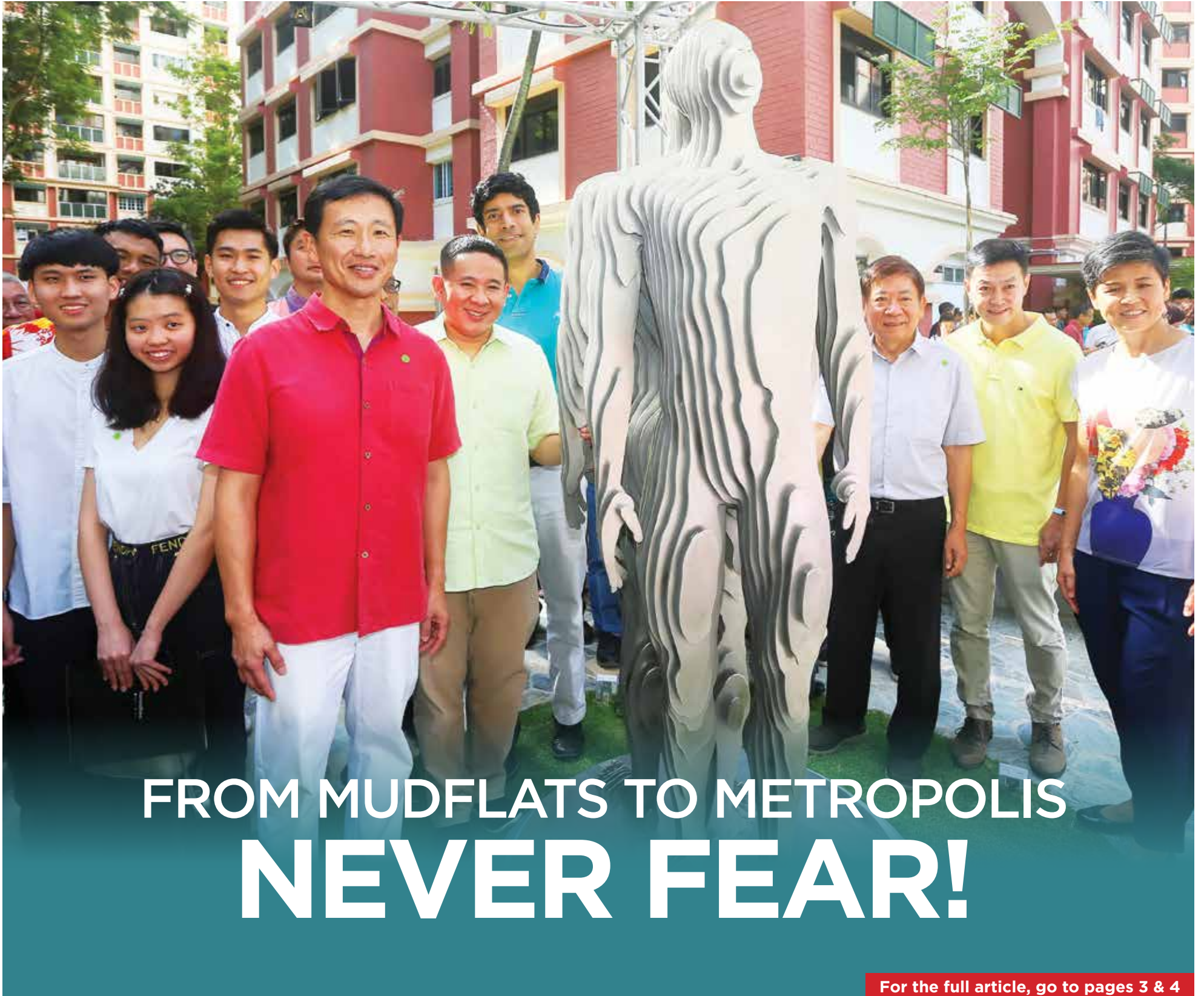


# SAYANG *Sembawang*

SEMBAWANG TOWN COUNCIL • MARCH 2020

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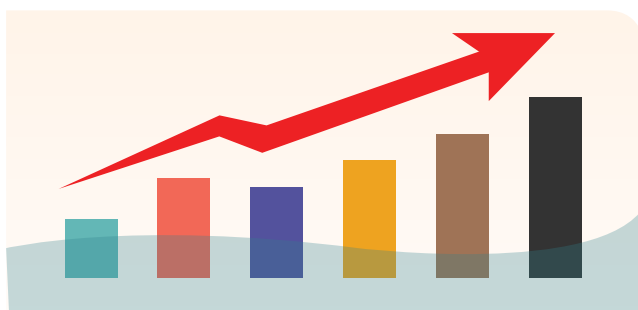


## FROM MUDFLATS TO METROPOLIS NEVER FEAR!

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Sembawang Hot Spring Park



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Financial Report



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COVID-19

Dear Residents,

Despite the Covid-19 outbreak, I am happy to know that our residents are taking necessary precautions to protect themselves and loved ones during this period. The community in Sembawang has also been putting extra effort to keep the estates clean and hygienic for all. Volunteers have also been distributing care packages to those in the frontline of this outbreak. We thank them for all the support provided.

The first quarter remains an eventful one for us in Sembawang GRC. One significant event was the official opening of Sembawang Hot Spring Park on 4 January 2020. This newly upgraded park has many new facilities including a cascading pool, naturalised stream and a café, yet retaining its original rustic and kampung-like ambience. Since its opening, it has remained a popular spot for visitors.

The upgrading of Vista Park in Admiralty and the ABC Waters Project in Gambas are two new highlights in the GRC. These additions have been well-received, and are very much enjoyed by our residents. If you have the time, do drop by for a visit.

Another significant event that took place this quarter is the unveiling of the Momentary Monument, which commemorates the historic speech made by the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew on 12 September 1965 at the former site of Sree Narayana Mission (SNM). Although the Mission has since been moved, the spot at which the speech was made is a HDB estate in Sembawang. This gives the sculpture even greater meaning. Do drop by the open space near Block 312 Sembawang Drive to take a look at this new sculpture in our neighbourhood with your family and friends.

