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# In Touch

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We are looking forward to resuming our activities at the EA and welcome you back to the Eurasian Community House as Singapore moves forward to open up.



Dear fellow members of the EA

I hope you are staying safe in this difficult period. Despite the constraints placed on EA by Covid-19, we still managed to proceed with our most important functions.

In the past quarter, we recognised our best Eurasian students, both at the Self-Help Groups Joint Tuition Awards and our own Eurasian Community Fund Awards. At the latter, held virtually on zoom in September, we awarded over 250 awards and bursaries. Congratulations to students and their parents, who have been supporting them through Home Based Learning and other challenges.

We have also managed to launch the Singapore Eurasians Family History Exhibition. This was an achievement for the EA, as we were able to showcase 28 families, and launch this exhibition to the public, even though Singapore entered the Stabilisation Phase. Some of these families were able to trace their roots back seven generations, each with an interesting story to tell. My deepest thanks to the EA Heritage Sub-Committee and Secretariat for organising the exhibition.

We celebrated National Day with a small and simple Observance Ceremony, where we unreservedly affirmed our commitment to Singapore. We are also proud that many Eurasians received their National Day Awards and you can read more about the recipients in this issue.

We also want to recognise and celebrate our Eurasian Olympians, Joseph Schooling and Amita Berthier, who flew Singapore's flag at the 2020 Tokyo games.

To conclude, as we count down to the year-end festivities, I would also like to appeal to you to help the EA support the less advantaged within our community. If you know of any Eurasian who is facing difficulties for whatever reason, let us know, and we will endeavour to assist. This is what the EA is here for, and we will help.

With that, I would like to wish you and your family Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. Stay safe!

**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



You can read The New Eurasian magazine online at eurasians.sg/neweurasian-magazine

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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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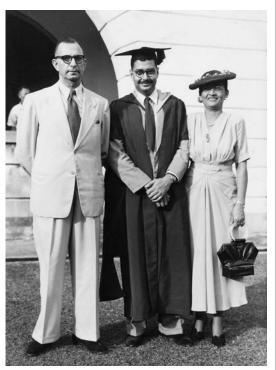
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# **NOT FOR CIRCULATION**

# The George E. Bogaars Story



GEB with his parents on his graduation day, 26 July 1952.

George Edwin Bogaars joined the civil service in 1952 after graduation and was posted to several departments such as the Department of Commerce and Industry, and the Finance Department. He was then appointed Deputy Secretary in the Treasury, before heading the Special Branch in 1959. Upon Singapore's independence in 1965, he held various appointments such as Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Interior and Defence, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Head of Civil Service. He was also the Chairman of Keppel Shipyard and Chairman of National Iron and Steel Mills.

That is a summary of George Bogaars' curriculum vitae. In today's context, job recruiters would probably describe it as "an impressive career".



GEB at the signing of the Keppel Shipyard Guaranteed Bonds Agreement, 1982.



GEB (centre) with Percy Pennefather (on GEB's right). Pennefather was the Assistant Commisioner of Police and Head of the Internal Security Department.



A clock presented to GEB by his Budget Division staff.

Veteran journalist and blogger Bertha Henson, the book author, shared with The NewEurasian that she knew nothing about George Bogaars when asked to write the book. "My worry was that I would be doing research on an immensely boring bureaucrat. How wrong I was!," she said.

"George Bogaars was not just a colourful personality who was larger than life, he was so intricately involved in Singapore's beginnings that I received an in-depth education in the country's history. This isn't just about textbook learning but culling from confidential reports and documents about the most momentous moments in Singapore."



Christina, Dorothy and GEB.

She went on to add how she tried to write a narrative that would capture his life, not just as a pioneering civil servant but as a man, a boss, a confidante of politicians and a corporate leader. She said, "It pains me to think that as a nation, we do not have much information on the people who work in the background to combat communism, communalism and to set up a structure for the country's development, whether for the economy or for defence. Most have passed on or receded into the background, yet they still have so much to give from the example of their lives."



GEB and his family in hospital after GEB's first heart attack. Left to right: Michael, Christina, GEB, Dorothy and Paulina.



GEB in hospital with some hospital physiotherapy staff after he suffered a stroke.

The book can be purchased in leading bookstores including Kinokuniya, and on NUS Press' website. Retail price: **\$\$24.00** 



The EA held an observance ceremony on National Day at the EA Community House. Decked in red and white, EA President Dr Alexius Pereira along with EA Management Committee members; Vincent Schoon, Yvonne Pereira, Melanie Rodrigues and Danni Jay Luke Danis, proudly sang the National Anthem and recited the pledge to commemorate Singapore's 56th birthday.



