

Happy 40TH Birthday NCA!

Looking back on last year, we believe it can be said that the Year of the Pig was a rather good one for us.

Thanks to the participation from everyone involved in the NCA we managed to organize a variety of events that raised a substantial amount of money. In November we held our annual Christmas Fair. The day St. Nicolaas arrived in Singapore we sold a 'Zwarte Pieten'-cake designed by Ingrid Muller. We definitely plan to repeat this next year, as it was a big success. Ingrid also taught a group of children at the Hollandse Club and the Hollandse School how to decorate the festive Gingerbread Houses with sweets and icing.

Activities like these hadn't ever become a reality without the help of our volunteers and sponsors. So a big thank you to Ingrid, for all her time and dedication. Besides Ingrid, we owe many thanks to Saviatar PTE LTD, who sponsored The Gingerbread House workshop. And of course to both the Hollandse Club and the Hollandse school, who kindly allowed us to use their facilities for this event again.

Besides all this, NCA was very proud to present the first edition of our own inhouse production: **My Singapore Memories**, a memory game set de-

signed by a group of very enthusiastic and talented photographers. Many, many thanks to them for providing us with the beautiful Singapore icon images used on the cards. The game makes for a unique present to those who have either lived in, or visited Singapore. Besides being the perfect farewell gift, it allows children to get an insight in the many cultural aspects of Singapore.

The upcoming year is looking to be an even more special year for the NCA, as we will be celebrating our **40th Anniversary!**

Our regular events such as the May-fair, the Garage Sale and workshops will be on the agenda again. But on top of all these familiar activities, we are also planning to organize a range of other events. As always, this will only be possible with the help of our members. We have noticed that year after year it becomes increasingly difficult to find these volunteers, as many of you have full agendas indeed. Naturally, we try to plan these special events at the right time of the year to ensure that as many people as possible can participate in them. And to ensure timely blocking of agendas, updates about these events will be mailed out.

Tineke Hiemstra, NCA President

The committee

President
Tineke Hiemstra

Vice President
Marijke Munsiff

Treasurer
Jeannet Bruinsma

Secretary
Kate Hanam

Members
Antoinette van der Linden
Lya Besseling
Petrie de Jongste
Catharina van der Zee
Cindy Kwinkelenberg

Honorary Member
Marianne Sanders

Mailing Address:

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Singapore 299814

Secretariat:

ncasingapore@hotmail.com

Membership fee:

S\$ 50 yearly
Donations welcome!

DBS Bank:

7171 014 - 014 900 181 0

40 years!!

The NCA intends to make the Year of the Rat a spectacular year – and your input is very much appreciated! If you have any ideas on how to celebrate our 40th anniversary, please feel free to contact us at ncasingapore@hotmail.com.

Upcoming events a.o.:

- Thai Cooking Workshop
(see page 4)



NCA Memory game: great gift for many occasions

One of the great hits at the annual Charity Christmas Fair was the NCA game **My Singapore Memories**. A feast of recognition for those who live or have lived here with pictures of everyday Singapore icons (like Singapore taxi's, chicken rice, Peranakan design, fire hydrants, etc). Available for only \$25 at the Hol-

landse School reception desk, Hollandse club Library, Pharma plus Pharmacy Camden Medical Centre (behind Tanglin Mall) or via Tineke Hiemstra, h/p 81574055. Just the thing for departing friends!

2007: a prosperous year for NCA

The NCA has been very fortunate last year. We managed to grow our memberships from 52 members to 113 members. An amazing increase of 61 members! They supported the NCA with the total sum of \$8,900.

The Christmas Fair has been a huge financial success as well.

It is the first time ever that the Christmas Fair generated over \$30,000 nett; a fact that makes us very proud!

Naturally we could not have done this without the help of our many donators, sponsors and volunteers. Many thanks to all of you.

The best part of being the treasurer is being able to write all these cheques to our selected Charities. In December we decided to donate

the money to the following Charities:

Donations 2007	
Breadline	30,000.00
Polytechnic students	13,740.00
Home	10,000.00
Boys' Town	7,500.00
Society for physically disabled	2,500.00
SILRA	3,000.00
Sunbeam home	2,210.50
Grand Total	68,950.50

Last but not least, a special thank you for our 2007 Corporate Sponsors (see page 4).

Thank you once again and I hope we can rely on your support for the coming year.



NCA Charity Christmas Fair in figures

Table	Cost	Sales	Nett
Advertising	3,941.54	3,000.00	-941.54
Books	4,829.58	4,992.14	162.56
Yoga		158.00	158.00
Christmas decorations		502.10	502.10
Childrens table	1,298.40	2,499.20	1,200.80
Childrens home		996.40	996.40
Cake stall		1,731.40	1,731.40
Christmas Wreaths		1,825.00	1,825.00
Bric a Brac	400.45	2,321.75	1,921.30
Memory game		3,125.00	3,125.00
Lucky Draw		2,430.50	2,430.50
Crea		2,524.00	2,524.00
Cards	3,532.02	11,272.39	7,740.37
Dutch Products	16,396.58	25,277.13	8,880.55
Total	30,398.57	62,655.01	\$32,256.44



The Good Shepherd: a safe haven for women and children

Somewhere in the suburbs of Singapore you can find the Good Shepherd centre. Sister Agnes and five staff members run the centre together.