I hope you will enjoy these new amenities in our GRC. Go out and have fun at these spots but do take precautions. Practise good personal hygiene by washing your hands regularly and avoid touching your face with your hands. Do see a doctor and stay home if you are feeling unwell.

I wish each and every one of you well. Take care.

**Vikram Nair**  
Chairman  
Sembawang Town Council



亲爱的居民

我很高兴知道，尽管2019新型冠状病毒暴发，我们的居民都积极采取必要的防范措施，保护自己和家人。三巴旺社区也更努力地保持市镇的清洁与卫生水平。义工们也分配爱心礼包给站在疫情防控最前线的人员。我们由衷感谢他们所给予的支持。

三巴旺集选区第一季度还是多姿多彩的。三巴旺温泉公园于2020年1月4日重新开放，是重大的节目。翻新的公园虽然兴建许多设施，包括梯流池、天然溪流和咖啡馆，但同时也保留它原有的古色古香、浓厚的乡村气息。自从它开放后，这里就是访客趋之若鹜的去处。

集选区的2个亮点是位于海军部的维斯达公园完成翻新工程，及在甘巴士社区落实的“活跃、美丽、清洁”水源计划。这些新添的设施都深获居民的好评和享用。如果您有时间，不妨参观这些设施。

அன்பார்ந்த குடியிருப்பாளர்களே

கொவிட்-19 கிருமி பரவிவரும் இந்தக் காலகட்டத்தில், நமது குடியிருப்பாளர்கள் தங்களையும் அன்புக்குரியவர்களையும் பாதுகாத்துக்கொள்ள தேவையான முன்னெச்சரிக்கை நடவடிக்கைகளை மேற்கொள்வதை அறிந்து மகிழ்ச்சி அடைகிறேன். குடியிருப்புப் பேட்டைகளை அனைவருக்காகவும் சுத்தமாகவும் சுகாதாரமாகவும் வைத்திருக்க, செம்பவாங் சமூகம் கூடுதல் முயற்சி எடுத்து வருகிறது. கிருமிப் பரவலுக்கு மத்தியில், முன்னிலையிலிருந்து பணியாற்றுவோருக்குத் தொண்டிழியர்கள் பராமரிப்புத் தொகுப்புகளையும் விநியோகித்து வருகின்றனர். அவர்களது ஆதரவுக்கு நமது மனமார்ந்த நன்றி.

முதல் காலாண்டில், செம்பவாங் தொகுதியில் பல நிகழ்வுகள் நிகழ்ந்தன. அவற்றுள் முக்கியமான ஒன்று, 4 ஜனவரி 2020 அன்று செம்பவாங் வெந்நீருற்றுப் பூங்காவின் அதிகாரபூர்வத் திறப்பு. புதிதாக மேம்படுத்தப்பட்ட இந்தப் பூங்காவில், நீர்வீழ்ச்சி குளம், இயற்கை ஓடை, தேநீர்கம் உள்ளிட்ட பல புதிய வசதிகள் உள்ளன. இருப்பினும், “கம்போங்” தூழல் மாறவில்லை. பூங்கா திறக்கப்பட்டதிலிருந்து, வருகையாளர்கள் வந்தவண்ணம் உள்ளனர்.

அட்மிரால்டியின் விஸ்தா பூங்கா மேம்பாடும், கம்பாவின் ஏபிசி நீர்நிலைகள் திட்டப்பணியும் குழுத்தொகுதியின் இரு புதிய சிறப்பம்சங்கள். நல்ல வரவேற்பைப் பெற்ற இவ்விரு மேம்பாடுகளையும் குடியிருப்பாளர்கள் பயன்படுத்தி மகிழ்கின்றனர். உங்களுக்கு நேரமிருந்தால், தவறாமல் வருகை அளித்திடுங்கள்.

另一个发生在这个季度有特别意义的活动是纪念塑像的开幕典礼。立塑像是为了纪念已故建国总理李光耀先生1965年9月12日在瑞那拉耶拿教会旧址，发表历史性演讲。虽然教会早已搬迁，发表历史性演讲的确切地点正是三巴旺的政府组屋区。这赋予纪念塑像更深的意义。您可前来三巴旺通道大牌312附近的空地，与家人朋友一起瞻仰这座在邻里刚树立的新塑像。

我希望你们会享用这些在集选区的新设施。在这些景点度过欢乐时光之余，请务必采取防范措施。常洗手以保持良好的个人卫生习惯，及避免用手触摸脸部。如感不适，请看医生和留在家中休息。

我祝您身体健康。保重。

**维凯先生**  
主席  
三巴旺市镇理事会

“முக்கிய தருண நினைவுச்சின்னத்தின்” திறப்பு, இந்தக் காலாண்டில் நிகழ்ந்த மற்றொரு குறிப்பிடத்தக்க நிகழ்வாகும். மறைந்த திரு லீ குவான் இயூ அவர்கள், ஸ்ரீ நாராயண மிஷன் முன்பு அமைந்திருந்த இடத்தில் 12 செப்டம்பர் 1965 அன்று ஆற்றிய வரலாற்றுச் சிறப்பு வாய்ந்த உரையின் நினைவாக அந்த நினைவுச்சின்னம் திறக்கப்பட்டது. நாராயண மிஷன் இடம் மாறிச்சென்றுவிட்ட போதிலும், திரு லீ உரையாற்றிய இடம், செம்பவாங்கின் வீடமைப்பு வளர்ச்சிக் கழகக் குடியிருப்புப் பேட்டையில் அமைந்துள்ளது. இதுவே அந்தச் சிறப்பத்திற்கு மேலும் சிறப்பு சேர்க்கிறது. நமது அக்கம்பக்கத்திலுள்ள இப்புதிய சிறப்பத்தைக் காண, செம்பவாங் டிரைவ் புளோக் 312க்கு அருகிலுள்ள திறந்தவெளித் திடலுக்கு உங்கள் குடும்பத்தோடும் நண்பர்களோடும் வாருங்கள்.