EA Management Committee member, Danni Jay Luke Danis and General Manager, Lester Low raised the Singapore and EA flags.



The EA Management Committee members celebrated

Singapore's 56th Birthday.

The EA Red & White party is put on hold once again due to the current Covid-19 restrictions.

# **Joint Tuition Awards 2021**

Four Eurasian students were recognised for their outstanding academic success at the 18th Joint Tuition Awards
Ceremony on 28 August. Hans Gerhard van Huizen, Stacey Jaime Vanessa
Nonis, Lucretia Cecilia Achugbu and Sarah Anne Marsh received the Best
Overall Award for their efforts in improving their academic performance and were commended by Guest-of-Honour, Minister for Education Chan Chun Sing.

The ceremony was organised by the EA, the Chinese Development Assistance Council (CDAC), Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA) and Yayasan MENDAKI. Collectively known as the Self-Help Groups (SHGs), these organisations presented awards to 630 well deserving students for their achievements at the Primary School Leaving Examination, GCE N and O-Level examinations.







# Hans Gerhard van Huizen

A first-year student at Catholic Junior College, Hans was the EA's overall best recipient at the 18th Joint Tuition Awards Ceremony this year. He joined the SHG's Collaborative Tuition Programme in 2016 when he was in Primary 6.

Speaking to The NewEurasian, Hans, whose father is Dutch-Portuguese and mother is Chinese, shared how the programme had helped improve his grades significantly. "I first tried to understand the lessons my teachers were going through because I lacked the fundamentals in that subject. Thankfully, my teachers at my secondary school and the Joint Tuition Centre were patient with me, and helped clarify my doubts," he said.

Through the programme, Hans' grades improved significantly. At his GCE O-Level examinations last year, his grades for Additional Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology improved and he achieved two As and five Bs.

He also attributed his success to his three siblings, who had a positive influence on him. Said Hans, "I was fortunate enough to have three of my siblings, sitting for their examinations at the time, which provided an encouraging environment for me to study and whom I could seek help from whenever I needed to. They were very supportive in my studies as they understood the importance of doing well for the O-Levels, which further gave me the motivation to excel."

◀ The EA's top overall student Hans Gerhard van Huizen.

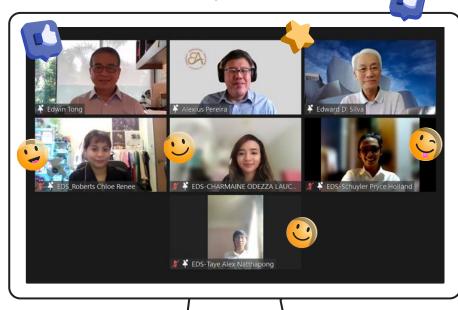


# **Eurasian Community Fund Awards**Virtual Ceremony 2021

More than 250 Eurasian students received bursaries, and awards of merit and distinction on 11 September at the Eurasian Community Fund (ECF) 2021 Virtual Awards Ceremony. Guest-of-Honour, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, Edwin Tong, presented the awards to Eurasians who have made remarkable academic progress in the past year.

EA President Dr Alexius Pereira spoke about one noteworthy recipient, Secondary 1 student Sarah Anne Marsh in his opening address. Sarah scored 3 As and a B for her Primary School Leaving Examination last year. She achieved this despite having to adjust to online lessons which limited her catch-up sessions with teachers. Despite these challenges, Sarah managed to stay on top of her studies by watching online videos to help her understand her school subjects better. She also had great support from her classmates who motivated her to press on and achieve her goals.

# **Edward D'Silva Scholarship Awards**



From top left: Minister Edwin Tong, EA President Dr Alexius Pereira, Edward D'Silva, Roberts Chloe Renee, Charmaine Odezza Lauchengco, Schuyler Pryce Holland and Taye Alex Natthapong.

# Mads A. Lange & Pansy Theseira-Lange Education Bursary (Award)





The ECF Award is an annual ceremony that promotes academic excellence since it was launched in 1996. It recognises young Eurasians for their academic success and provides support to students from families with financial difficulties. If you would like to know more about the ECF, you can contact Shareen at shareen@eurasians.org

Award recipients, from second row, left: Arman Bin Tahar and Eshton Isaiah Teo.

# Eurasian Olympians flying Singapore's flag at Tokyo 2020



# Take us through your Olympic journey in Tokyo?

Joseph Schooling (JS): I've always thought the Japanese organise things very well. Considering the circumstances, they definitely lived up to expectations and more. The athlete's accommodation was good and spacious. Having the space to move around the apartment was quite a luxury.

