state of neglect in some homes. We also discovered some of the underlying causes for the poor academic performance of some children coming from such homes. With consent from the committee, we 'upgraded' the project from a basic 'repainting' event to a home improvement, to improve the home aesthetically and its 'environment' to being more conducive for individual members of the family. Today, the project is about 70% complete before being put on hold due to the current pandemic."



### Valerie Scully, 80, Housewife

“I have been volunteering at the EA for 30 years and was not expecting any accolades, so this award came as a pleasant surprise and I’m delighted. The most memorable contribution I have achieved with the EA is the formation of the EA Song and Dance Troupe. Being able to share with fellow Singaporeans the rich Eurasian culture through cultural talks, song and dance. I hope the EA will continue to grow and be able to support the less fortunate in our community in welfare and education as well as preserving our vibrant Eurasian culture.”



### Benett Theseira, 56, Managing Director and Head of Asia-Pacific, PGIM Real Estate

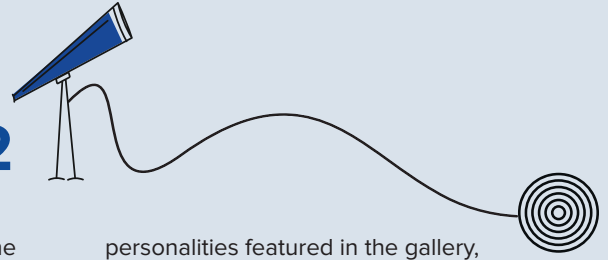
“It is a great honour to have been able to serve the Eurasian community and to receive this award. More so when I look at the other 5 recipients, who have all done so much for the EA and the Eurasian community. I feel humbled to be considered alongside them and very appreciative of the EA for according me with this award. During my time serving on the EA MC, initially as Treasurer and subsequently as Vice President and President, my focus was always to make EA a better organisation - in our finances and governance, our service focus and in our engagement with the broader community and the government. Perhaps the most tangible contribution I have made was to work on the launch of the Eurasian Community Fund while I was Treasurer, and subsequently while I was President to secure approval to raise the contribution rates and the government matching grant. Both of these have provided the EA with a sound financial footing and the capacity to run its community programmes over the last 25 years and for many more years to come. The Eurasian community and the EA are relatively small but have made very significant contributions to the community and Singapore, disproportionate to our small size. This was only possible because many Eurasians came together to support each other and the nation, and to make a difference. For me, the journey started with a small step, to help where I thought I could, which led to bigger opportunities, responsibilities and contributions. My hope is that more Eurasians, especially the younger ones, will come together to help EA and the community. It is only by working together that we can help to continue uplifting the community and to keep it vibrant.”

### Timothy de Souza

“I am deeply honoured to receive the EA Outstanding Contribution Award and I am privileged to accept this recognition on behalf of all those who have contributed to make the EA a very successful Self-Help Group for the Eurasian community. The transition from a social club to a Self-Help Group for the Eurasian community which the EA made between 1990 and 1998 was the most memorable programme I was involved in. There were many people who played a part to make the transition a success. To see the EA flourishing today gives me a great sense of accomplishment and pride. My wish for the EA is that it will continue to be relevant to the Eurasian community and Singapore by being an effective Self-Help Group and a leading community organisation.”



# Wrapping up 2021, and what to look out for in 2022



Over 200 visitors visited the **Portuguese Voyages and the Encounter of Civilization** exhibition held at the EA Community House from 30 October to 24 November 2021.

Organised by the Portuguese Embassy and the EA, Portuguese Ambassador Mário Miranda Duarte shared at the launch how the exhibition showcased the history of the Portuguese and how they influenced communities all over the world through their journeys and trade. "This is evident by the strong ties of the Portuguese-Eurasians in Singapore and the cultures and traditions they still keep to this day," he said.