நமது குழுத்தொகுதியின் புதிய வசதிகள் அனைத்தும் உங்களை மகிழ்விக்கும் என நம்புகிறேன். இவ்விடங்களுக்குச் சென்று உற்சாகமாக இருங்கள். அதே சமயத்தில் முன்னெச்சரிக்கையாகவும் இருங்கள். உங்கள் கைகளை அடிக்கடி கழுவவதோடு, முகத்தைக் கைகளால் தொடுவதையும் தவிர்த்திடுங்கள். உடல்நலமில்லாவிட்டால் மருத்துவரைச் சென்று பார்த்துவிட்டு, வீட்டிலேயே இருங்கள்.

நீங்கள் ஒவ்வொருவரும் நலமுடன் வாழ வாழ்த்துகிறேன்.

**விக்ரம் நாயர்**  
தலைவர்  
செம்பவாங் நகர மன்றம்

Para penduduk,

Walaupun wabak COVID-19 semakin menular, saya berasa sukacita apabila mengetahui bahawa para penduduk sedang mengambil langkah berjaga-jaga untuk melindungi diri dan orang tersayang pada masa ini. Komuniti Sembawang kuat berusaha untuk memastikan kawasan sekitarnya sentiasa bersih untuk kebaikan semua. Para sukarelawan juga tekun mengedar pakej penjagaan kepada petugas barisan hadapan. Kami ingin mengucapkan terima kasih atas sokongan semua pihak yang terlibat.

Suku pertama pada tahun ini amat berperistiwa bagi penduduk di Kawasan Undi Perwakilan Kumpulan (GRC) Sembawang. Salah satu acara yang bererti adalah pembukaan rasmi Taman Air Panas Sembawang pada 4 Januari 2020. Taman ini baru dinaikkan taraf dan mempunyai banyak kemudahan termasuk kolam air terjun, aliran semula jadi dan sebuah kafe. Namun, taman ini tetap mengekalkan suasana asalnya yang seperti di kampung. Sejak pembukaannya, ia merupakan destinasi yang hangat dalam kalangan pelancong.

Selain itu, penaikan taraf Taman Vista di Admiralty dan Projek Air ABC di Gambas merupakan dua projek baru bagi GRC Sembawang. Penambahan ini mendapat sambutan yang baik daripada penduduk kita. Seandainya ada masa lapang, para penduduk bolehlah mengunjugi tempat-tempat ini.

Monumen “Momentary” juga ditubuhkan untuk memperingati ucapan bersejarah pada 12 September 1965 yang disampaikan oleh Perdana Menteri Pengasas Encik Lee Kuan Yew di bekas lokasi Sree Narayana Mission (SNM). Walaupun SNM sudah dipindahkan ke lokasi yang baru, tempat beliau menyampaikan ucapan tersebut merupakan sebuah estet HDB di Sembawang. Kerana itu, tugu ini menjadi lebih bermakna. Para penduduk boleh singgah ke ruang terbuka berdekatan Blok 312 Sembawang Drive dalam kawasan kejiranan kita untuk mengagumi tugu baru ini bersama kawan dan keluarga sekalian.

Saya berharap bahawa para penduduk akan menikmati kemudahan baru di GRC kita. Kalian boleh keluar dan berseronok tetapi langkah berjaga-jaga jangan dilupakan. Amalkan kebersihan diri yang baik dan elakkan daripada menyentuh muka dengan tangan. Tolong berjumpa doktor dan berada di rumah jika anda tidak berasa sihat.

Saya ingin mengucapkan selamat tinggal dan mengingatkan anda semua supaya menjaga diri.

**Vikram Nair**  
Pengerusi  
Majlis Bandaran Sembawang



# From MUDFLATS to METROPOLIS NEVER FEAR!



In 1965, founding Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew made a stirring speech, “Mudflats to Metropolis”, at Sree Narayana Mission, then located near Block 312 Sembawang Drive.

On 16 February 2020, a sculpture inscribed with a key phrase from this speech was unveiled at the same location the late Mr Lee’s words were uttered. Named Momentary Monument, it serves as a reminder for Singaporeans to face adversities with courage as they ride on past successes into a bright future.

MPs for Sembawang GRC Minister Khaw Boon Wan, Minister Ong Ye Kung, Mr Amrin Amin, Mr Vikram Nair and Dr Lim Wee Kiak, PBM, and Vice-Chairman to Sembawang Citizens’ Consultative Committee Ms Poh Li San officiated the unveiling ceremony.

The marker bagged first prize in a competition held by Sembawang Town Council between May and July last year to commemorate the Singapore Bicentennial. Participating teams, consisting students from tertiary institutions, had to design something relevant and realistic for the heartlands.

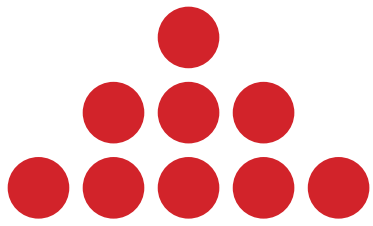
Mr Ong said: “When we celebrated Singapore’s Bicentennial last year, we wanted to do something to commemorate this special milestone in our nation’s history. What is more fitting than erecting a marker to commemorate this historic and visionary speech made by Mr Lee, right here? A marker that will testify how far we have come as a nation since independence.”

He also rallied residents to “never fear” COVID-19: “We will fight this battle together. Let us all play our part, take personal responsibility, show care to one another and support each other as one strong community.”

Mr Jayadev Unnithan, President of Sree Narayana Mission (Singapore) said: “On behalf of Sree Narayana Mission (Singapore), I am thankful to Minister Ong Ye Kung and the people of Sembawang for taking the initiative to immortalise the ‘Never Fear’ message. Founding Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew’s speech at the then location of Sree Narayana Mission on 12 September 1965 is a reminder to the present and future generations of Singaporeans that we must unite as One People to overcome adversities and ensure peace, harmony and progress for our society.”