They also took care of the athletes very well, from food options down to transport. The competition pool was beautiful with a very serene atmosphere. I wished the stands were packed with supporters to create that atmosphere and energy, and not having them there was tough but it's just the nature of the situation. Things didn't go the way I wanted in the pool for me personally, but I see it as a lesson for me — to learn and to move on from there.

Amita Berthier (AB): Being in Tokyo was a surreal experience. The fact that I was surrounded by so many formidable, accomplished athletes was the highlight of my participation in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. The atmosphere of the entire village was like no other. Every corner you turned, there was an Olympian – new ones and "legends". The Japanese were such amazing hosts – warm, friendly and they greeted us every day with a smile. Not forgetting how efficient they were in ensuring that we remained safe and healthy too.

# As one of the two Eurasians representing Singapore, describe to us that feeling? What was it like?

JS: It was a very proud moment to represent my country and my community. I felt very honoured to be in that position and I think Amita would say the same as well. It was a very proud moment, not just for me but for my family too, especially for my dad. I know how important it is for him and we both share similarities and those views.

**AB:** Being on the stage at the Olympics was different than being on any fencing strip in the world. When I stepped into the hall, I felt a different sense of excitement that is hard to explain but one that I hope every high performing athlete can experience at some point in their career.



▲ Photo: Simone Castrovilliari

# We have many aspiring Eurasian children who are keen to follow in your footsteps – What's your advice to them?

**JS:** I would tell the kids to love what you do and be passionate about it. Work hard and never give up. If you have that mind-set and that perseverance, nothing or anyone can really stop you. Just keep working at it.

**AB:** Do what you love to do with passion. It can be anything – own that passion and set your own goals. It has to be your dream. Make every possibility into a reality – through hard work, no shortcuts, grit and most importantly believe and trust yourself. Trust the process.

# As we are wrapping up 2021, share with us, what was the highlight for you?

**JS:** Coming back and being able to see my parents is the biggest highlight for me for 2021.

**AB:** The highlight of my year was definitely qualifying for the Olympics. It is still an indescribable feeling. I had one chance to qualify at the Asian Qualification – only the winner gets the "ticket" to the Olympics. I had to give everything I had within me to win it. That euphoria of winning is beyond anything I have ever felt in my 14-year journey as a fencer.

◆ Photo: Simone Castrovilliari







Now, for some fun questions to get to know you better.

What's on your music playlist now, and why?

**JS:** It's a combination between EDM, Progressive House and Rock. Anything except country music. My music tastes haven't changed much since I was 11. It's who I am and what I like. It gets me going.

**AB:** I love listening to Latin, R&B and Rap music.

# What's your favourite Eurasian dish and why?

**JS:** Devil curry. My grandma used to make a really mean Devil Curry and I love it. All the ingredients go together and this is a dish my dad got me on and I took to it like a fish to water. The best part is the finale where you get to soak

up the curry with bread. I finish my plate just for that moment.

**AB:** I love the Sugee cake and generally all sorts of dishes.

# My biggest pet peeve is...

JS: People not realising their full potential is my biggest pet peeve. There are people who just go with the flow. It may work fine for them but I like to surround myself with people who try their hardest and their best to make sure they achieve their goals. You don't have to be the best in the world but it is important to put in the effort.

**AB:** People walking with shoes in the house!

## All I want this Christmas is...

**JS:** I'm not a huge present person and all I want for Christmas this year is to celebrate and have a quiet night with my close friends and mostly, my family.

**AB:** To be back home in Singapore.

# If I weren't a swimmer, I would be...

) \ \

JS: A golfer. I have been playing golf since I was four-years-old. My dad introduced me to the game. And now golf is a very sacred time for me and I only play it with my close friends and my dad.



If I did not take up fencing, I would be...

AB: I'd probably be a footballer!





# I get knocked down, but I get up again

The NewEurasian speaks to Darren Justin Luke Danis, who is riding the race of his life in New Zealand.



Injuries are common for a professional jockey. But for Darren Justin Luke Danis, 29, who has been riding horses since he was 18, a serious injury suffered on 1 August 2017 almost derailed his dream of being a professional jockey.

"I broke my back, it was an unstable fracture of my T4/T5," said Darren. "I thought it was the end, as my doctors told me I may not ride again," he said, before sharing how he fell off his horse during a race at Timaru racecourse.

"It was my first time heading to the South Island to race and I was on a horse called 'Advent'. I crossed the finish line in fourth place but didn't realise there was a 'bottleneck' up ahead and the next thing I knew, I was on the ground rolling."

He added, "I could see my horse getting up and that was a huge relief for me and soon, the paramedics attended to me and by then, I could feel the sharp pain in-between my shoulder blades.