One of the visitors, Cristal Wee, was fascinated to see the vast journeys of the Portuguese who travelled to

many different countries all over the world, which sparked her interest to find out more. She shared her mind-blowing discovery of the origins of tempura, introduced by the Portuguese in Nagasaki, Japan, through the fritter-cooking technique in the 16th century. The name "tempura" may have originated from the Portuguese word tempêro, meaning "seasoning".

The Eurasian Heritage Gallery's (EHG) **Back To The Table After Midnight Mass** tour was conducted on 11 and 18 December 2021, with the second tour showcasing the EA's newest and youngest docents, Samantha Santa Maria and Alyssa Minjoot.

For this specially themed tour, the docents shared Christmas stories of

personalities featured in the gallery, such as Christmas traditions for the Schooling and Sheares families.

Participants also enjoyed a secret Santa gift exchange and pulled Christmas crackers before adjourning to Quentins Eurasian restaurant for a four-course Christmas meal which included Mulligatawny soup, Shepherd's Pie, Chicken Curry Debal and Sugee cake.

Tour participants Irma and David Gill complimented the docents for their animated and insightful delivery of the Christmas stories and shared it was meaningful knowing how many Eurasian families celebrated Christmas in a similar way - feasting over good food with good company.

## 2021

25 Sep

### Singapore Eurasian Family History Exhibition



Guest-of-Honour, Minister of State, Alvin Tan, with Melanie Oliveira who contributed the Lange family tree (her maternal roots), at the launch of the Singapore Eurasian Family History Exhibition.

30 Oct - 24 Nov

### Portuguese Exhibition



'The Portuguese Voyages and the Encounter of Civilization', held at the EA hall from 30 October to 24 November 2021, had over 200 visitors.

11 and 18 Dec

### EHG Christmas Tours



EHG docent Samantha Santa Maria sharing the origins of Eurasians with the group.



The exhibition featured the family trees of 28 Singapore Eurasian families and saw over 400 visitors.

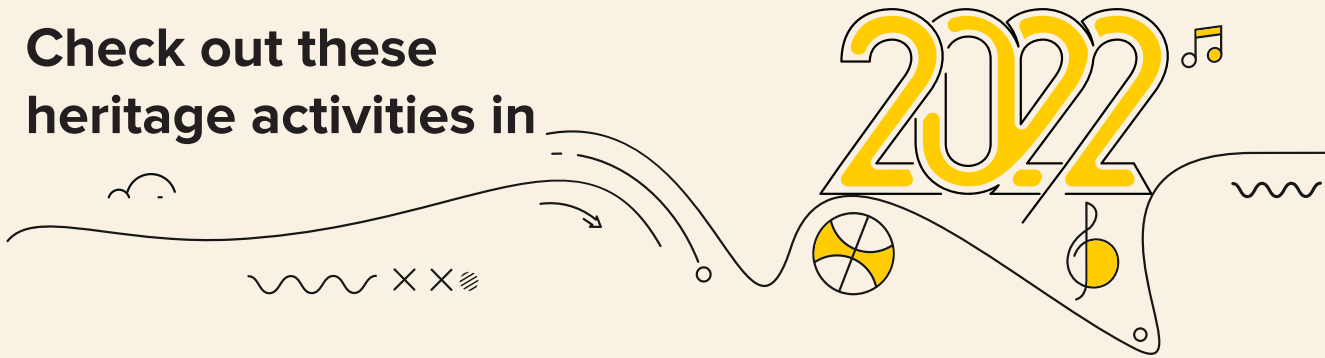


(Launch on 28 October 2021)  
L-R: Percival Shepherdson, EA's Heritage Committee Chairperson; Mário Miranda Duarte, Portuguese Ambassador to Singapore; Yvonne Pereira, EA's 2nd Vice President; João Galamba, Deputy Minister and Secretary of State for Energy, The Portuguese Republic; Ana Cristina Tavares, wife of Ambassador Duarte.



EHG docent Alyssa Minjoot giving a commentary about the contributions of the Eurasian community.