# FEATURES OF THE MONUMENT

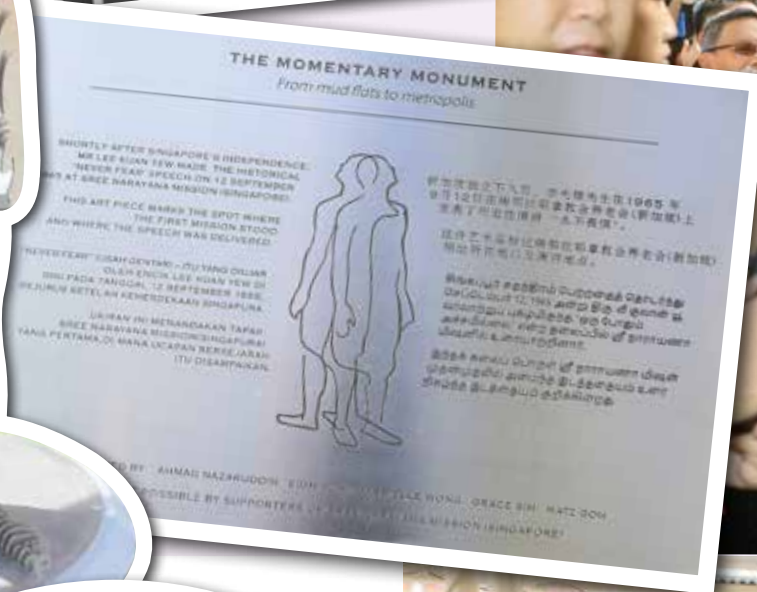


The sculpture comprises two vertically-dissected, back-to-back human figures. One symbolises reminiscence of our collective past and learning lessons from history, while the other, facing Sembawang Primary School, symbolises looking forward to the future. Looking upwards at the sky, the sculpture aims to inspire the everyday Singaporean within Sembawang's heartlands to dare to dream for and with our young nation. The words "No Fear" are embedded in the sculpture.

The winning team which designed the sculpture comprises students from National University of Singapore, Singapore University of Technology and Design and Singapore Polytechnic. They are Mr Eion Goh, Ms Grace Sim, Ms Gabrielle Wong, Mr Ahmad Nazaruddin bin Abdul Rahim and Mr Matz Goh.

Mr Eion Goh said: "Our team took inspiration from the notion that each generation has a pivotal role to play in inspiring the generations that come after. As such, we wanted to embody this into the site, literally."

*The Momentary Monument is sponsored by the supporters of Sree Narayana Mission (Singapore).*





# RESIDENTS' FEEDBACK SHAPE RENEWED VISTA PARK

There is something for everyone at Vista Park. Opened on 2 February 2020 by MP for Admiralty Mr Vikram Nair and located at 580 Woodlands Drive 16, the newly upgraded park features a jogging track, a petanque court, and fitness corners.

“Vista Park is one of the largest parks in the Admiralty area. The upgrades take into account a lot of residents’ feedback while still keeping its spirit, which is a place to bring the community together,” Mr Nair said. Pongal and Chinese New Year were also celebrated at the new function hall, marking an auspicious start.

### Best of Electronic Games and Aerobic Exercise

Parents who are worried about their children’s sedentary lifestyle can find a remedy here – the NEOS 360. This electronic playground is healthy and interactive, engaging children in aerobic activities while providing the same thrill as electronic games.

### Multi-functional, Multi-generational Fitness Corners

Mind you, these are not your run-of-the-mill fitness corners; new exercise equipment with progressive exercise regimens ensure you do not overstrain yourself. These corners feature different intensity levels for different fitness levels and instructional videos to help you maximise your workout. You can even charge your phones while exercising!

### Unique Playground

Young children will enjoy sliding down the 30 metre winding spiral, roaming around in the PlayCubes, and riding high on the swings at the newly upgraded playground.

### Covered Full-Sized Basketball Court

Basketball players can say goodbye to playing in inclement weather as the park features a sheltered full-sized court, which can also be used to host events.

“We have been playing at Vista Park since 2013. Previously, this was quite empty with only a few swings. Now we can have more fun at these playgrounds. I have made many new friends from various ethnic groups here, about 20 of them.”

- Krishnah Miland, 14



# GO ON AN INTERACTIVE JOURNEY WITH TEL 1

Intimate and interactive journeys best describe the experience of commuting on the Thomson-East Coast Line Stage 1 (TEL 1). Besides the regular MRT station fixtures, commuters will find new features that facilitate navigation and elevate passenger service. Passenger service for TEL 1 stations Woodlands North, Woodlands and Woodlands South commenced on 31 January 2020.

The fully underground TEL is Singapore's sixth MRT line. Costing more than \$25 billion to construct, it runs parallel to the North-South Line and the East-West Line so as to ease their heavy commuter loads.

"TEL will provide additional capacity and network resilience. When completed, the TEL will serve up to 1 million daily commuters, and bring the MRT network within 10 minutes' walk of 250,000 households," said Minister for Transport Mr Khaw Boon Wan.

With faster commuting time, those living in the vicinity of these three stations can snooze a little bit more, and have easier access to places such as Republic Polytechnic, Admiralty Park Playground, Christ Church Secondary School, Woodlands Health Campus, BW Monastery and Yusof Ishak Mosque.

Read on to explore the full suite of TEL's exciting features!



## NEW TRAINS

Featuring five doors on each side — instead of the usual four on other MRT lines — the new TEL trains will allow quicker boarding and alighting. Condition monitoring devices on these trains help improve reliability and contribute to more efficient operations and maintenance.



## ART-IN-TRANSIT PROGRAMME

Local artists involved commuters in the creation of lively artworks through the art-in-transit programme, giving commuters a greater sense of pride and intimacy.



## ASSISTED SERVICE KIOSK

A new ticketing machine known as the Assisted Service Kiosk allows a centralised pool of officers to serve commuters at any TEL station via video calls. This is indeed a splendid example of how technology can deliver the human touch!

"I tried out the Assisted Service Kiosk, where all my queries were answered by the MRT officer on the screen. As I work at Orchard, I look forward to commuting via the shorter route offered by TEL."

- Mr Leonard Lai, 30

"Though I drive now, I may consider giving up my car and take public transport instead. Looking at the new TEL system map, it is so convenient to move around in future."