Fast forward a year, and after recuperating and following a strict recovery programme, Darren was back riding again. However, he is still reminded of that nasty injury whenever he steps out to train or race. "It left me with a scar half way through my back, and I guess it's there for a reason, to remind me of how I got knocked down, but I got up again," he said.







A nasty reminder after he fell off his horse and broke his back.

Darren with his dad. This photo was taken after he sat on a horse for the first time



One could say the profession runs in Darren's family. As a kid, he was influenced by his dad who was riding as a jockey and as he had to be of legal age [18-years-old] to visit the stables, Darren was left to his imagination from the stories his dad shared about the sport.

"My dad has always been my idol as he taught me the ropes to horse racing, and you could say my path to making it a career was fated," said the former St Anthony's Primary School student, who was very much into sports at a young age.

"After my PSLE, our family relocated to Malaysia when my dad landed a race horse trainer job. I then completed my GCE O-Levels there, before making a decision to be a professional jockey," added Darren.

"There was no turning back from my dream. It was challenging for me, as an 18-year-old back then, to learn how to ride in an equestrian school in Malaysia. I made lots of mistakes, but that was how I learned and got better at it," he recalled, before sharing how his dad felt it was time for him to return to Singapore to continue his horse racing education.



Darren [left], enjoying another day racing on a horse called 'El Nymph'.

Upon his return to Singapore, Darren spent some time with Brian Dean, his trainer, before enlisting for National Service (NS) and it was during that period that he charted out his career goals.

"My dad and I discussed and reviewed my horse racing education, and we concluded that upon completion of my NS, I needed to take my training to another level, to become a better horseman and that's when we decided I should head to New Zealand," said Darren.



Darren on a horse called 'Paisley Park', which helped him win the race.

In 2014, Darren packed his bags and settled in Matamata, a small town in Waikato, New Zealand, and famous for its horse racing and training centres. After 10 months working with horse trainers Ken and Bev Kelso, Darren went on to train with former jockey Wayne Hillis, who managed a small stable with his wife in the same town.

"I was working with them for my apprenticeship as a jockey and they've been very supportive of me throughout my career. I ended up doing my apprenticeship a year longer than expected!" recalled Darren.

He acknowledges that the sport has its perks – money, fame, a sense of power being at the top – but behind the scenes, the life of a jockey is challenging, and if you are not strong enough, it can break your mental health.

"There are a lot of sacrifices, a lot of hard work. Each morning, my alarm goes off at 3.30am, I am on my first horse at 4.15am and I spend the rest of the morning riding about 12 to 15 horses until 10.30am. I get some rest and I head to the races at noon and ride 1 to 7 races till 5pm," shared Darren, before adding how he relaxes on days he doesn't have to race. "New Zealand is a beautiful place, wonderful outdoors to just chill and relax your mind and I also have my video calls with my family to catch up with them."

"No matter how far you are, home will always be home," he said, before sharing how he tries to continue some of his family's Eurasian traditions in Matamata. "Being away, I have learned to cook Devil Curry and some local dishes like fried rice, but nothing beats the food cooked in Singapore during Christmas and other family celebrations."



A big sacrifice being away from his family to pursue his passion.



Flying the Singapore and Eurasian flag in New Zealand is one of Darren's goals, and he hopes his success there will inspire kids who either have an interest in horse racing or to pursue other sports.

"You have to really work hard at what you want. Make mistakes, learn from them to improve and don't lose focus. You must be disciplined too but at the same time, take care of your mental health. It's never too late to achieve your goals and dreams. Do it for yourself and you'd be prouder."



- It took Darren over 70 races to finally achieve his first win with his trainer Lisa Anderson. Said Darren, "She's always been a big part of my career on and off the racing scene. It was a horse that kept running 3rds, 4ths and 2nds and we were always somewhere there. And when we finally won, the pressure was off my back, and to get one for her is great."
- At 173cm tall and weighing 53kg, Darren has the ideal lean and nimble stature to be a jockey.
- He has achieved 78 career wins and has started 1,293 races to date.





# Transforming lives begins with a Home



The EA's Family Support Services (FSS) team resumed its Home Sprucing initiative in February this year, transforming three flats which were identified for home improvement. This time round, the team went beyond mere repainting of the homes, to installing energy saving LED lights to help reduce the beneficiaries' utility bills. The homes were also fitted with a retractable clothes dryer for seniors to hang their laundry with ease.



Our beneficiary's home is now all spruced up and ready to welcome visitors for Christmas!