# Check out these heritage activities in



The **Singapore Heritage Festival** will be held in May with the theme – Travel and Natural Heritage. Organised by the National Heritage Board, the festival will showcase Eurasian culture and specially curated tours at the EHG. Scan the QR code to find out more.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the Eurasian Heritage Gallery tours during the Singapore Heritage Festival

The EA Heritage Committee is organising a second edition of the **Singapore Eurasian Family History Exhibition** in September. Families who are keen to share their family tree and interesting stories can contact Jacqueline Peiris at [jacqueline@eurasians.org](mailto:jacqueline@eurasians.org).



2022

5 Feb, 5 Mar, 30 Apr  
**Tour for New Citizens**

**CULTUREDISCOVER SERIES**  
**THE EURASIAN EXPERIENCE TOUR**  
@ EURASIAN HERITAGE GALLERY

**Discover more**  
about the small but vibrant Eurasian community, one of the earliest settlers and major races in Singapore, not in terms of population but by contributions to the nation.

**Tour Dates**  
Saturday, 5 February 2022  
Saturday, 5 March 2022  
Saturday, 30 April 2022

**Escape in**  
a hands-on craft activity which shows you intricate handknit crocheted doilies by TERESA and make your own personalized four-seasonal doily.

**Find out**  
the origins of Eurasians, their contributions to Singapore and their culture and lifestyle through a guided tour of the Eurasian Heritage Gallery.

**Tour Details**  
Tour conducted in English and Mandarin. Seating on a first-come, first-served basis. Booking must be made in advance by emailing [ehg@eurasian.org](mailto:ehg@eurasian.org)

Book Now!

7, 14, 21 May  
**Singapore Heritage Festival**

**EURASIAN HERITAGE GALLERY**

**Singapore Heritage Festival**  
**For Gold, Glory and God**

To discover a sea route to the fabled Spice Islands, the Portuguese, and later the Dutch and British left their homelands to embark on a great adventure to the Far East. Their travels led them to Southeast Asia. In this tour "For Gold, Glory and God", journey with our docents who will share how the early Europeans left a lasting impression through commerce, culture and the creation of the Eurasian community.

Dates:	Venue:	Tickets:
7, 14, 21 May 2022	Eurasian Heritage Gallery	\$10/pax
11.00am – 1.00pm	139 Ceylon Road, Singapore 429744	Available on Peatix from 1 April onwards

**Painting of a Portuguese Ship by Jasmine Leandra Oliveira**

**Photo of spices in the Eurasian Heritage Gallery**

Co-organised by:



SEASON OF

# Giving

For the EA's Family Support Services (FSS) Sub-Committee, the recent festive season's focus was to 'deliver happiness' by bringing cheer and joy to the less privileged.

This was done through the creation of a specially curated hamper by the FSS team for close to 100 households to usher in Christmas and the New Year.

Both savoury and sweet goodies such as Christmas ham, fish pickles, Quentin's sugée cake, pineapple tarts, chocolates, sweets and breakfast jams were packed by a dedicated team of volunteers before being delivered to all households.

The FSS team would like to thank Christine Pereira, Carol Shepherdson, Quentin Pereira, Ram, Michael Ann, Martha Fernandez, Rene Shepherdson Jr and all volunteers, as well as donors Gerald Minjoot and Tan Chin Tuan Foundation for supporting this initiative throughout the years.



FSS volunteers find time for a pose before setting off to deliver the hamper boxes. From left to right: Michael Lewis, Carol Shepherdson, Christine Pereira and Cara Ann Pereira.



Prosec staff volunteers lending a helping hand to deliver the hampers.



Hampers delivered by FSS volunteer Martha Fernandez and Edmund Rodrigues.



From left to right: FSS Caseworker Ram, FSS volunteers Burton Koek, Edmund Rodrigues, Christine Pereira, Quentin Pereira and Leonard D'Souza preparing to assemble the hamper boxes.



FSS beneficiary Emanuel Elias De Costa was pleased to receive his hamper.



Monica Wong accompanied by her husband with FSS Chairperson Edmund Rodrigues ready to set off.