- Mdm Marlinda, 55



## CLEARER SIGNAGE

Improved signage designs using clearer pictograms, big minimalistic directional signs and bright distinctive colours enhance navigability.



## CIVIL DEFENCE SHELTER

The TEL Woodlands station is also a Civil Defence shelter that can safely contain 9,000 people.



SCAN ME



# THE ABCs OF LIVING WITH NATURE



On 23 February 2020, after one and a half years' wait, East Canberra residents finally laid eyes on the revitalised Sungei Simpang Kanan. With shimmering, tranquil waters that reflect the lush greenery along its banks, the upgraded area, now called ABC Waters @ Sungei Simpang Kanan, is a magnificent sight to behold.

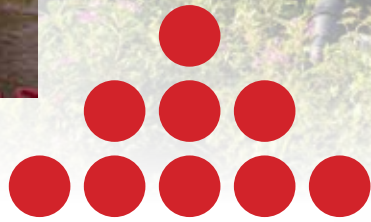
MPs for Sembawang GRC Minister Khaw Boon Wan, Minister Ong Ye Kung, Mr Amrin Amin, Mr Vikram Nair and Dr Lim Wee Kiak, PBM, and Vice-Chairman to Sembawang Citizens' Consultative Committee Ms Poh Li San officiated the opening ceremony at the pavilion between Block 115D Canberra Walk and Block 118B Canberra Crescent.

"A few years ago, I was cycling with Minister Khaw along Bukit Canberra, and the whole place was empty. Today, so many young families have moved into this area," Mr Ong recounted. Adding that Canberra East is now served by the new Canberra MRT, he also announced that a new outdoor futsal court, basketball court, three game courts and a barbecue pit will be built near Block 108C Canberra Walk. A groundbreaking ceremony for these new sports facilities was held after the ABC Waters ceremony.



Among the welcome additions at Sungei Simpang Kanan are a communal plaza, rain gardens, new footpaths and a plethora of flowers and plants. Rain gardens serve as natural water filters, cleansing rainwater runoff before it is discharged into Sungei Simpang Kanan, which stretches between Canberra Link and Canberra Street. They also improve water quality and enhance biodiversity. The project was completed as part of Public Utilities Board's Active, Beautiful and Clean (ABC) Waters Programme, which aims to improve connectivity between estates and enhance communal spaces along the canal.

"It's so much greener now, better than when I moved here two years ago. The overall experience is aesthetically pleasing," said Mr James Soh, 30.



# SEMBAWANG HOT SPRING PARK

Characterised by a rustic beauty and new, inclusive facilities, the enhanced Sembawang Hot Spring Park opened its doors to the public on 4 January.

Attended by approximately 500 visitors, the event kicked off with Sembawang and Nee Soon GRC MPs planting rambutan and lychee trees and taking a tour of the 1.1 hectare site.



The park's closure from August 2018 to January 2020 was necessary to carry out the first major overhaul of the area surrounding Singapore's first and only hot spring. Although the spring was first discovered in 1908, the land it sits on remained privately owned until 1998. Prior to 2018's overhaul, visitors had only bare metal pipes and a simple concrete floor to use as a water play area. They had to bring their own buckets if they wanted to soak their feet, and would bring their own utensils to cook eggs in the mineral-rich spring water.

Now, the park has a centralised water collection point that is accessible to all visitors, including those with physical disabilities. A new, key attraction of the park is a four-tier cascading pool bordered by stone seats that allow visitors to have a leisurely foot soak in the warm water. An egg-cooking station has also been built.

The hot spring was once a hidden gem serving a small village along 13<sup>th</sup> Mile Thomson Road in olden Singapore. Its popularity grew over time, only truly booming in the past 20 years or so. What took Singaporeans so long to enjoy this natural wonder? Trace the intriguing century-long history of this unique land.

1908

A municipal ranger finds four hot springs in a pineapple plantation. He covers three, allowing all the water to be channeled into one spring.

Plantation owner Seah Eng Keong starts a business bottling and selling the spring water.

1921

Soft-drink firm F&N acquires the land and business of selling the bottled water.

1920s-1930s

Settlers from the nearby village use the spring water to boil eggs and relieve minor ailments.

1940s-1960s

The Japanese forces build a number of thermal baths so they can relax in the waters. In post-war years, punters take "good luck" baths here before the start of the races.



Use of the spring water for foot spas and cooking of eggs echoes decades-old kampung traditions, which Sembawang GRC MP Minister Ong Ye Kung said characterises Sembawang's unique identity. "What we want to ensure is as we develop, don't forget to 'sayang' Sembawang. It is a place with history, with nature, with its own character," said Mr Ong. "It's through projects like this that we bring out the unique character of Sembawang."



Residents praised the facilities for their uniqueness and convenience.

Mr Edmund Ting, 37, said: "Singapore is a city state, so it is unique to have a hot spring like this. I brought my wife and two children for a family outing today. It's something different."

Ms Irene Yap, 50, commented that the new concrete paths are safer than the dirt roads they replaced. "I suffer from numbness in my legs. My condition has improved significantly ever since I come here for foot baths," she added.



### How the park achieves its rustic charm



Upon entering the park from Gambas Avenue, you arrive at a shaded barrier-free path - the floral walk - lined by fruit trees, edible plants and flowers that grew in kampungs.



It leads you to a bridge linking to the main area consisting of an activity lawn, a foot bath and water collection point.



This main area is linked to two naturalised streams whose roughly tumbled rock walls and grassy banks paint a serene arcadian picture.



Shaded rest areas here are tented by foliage, and logs make for a rugged resting place.



1998

Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) acquires the hot spring and its surrounding land for the expansion of Sembawang Air Base. The public asks the government to preserve the hot spring instead.

2002

The spring was closed for two months, during which a cemented walkway, entrance gate, and perimeter fence were built, and drainage pipes installed.

2000s-2010s

The park increases in popularity, attracting an average of 30 visitors a day.

2016

MINDEF announces the return of the land to the state.

2018-2019

The park was closed from August 2018 to December 2019. Toilets, a café, and a central water play area are built to make the hot spring experience more convenient and enjoyable.

2020

The park reopens on 4 January.