# What's next?



The FSS team is focused on creating a healthy, liveable space for underprivileged families, which is vital to uplifting the less fortunate in our community for a better future. Some key challenges faced by these families are a lack of proper beds, and a study area for children to do their schoolwork. In order to break this poverty cycle and create social mobility, the FSS team is now gearing up to touch the lives of three more families. They will be looking into their special requests to install new beds and a study area for their school-going children.

If you wish to donate furniture or other second-hand items to this worthy cause, do reach out to Ram at **Ram@eurasians.org** with your details.



# **About the Home Sprucing initiative**

The team is led by FSS Chairperson Edmund Rodrigues with the intent of enabling people to break free of the poverty mindset and provide upward social mobility.

The team has now refocused its efforts towards rejuvenating four flats a month, with the aim of repainting 27 one- and two-room flats by the end of the year. The team had met with a shortage of manpower due to Covid-19 last year, but endeavoured to overcome it, and finally resumed its efforts after a six-month pause.

The FSS team would like to thank Hendriks Home Improvement for supporting this initiative. To find out more about them, you can check out their work at https://www.facebook.com/ Hendrikshomeimprovements/



A fresh coat of paint never fails to brighten up the homes of our beneficiaries.





# Preserving family history for future generations

28 Singapore Eurasian families with a common objective – to trace their family roots to discover and understand their family history.

The Singapore Eurasian Family History Exhibition was launched by Minister of State [Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, and Ministry of Trade and Industry] Alvin Tan on 25 September at the Eurasian Community House.

The month-long exhibition organised by the EA Heritage Committee, featured the family trees of 28 Singapore Eurasian families, with their stories documented through various interviews conducted over six months. It also showcased old photos of their heirlooms, family photos, birth certificates, and naturalisation certificates of their ancestors. Visitors to the exhibition also learned about the history of the EA, Bahau (a town in Negri Sembilan, Malaysia, where Eurasians were sent during WWII), stories on Eurasian couples married for 50 years and more, spritely Eurasians aged 90 years and above, and viewed a 5-metre long banner showing the interconnection between some Eurasian families. There was also a special tribute to the late Dr Barry Pereira, who was a passionate genealogist who helped many Eurasians trace their family tree back numerous generations.



Kudos to the EA Heritage Committee for organising the exhibition.



Representatives from the 28 families who were present for the launch of the exhibition.



Minister of State Alvin Tan commended the families for their efforts in tracing their roots.

In his opening speech, Mr Tan shared how he was impressed with the amount of effort from each family in tracing their roots and commended the Eurasian community for embarking on this exciting journey of discovering their family history. He added that his best friend and best man at his wedding was Eurasian, and there were many other Eurasians he worked with, including his parliamentary colleagues such as Christopher de Souza, who was also present at the exhibition. "Though the Eurasian community is small, they have contributed to the nation in countless ways and continue to do so in their varied fields of expertise," he said.

EA President Dr Alexius Pereira, in his welcome speech, shared how he met the late Dr Barry Pereira at National University Hospital where he was sent after injuring his leg. "The first thing he asked me was 'Who's your mother? Who's your father?', and clearly not noticing my injured leg," said Dr Alexius, before highlighting how Dr Barry, an avid historian and genealogist, was curious about his family tree since they both shared the same surname. He added that this was an example of how Eurasians are interconnected and the thought of discovering whether different families are related would be an exciting journey.



Scrolls were presented to each family representative - from left to right: Dr Alexius Pereira, Yvonne Pereira and Minister of State Alvin Tan.

For EA Heritage Chairperson Percival Shepherdson, the successful launch of the exhibition was made possible by the hard work and dedication of the organising committee. "It was an amazing team effort – the committee comprising Geoffrey Morris, Michele Minjoot, Christian Eber and Jacqueline Peeris – did a lot of work to obtain and collate the stories and information from the families over the last six months," he shared.

"I would also have to thank all the families too, for being so accommodating and helpful as our proofreaders Gerardine Donough-Tan and Sharon Miller spent a lot of time reviewing, clarifying and editing the information. We also had to make sure that their stories were put together in a creative and engaging way," he added, referring to the A1-size foam boards displayed at the EA multi-purpose hall.

Member of Parliament for Holland–Bukit Timah GRC Christopher De Souza, whose mother, Patricia de Souza nee O'Hara contributed the O'Hara Family Tree, felt it was precious and meaningful to be surrounded by the picture boards, each telling their own family history. He added, "It was a labour of love by the Heritage Committee and each volunteer who put this exhibition together."



90-year-old Edwin Thompson (right) representing his family at the exhibition.

Cheryl Noronha, who contributed the Frois Family Tree, felt it was time well spent. "It was a rewarding experience tracing our family tree. It is something I wanted to do for years and am glad The Eurasian Association gave us the opportunity. I especially loved looking back on old photos of Nan and hearing stories of her life, she has come a long way and paved the path for us to continue our journey as a new generation of Eurasians," she said.