Not only do they provide shelter and support to women and girls in pregnancy crisis, but women and children who are victims of domestic violence can also find a safe place at the centre.

They also offer a place to stay to maids who have been either abused or unpaid.

The Good Shepherd offers:

- Counselling and support services for residents and their families
- Ante and post-natal care
- Spiritual and value formation
- Home management skills training
- Education and career guidance
- Personal hygiene and grooming

The centre has 42 places and, beside the five staff members, everybody is expected to help doing household chores, if possible.

They try to be as self supportive as possible. They have, for example, set up their own kindergarten, a small catering business (20pax/fingerfood) and the women do craftwork. The results of the craftwork are always for sale at the annual NCA Charity Christmas Fair.

To keep the women occupied and broaden their skills, the centre runs a program that offers the women English language, computer skills and sewing lessons.

The centre is always looking for donations in kind such as food, toiletries and towels.

Furthermore, they would love to have a volunteer coming in and teach the women how to dance.

If you are interested in supporting the Good Shepherd centre and are willing to donate -in kind or financially- please contact Jeannet at HP 98622237. For more information on The Good Shepherd centre: www.marymountctr.org.sg.



Did you know that ...

- We raised more money at last year's Christmas Fair than ever before;
- There is a NCA scholarship supporting 5 students at Singapore PolyTechnic;
- The NCA is celebrating its 40th birthday this year!
- H.O.M.E. still needs in kind donations like food, small household appliances, fans, beds, toiletries, sheets, pc's and laptops;
- They are also looking for people who can share their skills with the shelter residents. Music, computer, arts & crafts, dance or computer it. H.O.M.E is happy with all the support they can get;
- We are looking for new committee members and/or volunteers who are willing to take on special projects;
- You can send an email to ncasingapore@hotmail.com with all your questions or remarks;
- There is an Annual General Meeting on the 22nd April - do come!
- We are planning something special to celebrate 40 years of NCA;
- Breadline, our main charity, is also looking for new volunteers who are willing to visit the families they support on a regular base;
- The DSO (Down Syndrome Organisation) is looking for volunteers who want to help young adults run a shop. Please contact Nancy, h/p 98608418

Upcoming events

March

Workshop Thai Cooking

By Sophida Leebang

Menu *Prawns on the Beach*

Thai Temple

Blue Moon Desert

When Tuesday, March 22

Where 23 Swiss Club Road

Time 10 am

Price Members NCA \$55

Non Members \$65

April

Ceramic Painting for Adults

conducted by Nancy Renirie

When Tuesday, April 8

Where 23 Swiss Club road

Price Members NCA \$55

Non Members \$65

Nancy will show you how to paint a set of tapas ceramics. Naturally, participants may keep their own set of ceramics!

NCA Annual General Meeting

When Tuesday, April 22

Where Dutch Ambassador's Residence,
23 Ridout Road

Time 10 am

Sister Bridget of H.O.M.E. will be joining us at the AGM for a brief talk on their work.

May

Ceramic Painting workshop for kids

conducted by Nancy Renirie

When Friday, May 16

Where TBA

Price TBA (around \$30-\$35)

And also coming up...

- Mayfair Hollandse Club
- June 1st: Annual Charity Garage Sale
- 2nd week of June: Ariane Schluter performs

Information: ncasingapore@hotmail.com

Upcoming event (the 2nd week of June):

Mark your calendar! Ariane Schluter, a renowned Dutch performer who was nominated for the *Theo d'Or* prize 2007 in the Netherlands will be performing a monologue called: *'De Dienstmeid Zerline'*.

The monologue has been getting nothing but rave reviews, especially noting the exceptional performance of Ariane Schluter. Keep your eye out on final details!



2007 NCA Sponsors

Savitar Pte Ltd

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Moduspec Engineering

Smit Singapore Pte Ltd

Hollandse Club

Fortis Bank NV

KLM

KLM Cargo

Helu Trans Singapore Pte Ltd

And numerous private sponsors. Thank you all!

Seriously Cleaning House?

Moving out of Singapore?

**Empty your storage of unwanted items
and donate them to the NCA for our:**

Annual Charity Garage/Jumble Sale

Sunday, 1st June 2008

**We welcome your donations of 2nd hand
clothes, toys, books, small household
items, electrical appliances* etc.!**

Donated goods can be delivered to:

64 Sime road

**On May 2nd, 9th, 16th,
23th, 29th, 30th and 31st**

between 9:30am - 12:30 pm



*All proceeds will go towards
NCA supported charities in Singapore.*

Please contact Jeannet @ 98622237 for queries or send an email to:
ncasingapore@hotmail.com

*Please note that we can only accept:

- Household items that are complete and in good working condition
- Shoes - in pairs tied together
- Toys - clean, complete and not broken
- Clothes washed and without stains or holes etc.
- NO underwear please