# RINGING IN A BLOSSOMING 2020

## WITH RESOLUTIONS

**C**elebrating the defined moments of a new year amid the ethereal passage of time, Sembawang residents gathered to transit to 2020 together as a community. On 31 December 2019 at the open field between North Woodlands Way and Woodlands Avenue 2, dazzling fireworks, riveting dance performances and popular songs defined these sweet moments that shaped the Sembawang GRC Countdown to 2020.

Resolutions made just hours earlier promised a good head start to 2020. Consider l'xora, 7, who already has set her sights on becoming a doctor. "I want to be a good girl and do better in my studies," she quipped.

Mr Yeoh, 36, spoke of the need to stay relevant in this age of disruption. "I am an engineer in the semiconductor industry. Come 2020, I will prepare for Industry 4.0 and pick up new skills such as coding and programming," he said.

Ms Tan Yeok Yan, 62, managed to jump on the digital bandwagon despite her age. "After I sent my grandchildren to a nearby childcare centre, I used the opening credit of \$500 from SkillsFuture to enroll in a course that teaches me how to use smartphone apps. I can now use Facebook and Whatsapp to communicate with my friends and neighbours," she said. She intends to upgrade herself in 2020 whenever the opportunity arises.

MPs for Sembawang GRC Minister Ong Ye Kung, Dr Lim Wee Kiak, PBM, and Mr Amrin Amin, along with Vice-Chairperson of Sembawang Citizens' Consultative Committee Ms Poh Li San welcomed the new year with residents and wished them prosperity, health and happiness.

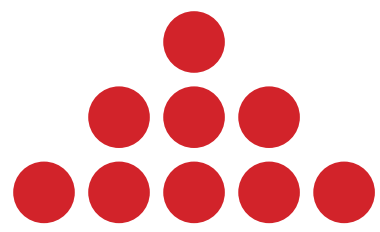
Residents tried their hand at carnival games and exciting activities like bungee trampoline. Snowflakes from snow machines lent an exotic "winter" ambience to the event finale.





How does Sembawang celebrate the Year of the Rat? With rad celebrations of course! In true kampung style, residents of all races turned up to *lo hei*, feast and toast to good health together. From drummers in neon uniforms to a live grilled meat station, our CNY dinners were a feast for the senses. What a truly unforgettable start to the new year!

# RAD CELEBRATIONS WELCOME THE RAT YEAR





# OVERFLOWING ABUNDANCE and PONGAL CHEER



Even though Singapore is a city state, Pongal, a thanksgiving festival for a bountiful harvest, is still as relevant as it was first celebrated over 1,000 years ago. Throughout Sembawang GRC, Indian residents adorned themselves in sprightly coloured new clothes and turned up in droves to celebrate Pongal and pay respects to the Hindu sun god Surya. Together with MPs, these residents lighted oil lamps - fire and oil being sacred symbols of holiness - to invite positive energy into their lives. *Kolam* floor artwork was spotted, making it a colourful festival.

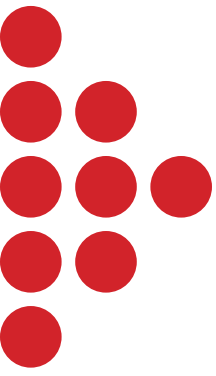
The name Pongal is derived from the Tamil word *ponga*, which means "overflowing". It also refers to a traditional sweet rice pudding cooked with cow's milk and *jaggery* (raw sugar) in a clay pot and is served to families and friends. As the rice and milk boiled and overflowed out of the pot, residents shouted "Pongalo Pongal" i.e. "may this rice boil over" to bless themselves with abundance, prosperity and good luck.



A Pongal game known as *Uriyadi* was also played. An earthen pot filled with water, ghee, eatables or gifts was hung high, and blindfolded participants took turns to try to hit the pot. The winner is the person who smashes the pot, and therefore lays claim to its contents.

Resident Mr Pavan Kumar, 41, emphasised that it is important for his children to learn about values with a modern spin. "We need to be grateful to Nature and cows; cows help to cultivate the soil so that farmers can grow crops. I tell my children our food comes from the fields, not from the factory or shops. Besides the agricultural aspect, Pongal is also about accepting new things coming into our lives."





# FINANCIAL REPORT

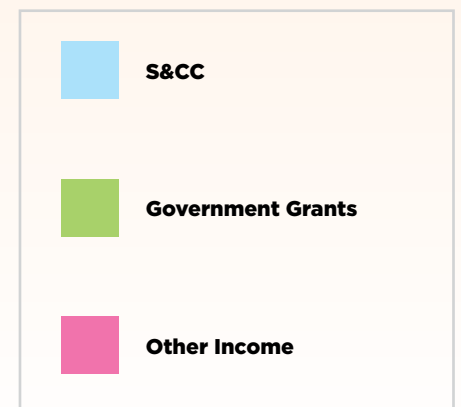
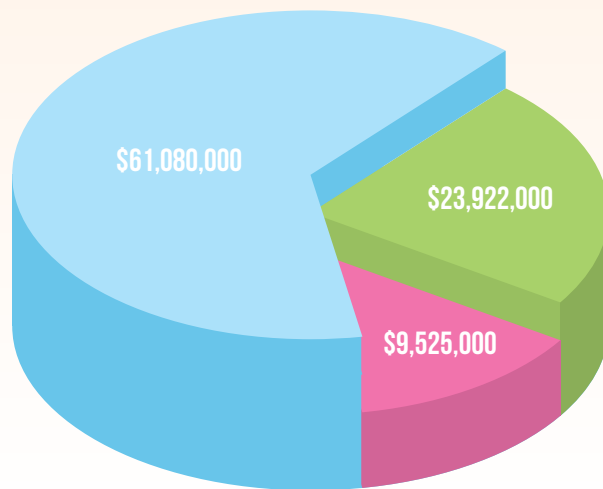
## Financial Year 2018/2019

### Where did the Town Council's money come from?

The majority of the Town Council's operational income continued to come directly from residents in the form of Service and Conservancy Charges (S&CC).

The Town Council's major source of income for the financial year came from Government Grants totalling \$23,922,000.