Though the exhibition concluded on 24 October, the EA Heritage Committee will continue to engage and support more Singapore Eurasian families who are keen to trace their family history. If you are keen to do so, you can contact Jacqueline at jacqueline@eurasians.org.



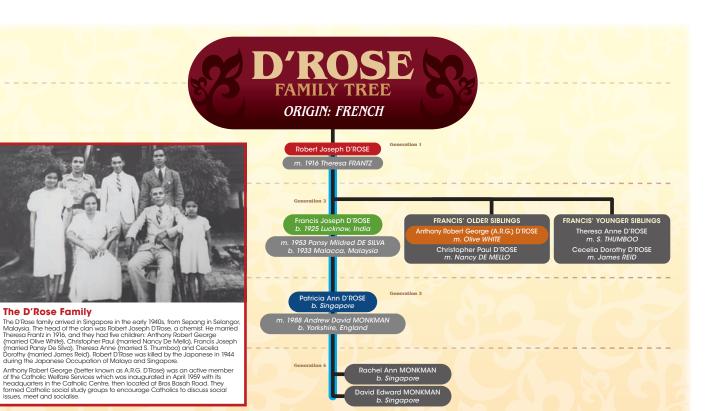
From left to right: Minister of State Alvin Tan with Dr Alexius Pereira, Christopher de Souza and Percival Shepherdson, touring the exhibition.



92-year-old Helen Joseph (seated) was on hand to share more about her family's roots.



Geoffrey Morris (second from left) sharing about the interconnection among Eurasian families.



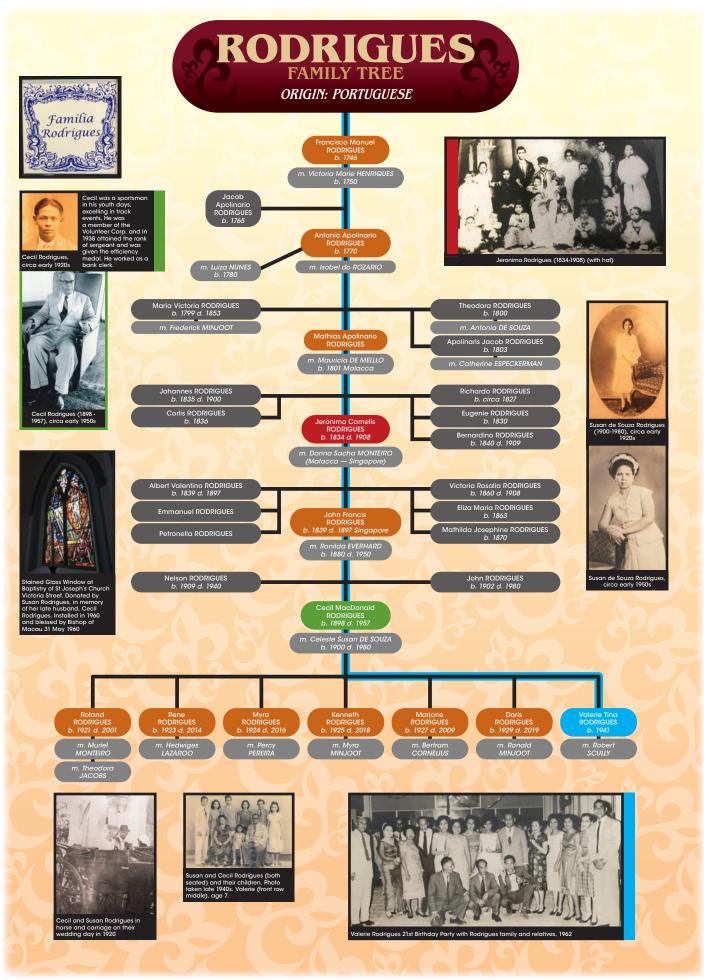


A Francis Joseph D'Rose worked in the Singapore Harbour Board Police, British Armed Forces and Singapore Armed Forces, whilst his wife Pansy was with the Singapore Police Force. They had three daughters – Patricla, Francesca and Jennifer





▲ Wedding photo of Anthony Robert George (A.R.G.) D'Rose and Olive White, circa early 1950s



Contributed by: Valerie Scully nee Rodrigue



Remembering

Derek Scully



Derek Edmund Scully will always be remembered for his support and dedication to the EA Education Sub-Committee.

Over a period of 10 years serving in the sub-committee through the tenures of Geoffrey da Silva, Graham Ong-Webb and current Chairperson Vincent Schoon, Derek was often the go-to person in helping to source for support.

"There was always something about the poor that tugged Derek's heart strings. He was always enquiring with the bursary applicants if they were aware of the various possible sources of support they could reach out to in order to make life a little easier for them," said Vincent.

"He was resourceful with a list of agencies to solicit help from and these actions were propelled by his strong belief that the same student, given a better set of circumstances would perform much better. He was a very quiet and unannounced 'friend of the poor'. To him, every unsuccessful applicant turned down was deeply disappointing as it was a Eurasian youth or child being denied a chance," he added.

The EA's Family Support Services Chairperson Edmund Rodrigues recalled how he reconnected with Derek in the late 2000s when he decided to volunteer at the EA. "He remarked to me how privileged he was to be able to help our Eurasian students with bursaries and other education initiatives to lessen their financial challenges," shared Edmund.

"Derek was always a champion for the less privileged, believing and always attempting to look for the good in people. He constantly reminded his fellow Education committee members that our students 'have different trajectories and that there are late bloomers! A dose of empathy and understanding is required."

"He lived a life of service. To his community, his alma mater and I venture to people at large," he added.



Derek Scully was always there for Eurasian youths and children in need of support.



Derek Scully with Project Ray of Hope Primary School level award recipients.

# **GEYLANG SERAI**

# Heritage Trail's Latest Addition





From left: Percival Shepherdson, the EA's Heritage Committee Chairperson, Mayor of South East District and Marine Parade GRC MP Fahmi Aliman, and Lee Hong Ping, Organising Chairman and author of the Geylang Serai Heritage Trail book.

Certificate of Appreciation to Eurasian Heritage Gallery



The EA's Heritage Committee Chairperson Percival Shepherdson receiving a certificate of appreciation from Guest-of-Honour, Mayor of South East District and Marine Parade GRC MP Fahmi Aliman.

The Eurasian Heritage Gallery (EHG) has been added to the latest Geylang Serai Heritage Trail.

Since its launch in 2015, the Geylang Serai Heritage Trail has had more than 85 guided tours and grown into three trails, with the latest trail including the EHG which has 12 locations between the section of Dunman Road near Haig Road, to the junction of Sims Avenue and Jalan Eunos, where the Eunos Crescent Market and Food Centre is located

A book detailing all the Geylang Serai Heritage Trails, written by Lee Hong Ping, was launched on 18 September 2021 by Mayor of South East District and Marine Parade GRC MP Fahmi Aliman. Those who sign up for the trails will receive a copy of the trail booklet which gives details on the attractions and sites in the area.

The heritage trail and book were organised and produced by the Geylang Serai Integration and Naturalisation Champions, and the Geylang Serai Citizens' Consultative Committee, with support from the National Heritage Board.

# Cheryl Miles' Cottage Pie Recipe and her first cookbook: Smitten in the Kitchen, 60 Recipes for Love



Cheryl Miles is a radio DJ on SPH Radio's ONE FM 91.3.

For the last two years she has been busy writing her first cookbook, "Smitten in the Kitchen, 60 Recipes for Love", which not only contains a variety of dishes (Western, Asian and a few Eurasian ones too), but also personal love advice!

Ideal as a gift for Christmas, this self-published cookbook is now available for sale worldwide.

To whet your appetite in the meantime, you can download her FREE e-cookbook "Sexy in the Kitchen, 25 Recipes for Romance" by subscribing at www.CherylMiles.com where you will also find some free online recipes (including a vegan version of Curry Debal!). Look out for "Good Vibes in the Kitchen, 20 Meatless Recipes for Kindness" in January 2022 for some delicious vegan and vegetarian recipes including a vegan version of Shepherd's Pie.





# **COTTAGE PIE**



Time: 40 minutes



Serves: 4

Cottage Pie - basically Shepherd's Pie but with beef instead of lamb - is comfort food personified! My secret ingredient is cloves. Commonly used in Asian cooking, cloves add a subtle hint of sweet and spicy. It softens once cooked but if you prefer to remove them at the end, here's a trick. Cut a small onion in half and gently pierce the cloves in. This allows the aromatic cloves to flavour the stew while making it easy to fish it out after cooking.