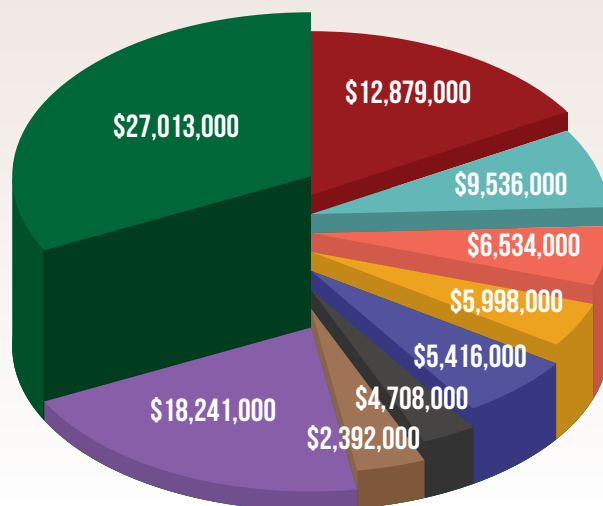
An additional \$9,525,000 came from other income, such as fees charged for maintaining HDB carparks, Temporary Occupation Licenses, and use of void decks, etc.



### What did the Town Council spend it on?

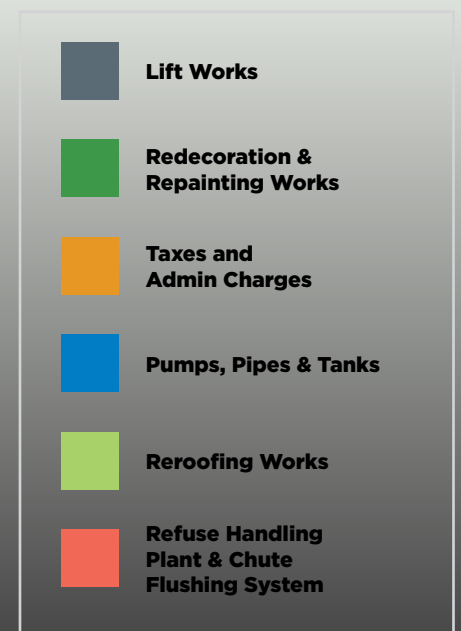
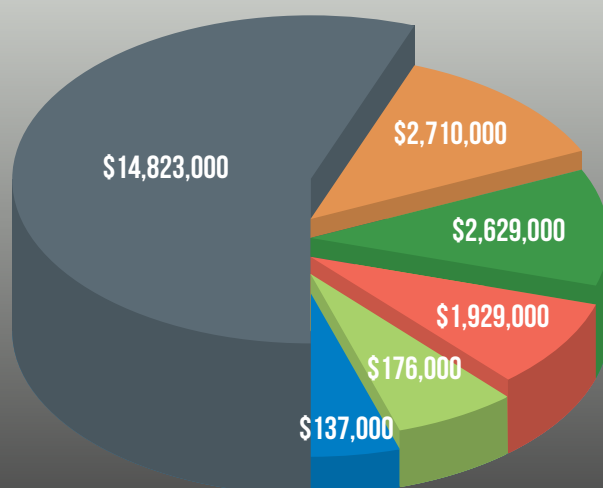
The Town Council's total expenses and transfers carried out for the year amounted to \$92,717,000. The highest disbursement item of the year is water and electricity, incurring a total expenditure of \$12,879,000.

In order for the Town Council to meet upcoming cyclical maintenance and replacement needs, a total of \$18,241,000 was transferred to the Sinking Fund. Another \$27,013,000 was transferred to the Lift Replacement Fund and a total of \$4,708,000 was transferred to the Town Improvement Fund for this financial year.



### How much did the Town Council spend on cyclical works?

A total of \$22,404,000 was spent on cyclical works for the financial year, which ended on 31 March 2019. A sum of \$14,823,000 was spent on Lift Works and another \$2,629,000 was spent on Redecoration and Repainting Works.



# BUDGET 2020: CARING, NURTURING AND SECURING A BETTER SINGAPORE

In February, the Government announced the national Budget. This year's Budget includes measures targeted at helping Singaporeans manage costs of living and retirement, and introduced support for housing and healthcare subsidies as well as green initiatives. Read on to uncover how you benefit from this year's Budget.

## Payouts & Top-ups



- Up to \$300 for those aged 21 and above. Additional \$100 for each Singaporean parent with at least 1 Singaporean child aged 20 and below\*
- \$100 PAssion Card top up for Singaporeans aged 50 and above\*
- Additional 20% Workfare payments
- \$100/year in grocery vouchers in 2020 and 2021 for Singaporeans aged 21 and above living in 1- or 2- room flats
- CPF retirement account top-ups to be matched dollar for dollar from 2021 to 2025 for eligible Singaporeans
- Quarterly Silver Support Scheme cash payouts increased by 20%

## Offsets & Rebates



- U-Save voucher amount doubled for eligible households
- S&CC rebates amounting to 1.5-3.5 months for eligible households

## CPF Housing Grant



- Up to \$160,000 for first-time HDB flat buyers
- Higher monthly household income ceiling to qualify for grant

## Healthcare Support



- Healthcare subsidies up to 80% at public healthcare institutions and aged care services
- Increased health care and device purchase support via CHAS, Pioneer Generation Package, Merdeka Generation Package, CareShield Life, Long-Term Care Support Fund and Seniors' Mobility and Enabling Fund

## Environmental Sustainability



- \$5 billion to protect Singapore against rising sea levels
- SG Eco Fund to support community partnerships on sustainability initiatives
- All HDB towns to be eco-friendly by 2030
- Incentives to encourage buying of energy-efficient appliances
- Increased rebate and better infrastructure to own and accommodate Electric Vehicles



# YOU CAN BE ASSURED OF PUBLIC HYGIENE

The Town Council has increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting to upkeep hygiene levels at public spaces.