#### FOR THE STEW/FILLING:

- 500g minced beef
- Olive oil for cooking
- 11/2 teaspoon of fresh thyme leaves
- 3 bay leaves
- 5 cloves
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 small red onion, diced
- 2 ribs of celery, diced
- 1 carrot, diced
- 1 cup frozen peas
- 3 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 cup stout beer
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, or more to taste
- 1 teaspoon freshly ground cracked pepper
- 2 beef stock cubes
- 2-3 cups water, reserved from cooking the potato
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce

#### FOR THE MASH:

- 500g Russet Potato, peeled and quartered
- 150g mozzarella
- 100g parmesan or cheddar
- ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/3 cup full cream milk
- 1 teaspoon salt, plus more
- 1 teaspoon freshly ground pepper

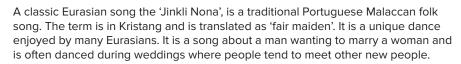
FOR THE MASH, boil the skinned potatoes in salted water until soft. Before you drain the potatoes, retain 3 cups of the water. Add butter, milk, salt and pepper, nutmeg, chives/spring onions. Mash the potatoes until smooth. Set aside.

FOR THE STEW, in a chef's pan, drizzle some olive oil. Once heated, sauté the onions and garlic. Add the mince and keep breaking up the meat as it cooks. Add the diced carrot, celery and peas. Cook for about 5 minutes. Add the stout to deglaze the pan. Allow the alcohol to cook off. (If you prefer not to use alcohol, add the reserved potato water at this stage instead.) Next, chuck in the bay leaves, cloves, worcestershire sauce, salt, pepper, tomato paste, beef stock cubes and the potato water (it acts as a thickener). Simmer for another 15 minutes until the sauce thickens. Fish out the bay leaves and, if you prefer, the cloves.

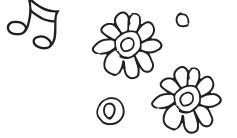
TO MAKE THE PIE, preheat the oven to 230°C/450°F. In an oven-proof dish, dish out the stew and top with the mash. Sprinkle the cheese on top. Bake for about 15 minutes or until the cheese is golden brown.

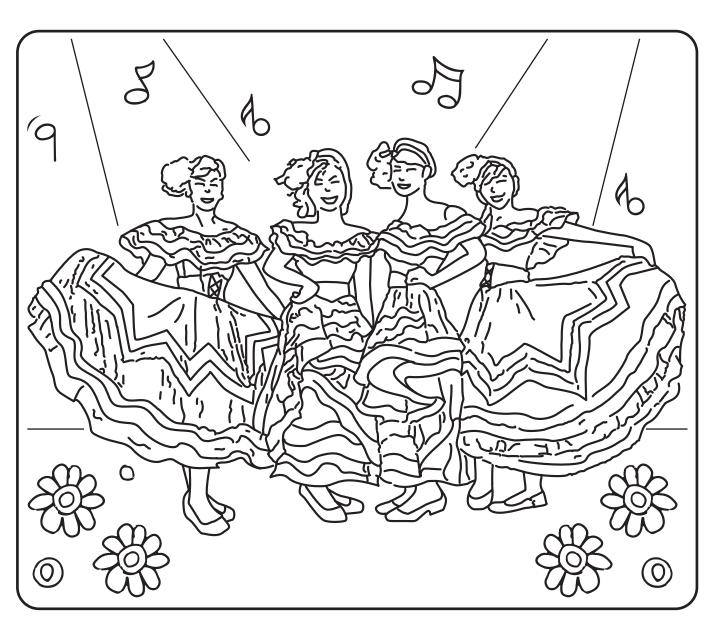
Allow to cool before serving.

# Colouring Activity

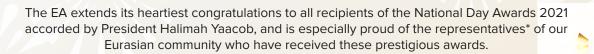








# Congratulations! National Day Awards 2021



## THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER

## **Mr Richard Magnus**

Chairman, Public Transport Council

# THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION MEDAL (GOLD)

- Mr Santa Maria Kevin John (Director, Ministry of Defence)
- **Ms Fletcher Diane Cecilia** (Chief Legal Officer & General Counsel, Office of Legal Affairs, National University of Singapore, Ministry of Education)
- AC Pereira Jarrod Bernard (Director, Singapore Police Force, Ministry of Home Affairs)

# THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION MEDAL (BRONZE)

# Assoc Prof De Silva Deidre Anne

Head & Senior Consultant, Neurology National Neuroscience Institute (Singapore General Hospital Campus), Singapore Health Services, Ministry of Health

## THE COMMENDATION MEDAL

#### Mr Burton Sherlock Timothy Row

Senior Teacher, Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School, Ministry of Education

## THE COMMENDATION MEDAL (MILITARY)

## De Souza Roy Alphonso

Head Combat Wheeled System Headquarters Maintenance and Engineering Support Command, Singapore Armed Forces

#### THE PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL

## Mr Jeremy Ian Monteiro

Former Council Member, National Arts Council, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth

> \*The above are a section of the awardees. Scan the QR code to view the full list of National Day Awards 2021 recipients.