TOWN COUNCIL'S MEASURES

## COVID-19

WHAT YOU CAN DO

### LET'S BE RESPONSIBLE!



COVID-19

(Coronavirus Disease 2019)

If you have mild flu-like symptoms like:

Jika anda mempunyai tanda-tanda selesema seperti:

உங்களுக்குச் சளிக்காய்ச்சலுக்கான மிதமான அறிகுறிகள் இருந்தால்:

如果您有以下类似流感的轻微症状:



Cough  
Batuk  
இருமல்  
咳嗽



Runny nose  
Hidung berair  
சளி  
流鼻涕



Sore throat  
Sakit tekak  
தொண்டைவலி  
喉咙痛



Fever  
Demam  
காய்ச்சல்  
发烧

### SEE A DOCTOR

Don't go to work or school  
Avoid crowds  
Stay at home

### மருத்துவரைச் சென்று பார்க்கவும்

பள்ளிக்கோ, வேலைக்கோ செல்லாதீர்கள்  
கூட்ட நெரிசலான இடங்களைத் தவிர்ந்துக்கொண்டு, வீட்டில் ஓய்வெடுத்துக்கொள்ளுங்கள்.

### JUMPALAH DOKTOR

Jangan keluar bekerja atau ke sekolah  
Elakkan tempat-tempat yang sesak dengan orang  
Duduk di rumah

### 请看医生

不要照常上班或上学  
避免到人多的地方  
留在家中休息



### LET'S ALL DO OUR PART



Wash your hands frequently with soap

உங்கள் கைகளை அடிக்கடி சவர்க்காரம் பயன்படுத்திக் கழுவுவும்

Cuci tangan anda dengan kerap menggunakan sabun

经常用肥皂洗手



Monitor your temperature twice daily

உங்கள் உடல் வெப்பநிலையை நாளுக்கு இருமுறை கண்காணிக்கவும்

Periksa suhu badan anda dua kali sehari

每天測量体温两次



AVOID touching your face with your hands

உங்கள் முகத்தை உங்கள் கைகளால் தொடுவதைத் தவிர்க்கவும்

Elakkan daripada menyentuh muka anda dengan tangan anda

避免用手触摸脸部



Comply with Home Quarantine Orders and Leaves of Absence and stay at your designated locations

வீட்டுத் தடைக்காப்பு ஆணைக்கும் கட்டாய விடுப்புக்கும் கட்டுப்பட்டு நடக்கவும்; உங்களுக்காக வரையறுக்கப்பட்ட இடங்களில் இருக்கவும்

Patuhi Perintah Kuarantin di Rumah dan Cuti Ketidakhadiran. Jangan tinggalkan tempat yang telah dikhususkan untuk anda

遵守隔离令及缺席假的规定, 并留在指定的地点



Do not spread rumours.

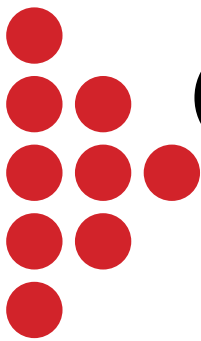
Get the latest on the COVID-19 by signing up for the Gov.sg WhatsApp channel ([www.gov.sg/whatsapp](http://www.gov.sg/whatsapp)) or at the MOH website ([www.moh.gov.sg](http://www.moh.gov.sg))

**PROACTIVE STEP**  
Public Health Preparedness Clinics (PHPC) will be re-activated to better manage the spread of COVID-19.

These clinics provide subsidised treatment for residents diagnosed with respiratory illnesses.

Look out for this logo





# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

S/N	DATE	NAME OF EVENT	TIME	VENUE
<b>ADMIRALTY</b> FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE CC AT 6891 3430				
1	6 June 2020	Grandparent's Day Dinner	6.30pm to 9.30pm	ACE The Place CC MPH
<b>CANBERRA</b> FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE CC AT 6755 6369				
1	27 June 2020	Bursary & Movie Screening	Please contact Canberra CC for more details.	Open Area in front of Blk 320 Sembawang Close
2	28 June 2020	Canberra Day	Please contact Canberra CC for more details.	Open Area in front of Blk 320 Sembawang Close
<b>GAMBAS</b> FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE CC AT 6684 1827				
1	10 May 2020	Gambas Buka Puasa	Please contact Yishun Link CC for more details	
2	20 June 2020	Gambas Hari Raya Celebration	Please contact Yishun Link CC for more details	
<b>WOODLANDS</b> FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE CC AT 6366 2218				
1	23 May 2020	Tamil Language & Cultural Night	6pm to 9pm	Kampung Admiralty
2	27 June 2020	Woodlands AAC Line Dance Night	5pm to 9.30pm	Woodlands Galaxy CC



Want to get important local news? Sign up for the Sayang Sembawang e-newsletter by following the QR code!

Do you have a business located in Sembawang GRC and wish to advertise your services?  
Write to us at [feedback@sbtc.org.sg](mailto:feedback@sbtc.org.sg) for more details!  
Rates below:  
Full page - \$3,500.00  
Half page - \$2,000.00  
Quarter page - \$1,200.00  
\*subject to 7% GST



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## FILL IN THE BLANKS



*By standing in the middle of the two walls at the Momentary Monument, the sculpture will "vanish", and one can instead spot the words "\_\_\_\_\_".*

*The words of Singapore's founding Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew inspired the monument, which is located near Block \_\_\_\_\_ Sembawang Drive.*

*The sculpture was a result of a competition held to commemorate the \_\_\_\_\_.*

Test your memory of Sembawang's newest heritage marker, the Momentary Monument, and win a prize! All entries should reach the given address latest by 30 April 2020. Contest is only open to residents in Sembawang GRC.

Please mail to:  
**The PR Manager**  
**Blk 504C Canberra Link**  
**#01-63, Singapore 753504**

My Name (as per IC/birth cert) .....

My Age (as per Jan 2020) .....

My Address .....

My Email Address .....

Postal Code .....

Phone No .....

I do not wish to subscribe to the Sayang Sembawang e-newsletter.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS IN THE LAST CONTEST:

### 12 years old & below:

- Iris Tee Lee Jia
- Huang Leqi
- Mani Viswanathanw

### 13 years old & above:

- Mikhail Mohamed Naveen
- Chung Shi Yi
- Ahmad Shakir Zufayri